

"Son", replied the old man, "tnis vâin lōrd, who receives strangers, with no other view (vù) than to gratify his pride, will learn to be wiser; and the miser in future, will show the traveller more hospitality: be not surprised, but follow me." — Zadig was at a loss what to think¹ of his fellow-traveller, but followed him.

75.

Continuation.

At night they came to a house very commodiously built, but neat and plain, where there was no appearance of either want or profusion. The master was a philosopher (s=ss), that had retired from the busy (bizi) world, to live in peace. He built this little house for the reception of strangers; he came in person to the door (dōr), and bid them be welcome². In a short time he invited them to a frugal yet elegant repast, during which he talked (tākt) very intelligently about the late revolutions in Bâbylon. The hermit replied, "The ways of Providence are intricate and obscure, and mortals err in judging of the whole by the bare inspection³ of the parts." — Their next topic was the passions. — "Alas!" said Zadig, "how fatal are their consequences!" — "They are the winds, that swell the sails of the vessel", replied the hermit; "sometimes (sūmtimz), it is true, they overset⁴ it, but there is no sailing⁵ without them. The bile makes us peevish and sick; but there is no living⁶ without it."

Zadig was astonished, that a man, who had committed such vile actions, could argue⁷ so well on morality. At last, after a pleasing and instructive conversation, the host conducted them to their bed-chamber, thanking heaven for directing two strangers of so much wisdom and virtue to his house. The next morning he offered them money to defray⁸ their expenses on the road; the hermit however refused it, and took his leave; their parting⁹ was affectionate. In going away, he said

¹ était en embarras = ne savait que penser. — ² souhaiter le bien-venu. — ³ simple vue. — ⁴ renverser. — ⁵ on ne saurait naviguer. — ⁶ on ne saurait vivre. — ⁷ argumenter; raisonner. — ⁸ payer. — ⁹ séparation.

to Zadig, that he would leave a token¹ behind him of his respect for the master of the house. No sooner had he uttered these words, than he set the building in a flame². Zadig in the utmost consternation shrieked, and would have prevented him; the hermit however dragged him away by a superior power; the house was soon in a blaze. Being come to a certain distance, the hermit turned back, and with great composure surveyed (servàd) the destructive flames. — "Behold", said he, "our fortunate friend! in the ruins (rū-inz) he will find an immense treasure, that will enable him to exert the better³ his beneficence, and render his virtues more and more conspicuous⁴."

76.

Conclusion.

Zadig, though (thò) astonished to the last degree⁵, attended⁶ him to their next stage, which was the cottage of a virtuous (vèrtuous) widow, who had a nephew (névù) about fourteen years of age. This youth was the darling of her heart. She entertained her two guests in the best manner⁷ her little house afforded.

In the morning she ordered her nephew to attend them to an adjacent bridge, which, having been lately broken, rendered the passage dangerous to strangers. As soon as they were on the middle of the bridge, "Come hither, my little boy", said the hermit, "I must show my gratitude to your aunt for her last night's favours⁸." He then seized him by the hair, and threw him into the river. The youth sunk, arose again to the surface, but was soon lost in the stream. "O monster, o villain⁹!" cried Zadig. — "Did not you promise", said the hermit, "to view my conduct with patience? Know then, had that youth lived another¹⁰ year, he would have been the murderer of his aunt." — "Who told you so¹¹, barbarian", said Zadig; "and when did

¹ souvenir. — ² to set in a flame, mettre le feu à. — ³ d'autant mieux. — ⁴ to render conspicuous, mettre en évidence. — ⁵ au dernier degré. — ⁶ accompagner. — ⁷ suppléer that. — ⁸ la bonté qu'elle nous a témoignée le soir passé. — ⁹ scélérat. — ¹⁰ encore une année. — ¹¹ cela.

you read that inhuman event in your black book of fate?"

While Zadig was thus exclaiming, he observed the beard vanish from the old man's face, and his countenance assumed the appearance of youth; his mantle disappeared, and on his shoulders were discover'd (discuverd) two angelic wings, refulgent¹ as the sun.

