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VOL. XVI.







A HISTORY
OF
PORTUGAL:

FROM ITS ERECTION INTO A SEPARATE
STATF, TO THE FINAL CONCESSION
OF THE CONSTITUTION.

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CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
I.—Introduction	1
II.—Portugal an Earldom	4
III.—House of Henriques—Alfonso I., surnamed the Victorious	12
IV.—Dom Sancho I., surnamed the Father of his Country	22
V.—Dom Alfonso II., surnamed the Fat	25
VI.—Dom Sancho II., surnamed Capello	30
VII.—Alfonso III.	33
VIII.—Dom Diniz, surnamed the Husbandman	37
IX.—Alfonso IV., surnamed the Brave	45
X.—Dom Pedro I., surnamed the Severe	53
XI.—Fernando I.	56
XII.—Interregnum	64
XIII.—House of Aviz—Dom João I., surnamed of Good Memory	73
XIV.—Dom Duarte, surnamed the Eloquent	90
XV.—Alfonso V., surnamed the African	96
XVI.—Dom João II., surnamed the Perfect Prince	115
XVII.—House of Viseu—Dom Manoel, surnamed the Great and Fortunate	137
XVIII.—João III., surnamed the Pious	151

CHAPTER	PAGE
XIX.—Sebastian, surnamed the Regretted . . .	161
XX.—The Cardinal King Henrique, surnamed the Chaste	168
XXI.—The Castilian Usurpation	174
Philip I. (II. of Spain,) surnamed the Prudent	176
XXII.—Philip II. (III. of Spain)	181
XXIII.—Philip III. (IV. of Spain)	185
XXIV.—House of Bragança—Dom João IV., sur- named the Restorer	197
XXV.—Alfonso VI., surnamed the Victorious . . .	202
XXVI.—Dom Pedro II., surnamed the Pacific . . .	207
XXVII.—João V., surnamed the Most Faithful . . .	210
XXVIII.—José	214
XXIX.—Maria I.	221
XXX.—João VI	225
XXXI.—Pedro III.	228
XXXII.—Maria II., surnamed Da Gloria	229

NOTICE.

Those who read the following history may be at a loss how to pronounce some of the proper names that occur in it.

In Portuguese, *no* is pronounced something between *ong* and *owng*: the *ng* being but slightly sounded.

C, with the sedula (ç,) is pronounced like *s*, as it is in French.

X has the sound of *sh*.

L and n, followed by h, are pronounced as *lh* followed by *y*.



A

HISTORY OF PORTUGAL.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

By the history of any country, is meant an account, not of the land, but of the nation. That is we do not, in such a history, describe the rise and fall of the several people that have possessed one and the same region; but of the one nation which has given to that region its name and renown.

So, by the History of Portugal, is meant that of the Portuguese nation, such as we have it at this day; and this does not begin for more than a thousand years after the Christian era.

The ancient name of Portugal was Lusitania. The Lusitanians were a bold and savage people,

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who in their wars with the Carthaginians first, and then with the Romans, gave great proofs of their courage. Together with Spain, Lusitania was reduced under the power of Rome; and in the civil wars that followed the death of Cæsar, it took the part of Sextus Pompeius. Augustus divided the whole Spanish peninsula into six provinces, of which Lusitania was one; it contained more than modern Portugal, for it embraced nearly the whole of Spanish Estremadura, and part of Leon.

The Church was planted in Lusitania, according to tradition, by the Apostle S. James. S. Man- cius, first Bishop of Evora, and several other prelates, received the crown of martyrdom. In process of time those barbarous nations, the Van- dals, Alani, and Suevi, entered Spain, and fixed themselves there; they, in their turn, were con- quered by the Goths. The true faith was em- braced by these pagans, and there was a succes- sion of Christian kings of Spain, who, however, too often disgraced their profession by their un- godly deeds, till the time of Roderic, surnamed the Goth. This king insulted the daughter of a powerful nobleman, called Count Julian: and her

father, in revenge, called the Moors from Africa, and invited them to invade his country. Roderic met them with great courage: but [A.D. 714] he was defeated in a bloody battle, and almost all the peninsula became subject to the Mahometans. By degrees, one Christian kingdom was formed after another; of these the most famous were Aragon, Castile, Catalonia, Navarre, and Leon. Leon contained, besides the province of that name, Galicia and Lusitania; the latter gradually acquired the name of Portugal, from the *Port of Cales*, or *Oporto*, its most famous harbour. The Moors were also, in course of time, divided into several kingdoms; they principally occupied the southern half, the Christians the northern half, of the peninsula.

Towards the latter end of the eleventh century, Alfonso was king of Leon; he was a great enemy of the Moors, and obtained many victories over them. In all these, Henry of Besançon, of the royal house of France, greatly assisted him. As a reward, the king gave him his daughter Theresa to wife, and determined to bestow something further on his son-in-law, as you shall hear in the next chapter.

CHAPTER II.

Portugal an Earldom.

A.D. 1095—1139.

I HAVE already told you how much Alfonso VI. had been assisted by Henry of Besançon, in his wars against the Moors; and that Henry had married Theresa, daughter of that king. In the year 1095, Alfonso made him governor of Portugal from the Minho to the Tagus, and gave him the right of conquering as far as the Guadiana. This kingdom, you may see by the map, is just the size of modern Portugal; for if it leaves out a little piece of Alemtejo, it takes in a portion of Galicia.

It is not certain whether Alfonso renounced all right to Portugal, or whether he only allowed it

to be held in dependence on the crown of Leon. The Spaniards say the latter, and the Portuguese the former; and the Spanish historians seem to have the better arguments on their side.

Count Henry held his court at Guimaraens, then the principal Christian city in his dominions. He carried on his wars against the Mahometans, sometimes in company with his father-in-law, sometimes by himself; and as he was a good man, God greatly blessed his undertakings. Ali ben Yousef, a Mahometan prince, having marched against Coimbra, and reduced it to great straits, Count Henry hastened to its assistance. A battle was fought; the victory remained long undecided; at length the Moors were defeated with great slaughter, and Coimbra was relieved. To revenge themselves for their loss, they besieged and took Santarem: but still, on the whole, Henry was successful against them.

He was no less careful to extend and to provide for the Church, than he was to humble and subdue the Moors; he re-founded several ancient bishoprics, which had been without prelates during the time of the Saracen tyranny; he built and endowed many monasteries; and he was a

great benefactor to the Archbishoprick of Braga. The Archbishop was primate of all the Spains; though the see of Toledo disputed the honour with him. At length, having conquered the Infidels in seventeen pitched battles, Henry laid siege to Astorga; but while engaged in this enterprise, he fell sick, and departed this life in the year 1112. He was buried in the cathedral church of Braga.

As his son, Alfonso Henrique, was only three years old, Queen Theresa took the regency. She was a woman of great talents; but passionate, hasty, and jealous of the young prince. Instead of continuing to conquer the Moors, she made war on her sister Urraca, Queen of Leon, and on Urraca's son, Alfonso VIII.; but she was constantly defeated, and acquired neither glory nor profit by her sin. She married secretly the Count of Trastamara; and all who had any favour to ask were obliged to obtain the good-will of this nobleman. There was great discontent throughout Portugal; old laws were abolished, and old rights violated; and the insolence of Trastamara became unbearable. Alfonso Henrique, now growing up to man's estate, took up arms in defence of his people and himself. Trastamara and the Queen Regent

marched against him; the nobility flocked round his standard; and on the field of Santilhanhas he obtained a glorious victory. Trastamara was banished, and Theresa is said to have been imprisoned. [A.D. 1128.]

Alfonso now had to defend himself against his cousin, Alfonso VIII. of Castile; but the two Christian princes soon agreed that while there were Infidels to be conquered, it was madness in them to quarrel among themselves. Alfonso Henrique applied himself to the introduction of the Cistercian Order of Monks into Portugal; it was then in its first purity and glory, and illustrious for the great S. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux. The first abbey of this order in Portugal was that of Tarouca, which was consecrated by the Archbishop of Braga, and magnificently endowed by Alfonso. Hither, in after years, he used to retire sometimes from the world, and to spend his time in great devotion.

In 1139, he determined to win fresh territory from the Moors. Assembling an army at Coimbra, he advanced towards Badajoz, intending to subdue all the country to the west of the Guadiana. The Mahometan governor, desirous both

to defend himself, and at once to avenge all the injuries which the Moors had received from the first Count Alfonso, not only summoned the chieftains and princes around him to his aid, but sent for troops from Africa. The two armies met on the plains of Ourique, which is near the frontiers of Alemtejo and the Algarves. The Christians could only muster thirteen thousand men; the army of the Infidels consisted of three hundred thousand. When the Portuguese saw the hills and valleys white with the tents of the Moors, and looked round on their own handful of men, their courage failed them; and they besought the Count to retreat. But Alfonso would not listen to their prayers. He chose a strong position for his camp on the brow of a hill, and there he resolved to await the enemy's assault; he encouraged his soldiers by reminding them that they were fighting for God as well as for their country; that if they were not victors, they could at least be martyrs; and that it was nothing to the LORD of Hosts to help by many or by few. But though the Count thus spoke, he was heavy at heart; and when he went into his tent that night, he had hardly any hope for the morrow. And now, ac-

According to the old chroniclers, was wrought a great miracle. Taking up a Bible, Alfonso happened to open it at the seventh chapter of the book of Judges, and was much encouraged to read of the victory obtained by Gideon over the Midianites. So he lay down to sleep, and saw in a dream an old man that bade him to be of good cheer, for that he should obtain a victory, the memory of which should endure for ever. He was awakened by Dom Fernando de Sousa, his chamberlain, who told him that an aged man was at the door of his tent, and desired to speak with him. Alfonso bade him enter, and behold, it was the same hermit whom he had seen in his sleep. "I am a miserable sinner," he said, "that have lived for sixty years alone on a mountain hard by; God commands me to assure you of victory, and to tell you that when you go forth from your tent, you shall behold a sign in the heavens, to make my words good; but it will not be till you hear the sound of a bell." And having thus said, the old man departed. You may well think how Alfonso passed that night, how glad at heart he was, and how thankful; but it was not till day-break that he heard the promised bell. He went

out; a bright ray of light shot upwards from the east; fiery clouds were heaped together around it, and, opening, presented a glorious vision. The Count beheld the SAVIOUR of the world hanging on the cross; angels, brighter than fancy could have conceived, clustered around and supported it. A voice was heard, that promised Alfonso victory; "To-day," it proceeded, "your subjects shall proclaim you king; accept the title, and your children of the sixteenth generation shall sit on the throne of Portugal."

The vision passed; the Count related it to his troops, and with one man's voice they thrice shouted, "God save King Alfonso!" Forming them into four bodies, he hastened to meet the enemy, who were disposed in twelve; each of the twelve being almost twice as numerous as the whole of the Christian army. Ismael, the leader of the Moors, was in the front, accompanied by the kings of Silves, Merida, Lisbon, Seville, and Algesiras. Alfonso himself commanded the vanguard of the Portuguese army. Mounted on a white horse, he did deeds that day of surpassing valour; with his own hand he slew the king of Silves: the king of Badajoz threw the Christians into disorder; the

main body and wings advanced to the relief of Alfonso. Ismael, after behaving with great courage, was compelled to retreat; his allies began to fly; the Christians redoubled their efforts; the whole Moorish army was thrown into confusion, and entirely routed; and it is said (though it seems hard to believe) that two hundred thousand Infidels were slain in the pursuit.

This was the famous battle of CAMPO D'OURIQUE, probably the greatest victory ever gained by a Christian king. Alfonso returned to Coimbra, and there married Mafalda, a daughter of the Count of Savoy.

CHAPTER III.

House of Henriques.

ALFONSO I.

SURNAMED THE VICTORIOUS.

A.D. 1139—1185.

THE first great enterprise which Alfonso took in hand, after his accession to the crown, was the siege of Santarem. This was one of the strongest places that the Moors held ; it lies, as you will see, on the river Tagus, and not very far from its mouth. The king made a vow, that if he succeeded in taking this city, he would found a magnificent monastery for the Cistercian order. He attacked Santarem by night ; but not more than five-and-twenty men had scaled the walls when the Moors flew to arms. The Christians, however, contrived to open one of the gates : the rest of the Portuguese poured in, and in an hour this

strong fortress was taken. That very night, it is said, S. Bernard, then at his abbey of Clairvaux, in France, called up some of his monks, and bade them hasten away to Portugal, for that the king was about to build a house for them and to endow it nobly. The monastery of Alcobaça, in course of time, became one of the largest in Europe, and possessed twenty-one towns and villages.

Alfonso now greatly desired to become master of Lisbon; and accordingly, he formed the siege. But the place was so strong, and the defenders so valiant, that he had little hopes of accomplishing his end. Just then a fleet of English Crusaders, commanded by William Longsword, which was hastening to the Holy Land, cast anchor in the mouth of the Tagus, and the king persuaded them to assist him. After a siege of five months it was determined to make a general assault; and on the 25th of October, 1147, the Crusaders attacked Lisbon on all sides. The gate of Alhama was broken open; a tremendous slaughter was made among the Moors; of whom, according to the report of an eye-witness, 200,000 perished in the siege, or in the sack. The principal mosque was consecrated, to serve for a cathedral,

and Gilbert, an Englishman, was first Bishop of Lisbon. Alfonso gave great privileges to such of the Crusaders as chose to settle in the conquered city ; and many profited by his kindness.

It was shortly after this that Alfonso held a Cortes or Parliament at Lamego, where he was solemnly crowned king by the Archbishop of Braga. When the crown, which had belonged to the Gothic kings, was put on his head, he said : “ Blessed be God, Who hath hitherto helped me : with the sword I have delivered you, and conquered our enemies, and you have this day crowned me your king. So now, then, let us make laws by which our country may be governed in peace.”

The laws of Lamego, the foundation of all Portuguese laws, were then brought forward. The three first laws related to the succession of kings. 1. The eldest son, and the eldest son's eldest son, were to succeed the father. 2. But if the eldest son died in the life-time of his father, then the second son was to succeed : if he also died, then the third, and so on. 3. If a king died without children, his brother was to succeed : but the son of the brother was not to become king with-

out the especial election of the bishops and nobles. These laws passed without any disputes; but then there arose a warm debate whether, in case there happened to be no male heirs to the crown, the king's daughters should reign in his stead. At last it was determined that they should,—on these conditions. The queen should marry none but a Portuguese: her husband should not be called king till she should have borne a male child; nor should he wear the royal crown. So that if a Portuguese princess married into a foreign royal family, she lost all claim to become queen. This last sentence you must carefully remember; for you will see its importance when I come to tell you of the Castilian usurpation.

Next they made laws as to who were, and who were not, to be considered noble, and how nobility could be lost. It was to be taken away if any that were noble fled in battle, struck a woman with sword or lance, spoke evil of the queen or princesses, neglected to rescue the king or his sons in danger, were guilty of theft, or bore false witness, sought to slay the king, or blasphemed our LORD JESUS CHRIST. They proceeded to allot punishments to different crimes, such as murder

and theft, and doing wrong to the king or his officers.

There was yet one more question to be settled. Pope Eugenius III. had already confirmed the title of king to Alfonso ; and now he demanded of his subjects, whether he should be a king, subject to none but God, or whether he should consider himself a vassal of the king of Leon ? The whole assembly rose and drew their swords. " We are free !" they cried ; " our king is free ; our own hands set us at liberty : the lord that consents to slavery shall die ; the king that consents to it shall not reign." Alfonso rose : " It shall be so," he said ; " he that doeth so shall die : and be it my son, or my grandson, he shall not reign." " It is well spoken," shouted the assembly ; " let him die."—And these are the famous laws of Lamego.

After this, Alfonso pursued his conquests. City after city fell into his hands. But one of the most important advantages was not gained by the king himself. There was a knight named Giraldo, called, from his great valour, the Dauntless, who, having committed some crime, fled from justice, and being joined by several com-

panions, led the life of a robber in the wilds of Alemtejo. He plundered Christians and Moors alike; and his name was the terror of the country. At length he repented of his evil course of life, and wished to perform some great deed that should make Alfonso willing to pardon him. Evora, in the very centre of Alemtejo, was so strong a Moorish town, that the king had not ventured to attack it. Giraldo, one night, contrived to scale a redoubt or fortification belonging to it. He found the Moor who defended it and his daughter asleep, and, cutting off their heads, he showed them to his companions below. Then he went to the tower where the beacon-fires were lighted, which gave notice to the Infidels of an invasion of the Christians; the particular side on which the flame was kindled signifying that quarter of the country which was attacked. As soon as he had lighted the beacón, the Moors poured out at one gate: Giraldo secured that on the other side of the city; and, in a short time, Evora submitted to Alfonso. The king not only pardoned Giraldo, but appointed him governor of the place. Here Alfonso founded a bishoprick, and fixed the head-quarters of the Knights of

Aviz. These much resembled the Templars and Hospitallers; and their principal end was to make continual wars on the Moors. [A.D. 1166.]

The name of Alfonso was now terrible to his neighbours. But his next expedition was not so fortunate. Fernando II. of Leon, who had married one of his daughters, declared war against him on some foolish pretence, and Alfonso besieged and took Badajoz, the Moorish king of which was a vassal of the crown of Leon. Fernando marched to relieve the citadel, which still held out. Alfonso, with very inferior forces, determined to give him battle. As he was galloping out of the city, his horse dashed his leg against one of the bars of the gate and shattered his knee: but bearing up against the pain, he led on his army and furiously attacked the troops of Leon. For a long time the valour of the Portuguese made the victory doubtful: at length the numbers of the Spaniards prevailed. Alfonso's horse fell with him, and still further injured his leg, and in that state he was taken prisoner, and carried to the king of Leon. Fernando treated him well, but obliged him to surrender all the towns he had taken in Galicia, before he was set at liberty. After this, Alfonso never again mounted horse. [A.D. 1168.]

On this, the Moors took courage, and began to invade different parts of Portugal, but more especially Alemtejo. Dom Sancho, the son of Alfonso, to punish the Infidels, ravaged their land as far as the gates of Seville: and Dom Fuas, who is the Prince Arthur of Portuguese history, wrought deeds of valour in these expeditions. Once on a time, when he was governor of a place called Porto de Mos, and was hard pressed by the Infidels, he left part of his troops as a garrison in the fortress, and with the rest went to obtain more assistance. On coming back, he halted on a hill near the castle, and rejoiced to behold how courageously his soldiers were repulsing an assault of the Moors. Some of his officers wished him to hasten forward, and attack the enemy behind. But he refused, saying that those who were in the fortress could defend themselves. After it was dark, he beset the camp of the unbelievers, and cut them all to pieces. Dom Fuas was afterwards made admiral of the Christian fleet: (for in those days, and in much later times, the man that was a good officer by land was also a good officer by sea :) and he distinguished himself greatly; for he not only defended the shores of Portugal, but attacked the coast of Barbary.

All these successes enraged the Mahometan Emperor of Spain, and he resolved to march against King Alfonso. He called seven kings, that were his allies or vassals, together, and with them he went to lay siege to Santarem. Dom Sancho threw himself into their fortress; and vowed to defend it to the last. For seven days he resisted the Moors with great courage: but he was just about to surrender, when he heard the joyful tidings, that his father was coming to his assistance. [A.D. 1184.] Alfonso was now seventy-five years old: but he hastened from Coimbra at the head of a powerful army, and arrived just in time. Dom Sancho had been wounded: his troops were hard pressed: and the Saracens were making sure of the victory, when they beheld this fresh army of Christians marching against them. At this sight they were so terrified, that they fled without striking one stroke: the emperor, who was wounded by Don Sancho, made a shift to reach the Tagus: and there, according to one account, he was drowned: according to another, he died shortly afterwards of his wound. The flower of the Moorish army perished: and Alfonso put off his arms with glory, never again to buckle them on.

He went from an earthly, as I believe to a heavenly, crown, in the year 1185, and was buried in the church of Santa Cruz, at Coimbra. He had governed Portugal seventy-three years, a longer time than any other European sovereign held the sceptre: and had reigned as king forty-six.

The Portuguese call him "the ever-adorable king," and reckon him among the saints. At Coimbra, they show his sword and shield, as well as an albe in which he used to assist at mass. He built a hundred churches, and founded many monasteries. I shall by-and-by have to tell you how, years afterward, he is said to have appeared to tell of a glorious conquest obtained by the Portuguese over the Moors.

CHAPTER IV.

DOM SANCHO I.

SURNAMED THE FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY.

A.D. 1185—1211.

SANCHO, the eldest son of Alfonso, succeeded his father: he was in the thirty-second year of his age. The first years of his reign were employed in founding and re-founding different cities in his kingdom. But he was desirous of carrying on his father's designs against the Moors: and, a large body of Crusaders again happening to touch at Lisbon, he requested the Marshal of Brabant, who was their general, to stay and assist him. With the help of these allies, he made an expedition into Algarves, and took Silves. [A.D. 1188.] The Infidels tried to retake this place in the next

year: Sancho, however, gained several advantages over them: and since that time he and his successors have always called themselves (and the title remains to this day) kings of Portugal and the Algarves.

After this, he was not so successful. The Mahometan emperor took the field in person: and many of the best cities of Portugal, among which was Coimbra, fell unto his hands. Famine and pestilence followed: and the kingdom was filled with misery. It was believed that these things were marks of God's anger against the king for disregarding the threats and bulls of the Pope. Sancho had married his daughter Theresa to her cousin Alfonso IX., King of Leon: and as the marriage of cousins was forbidden by the laws of the Church, the Pope had required that the husband and wife should be separated. They refused: and he laid the kingdoms of Portugal and Leon under an interdict: I have already explained the meaning of this in the History of England. At last Theresa returned to Lisbon, and entered a convent: she was afterwards canonised as a saint.