"O thou messenger of heaven", cried Zadig and fell prostrate² at his feet; "thou art descended from the Empyrean³ to instruct a poor frail mortal how to submit to the mysteries of fate." — "Man⁴", said the angel Jérad, "judges of the whole, only viewing (vü-ing) a part. Thou of all the human race most deservest to have thy mind⁵ enlightened." — "Is it necessary then, venerable guide", said Zadig, "that there should be wickedness and misfortune in the world, and that those misfortunes should fall with weight (wät) on the heads of the righteous (gh muet)?" — "The wicked", replied Jérad, "are always unhappy. Misfortunes are intended only as a touchstone, to try a small number of the just thinly scattered about the earth, nor is there any⁶ evil without some good proceeding from it."

77.

Richard Cœur-de-Lion et Blondel.

Of all the kings who went to the third crusade (s=ss)⁷ none was more powerful, brave and magnificent than King Richard the lion-hearted, and his army was one of the finest that ever was seen. He attacked the Infidels and conquered⁸ them in a great many⁹ glorious battles, and his fame spread far and wide¹⁰ throughout all Europe. But it happened before this war was quite ended, that it became necessary for King Richard to return to England (ingland), so he left his army

¹ brillant. — ² to fall prostrate, se prosterner. — ³ empyrée (la partie du ciel la plus élevée, que les anciens regardaient comme le séjour des divinités célestes, et où les théologiens placent celui des bienheureux). — ⁴ man s'emploie sans article quand il signifie l'espèce humaine (non l'individu). — ⁵ esprit. — ⁶ aussi n'y a-t-il aucun. — ⁷ la troisième croisade commença en 1189. — ⁸ pron. cong-kerd. — ⁹ beaucoup (un grand nombre). — ¹⁰ bien au loin.

in the holy land and began his journey back to England with only a few servants and followers. But as he was passing through Austria, the duke of that country seized upon King Richard and put him into prison, in hopes that the people of England would give a great sum of money for his release (s=ss). It is said that this duke at first hid the king in a dark dungeon in a castle (câsl), which was built in the midst of a great forest, and that no one knew what was become of him.

But Richard had a faithful page, named Blondel, who loved him exceedingly, and this page wandered (wonderd) through all Germany to find out the place where his master was confined, and whenever he came to a castle where he thought the king might be, he began to sing a song under the windows of the castle. And he always sang the same song, which was one that the king himself used to sing, and the page knew, that if the king should hear this song, he would know who sang it and would, perhaps, make himself known by singing the same song in return. Many was the castle, and many the tower, under the walls of which the faithful page sang his song: but he never heard any voice in answer, till, at last, by good fortune, he arrived at the very castle¹ where the king was confined. Then he had no sooner sung the first verse of his song, but² Richard heard him and, just as the page expected, he answered by singing the second verse, and so the page knew that he had at last found where his master was confined. When the people of England heard that the duke would not give him his liberty without a large ransom, they immediately collected their jewels (djü-ilz) and money and made up³ the great sum which the duke demanded, and sent it over to him, so that he had no longer any excuse (s=ss) for keeping Richard; he accordingly let him go.

The moment⁴ the king was at liberty, he, with his faithful page and other attendants, mounted their horses and galloped away and travelled day and night without stopping on the road to England. He landed safely in England and was received by all the people with the

¹ au château même. — ² que. — ³ rassembler. — ⁴ suppléez when.

greatest joy, and they seemed to love him the better¹ for all the toils and misfortunes² he had suffered.

78.

Macbéth.

(Walter Scott.)

In the éléventh céntury, there was a king of Scótlá, called Dúncán, a very good old man. He had two sons; one was called Malcolm³, and the other Dónaldbane. At this time Scotland, and indeed France and England, and all the other countries of Europe were much harassed by the Danes. These were a very fierce, warlike people, who sailed from one place to another, and landed their armies on the coast, burning and destroying every thing wherever they came. They were heathens, and thought of nothing but battle and slaughter (sláter), and making plunder. When they came to countries where the inhabitants were cowardly, they took possession of the land. At other times, they landed with their soldiers, took what spoil they could find, burned the houses, and then got on board⁴, hoisted⁵ sails, and away again⁶. They did so much mischief (mis-chif), that people put up⁷ prayers to God in the churches to deliver them from the rage of the Danes.

Now, it happened in King Duncan's time, that a great fleet of these Danes came to Scotland, and landed their men in Fife, and threatened to take possession of that province. So, a numerous Scottish army was levied to go to fight (fit) with them. The good king Duncan was too old to command his army, and his sons were too young. So he sent out one of his near relations, who was called Macbéth; he was son of the thane of Glámis. The governors (gúvernerz) of provinces were at that time in Scotland called thanes; they were afterwards termed earls⁸.

This Macbéth, who was a brave soldier, put himself at the head of the Scottish army, and marched

¹ d'autant plus. — ² suppléez *which*. — ³ *pron.* málcum. — ⁴ aller à bord. — ⁵ hisser. — ⁶ ils disparurent. — ⁷ on adressait. — ⁸ comte.

against the Danes. And he carried with him a relation of his own¹, called Banquo², who was thane of Lochaber³, and was also a very brave man. So there was a great battle fought (fát) between the Danes and the Scots, and Macbéth and Banquo defeated the Danes, and drove them back to their ships, leaving a great many⁴ of their soldiers both killed and wounded. Then Macbéth and his army marched back to a town in the North of Scotland, called Fórrés, rejoicing on account of their victory.

79.

Continuation.

Now there lived, at this time, three old women in the town of Forres, whom people thought were witches⁵, and supposed they could tell what was to come to pass⁶. These women went and stood by the wayside, in a great moor or heath near Forres, and waited till Macbéth came up. And then, stepping before him as he was marching at the head of his soldiers, the first woman said: "All hail, Macbeth — hail to thee, thane of Glamis!" — The second said: "All hail, Macbeth — hail to thee, thane of Cawdor!" — Then the third said: "All hail, Macbeth, that shall be king of Scotland!" Macbeth was very much surprised to hear them give him these titles; and while he was wondering (wúndring) what they could mean, Banquo stepped forward, and asked them whether they had nothing to tell about him, as well as about Macbeth. And they said that he should not be so great as Macbeth; but that, though (thò) he himself should never be a king, yet his children should succeed to the throne of Scotland, and be kings for a great number of years.

Before Macbeth was recovered (ricúverd) from his surprise, there came a messenger to tell him, that his father was déad, so that he was become thane of Glamis by inheritance. And there came a second messenger

¹ *own* s'emploie souvent en pléonasme: un de ses (propres) parents. — ² *pron.* Bánko. — ³ *pron.* lokáber. — ⁴ un grand nombre. — ⁵ qu'on croyait être sorcières. — ⁶ ce qui devait arriver (à l'avenir).

from the king, to thank Macbeth for the great victory over the Danes, and tell him that the thane of Cawdor had rebelled against the king, and that the king had taken his office from him, and had sent to make Macbeth thane of Cawdor as well as of Glamis. Thus the first two old women seemed to be right (rit)¹ in giving him those two titles.

However, Macbeth, seeing a part of their words (wërdz) come² to be true, began to think how he was to bring the rest to pass³, and make himself king, as well as thane of Glamis and Cawdor. And Macbeth had a wife, who was a very ambitious wicked woman, and when she found out that her husband thought of raising himself up to be king of Scotland, she encouraged him by all the means in her power, and persuaded him that the only way to get possession of the crown was to kill the good old king Duncan. Macbeth was very unwilling to commit so great a crime, for he knew what a good king Duncan had been; and he recollected how he was his relation, and had been always very kind to him, and had intrusted him with the command of his army, and had bestowed on him the government (gúvernment) of Cawdor.

80.

Continuation.

But his wife continued telling him what a foolish, cowardly thing it was in him not to take the opportunity of making himself king, when it was in his power to gain what the witches promised him. So the wicked advice of his wife, and the prophecy of these wretched old women, at last brought Macbeth to think of murdering his king and friend. The way in which he accomplished this crime, made it still more abominable.