The reign of Sancho was then peaceful and

happy. Pope Innocent III. would have had him join the Crusade against the Saracens in the Holy Land: but he excused himself on account of the unsettled state of his kingdom. He constantly travelled about from city to city, doing justice to all, reforming abuses, supporting the poor, and bettering the state of his subjects. He died after a long illness, at Coimbra, in the year 1212; and was buried by his father. He had many children by his queen, Dulce of Aragon.

CHAPTER V.

DOM ALFONSO II.

SURNAMED THE FAT.

A.D. 1211—1223.

THE new king began his reign with an act of injustice. Sancho had left a large sum of money to all his children: Alfonso not only refused to pay it, but seized on two fortresses which belonged to his sisters, Theresa and Sancha. They complained to the pope, and Innocent III. commanded him to do them justice. Alfonso of Leon, who still dearly loved his divorced wife Theresa, led an army against his brother. There was a battle in Entre-Douro-e-Minho, where the Portuguese were defeated: and shortly afterwards Alfonso gave up the fortresses to his sisters.

He was not wanting in spirit: but he was so

exceedingly fat, that he found the fatigues of war very burdensome, and did little against the Moors. There was a strong fortress called Alcaçar do Sal, which had been taken by the Mahometans in the time of Don Sancho, and which Alfonso wished to recover. Fortunately just then a third fleet of Crusaders, under the command of William Count of Holland, anchored at Lisbon, where they determined to await the arrival of some more vessels which were to follow them. The Bishop of Lisbon prevailed on them to undertake the siege of Alcaçar : and they were soon after joined by a Portuguese army of twenty thousand men, under the command of this same prelate, and the Bishop of Evora, with other nobles. For bishops, in those days, used to lead armies, and fight themselves. But this was a sad departure from the custom of the early Church. The Infidels, finding themselves thus attacked, sent for assistance to the kings of Seville, Badajoz, Jaen, and Cordova :— and these Mahometan princes marched to their help with an army of fifteen thousand horse, and eighty thousand foot. Just when they were about to come to a battle, God so ordered it that the troops from the vessels for which the Count of

Holland was waiting, should arrive to succour their brethren. It is recorded that a cross of fire was seen in the sky, and that legions of angels appeared in heaven, fighting on the side of the Christians. Fourteen thousand Moors, among whom were the kings of Cordova and Badajoz, fell: many were made prisoners; Alcaçar surrendered: and the governor and a hundred of the principal inhabitants embraced Christianity. The rest were sold for slaves. This conquest was made on S. Luke's day, Oct. 18, 1217.

I will tell you a story about the conquest of another town. Arouche, in Alemtejo, a fortress situated where the river Ardila flows into the Guadiana, belonged to a young Moorish lady, who was about to be married. The bridegroom, on a certain day, was to go thither, and the marriage was to take place in the fortress. Two Portuguese noblemen, learning the time that was fixed, lay in wait for the bridegroom, slew him and his attendants, clothed themselves in their dresses, and presenting themselves at the gates of Arouche, cried out in Arabic that they were the bridegroom's friends. They were admitted: they drew their swords, and fell upon the citizens: the unhappy

bride, suspecting what had happened, threw herself headlong from the walls: and the fortress was thus gained by the Portuguese. It has ever since been called *Moura*,—"The Moorish woman."

In the last years of his life, Alfonso was engaged in disputes with the Church. He compelled the Bishops of Portugal to lead their own vassals in all expeditions which he undertook: he levied taxes on the property of the Church, and he made all ecclesiastics subject to lay tribunals. You will remember, if you have read the History of England, that for opposing King Henry II. on this matter, S. Thomas of Canterbury suffered martyrdom. And there was a prelate at this time in Portugal, who had courage to defend the liberties of the Church. This was Dom Stephen Soares, Archbishop of Braga. He threatened the king with excommunication: Alfonso seized his revenues: and Dom Stephen fled to Rome. Pope Honorius III. attempted to persuade Alfonso to give up his tyrannical proceedings: but not succeeding in this, he excommunicated him, and laid Portugal under an interdict. The people, thus suffering for the fault of the king, complained grievously, and

Alfonso was forced to give way. But before the matter could be settled, this king, who for the last years of his life could hardly breathe from his excessive fatness, died, and was buried at Alcobaça.

CHAPTER VI.

DOM SANCHO II.

SURNAMED CAPELLO.

A. D. 1223—1248.

SANCHO, the eldest son of Alfonso, had been so weak in his childhood, that he was brought up in an Augustinian convent : and thence arose his surname. His first act was to make his peace with the church : he then restored to his aunts all that his father had unjustly withheld from them, when he was compelled to give up their fortresses : and after this, he made a royal progress through his kingdom.

He forthwith carried war into the province of Alemtejo, from which he almost entirely banished the Moors : and crossing the Guadiana, he conquered several places in the Algarves.

But these successes were chiefly won by his captains. Sancho himself cared for nothing but

his pleasures; his barons made war upon each other; his people were oppressed; the Church was persecuted and plundered. The Archbishop of Braga implored the assistance of the Pope; and the threatenings of Rome had some good effect. But Sancho soon returned to his old course of life; and the bishops and nobles, not knowing what else to do, applied to the Council of Lyons, at which Innocent IV. was then presiding. The Infant Alfonso, lord of Boulogne, in France, in right of Matilda his wife, was one of those that complained to the Pope; and Innocent, after the conclusion of the Council, issued a bull, by which he ordered, that Sancho should retain the title of king, but that Alfonso should govern the kingdom. [July 24, 1245.]

Thus a civil war broke out between the two brothers. Sancho might perhaps have triumphed, but that he was entirely governed by his queen, Donna Muscia, or Mecia. Fearing that, as she was much disliked by the people, her life would not be safe, he retired with her to Toledo, where he was well received by the king, S. Ferdinand. But the remonstrances of the Portuguese, and the fear of Rome, would not permit the Spanish king,

however much he wished it, to help the banished monarch. As long as Saneho lived, some castles still held out for him in Portugal; so that his death, which is generally said to have happened in 1248, was a happy thing for the kingdom.

CHAPTER VII.

ALFONSO III.

A.D. 1248—1279.

THE city of Coimbra was one of those places which acknowledged Sancho, even after his flight, as king. Alfonso was besieging it, when the news of Sancho's death reached the camp. Desirous to spare unnecessary bloodshed, he told the news to Martin de Freitas, governor of the city. This officer, naturally suspecting some trick, demanded a truce of a few days, in order that he might go to Toledo, and satisfy himself whether the report were true. Alfonso consented: De Freitas went to Toledo, and caused the sepulchre of Don Sancho to be opened; and when he saw the dead body of the late king, he said to it,

“My lord, as long as you were alive, I suffered many wants, and exposed myself to great danger, rather than fail in the allegiance that I owed you. Now that you are dead, I restore to you the keys of the city, which you committed to my charge,” —and he put them into the hand of the corpse : “I shall now return,” he continued, “and tell the citizens that they may acknowledge Alfonso as their king, without any disloyalty to you.” He took the keys again, hastened to Coimbra, and delivered them to Alfonso, who was so touched by the fidelity of De Freitas, that he continued him in his government.

Alfonso's first care was to punish those who had abused their power in the time of his brother. Meanwhile, some troops which he had sent to the assistance of S. Ferdinand, aided him in the glorious conquest of Seville, after it had been for five hundred and four years in the hands of the Moors.

There were now disputes between Castile and Portugal about the kingdom of Algarves. Both crowns had assisted in conquering it, and both laid claim to it. At length the matter was thus settled : Alfonso was to marry Donna Brites,

(daughter to Alfonso the Wise, who had succeeded his father, S. Ferdinand,) and with her he was to receive Algarves as a dowry. But Alfonso was already married to Matilda, Countess of Boulogne, to whom he owed a great deal, and who had always loved him tenderly. To get over this difficulty, he said that Matilda could not have any children, which was false, and that, therefore, he might put her away, and marry again, which was yet more false. The poor queen complained to S. Louis of France, and to the Pope, Alexander IV. The Pope willingly took her part; he excommunicated Alfonso, and laid Portugal under an interdict, in which state it continued for twelve years. Matilda made two efforts to see her husband: she had married him when he was poor and friendless, and he cast her off when he was rich and powerful: she had done all for him when there was none else to serve him, and this was the return that he made. When she died, she left him a large sum of money, as a proof that, notwithstanding all his ill conduct, she forgave him. On her death, the Pope consented to acknowledge Donna Brites as lawful queen, and the interdict was removed.

Alfonso, having now no Moors to conquer, began to quarrel with the Church. He ordered his judges to try ecclesiastics as well as laymen : a degradation to which the Pope would never submit. The last years of his reign were passed in these disputes, in which no great advantage was gained by either side. He left a great number of children, both by his queen and by other women, and died without honour in 1279.

CHAPTER VIII.

DOM DINIZ,

SURNAMED THE HUSBANDMAN.

A.D. 1279—1325.

ON his death-bed, the late king had sworn, in the presence of his son Diniz, and of the Bishop of Evora, to obey simply and entirely the Roman Church, and to restore the ecclesiastical property which he had unjustly taken. We shall see how his son fulfilled Alfonso's oath.

Diniz was very fond of literature, and it was in his time that the Portuguese language began to take somewhat of the same form that it now possesses. He was a great patron of agriculture, and was wont to call labourers the sinews of the state: and hence he gained his surname. He was also careful to see that justice was rightly

administered; and to that end he entered more into business for himself, and left less to be done by his ministers, than was the habit of the former Portuguese kings. The consequence was that the state of his kingdom was much improved.

Diniz married Isabel of Aragon, though not without some guilt, for she had been engaged to Andronicus, son of the then Emperor of Constantinople, Michael Palæologus.

Castile was now in a state of civil war, Sancho, the son of King Alfonso, having rebelled against his father. Diniz wickedly took the son's part, and you will see presently how justly he was punished.

The disputes between Portugal and the Church had never yet been finally settled. In 1288, Diniz determined that the matter should be set at rest. He sent two commissioners to Rome to plead his cause; and the clergy sent three, namely, the Archbishop of Braga, and the Bishops of Lamego and Evora. The complaints against Diniz were more than thirty in number, the principal of which were—That if a bishop laid any place under an interdict, he was immediately banished: that the king, in some towns, seized the portion of

Church revenues set apart for repairs: that he did not respect the right of asylums, (that is, the right which some churches possessed of sheltering and defending any criminal that took refuge in them:) that he ill-treated and imprisoned those priests who offended him: that he deprived the bishops of the right of patronage, (that is, of presenting clergy to livings:) that in those churches where he was himself patron, he exacted new duties: that he allowed Jews to exercise public offices: and that he ordered all trials about wills to be brought into a civil court, whereas they had always belonged to the Church.

Diniz denied some of these charges, promised to amend his conduct with respect to others, and complied with the demands of the Pope in almost all things. The only matter on which he insisted was, that the ecclesiastics should not be allowed to purchase land in Portugal. The Pope consented to this, and a *concordat*, or agreement, was drawn up, which settled the questions in dispute.

After this, Dom Diniz found great troubles in his own family, as if to punish him for those which he had stirred up in Castile. One of his brothers had before this rebelled, pretending that

Diniz, as having been born before the death of Matilda, first wife of Dom Sancho, was not his legitimate son, and therefore had no right to the crown.