Macbeth invited Duncan to come to visit him, at a great castle (cásl) near Inverness; and the good king, who had no suspicions of his kinsman, accepted the invitation very willingly. Macbeth and his lady received the king and all his retinue with much appearance of joy,

¹ I am right, j'ai raison. — ² to come to be, devenir. — ³ comment il réaliserait le reste.

and made a great feast, as a subject would do to make his king welcome. About the middle of the night, the king desired to go to his apartment, and Macbeth conducted him to a fine room, which had been prepared for him. Now, it was the custom in those barbarous times, that wherever the king slept, two armed men slept in the same chamber, in order to defend his person, in case (s=ss) he should be attacked by any (éni) one during the night. But the wicked lady Macbeth had made these two watchmen (wórchmen) drink a great deal¹ of wine, and had besides put some drugs² into the liquor (líker), so that when they went to the king's apartment they both fell asleep, and slept so soundly, that nothing could awaken them.

Then the cruel (crū-il) Macbeth came into king Duncan's bedroom, about two³ in the morning. It was a terrible stormy night; but the noise of the wind and of the thunder could not awaken the king, as he was old, and weary with his journey; neither could it awaken the two sentinels. They all slept soundly. So Macbeth having come into the room, and stepped gently over the floor (flòr), he took the two dirks⁴ (dërks), which belonged to the sentinels, and stabbed poor old king Duncan to the heart, and that so effectually, that he died without giving even a groan. Then Macbeth put the bloody (blúdi) daggers into the hands of the sentinels, and he daubed their faces over with blood (blúd), that it might appear, as if they had committed the murder. Macbeth was frightened (fritend) at what he had done, but his wife made him wash (wósh) his hands and go to bed.

Early in the morning, the nobles and gentlemen, who attended on the king, assembled in the great hall of the castle, and there they began to talk (tāk) of what a dreadful storm it had been the night before.

81.

Continuation.

But Macbeth could scarcely understand what they said, for he was thinking of something much worse (wërs)

¹ beaucoup. — ² drogues (soporatives). — ³ à deux heures environ. — ⁴ poignard.

and more frightful (frítful) than the storm, and was wondering¹ (wúndring) what would be said, when they heard of the murder. They waited for some time, but finding the king did not come from his apartment, one of the noblemen went to see whether he was well or not. But when he came into the room, he found poor king Duncan lying stiff, and cold and bloody (blúdi), and the two sentinels, with their dirks covered with blood, both fast asleep. As soon as the Scottish nobles saw this terrible sight (sit), they were greatly astonished and enraged: and Macbeth made believe as if he were more enraged than any one of them, and, drawing his sword (sórd), before any one could prevent him, he killed the two attendants of the king, who slept in the bed-chamber, pretending to think they had been guilty of murdering king Duncan.

When Malcolm and Dónaldbane, the two sons of the king, saw their father slain in this strange manner, within Macbeth's castle, they became afraid that they might be put to death likewise, and fled away out of Scotland; for, notwithstanding all the excuses², which he could make, they still believed that Macbeth had killed their father. Dónaldbane fled into some distant islands (ilandz), but Malcolm, the eldest son of Duncan, went to the court of England, where he begged for assistance from the English king, to place him on the throne of Scotland as his father's successor.

In the meantime Macbeth took possession of the kingdom of Scotland, and thus all his wicked³ wishes seemed to be fulfilled. But he was not happy. He began to reflect how wicked he had been in killing his friend and benefactor, and how some other person, as ambitious as he was himself, might do the same thing to him. He remembered, too, that the old women had said, that the children of Banquo should succeed to the throne after his death, and therefore he concluded that Banquo might be tempted (témted) to conspire against him, as

¹ *I am wondering, je suis curieux de savoir.* — ² *Quand excuse est substantif, s a le son fort; quand ce mot est verbe, s a le son doux (z).* — ³ *e est muet dans la terminaison de l'imparfait, p. e. loved; mais il se prononce dans la finale des adjectifs, p. e. wicked, impie; naked, nu.*

he had himself done against king Duncan. The wicked always think other people as bad as themselves. In order to¹ prevent this supposed danger, he hired ruffians to watch (wótech) in a wood (wúd), where Banquo and his son Fleance sometimes (súmtimz) used to walk (wák) in the evening, with instructions to attack them, and kill both father and son

82.

Continuation.

The villains did as they were ordered by Macbeth; but while they were killing Banquo, the boy Fleance made his escape² from their wicked hands, and fled from Scotland into Wales. And it is said that long afterwards, his children came to possess the Scottish crown.

Macbeth was not the more happy that he had slain his brave friend and cousin. He knew (nú) that men began to suspect the wicked deeds which he had done, and he was constantly afraid that some one would put him to death as he had done his old sovereign (súvrin), or that Malcolm would obtain assistance from the king of England, and come to make war against him, and take from him the Scottish kingdom. So, in this great perplexity of mind, he thought he would go to the old women, whose words had first put into his mind the desire of becoming a king. They answered (ánserd) that he should not be conquered (cóngkerd), or lose (lüz) the crown of Scotland, until a great forest, called Birnam Wood (bérnum wúd), should come to attack him in a strong castle, situated on a high hill called Dúnsinane. Now, the hill of Dúnsinane is upon the one side of a valley, and the forest of Birnam is upon the other. There are twelve miles distance betwixt them, and besides that, Macbeth thought it was impossible that the trees could ever come to the assault of the castle. He therefore resolved to fortify his castle on the hill of Dúnsinane very strongly, as being a place in which he would always be sure (shūr) to be safe. For this purpose (pérpus), he caused all his great nobility and thanes

¹ pour. — ² *I made my escape, je m'échappai.*

to send in stones, and wood and other things wanted (wóntid) in building¹, and to drag them with oxen up to the top of the steep hill where he was building the castle.

Now, among (amúng) other nobles who were obliged to send oxen, and horses, and materials, to this laborious work, was one called Macdúff, the thane of Fife. Macbeth was afraid of this thane, for he was very powerful, and was accounted² both brave and wise: and Macbeth thought he would most probably join with prince Malcolm, if ever he should come from England with an army. The king, therefore, had a private hatred against the thane of Fife, which he kept concealed from all men, until he should have some opportunity of putting him to death as he had done Duncan and Banquo.

83.

Continuation.

Macdúff, on his part, kept upon his guard, and went to the king's court as seldom as he could, thinking himself never safe unless while³ in his own castle of Kénnoway, which is on the coast of Fife, near to the mouth of the Frith⁴ of Forth. It happened, however, that the king had summoned several of his nobles, and Macduff, the thane of Fife, among (amúng) others to attend him at his new castle of Dúnsinane; and they were all obliged to come, none (nú) dared stay behind. Now the king was to give⁵ the nobles a great entertainment, and preparations were made for it. In the meantime, Macbeth rode out with a few attendants, to see the oxen drag the wood and the stones up the hill for enlarging and strengthening the castle. So they saw most of the oxen trudging up the hill with great difficulty, for the ascent is very steep, and the burdens were heavy, and the weather was extremely hot. At length Macbeth saw a pair of oxen so tired that they could go no further up the hill, but fell down under their load. Then the king was very angry, and demanded to know who it was among (amúng) his thanes

¹ qu'il fallait pour bâtir. — ² considéré comme. — ³ suppléer he was. — ⁴ embouchure du golfe. — ⁵ I was to give, je devais donner.

that had sent oxen so weak and so unfit for labour, when he had so much work (wérk) for them to do. Some one replied that the oxen belonged to Macduff, the thane of Fife. "Then", said the king in great anger, "since the thane of Fife sends such worthless (wérthless) cattle as these to do my labour, I will put his own neck into the yoke, and make him drag the burdens himself."

There was a friend of Macduff's who heard these angry expressions of the king, and hastened (hàs'nd) to communicate them to the thane of Fife, who was walking (wáking) in the hall of the king's castle while dinner was preparing¹. The instant that Macduff heard what the king had said, he knew he had no time to lose (lüz) in making his escape; for whenever Macbeth threatened to do mischief to any one, he was sure (shūr) to keep his word.

So Macduff snatched up from the table a loaf of bread, called for his horses and his servants, and was galloping back to his own province of Fife before Macbeth and the rest of the nobility were returned to the castle. The first question which the king asked, was, what had become Macduff? and being informed, that he had fled from Dúnsinane, he ordered a body of his guards to attend him, and mounted on horseback himself to pursue the thane, with the purpose (pérpus) of putting him to death.