The insurrection was soon put down: but there was soon afterwards a more formidable rebellion. But before I come to tell you about it, it will be better to say something of S. Isabel, the queen of Diniz, and the most celebrated saint that Portugal has produced. In the midst of a court, she lived as humbly and prayerfully, and practised as much self-discipline, as if she had been in a monastery. She was particularly noted for her love to the poor, and her care for the sick: she used to visit them herself, and with her own hands she gave their medicines and dressed their wounds. Her fasts were long and very strict: she had regular hours for prayer in her oratory, according to the seven daily services of the Church: but at the same time she was most careful to please her husband, and to win him over to keep the commands of God more strictly than when he was at first married; and she succeeded. One day, a page of the king, named Francisco, jealous of another page, who was called

Pedro, persuaded Diniz that Queen Isabel loved this Pedro better than her husband. Diniz was exceedingly enraged, and sent orders to his principal baker, that the messenger whom he should send to ask, Have you done as I commanded? should be thrown into the oven. He then called Pedro, and bade him go to the baker, and inquire whether he had done as he was ordered. Pedro went, but finding a church open, he entered and attended service there. Diniz, meanwhile, thinking that he must have perished, called Francisco, and bade him go to the baker, and inquire if he had fulfilled his orders. The baker immediately seized the unhappy page, and threw him into the oven. In a few minutes Pedro arrived and asked the same question. "Yes," replied the baker; "you may go to the king and tell him that I have obeyed his commands." You may judge how astonished was Diniz when he saw the page come back safe and sound, and he acknowledged the hand of God in the whole matter.

Diniz had a natural son, named Alfonso Henriques, of whom he was exceedingly fond. Alfonso, his legitimate son and heir, took this

greatly to heart, and raised disturbances against his father. Diniz besought the Pope to interfere: and he accordingly threatened Prince Alfonso to deprive him of his right of succession if he should take up arms. But the undutiful prince would not listen to reason: he was soon followed by a set of wicked men, and was strong enough to raise an army. He already possessed Coimbra: he seized Santarem and Porto, and besieged Guimaraens. His justly enraged father endeavoured to take Coimbra; and Alfonso, leaving Guimaraens, marched against him. S. Isabel did everything that prayers and tears could do to prevent a battle. She went from one army to another, she implored and entreated, remembering the blessing promised to the peace-makers. A truce was made for four days: commissioners were appointed to settle the quarrel, but they were not able to come to any terms. A bloody battle was then fought, in which neither army had the advantage; and after this peace was made on these conditions: That Alfonso should disband his followers: that he should govern all the cities that he then held as a vassal to Diniz: that Alfonso Henriques should be banished from the

country, and that all offences should be forgiven on both sides.

A short time afterwards the quarrel broke out again. Alfonso Henriques returned to court, and the other Alfonso marched to Lisbon, hoping to find friends in the city. [A.D. 1323.] Diniz sent a messenger commanding him to retire: the prince insolently continued to advance. The king led an army to meet him. S. Isabel again interfered, and made peace between her husband and son. But Diniz was persuaded by some ill-disposed courtiers that the queen was much too favourable to Alfonso, and he banished S. Isabel from the court. After some time he acknowledged his injustice and recalled her, and thenceforth showed more love and respect to her than he had ever done before.

In 1324 he went to pay a visit to his son at Santarem. Another quarrel happened to break out, and blood was shed. A reconciliation was made: but Diniz was compelled to increase Alfonso's income.

Shortly afterwards the king fell sick at Lisbon. Then it was that Isabel showed all her love to him. She waited on him: she did everything that he

needed: she hardly ever left her room except to go to church: and, above all, she took care for his soul. Prayers were put up for him; the queen gave abundant alms to the poor; and she had the joy of believing that the dying king showed marks of true penitence for his sin. Alfonso came to visit him, and besought his pardon. Diniz shortly after departed this life, leaving behind him the character of a good king and a wise man.

He established an university at Lisbon in 1284, which he removed to Coimbra in 1308. When the order of the Templars was dissolved on false and malicious accusations, he established another military order, which he named that of CHRIST, and many of the Templars entered into it.

After her husband's death S. Isabel entered the third order of S. Francis, which was a kind of midway life between a nunnery and the world. She chose this because she wished to be able to exercise charity to the poor, which she could not have done if she had become a nun, because then she must have given up all her own property. But after some time she chose the stricter life and entered a convent which she had founded.

CHAPTER IX.

ALFONSO IV.

SURNAMED THE BRAVE.

A.D. 1325—1357.

ALFONSO began his reign by banishing his unhappy brother, Alfonso Henriques, and seizing his lordship of Albuquerque. The unfortunate prince wrote a very submissive letter to the king, in which he requested that he might be allowed to return. But finding his prayer disregarded, he gathered an army in Castile, and invaded Portugal. There would have been a battle between the brothers, had not the peace-maker, S. Isabel, left her convent, to put an end to the war. She arrived at Estremoz, in Alemtejo, where her son then was, and succeeded in persuading him to allow Alfonso Henriques to return.

And some time afterwards she went forth on a like errand of love, to make peace between the crowns of Castile and Portugal. The heat of the weather and her own agitation, threw her into a fever, and it was soon plain that the time of her departure was at hand. Having received the Holy Communion, and given every sign of inward joy and comfort, she departed to her reward, July 4, 1336. She was buried in the Clarissine convent at Coimbra; and her memory is held in great honour by the Portuguese to this day.

Alfonso now gave up almost all his time to hunting, and he passed whole days in the beautiful forests of Cintra. He would talk of nothing else, he would think of nothing else; and this behaviour formed a sad contrast to that of his father, who had entirely given himself up, whatever might be his other faults, to the business of the government. His ministers at length remonstrated with him. He was at first very angry: but afterwards took their advice in good part, and amended his conduct.

There was now twelve years' war between Castile and Portugal. Alfonso had given his

daughter in marriage to King Alfonso of Castile, who treated her with great unkindness, and on all occasions showed how much he preferred Dona Leonora de Guzman to his own wife. Pedro, the son of Alfonso of Portugal, was married to Constanza of Castile; but the King of Castile refused to allow her to join her husband. The King of Portugal therefore sent a herald to his son-in-law, to defy him, on account of these two injuries: and the troops of Castile and Portugal ravaged each other's country. Great misery, without any profit, was occasioned by this cruel kind of warfare: at length the Pope, pitying the sufferings of the poor, interfered, as being the common father of all; and a truce was made. It was agreed that Constanza should be allowed to come into Portugal; that Maria, the daughter of the Portuguese king, (who had been obliged to take refuge at her father's court, where, in spite of her own wrongs, she had always tried to promote peace,) should again be received by her husband; and that Leonora de Guzman should be banished. [A.D. 1340.]

As soon as peace was made, Alfonso of Portugal

assisted his son-in-law in his wars with the Moors. At first he sent a force of 300 men-at-arms: but finding that this was not enough, he himself marched in person to the Castilian camp. When he drew near to Seville, the clergy came out to meet him, chanting, "Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the LORD!"

The two kings marched together to meet the Mahometans, who were encamped by the little river Salado. The Christian army numbered about 60,000 men. The Infidels are said to have mustered 460,000. [October, 1340.] In this great danger the Catholic kings confessed to the Archbishop of Toledo, and received the Communion from his hands: they then agreed that the Spanish should engage the Africans; and the Portuguese, the Spanish Moors. The battle began early in the morning: the Castilian king was surrounded on a little hill, and in great danger: the Archbishop of Toledo laid hold of his bridle and besought him to fly. Just then, a reinforcement came up to his assistance. By noon the African troops were flying; and the Andalusian Moors, though they fought more bravely, were at length broken, and compelled to

fly also. This great victory was considered miraculous : 200,000 of the Moors were slain ; of the Christians,—as all the historians of the time bear witness,—only twenty. Two triumphs only can be compared to it ;—that of Campo D'Ourique, of which I have already told you, and that of Tolosa, of which you may read in the History of Spain. After this battle, all real danger from the Moors was at an end.

I have now to tell you a sad story. Dom Pedro, the son and heir of Alfonso, was married, as you already have heard, to Constanza of Castile. But he became attached to Dona Ignez de Castro, a lady of great beauty, by whom he had several children. His love to her broke the heart of Constanza ; and Alfonso, determined that his son should never marry Ignez, made her stand godmother to one of Pedro's children, by which, according to the laws of the Church, what was called a spiritual affinity was contracted, and the two could never marry. However, after the death of Constanza, Pedro obtained a dispensation from the Pope, and was married to Ignez [Jan. 1, 1354,] at Braganza. The whole thing was kept secret ; yet not so secret, but that some of the

courtiers suspected it, and told the king of their suspicions. Alfonso called for his son, and inquired why he did not marry again. Pedro assured him that, since the loss of Constanza, he had no desire to take a second wife. "I see how it is," said his father; "you are already married to Dona Ignez, and will not confess it." Pedro solemnly denied that she was his wife; but Alfonso was not persuaded by what he said. He feared that, if his son were really married to Ignez, Fernando, the eldest son of Constanza, and therefore the heir to the crown after Pedro, would be set aside to make way for one of the children of Ignez, and this he could not bear. Taking counsel with some of his courtiers, he was assured that the only way to preserve peace was to put Ignez to death, and that he resolved to do. It was in vain that Dom Pedro was warned of the danger by his mother and by the Archbishop of Braga, he could not, he said, think so ill of his father as to believe him capable of committing murder. It happened that he went out on a hunting excursion for a few days, leaving Ignez in the convent of Santa Clara, at Coimbra. King Alfonso heard of it, and went thither with several knights

for the purpose of taking away her life. When she heard that he was coming, she guessed the reason, and going out to meet him with her three children, she begged for life. And her beauty, and the sight of her poor little children, prevailed. Alfonso departed; but as soon as he was gone, his knights reproached him that he had not fulfilled his design; and three of them obtained his leave to return and accomplish the murder. Thus Ignez was slain, [1355] and Alfonso never afterwards knew a happy hour.

When Pedro returned from hunting, and heard what had been done, his rage and grief were so great, that he was never thoroughly himself from that hour forward. He raised an army; he ravaged the province of Entre-Douro-e-Minho, where the estates of the murderers lay; he would have besieged Porto, but that it was courageously defended by the Archbishop of Braga. And here you see the justice of Gon. Alfonso had rebelled against his father, and now his son rebelled against him. The queen and several bishops went to the camp of Pedro with offers of peace; but the prince declared that he would consent to no peace till he had the blood of the murderers of Ignez.

Alfonso offered to banish them; Pedro was persuaded to be satisfied with this, and he came to court, saying in his heart, like Esau, "The days of mourning for my father are at hand, then will I slay them."

Shortly after this [1357] Alfonso died, partly, it is said, of remorse for his crime. Let us trust that he found more mercy than he showed. In his time the Black Death, which ravaged the whole of Europe, was more destructive in Portugal than in any other kingdom.

CHAPTER X.

DOM PEDRO I.

SURNAMED THE SEVERE.

. A.D. 1357—1367.

PEDRO's great desire, on ascending the throne, was vengeance on the murderers of Iñez. The three knights were called Pacheco, Coelho, and Gonsalves. They had taken refuge in Castile; and there were several Castilian noblemen who had taken refuge in Portugal. The king wrote to Pedro the Cruel of Castile, offering to make an exchange of the refugees. This proposal was accepted. Coelho and Gonsalves were sent into Portugal; but Pacheco was warned of his danger by a beggar to whom he had been kind. The other two murderers were thrown into a dungeon, and there put to the torture, which they bore with great firmness; Pedro, who was present, was so indignant at this, that he seized a

whip, and struck Coelho on the head. The knight abused the king to his face, and was forthwith, with his companion, taken to the scaffold, and, after suffering further tortures, beheaded.

After this, Pedro assembled the states of his kingdom, and there made oath on the Holy Gospels, that, seven years before, he had been married to Ignez de Castro. The witnesses were also sworn: and the assembly pronounced that Ignez was entitled to all the honours of the Queens of Portugal, and that her children were legitimate. Pedro then caused the corpse of Ignez to be taken from its tomb in Santa Clara of Coimbra: it was arrayed in precious robes, and seated on a throne: a crown was put on its head, and a sceptre in its hand: and homage was done to it by all the nobles of the court. After this, a magnificent funeral car was prepared; the body of Ignez, followed by all the court in mourning, was carried to Alcobaça, where Pedro had prepared two beautiful tombs, one for himself, and the other for his unhappy wife.

At this time Pedro the Cruel, who was driven away from his kingdom on account of his wickedness, (though afterwards restored by our Edward

the Black Prince,) took refuge in Portugal, and offered his daughter to Fernando, son and heir of Pedro the Severe. But this king would not allow the Castilian to remain in Portugal, and thereby escaped any share in the wars which wasted Castile. [A.D. 1366.]

Pedro, who, as I said, had been deprived of his full reason by grief, executed justice in a very severe and curious way. He made a law, that if any one bought anything without paying for it at the time, he should be punished, for the first offence, by being beaten; and for the second, by being put to death. He heard that the Bishop of Porto was living in open sin: he went to him, rebuked him, and chastised him so sorely with a whip, that he had nearly left him dead on the spot. He once heard one woman calling another names; he inquired whether what she said were true, and finding that it was, caused the offender to be beheaded at once. Many like stories are told of him: but, fortunately for Portugal, his reign was short. He died in 1367.

CHAPTER XI.

FERNANDO I.

A.D. 1367—1383.

FERNANDO, who succeeded, was a very weak prince, and, to his great misfortune, two years after his accession to the crown of Portugal, became the true heir of Castile. For Pedro the Cruel, dying without legitimate children, was succeeded by Enriques, who had for many years been in rebellion against him, and who had no right to the crown. Now Alfonso IV. of Portugal had married, as you will remember, Dona Brites of Castile; from her Fernando was descended; and in her right he very justly claimed the crown. Enriques, however, was by no means disposed to give up his kingdom: and although at first his affairs seemed desperate enough, it soon appeared that he had the best of the contest.

Not content with this, he invaded Portugal, took Braga, and some other places. [A.D. 1370.] John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, had married an illegitimate daughter of Pedro the Cruel: and, as he had thus a better title to the crown than Enriques, he called himself King of Castile, and resolved to invade that kingdom. [A.D. 1372.] Fernando made an alliance with him, thinking, I suppose, that if he could thus conquer Enriques, it would be much easier for him to get rid of a foreign prince like the Duke of Lancaster. But in spite of this alliance, the Castilian king invaded Portugal, and actually formed the siege of Lisbon. [A.D. 1373.] The See of Rome, the general peace-maker, took up the matter, and an end was put to the war.

Fernando was laying up, in the mean time, a great store of trouble for himself. He first thought of marrying Leonora of Aragon: then, after being engaged to her, he engaged himself to Leonora of Castile, daughter of Enriques. But when the time for the marriage drew near, he saw another Leonora, one of his own subjects, whom he determined to marry. It is true that she had already a husband, but it happened that

the two were related to each other. Fernando caused this marriage to be declared null: the husband, finding how worthless was his wife, made no opposition, and fled into Castile: and the king married Leonora privately. The people, however, suspected it, and were exceedingly indignant. A mob collected in the streets of Lisbon: a tailor put himself at its head. He talked much and loudly against the king's marriage: he led the people to the palace, and there reproached Fernando with his conduct. Fernando had the wickedness and meanness to say that he neither had married nor meant to marry Leonora. "We shall not be satisfied," said this bold tailor, "unless your majesty will swear as much to-morrow in the church of S. Domingo:" Fernando promised to do so; but in the night he and the queen fled to Santarem. The populace of Lisbon were enraged, and would have proceeded to open violence, but that the tailor and some of his companions were arrested and executed. Then the court returned quietly: Fernando acknowledged Leonora as his queen, and every one was compelled to kiss her hand. Dom João, Grand Master of Aviz, an illegitimate

son of Pedro, of whom you will hear much more, consented, though he disliked the queen; but Dom Diniz, a son of the late king and Ignez de Castro, refused before the whole court, and openly exclaimed against the craft of Leonora. His brother Fernando would have stabbed him on the spot had he not been prevented.

Fernando had no sons, and in process of time he lost all hopes of having any. He had, however, a daughter, Dona Brites: but Don João, the eldest surviving son of Pedro and Ignez de Castro, was considered the heir to the crown. This João had privately married Maria, a sister of the queen: and Leonora, a thoroughly wicked woman, who heard of this marriage, hated them both with the most deadly hatred, and determined that they should never be king and queen of Portugal. She cared not what wickedness she committed, so that she could hinder their reigning. So she sent one day for João, and after professing great regard for him, told him that she knew of his marriage, and was very sorry to hear of it: for that Maria loved another better than her husband. João, never thinking that the queen would invent so horrible a falsehood

against her own sister, rode to Coimbra, where the princess lived, and, in the furiousness of his rage, stabbed her to the heart. Leonora hoped that she should be able to persuade Fernando to order his brother to be executed for the murder; but, failing that, she altered her plan, and besought that he might be forgiven. João accordingly came to court, but every one avoided him. Not being able to bear this, he retired into Entre-Douro-e-Minho, and there discovered all the guilt of Leonora, and how bitterly he himself had been deceived. On this he fled into Castile, because, I suppose, he did not think himself safe in Portugal.

Fernando now promised to marry his daughter Dona Brites to the heir of Castile. It was agreed that their eldest son should be king both of Castile and Portugal, the two kingdoms being united; but that if one of them happened to die before they had children, then the survivor should be sovereign of both crowns. This was a well-devised plan, and would have saved much bloodshed that followed; but, as you know, man proposes, and God disposes. Fernando changed his mind, and determined again to assert his old

right to the crowns of Castile. To this end he sent Dom Fernando Andeiro over into England, to make a league with the Duke of Lancaster. The Earl of Cambridge came over, (he was afterwards, as you have read in the English History, Duke of York,) to assist Fernando. But his English allies did him more harm than his foreign enemies; he had no money, and they paid themselves by taking what they pleased; so he [A.D. 1382] concluded peace with Castile, and the English went home. Dona Brites was then married to King Juan of Castile; (notwithstanding that she had been promised, though not solemnly engaged, to his son.) The laws of Lamego were set aside; by them, you will remember, it was ordered, that if a Portuguese princess married a foreigner, she should lose all claim to the succession. It was agreed, however, that Juan should have no share in the government as long as Leonora lived.

She, in the mean time, had been going on from bad to worse. She had been faithless to her first husband; and now she was faithless to her second. The nobleman whom she preferred to him was that Andeiro who had been sent to England on an

embassy to the Duke of Lancaster. This was discovered by the Countess of Azevedo ; instead of keeping so dangerous a secret to herself, she told it to her husband, and he was rash enough to tell the queen that he knew of her guilt. Leonora thus saw that she was in his power ; and as Azevedo was a great friend of Don João, the Grand Master of Aviz, (who was known to be her enemy,) she feared that he might have told him also, and accordingly resolved to destroy both these noblemen.

She forged letters which made them both appear guilty of treason, showed them to the king, and persuaded him to order that the two noblemen should be imprisoned. Then she forged an order to the governor of the castle in which they were confined, commanding him to execute them at once. But the governor was a cautious man ; there was something in all this which he could not understand, and he made answer, that he would obey the order on the next day. Leonora forged a second writ, desiring him, in the strongest terms, to do what he was commanded, without loss of time ; and the governor laid both these orders before the king. You might expect that Fernando

would immediately have punished Leonora; no such thing; he was too much afraid of her. He only thanked the governor, told him to be careful of the lives of his prisoners, requested him to be silent as to what had happened, and took no further notice of the matter.

Leonora, finding that her scheme had failed, told the king that, in her opinion, the Grand Master of Aviz and Azevedo were innocent; persuaded him to release them from prison; and the same day invited them to a banquet. There a poisoned dish was served up for them; but they were aware of their danger, and escaped. Fernando had now discovered the queen's guilt, and it preyed upon his mind; but he dared not remove Andeiro from court; on the contrary, he treated him with great appearance of friendship. At length he could bear this no longer; he called for the Grand Master, told him all his misery, and proposed that Andeiro should be murdered. Before this could be done, Fernando, who had never been strong, fell sick, and died. [A.D. 1382.] His reign was the most unfortunate that Portugal ever knew.

CHAPTER XII.

Interregnum.

A.D. 1383—1385.

WHEN Fernando died, his daughter, Dona Brites, now Queen of Castile, became the true heir to the crown. But till she had a child of age to govern Portugal, there was to be a regency, and at present there was no child at all. The Portuguese could not bear the Castilian yoke, and when Brites was proclaimed Queen of Portugal, and her husband, in her right, gave himself out for its king, they determined to take the matter into their own hands. They hated Leonora, who was now regent; they hated Andeiro, who had all influence with her, still more. They would have had Dom João for their king, the same that had been persuaded to murder his wife, Dona Maria;

but he, as I told you, had taken refuge in Castile, and so had Dom Diniz: and the King of Castile took care to keep them in prison, lest they should be a difficulty in his own way.