84.

Continuation.

Macduff, in the meantime, fled as fast as horses' feet could carry him; but he was so ill provided with money for his expenses, that, when he came to the great ferry over the river Tay, he had nothing to give to the boatmen who took him across, excepting the loaf of bread which he had taken from the king's table. The place was called, for a long time afterwards, the Ferry of the loaf.

When Macduff got into his province of Fife, which is on the other side of the Tay, he rode on faster than before, towards (tòrdz) his own castle of Kénnoway,

¹ pendant qu'on préparait le dîner.

which stands close (s=ss) by the sea-side; and when he reached it, the king and his guards were not far behind him. Macduff ordered his wife to shut the gates of the castle, draw up the draw-bridge, and on no account¹ permit the king or any (éni) of his soldiers to enter. In the meantime, he went to the small harbour belonging to the castle, and caused a ship which was lying there to be fitted out² for sea in all haste, and got on board himself, in order to escape from Macbeth.

In the meantime, Macbeth summoned the lady to surrender the castle, and to deliver up her husband. But lady Macduff who was a wise and brave woman, made many excuses and delays, until she knew that her husband was safely on board the ship³, and had sailed from the harbour. Then she spoke boldly from the wall of the castle to the king, who was standing before the gate still demanding entrance, with many threats of what he would do, if Macduff was not given up to him. "Do you see", she said, "yon white sail upon the sea? Yonder goes Macduff to the court of England. You will never see him again, till he comes back with young prince Malcolm to pull you down from the throne, and to put you to death. You will never be able to put your yoke, as you threatened, on the thane of Fife's neck."

Some say that Macbeth was so much incensed at this bold answer (ânsér), that he and his guards attacked the castle and took it, killing the brave lady and all whom they found there. But others say that the king seeing that the castle of Kennoway was very strong and that Macduff had escaped from him, and was embarked for England, departed back to Dunsinane without attempting (attémting) to take Macduff's castle. The ruins (rû-inz) of Kennoway are still to be seen.

85.

Conclusion.

There reigned (rànd) at that time in England a very good king, called Edward the Confessor. We know that

¹ en aucune manière. — ² he caused a ship to be fitted out, il fit armer un vaisseau. — ³ on board of the ship; le mot of s'omet toujours dans cette expression.

prince Malcolm, the son of Duncan, was at his court soliciting assistance to recover (ricúver) the Scottish throne. The arrival of Macduff greatly aided the success of his petition; for the English king knew that Macduff was a brave and wise man. As he assured (ashûrd) Edward that the Scots were tired of the cruel (crû-il) Macbeth, and would join prince Malcolm, if he were to enter Scotland at the head of an army, the king ordered a great warrior, called Siward, earl of Northumberland, to enter Scotland with an army, and assist prince Malcolm, in the recovery of his father's crown.

Then it happened just as Macduff had said; for the Scottish thanes and nobles would not fight for Macbeth, but joined prince Malcolm and Macduff against him; so that at length, he shut himself up in his castle of Dunsinane, where he thought himself safe, according to the old women's prophecy, until Birnam wood should come against him. He boasted of this to his followers¹, and encouraged them to make a valiant defence, assuring (ashûring) them of certain victory.

At this time Malcolm and Macduff were come as far as² Birnam wood, and lay encamped³ there with their army. The next morning, when they were to march across the broad valley to attack the castle of Dunsinane, Macduff advised that every soldier should cut down a bough of a tree and carry it in his hand, that the enemy might not be able to see how many men were coming against them. Now, the sentinel who stood on Macbeth's castle-wall, when he saw all these branches which the soldiers of prince Malcolm carried, ran to the king and informed him that the wood of Birnam was moving (mûving) towards (tòrdz) the castle of Dunsinane. The king at first called him a liar (li-er), and threatened to put him to death; but when he looked (lûkt) from the walls himself, and saw the appearance of a forest approaching from Birnam, he knew the hour of his destruction was come. His followers too began to be disheartened, and to fly from the castle, seeing their master had lost all hopes. Macbeth, however, recollected his own bravery, and sallied desperately out at the head

¹ partisan. — ² jusqu'à. — ³ to lie encamped, camper.

of the few followers who remained faithful to him. He was killed after a furious resistance, fighting hand to hand¹ with Macduff in the thick² of the battle.

Prince Malcolm mounted the throne of Scotland and reigned (rând) long and prosperously. He rewarded Macduff by declaring that his descendants should lead the vanguard of the Scottish army in the battle, and place the crown on the king's head at the ceremony of coronation.

86.

Le Rapt des Princes saxons.³

The Eléctor Frédéric, justly⁴ surnamed the Gentle⁵, then reigned (rând) in Saxony. He had, contrary to his inclination, carried on a war with⁶ his brother William, who had rebelled against him. An archer offering himself to kill his brother, Frédéric replied: "Shoot whom you will, only not my brother."

After peace being concluded, Conrad of Kaufungen, a nobleman, who had served the Eléctor, thought himself not sufficiently rewarded; and the Eléctor not wishing to give him more, Conrad threatened to revenge himself on his master's flesh and blood (blüd); whereupon Frédéric smiling said to him: "Conrad, at least don't⁷ burn the fish in the pond!" But for all that⁸, Conrad kept his word. The Eléctor had two sons, Ernest and Albert. Conrad formed the audacious project to carry them off from the castle of Altenburg, where Frédéric then resided. A kitchen-boy, Jack Schwalbe, acted as a spy⁹ and gave Conrad every information. In this way¹⁰ he learned that on a certain day the Eléctor had gone to Leipzig, and that the persons belonging to the court would all be at a festival in the town. At midnight Conrad with William of Mosen, and some other accomplices, entered the castle by means of ropeladders, which Schwalbe had fastened (fäsnd) to the kitchen window. The room in which the Eléctress with some of her

¹ corps à corps. — ² la mêlée. — ³ le 7 juillet 1455. — ⁴ à juste titre. — ⁵ le Débonnaire. — ⁶ faire la guerre à. — ⁷ do not. — ⁸ malgré cela. — ⁹ fit l'espion. — ¹⁰ de cette manière.

waiting women¹ slept, was bolted, and the few soldiers on guard² tied and locked up. The princes were surprised in their room asleep³. Conrad took (tük) the elder Prince Ernest, and led him away through the castle-yard, threatening him with⁴ death if he screamed. His accomplice had taken away⁵ instead of Albert, a young Count Barby, who was being educated⁶ with the Princes. But Conrad returned and took the Prince, who had crept under the bed. The mother awoke from the noise, and saw from the window what was passing; she, together with the children, begged and implored Conrad to bring them back, but in vain.

Conrad took charge⁷ of Albert himself, and his accomplices and other companions of Ernest. They took in all haste two different directions to Bohemia, where Conrad had a castle. Towards (tördz) morning he was in the wood (wüd) of Wiësenthal near Bohemia, and thinking himself tolerably secure, he allowed Albert to alight (alit) from his horse, and gather some strawberries to refresh himself; he pulled⁸ some himself for him too; and his companions went on before⁹.

87.

Conclusion.

At this moment, there happened to be close (s=ss) by, a coal-burner, named George Schmidt, who, wondering at this cortege¹⁰ in the wood, went up to Conrad and spoke to him. It is very possible that the latter (as often [of'n] happens with a bad conscience) did not answer pertinently, so that the man conceived suspicions. Schmidt then went to the young gentleman, to inquire who they were; and before Conrad could prevent this, the Prince had discovered (discüverd) himself to the coal-burner, and had said to him: "Save me, my father will reward you!" Conrad, a clumsy¹¹ rider, had fallen and become entangled¹² in the spur. The coal-burner fell upon him with his poker¹³, set¹⁴ his dog at Conrad's

¹ femme de chambre. — ² qui étaient de garde. — ³ pendant le sommeil. — ⁴ de. — ⁵ emmené. — ⁶ qu'on élevait. — ⁷ se charger. — ⁸ cueillir. — ⁹ prendre les devants. — ¹⁰ pron. cortâdj. — ¹¹ lourd. — ¹² rester accroché. — ¹³ fourgon. — ¹⁴ haler.

servant, and attracted by the cries, the coal-burner's wife came too, who immediately gave the usual signal, by certain knocks (nóks)¹, to the coal-burners, that robbers were there. Then came coal-burners from all sides to the spot, armed with pokers. Conrad begged to be set at liberty, but the coal-burners took him prisoner; and he was brought to Zwickau, whilst Albert with his deliverer arrived in triumph at Altenburg, and was received with tears of joy by his parents.