On this the Grand Master of Aviz began to think that he had now the opportunity of being king himself. He had not the slightest right to the crown, because he was only the illegitimate son of Dom Pedro, and had been made Grand Master when but seven years old. But the times were difficult, and though I do not mean to excuse João for aspiring to that which did not belong to him, he is less to be blamed than almost any other usurper. Leonora hated him, and as she was much afraid of his ambition, she appointed him governor of Alemtejo. Thither he pretended to go, but he had not travelled far before he returned with a few resolute men, whom he could thoroughly trust, and went back to Lisbon. He rode straight to the palace, in the hopes of finding Andeiro, whose life he was determined to take, in the queen's company, and he was not mistaken. "What has brought you back so soon, Grand Master?" inquired the queen. "I have heard," said João, "that the King of Castile is about to

lead a large army against Portugal, and I am come to request your Majesty's leave that I may raise a large force to oppose him." "Certainly," answered Leonora, "the request is very reasonable; but now you shall stay and dine with us, and then we can talk more at length on this matter." "I will follow you directly, Madam," said the Grand Master; "but I have something to say in private to the Count Andeiro." The two noblemen went together into another room, and there João plunged his dagger into the adulterer, and a knight who accompanied him, slew him with another blow. There was confusion in the palace and in the city. The queen prepared to fly, the mob collected and shouted for joy at Andeiro's death; the Bishop of Lisbon went up into one of the great western towers of his cathedral, and rang the alarm-bell; a band of wicked men rushed up after him, threw him down, and allowed his remains to be eaten by the dogs. Leonora fled to Alanquer, and, when she was at a little distance from the city, she turned round, and prayed that she might live to see it on fire. All kinds of crimes were committed in Lisbon without punishment; every one slew his enemy, and said that he had taken his life

because he was a favourer of the Castilians. João professed to lay these disturbances greatly to heart; he was not fit, he said, for such times; he should retire to England, and there find that peace which did not exist in Portugal. The mob were afraid that he was in earnest; they knew that none but he could preserve them from the Castilians, and they forced him to become regent, till, as they said, Dona Brites should have a son who could rule over them. João accepted the regency on this condition; but determined in his heart that he never would lay it down except he himself were made king.

João's first declaration was one which showed him to be a clever man. He issued a proclamation, promising forgiveness for all offences of whatever kind, to those who would enlist under his army against the King of Castile; and further, he engaged to bestow on them the possessions of all those Portuguese who should take part with the Spaniards. Thus he found himself at the head of a large body of men.

Meanwhile, Portugal, from one end to the other, was full of crimes and violence. The strong took what they liked, and none hindered them; the

violent slew whom they pleased, and none punished them. The Abbess of S. Benedict de Castres, near Evora, was seized and stabbed before the altar; her dead body was cast out of the church, and horribly insulted. The queen was at Santarem, whence she sent letter after letter, and messenger after messenger, to her son-in-law, Juan of Castile, urging him, without loss of time, to invade Portugal. The regent sent to the King of England, (Richard II.) and to the Duke of Lancaster, conjuring them to assist him.

At length, the King and Queen of Castile set forward. Entering the province of Beira, they were received at Guarda by the bishop and clergy in procession; but the governor declared for the regent, and shut the gates of the citadel. Still they advanced, and made their public entry into Santarem, where they were received with great pomp by Leonora. Most of the towns in Portugal surrendered themselves to Castile; and the victorious king had a seal made, in which he called himself King of Castile, Leon, Portugal, and Toledo. Things were going on most prosperously for him, when a slight dispute led to a quarrel between himself and the queen mother; and the latter

began publicly to say, that the Grand Master had the right side in the quarrel.

João now employed himself in preparing for the defence of Lisbon, and Juan of Castile advanced upon it. But he first arrested Leonora, and sent her to a convent near Valladolid. The people of Lisbon were encouraged by the preaching and exhortations of a holy man, a hermit, who exhorted them to hold out to the last, for that God would assuredly bless the arms of the regent.

Dom Nuno Alvarez Pereira did the Grand Master good service in the country; and the Archbishop of Braga, forgetting his holy profession, took the care of equipping the fleet, and exerted himself greatly in compelling all kinds of men to serve in it. If any excused himself as being a priest, "So am I," he answered, "and an archbishop into the bargain; but the Pope himself, when there is necessity, takes arms."

But notwithstanding all these efforts, [May, 1384,] the King of Castile besieged Lisbon by sea and land. The city was soon reduced to great straits, provisions failed, and the famine was severe. News was brought that the Portuguese fleet (the same that the Archbishop of Braga had

raised) was about to make an attempt at forcing its way into the Tagus, for the purpose of bringing provisions. The poor inhabitants of Lisbon flocked to the churches, beseeching God to be with their brethren in this attempt.

At the appointed day, the Portuguese fleet appeared at the mouth of the Tagus. It was drawn up in this order: first went some pilot-boats, appointed by the Grand Master to lead the way; then followed five ships, commanded by Ruy Pereira, one of the chief supports of the Portuguese cause; then seventeen galleys; and last seven ships as a rear-guard. Ruy Pereira performed prodigies of valour; but, unfortunately, raising his helmet to take breath, he was struck in the face with an arrow, and died on the spot. But the fleet broke through the Castilian armament, (which consisted of fifty ships and seventeen galleys,) and, with the loss of only three galleys, supplied the city with provisions. Lisbon had nearly been betrayed to the Castilians by treachery; but the plot was discovered. But famine again began to ravage the city, and it must have surrendered, had not the Castilian army been so much in want of provisions, and so weakened by

disease, that Juan, in the autumn, suddenly raised the siege, and after giving orders for the defence of the towns in Portugal that acknowledged him, retired into Castile.

A conspiracy was formed, at the beginning of the following year, [A.D. 1385,] to take the life of the Grand Master, in which the King of Castile had much to do. Several of the conspirators were imprisoned, and one was burnt alive. But João saw that the kingdom must, in some way or other, be settled, and he summoned the States of Portugal to meet at Coimbra. Here there were great disputes as to the choice of a king. João de Regras, a great lawyer, made a long speech, which he divided into two parts. In the first he tried to show that the kingdom was without an heir, and that, by the laws of Lamego, the choice lay with the people. He then attempted to show that the Grand Master had a better right to the crown than any of the other competitors. Against Dona Brites he had three objections. Firstly, that by marrying a foreign prince, she had, according to the laws of Lamego, lost all right to the crown. Secondly, that she was illegitimate, because the marriage of Leonora with Fernando was not

lawful. Thirdly, that, even if it was, she was generally considered the daughter of Andeiro, and not of Fernando. (This was quite false.) Proceeding then to Dom João and Dom Diniz, he tried to prove that they were illegitimate because, he said, Ignez de Castro had never been married to Pedro. But finding that this assertion was not believed, he said that at least they had taken up arms against their country, and so had lost the right of reigning. Then he praised the Grand Master's courage, skill, and love for his country; and finally, he and Nuno Pereira persuaded the States to choose him for their king.

The Cortes of 1385 is one of the best landmarks of Portuguese history. And you may notice this: but a few years before a king of Portugal was the true heir of Castile; now, the Queen of Castile was the true heir of Portugal.

CHAPTER XIII.

House of Abiz.

DOM JOÃO I.,

SURNAMED OF GOOD MEMORY.

A.D. 1385—1433.

WE are now approaching the time when Portugal, from being a petty kingdom, became one of the first-rate powers of Europe. I have purposely hurried on to this point, that I might have the more space to dwell on those wonderful discoveries and conquests which began in this reign.

The kings of Castile and Portugal prepared with great resolution to carry on the war. The summer of this year was taken up by several unimportant sieges and battles, in which the Portuguese arms were generally victorious; and on

the 14th day of August, the two armies, each commanded by the king in person, met on the famous field of ALJUBAROTTA, a village in the Portuguese Estremadura: and this is one of the most celebrated battles of modern Europe.

The Castilians numbered 34,000 men: the Portuguese about 10,000. There were some English knights who were serving under Dom João, and who assisted him with their advice: by their counsel, he encamped in a very strong position. It was about six o'clock on a fine summer evening that the armies came in sight: Juan of Castile was anxious to begin the attack at once: but some French knights represented to him that his troops were weary with their long march and with the heat, and that it would be better to defer the attack till the next day. But the king would not listen to reason; "We cannot help beating them," he said: "we have three times their number!" They formed in order of battle: the Portuguese did the same. They were drawn up in two bodies: João, with Ruy Vasconcellos, commanded the right wing; the Grand Constable, Nuno Pereira, with Rodrigues, the left. Unfortunately the Portuguese had the east of the field of battle: so that the

slant rays of the setting sun almost blinded them; and, at the same time, the western wind drove the dust, raised by the Castilians, full into their faces.

Just before the battle began, the Archbishop of Braga, riding along the front of the army, gave the soldiers the indulgences which Urban VI., the True Pope, had sent him. A Spanish ecclesiastic blessed the Castilians in the name of Clement VII., the Anti-pope, whom that nation followed. In the midst of the silence that followed, while the armies were waiting for the signal, the Castilians fired two pieces of cannon, the first that were ever seen in Spain. Two Portuguese brothers were slain by the first shot; and the army was struck with terror. But a common soldier cried out, "Now we are safe: those were the only two villains in the army: God has punished them, that He might not punish us: *vamos!*" The Portuguese war-cry, "S. George for Portugal!" was met by the Spanish, "Castile and Santiago!"

At the first shock, the Portuguese army was thrown into confusion: and the Constable was obliged to retreat. Then João, who had kept himself at first in the centre of the right wing, said, "Soldiers and comrades! your king shows

you the way to victory !” And he threw himself with such valour on the enemy, that they, in turn, began to give ground. Juan, unable to mount a horse from sickness, was borne along the ranks on a litter, to encourage his men. But in vain : the Castilians were broken on all sides : Juan was compelled to mount and ride for his life : the great standard of Castile was taken ; so was the king’s sceptre : ten thousand Castilians fell, and all the Portuguese who were in arms against their country either died on the spot, or were butchered after the battle as traitors. The panic was inconceivably great : a page of the king’s took a man-at-arms prisoner, and brought him to João. “ Are you not ashamed, sirrah,” asked the king, “ to be taken captive by a boy ?” “ If it please your majesty,” replied the prisoner, “ I had rather yield to a boy, than be slain by a hero.”

The King of Castile ordered a year’s mourning throughout his kingdom : while the 14th of August was annually observed by the Portuguese. João, after remaining three days on the field of battle to bury the dead, followed up the victory, by sending an army into Castile : he also wrote an account of his success to his friend, the Duke

of Lancaster. This nobleman came over into Portugal, with his wife, who, you may remember, was a Castilian, and his three daughters, and was proclaimed King of Castile at Compostella in Galicia. The alliance between the Portuguese and English was renewed; and it was agreed that João should marry Philippa, the duke's daughter. But as the king, before he became Grand Master of Aviz, had made a vow never to marry, (as most of the military orders were obliged to do,) he was obliged first to get a dispensation from the Pope. When this was obtained, the marriage was celebrated at Porto, [A.D. 1387] and the joy of the people was very great. The king was in his thirtieth, the queen in her twenty-ninth, year.

But, though the duke stayed many months in Portugal, his affairs did not prosper. The plague broke out in the army: the Castilian king obtained succour from France: and the troubles began in England, which ended in the death of Richard II. So the Duke of Lancaster went back, having first made an alliance with King Juan, and strengthened it by a marriage between the two families.

A long and uninteresting war followed between

Castile and Portugal, in which, on the whole, King João was successful : though he obtained no such victory as that of Aljubarotta. When peace was made, he employed himself [A.D. 1404] in settling his kingdom : in seeing that the laws were well administered, and that justice was done to all. In this he was to be praised ; but, in his behaviour to those by whose assistance he became king, he was sadly ungrateful. He had liberally rewarded Nuno Pereira, who had been his chief support ; but he quite neglected many to whom he owed much. Pereira, who was a most generous man, gave up a great part of his possessions to these discontented persons ; his only reason being, that he could not bear his master to be called mean and ungrateful. But João, instead of being obliged to him, was angry, and took away all the property which Pereira had thus given : thus offending both him, and the knights on whom he had bestowed it. And he went further : as Pereira had no son, but only a daughter, a law was made, that women should not be capable of succeeding to grants from the crown ; but that, on the death of him to whom they were made, they should again come back to the king. Many

powerful noblemen have raised a rebellion with less offence than this : but Pereira always continued faithful to João.

The king had, by his Queen Philippa, five sons, all of them princes of great spirit. João intended to make them knights, and on this occasion to give a grand tournament : but the young men longed for real war. João, who had no objection to increase his power, gladly listened to their proposal : the only question was, what they should take in hand. One proposed one thing, and another another : at last the Infante Fernando, (Infante, in Spain and Portugal, is the title of the king's sons,) the youngest of the brothers, and who was only fourteen years of age, proposed that they should conquer Ceuta from the Moors. Ceuta is a very strong fortress, which you will see on the African coast, nearly opposite to Gibraltar ; and it was a place much frequented by the Moorish corsairs or pirates. João was well pleased with the idea : but there were great difficulties in the way. The place was very strong, the Moors very warlike : to maintain an army in Africa would be very expensive : while the Moors, with little trouble, could bring together as large a body of

forces as they pleased. But the king did not despair. His first business was to take care that the plan should be kept secret: for if it had been allowed to be known, the Mahometans would have defended Ceuta so strongly, both by sea and land, that there could have been no hope of success. The next thing to be done was, if possible, to get a plan of the town, without raising any suspicions; and it was thus managed. Two noblemen were sent to Sicily, with a proposal of marriage (which the king knew would be refused) between Blanche, who was queen of that island, and the Infante Dom Pedro. As they passed the straits, they put into Ceuta, under pretence of wanting provisions; and while there, they contrived to get a good plan of the fortifications, and to sound the coast. Having done this, they went on to Sicily, and, having failed with Blanche, came back again, and gave their notes and plans to João.

He now told his design to the Constable Pereira, and to the Council of State: and it was agreed to raise troops. As this could not be done secretly, it was given out that an expedition was intended against the Count of Holland. João sent a nobleman openly to defy this prince, who was his ally:

at the same time to tell him the real truth of the matter. The count, in a very friendly manner, did all he could to help the king : he publicly accepted the defiance, and gave orders to prepare an army, while in secret he sent his best wishes for João's success. It is remarkable that the Dutch, who afterwards, as you will see, deprived the Portuguese of the best part of their foreign conquests, should have been the first to assist in making them.

In the mean time, the plague broke out in Lisbon ; and Queen Philippa was seized by it. The king, notwithstanding all the remonstrances of his council, never left her bedside : and she died in his arms. On her death-bed she called her sons, and delivering a sword to each of them, she charged them to fight against all that oppressed the widow and the orphan, and especially against the Infidel. Her memory is held in great veneration : and in several of the fair old churches of Portugal you will see the arms of the Plantagenet in stained glass to this day.

The people were much alarmed by their sad loss, and thought that it was a token of misfortune to the expedition. But João was determined to carry out what he had begun. The fleet sailed in

the early part of August, 1415 ; and it was the first that sailed from any part of Spain with flags, streamers, and other ornaments of the same kind. The number of vessels and men is not known : but it must have been large, since Europe was astonished that so small a kingdom could fit out such a powerful armament. Several brave knights came from distant countries : one from England brought four vessels, armed and equipped at his own cost, to the king's assistance. As the fleet passed Tarifa, in Andalusia, the governor sent to offer João refreshment for his whole army.

Zala ben Zala was governor of Ceuta : the place was well garrisoned, and five thousand Moors had come to his assistance : but as the Portuguese fleet, after appearing before the town, was dispersed by a tempest, the governor thought that it was gone, and dismissed his allies. However, on the 14th of August the Christian fleet again appeared off the coast. João, having prepared everything for the attack, embarked in a little boat, and exhorted his troops to fight valiantly.

The Moors lined the coast : two of the Infantes, Duarte and Henrique, landed without much loss,

and, accompanied by five hundred men, entered the city with the flying Infidels. Here they were in great danger: but sending for more assistance, they were soon joined by Dom Pedro. The brothers fought their way to a mosque, and there stood at bay till the king, their father, with the rest of the army, came to their help. Zala ben Zala fled to the citadel: the Christians took it on the first assault. The Portuguese lost twelve men only, some say eight: the infidels about five thousand, or more.

At the very moment that the assault began, the monks were at prayers in Santa Cruz, at Coimbra. It is related that on a sudden, a knight, armed from head to foot, with a royal crown on his helmet, and mounted on a white horse, rode into the choir. "Be of good courage," said the knightly figure; "João is this very hour attacking Ceuta: and I, Alfonso the Victorious, with my son, Dom Sancho, am going to meet the Infidels." And with these words, the spirit vanished.

It was much debated whether the city should be destroyed or preserved. The king determined on preserving it; so it was made a bishoprick, and the mosque was turned into a cathedral. The

command was given to Dom Pedro de Menezes, a most valiant knight, and so faithful, that João would not allow him to take the oath of allegiance. The dangers and difficulties which he met are almost unequalled. During the first three years of his government, he is said to have been engaged in more than a thousand skirmishes ; for the Moors were always watchful ; and always unsuccessful.

There was no regular siege till in 1419: but it only lasted for a few days, and several thousand Infidels perished before the place. Immediately afterwards, the Moors assembled a much larger force, and, being assisted by the King of Granada, besieged Ceuta by sea and land. Menezes sent a vessel to King João, praying for help. A Portuguese fleet sailed to their assistance : but, as the Mahometans were very numerous, the city was in danger of being obliged to surrender. The two Infantes, Dom Henrique and Dom Pedro, by making the utmost haste, arrived just in time. The Infidels were assailing Menezes and his handful of men on all sides : the Christian armament turned the day, and Ceuta was saved.

Dom Henrique, of whom I have spoken more

than once, was one of the greatest men of his day. He was much given to the study of mathematics ; and he built for himself an observatory near Cape S. Vincent, where the town of Sagres now stands. It struck him that, as the kingdom of Portugal was so small, the only way to make it rank high among the powers of Europe would be, to discover the unknown nations of Africa and the East, and to conquer them. As early as 1410, he sent out two ships, which discovered Cape Bogador, in Africa, nearly opposite the Canaries. In 1417, the little island of Porto Santo, one of the Madeiras, was discovered by chance : but in 1420 the first discovery of any real importance was made—that of Madeira.

I must tell you a little more at length how this came to pass. Many years before, in the time of our Edward III., an Englishman, named Robert Machim, fell in love with a lady called Anna d'Arfet, of rank much higher than his own. As her parents were about to marry her to some one else, the lovers agreed to fly: and with a number of Machim's friends, they embarked at Bristol, intending to land in some one of the French ports. But they were driven by hard weather far out to

sea, and cast upon the then unknown coast of Madeira. Here Anna d'Arfet died of grief, and her husband only survived her a few days. Their friends buried them in a woody valley, (now called, from Machim, the valley of Machico,) and near the sea, and set up a cross of cedar, on which they wrote their history. After this, their ship having been dashed to pieces, they made the best raft they could, and committed themselves to the sea. They were shipwrecked on the coast of Morocco, and sold for slaves; and, I suppose, died in slavery. But one of their fellow-prisoners was a pilot, who was much struck with what they said about the beauty and fertility of Madeira, and many years after, when the Portuguese had taken Ceuta, he made his escape there, and thence went to Lisbon. Here he told Dom Henrique of the new island, and said that, if he were made pilot of one of the ships, he thought he could discover it; for a new expedition was just on the point of sailing. Henrique was very well pleased, and made him pilot to the S. Laurence, the chief ship, which was commanded by João Gonçalves Zargo. They first went to Porto Santo, now a Portuguese colony. Here they heard that to the west there

was always a heavy black cloud in the air, which, summer and winter, never moved. "Now, sir," said the pilot, "that must be the island the Englishmen spoke of: and the best thing to be done is to sail there with the first easterly wind." "You had much better not," answered the inhabitants; "no man can tell what may be on the other side of that black cloud; when the wind sets that way, it brings fearful sounds with it: and some think that it is the mouth of hell." However, Zargo was not to be frightened; on July 1, 1420, he set sail, and, as he went further and further, the cloud grew darker, and the roaring of the sea louder. All, except the captain, gave themselves up for lost when they entered into this cloud; but in a few moments they passed through it, and saw a woody island close to them. The reason of the cloud was the vapour always rising from the trees, with which the mountains were then covered. They cast anchor that night in the bay of Machieo: next morning, they went on shore, found the cross of Machim, and said mass there. In process of time, a pretty little chapel was built over the graves of the two lovers: I have seen it, as well as the remains of the cross.

In a short time, Funchal was founded, and it soon became the most important city, next to Lisbon, in the Portuguese dominions. In order to clear a place for it, they set fire to the wood, and it burnt for seven years. The island was called *Madeira*, which means wood. In this same expedition, though not by Zargo, Sierra Leone was discovered: and it was fifty years before any one ventured beyond it.

In 1422, King João ordered that the way of counting years from the Christian æra should be introduced into Portugal: before this, they had reckoned from the æra of Cæsar, which begins thirty-eight years before our LORD's birth.

Dom Pedro, finding that Henrique had taken upon himself to make discoveries by sea, determined to travel by land. He visited Jerusalem with great devotion, went as far as Babylon, where the Sultan received him well; came back to Germany; went to England, where he was made Knight of the Garter by King Henry VI., and so returned safely to his own land.

The Constable Pereira, after all his wars, retired into a convent; he had always lived with great piety, and in his retirement from the world,

which lasted nine years, he was a perfect example to all. King João's last days were very peaceful and happy : all that grieved his people was the thought, that they could not keep him for ever. He married his daughter Isabel to Philip of Burgundy, who loved her dearly : on occasion of this marriage, the famous Order of the Golden Fleece was instituted. Dom Duarte was married to Dona Leonora, daughter to the King of Aragon and Naples.

At last, full of years and glory, João departed this life, [1433] in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and the forty-ninth of his reign. He died on the 14th of August,—the same day on which he had discovered the conspiracy against him when regent,—that he had won the battle of Aljubarotta, and that he had taken Ceuta : and he was buried at Batalha, a monastery which he had founded in honour of his great victory. He was, on the whole, a great and good king. He made many excellent laws, administered justice equally, and founded many beautiful churches, of which Batalha was the most splendid. In his time Lisbon was made a bishoprick.

CHAPTER XIV.

D O M D U A R T E,

SURNAMED THE ELOQUENT.

A.D. 1433—1438.

DUARTE, the eldest son of João, succeeded peaceably. But no sooner had he begun to reign, than the plague broke out in his kingdom, and carried off a great number yearly.

Dom Fernando, the youngest brother of Duarte, was eager to do something which should make his name famous: the other brothers and the queen proposed a second expedition against the Moors in Africa; and though Duarte was at first much opposed to it, he at last gave way, and it was resolved to besiege Tangier. But he had some scruples as to the justice of the war, and referred the question to Rome. The Pope and Cardinals decided that it was unjust: but the answer came too late—the expedition was already decided.