But Ernest, who was in the hands of the other robbers, was still missing². They soon, however, learned Conrad's fate, and as every means were taken to save the prince, they did not venture to go farther, but hid themselves in a cavern. After some days they wrote to the sheriff³ in Zwickau, and promised to deliver up the prince, safe and sound⁴, if they were not punished; in the other case (s=ss) they would first kill the prince and then themselves. Their conditions were accepted. The Elector soon after went to fetch Ernest from Chemnitz in the Erzgebirge⁵ of Saxony. He together with his wife, offered thanksgivings⁶ to God for the deliverance of his sons in the church at Ebersdorf, near Chemnitz, where the clothes (clòz) of the princes and the coal-burner's jacket⁷ are still preserved.

The charcoal-burner received permission to burn coal gratis⁸ in the wood (wüd) where he had saved the prince; besides which⁹ the Elector made him a present of a freehold estate¹⁰ near Zwickau, some bushels of corn yearly, for him and his descendants; and from that time he was called driller¹¹, because he had drilled Conrad well¹².

Conrad was beheaded the 14th of July 1455, on the market-place at Freyberg, in the Erzgebirge. The mild Elector intended to pardon him, but the pardon came too late. Jack Schwalbe was also executed. They¹³ still show in the castle (câsl) of Altenburg, the place

¹ coup. — ² manquait encore. — ³ grand-bailli. — ⁴ sain et sauf. — ⁵ montagne de ce nom. — ⁶ rendre des actions de grâces. — ⁷ la souquenille. — ⁸ sans redevance. — ⁹ outre cela. — ¹⁰ terre franche. — ¹¹ frotteur (to drill, exercer les soldats). — ¹² to drill well, frotter d'importance. — ¹³ on.

of the rape¹, although this part has been changed by building².

From these princes all the Sovereigns (súvrinz) of Saxony are descended, from Albert, the Electoral, now king's house, and from Ernest, the Saxon ducal families: Weimar, Coburg-Gotha, Meiningen-Hildburghausen and Altenburg; thence³ one says: the Albertinian and Ernestinian line or descent⁴.

88.

L'Aventure du Maçon.

(Washington Irving⁵.)

There was once upon a time a poor mason⁶, in Granada, who kept⁷ all the saints'-days and holidays, and Saint Monday into the bargain⁸, and yet, with all his devotion, he grew poorer and poorer, and could scarcely earn bread for his numerous family. One night he was roused from his first sleep by the knocking (nóking) at his door. He opened it, and beheld before him a tall, meagre, cadaverous-looking priest.

"Hark ye, honest (onest) friend!" said the stranger; "I have observed that you are a good Christian, and one to be trusted⁹; will you undertake a job this very night?"

"With all my heart, Sennor Pâdre, on condition that I am paid accordingly."

"That you shall be; but you must suffer¹⁰ yourself to be blindfolded¹¹."

To this the mason made no objection; so being hoodwinked (hüdwinkt)¹², he was led by the priest through various rough (rúf)¹³ lanes and winding¹⁴ passages, until they stopped before the portal of a house. The priest then applied a key, turned a creaking lock, and opened what sounded like a ponderous door. They entered, the door was closed and bolted, and the mason was conducted through an echoing (ch=k) corridor,

¹ rapt. — ² par des bâties. — ³ voilà pourquoi. — ⁴ descente. — ⁵ pron. wóshingt'n erving. — ⁶ pron. mas'n. — ⁷ célébrer. — ⁸ par-dessus le marché. — ⁹ auquel on peut se fier. — ¹⁰ to suffer, laisser; p. e. he suffered himself to be beaten, il se laissa battre. — ¹¹ & ¹² bander les yeux. — ¹³ raboteux. — ¹⁴ tortueux.