It was commanded by the Infantes Dom Henrique and Dom Fernando, and sailed from Lisbon August 22, 1436. In four days it arrived at Ceuta. Here the princes found things in good order: the courageous governor had made an expedition as far as Tetuan, and invested that town. But when they came to muster their troops, instead of 14,000, the appointed number, they had but 6000 men. This great mistake shows how badly the preparations for the war had been made. The wiser captains recommended that application should be made to Lisbon for more soldiers: but the Infantes were too impatient to wait. Henrique went by land, and Fernando by sea; in their march, the Portuguese took many small towns, without losing a single man: and the siege of Tangier was begun on the 23rd of September. The governor was the same Zala ben Zala who had defended Ceuta: and the garrison consisted of 7000 men. He gave out that he was about to leave the city, and set open the gates: when the Christians advanced to enter, he caused them to be shut in their faces, and the Moors insulted them from the walls.

On the tenth day of the siege, a Moorish army,

which is said to have consisted of 90,000 foot, and 10,000 horse, came to relieve the place. The Portuguese, with their handful of men, advanced to give them battle, and the Infidels retreated. An attack was made on the city: but the scaling ladders were too short. In the mean time, the Moors increased in numbers, till they reached 130,000 men. Then they attacked the Christians, who, however, beat them off. But Dom Henrique learned from some prisoners that the Kings of Fez and Morocco were marching to the relief of their brethren. On the following day, the surrounding mountains were covered with the Infidels; and their number was such, that it was evidently necessary for the Christians to retreat. I cannot tell you how many Moors were in that great army. Some historians count them, horse and foot, at 670,000; a number which seems almost incredible. Scarcely had the Portuguese begun their retreat to the sea, when they were attacked. The battle lasted for several hours: the Christians, constantly retiring, fought every inch of the way, till they reached their entrenchments. At nightfall, Dom Henrique prepared all things for quietly marching to the water-side, and embarking: and the Por-

tuguese army might have been saved, had it not been for the treachery of the chaplain, Martin Vicyra. This infamous traitor passed over to the Moors, and told them of the plan which the Christians had devised. Zala ben Zala placed a strong guard along the beach, and Henrique was forced to remain in the camp. Next morning, the Infidels attacked the intrenchments on all sides: they were repelled with great valour; and none distinguished himself more than the Bishop of Ceuta, (others say Evora,) who, with a sword in one hand and a crucifix in the other, animated the Christians and hewed down the Infidels. The attack and defence lasted eight hours: and at evening the Moors set fire to the camp of the Portuguese. Thus, already wearied out with labour, and half-consumed by thirst, the Christians had to pass the night in extinguishing the flames: Henrique gave orders that some horses should be slain for the support of the army, and, by God's goodness, a heavy shower of rain fell, which, for the present, supplied their want. But affairs were plainly hopeless; and terms were proposed to the Moors. It was agreed on both sides, that Ceuta should be restored, and that the

Christian army should be allowed to embark without harm. Dom Fernando offered himself as a hostage, till the king's orders could be obtained for the surrender of Ceuta.

But those orders never came; and therefore I will make an end of Fernando's history. When the states met, it was determined that Ceuta was too important a place to be given up: but that any sums of money should be offered to the Moors, in order to ransom Fernando. This unfortunate prince suffered greatly. He was thrown into a dungeon at Tangier, insulted, starved, and cruelly treated. At last, his imprisonment roused the anger of other Christian kings: and when Juan of Castile threatened to declare war, on his account, against the Moors, the cowardly Zala ben Zala gave up his prisoner to the more powerful King of Fez. By him, Fernando was imprisoned in a dungeon without light or air; and when he was released, it was only to work like a slave. At last the Portuguese government offered to surrender Ceuta: but the King of Fez refused to give up Fernando till the town should be put into his hands; and it was plain that he meant to keep both the prince and the fortress. Thus the treaty

broke off: and Fernando lay in a dungeon till his death, which happened in 1443. He was so remarkable for his firmness, and resignation, and kindness to all while in captivity, that the Infidel King of Fez said, "Such a good man deserves to be a Mahometan."

Duarte was deeply grieved by the failure of the attempt in Tangier, and the captivity of his brother. He at first determined to raise another expedition against Africa: but the plague so ravaged the country, that he was forced, at least for the present, to give up the idea. So he employed himself in improving the laws and acts of his country, and in moving from city to city to escape the plague. At last, while in Thomar, he opened an infected letter, was seized with the disease, and departed this life on the 18th or 19th of September, 1438, in the thirty-eighth year of his age, and the sixth of his reign.

Duarte is a proof that the best princes are not always the most fortunate. He was equal to his father in all respects: and yet one had a long and happy, the other a short and calamitous, reign.

CHAPTER XV.

ALFONSO V.

SURNAMED THE AFRICAN.

A.D. 1438—1481.

ALFONSO, the eldest son of Duarte, was but six years old at the death of his father. D. Leonora, by her husband's will, was appointed regent: and soon found that she had great difficulties to meet. The people disliked her, because she was a foreign princess: and the three Infantes, brothers of the late king, envied her the regency. Of these, Dom Pedro was the most ambitious: and at length he obtained his wish, when the states assembled, and appointed him joint regent. But there were great jealousies and hatreds in the court; and to put a stop to them, the wise Dom Henrique proposed that the queen should have the management of the prince's education, and the care of the

treasury: while Pedro should be called Protector of the kingdom.

Leonora had given Pedro a written promise that her son, the king, should, when he attained a proper age, marry Pedro's daughter: this promise she compelled him to give up. But every day she became more unpopular, and he a greater favourite with the people: the mob at Lisbon rose, and desired that Pedro should be declared sole regent. The queen endeavoured to disperse them, but in vain: the states were assembled, and Leonora retired from the city. In the Church of S. Dominic the mob swore that they would have no regent but Pedro: the Castle of Lisbon, which held for the queen, was besieged, and forced to surrender. It was decreed that, if Dom Pedro should die before Alfonso attained full age, he should be succeeded in the regency by Dom Henrique, and he by Dom João; and that henceforth no woman should be regent in Portugal. They then took the young prince by force from the arms of his mother, who retired to Cintra. The state of things seemed much to resemble that in the regency of João I. In both cases there was a regent elected by the people, who was in possession

of the government: in both cases the queen mother retired from Lisbon, and endeavoured to raise an army against him: in both the King of Castile interfered on her side: and in both the regent was finally successful.

At last, Leonora openly took up arms. The Castilians invaded the kingdom: and the regent sent a body of troops against the queen, who retired into Castile. The Count of Barcellos, natural son of the late King João, alone held out for Leonora in Entre-Douro-e-Minho; the regent saw him at Lamego, and they were reconciled. Some time after, the count was made Duke of Bragança: and from him the present Queen of Portugal is descended.

When Alfonso was fourteen years of age, [A.D. 1446] he was considered able to govern; and Pedro, who was thenceforth better known by the name of the Duke of Coimbra, resigned the regency. The king requested him to hold it for some time longer: and shortly after married Dona Isabel, his daughter. But the wicked Duke of Bragança began to stir up strife between Pedro and his nephew, and succeeded only too well. Pedro, who was heartily tired of the government,

requested leave to resign the regency: this was granted. The king also signed another paper, approving all that Pedro had done during his government. As soon as he had left the court, all kind of false accusations were fastened on him. Henrique came to court to plead on his brother's behalf. Alvaro de Almada, a brave knight, clad in complete armour, came to the council, and challenged to mortal combat all that should accuse Dom Pedro: Isabel threw herself at her husband's feet, and besought him to be at one with her father. But it was in vain. The Duke of Bragança provoked Pedro in every possible manner to open rebellion: the king sent to demand all the arms that he had in Coimbra; and he refused them. On this, the Duke of Bragança marched against Pedro; but, though far superior in numbers, he was compelled to retreat.

Pedro now saw that his ruin was determined: but he resolved to defend himself to the last. He laid in a store of provisions at Coimbra: he raised men: he did everything in his power to preserve himself from destruction. Isabel again besought the king, who was on his way to besiege her father, that he would remember his past services,

and have mercy: Alfonso, who dearly loved the queen, promised, if the Duke of Coimbra would only confess himself to be guilty, that he would forgive him. On this, Isabel wrote to her father: Pedro replied that he could not confess, because he had no crime to acknowledge: and the king, furiously tearing his letter, said, "Your father is bent on being punished, and so he shall be!"

The hateful house of Bragança tried to persuade Alfonso that the queen was guilty of adultery; but they were not able to do so. And yet this wicked attempt did not open the king's eyes to their real character. He persevered in his intention of marching against the Duke of Coimbra: and Pedro prepared for death. Calling to him the faithful Dom Alvaro, he assured him that he was weary of life: Alvaro swore to live or die with him: they confessed, and received together the Holy Communion. The last night but one that he spent at Coimbra, the duke gave a grand ball: the next day he spent in arranging his affairs, and then, with a few of his most devoted friends, marched forth at the head of 5000 foot and 1000 horse. Their standards had, on one side, FIDELITY: on the other, JUSTICE, VENGEANCE! They first

marched to Batalha, where the monks, chanting *Te Deum*, received the duke in procession. He visited the tombs of his ancestors, and that which he had ordered to be built for himself: and he only said, "Shortly I also shall come to dwell here." But in this, as you will see, he was deceived.

Pedro continued to march on Santarem: he was annoyed by a detachment of the Bragança cavalry: his followers at length attacked it, slew several of their enemies, and took thirty prisoners, who were put to death. This act of vengeance only made the duke's cause more hopeless. He then encamped on a hill above the river Alfarrobeira: and in a short time the Bragança forces, for we can hardly call them royalists, appeared on the plain. On the 20th of May, 1449, Alfonso published an edict, requiring all persons then under arms with the Duke of Coimbra, to repair, under pain of high treason, to the royal quarters: and a few, who were rather more fearful, or less faithful, than the rest, deserted Pedro in this his great need. On the other hand, many, disgusted by the king's conduct, left his camp, that they might have no share in the battle. The royal

army attacked the followers of Pedro in their trenches, and the combat was for some time carried on with great courage on both sides. At length the Duke of Coimbra was pierced in the throat by a lance, and died in a few seconds: and Dom Alvaro, determined not to survive his friend, threw himself into the midst of the thickest press, and fought like a tiger. Covered with a multitude of wounds, he at length fell; and had just strength to say, "Cowards, satisfy yourselves with my blood!" On the death of their leaders, the troops of Coimbra, hopeless of victory, sold their lives as dearly as they could, neither giving nor taking quarter: hardly any survived.

Thus fell Pedro, Duke of Coimbra; a man who, in his character, much resembles the "good Duke of Gloucester," in the time of Henry VI.; and of whose proceedings you will be reminded when, in German history, you come to read of the Duke of Wallenstein. Alfonso forbade any one to bury the body of the fallen Duke of Coimbra, nor of Dom Jaime his son, nor of the faithful Dom Alvaro: but some peasants were bold enough to disobey the king's command, and to bury them in the Church of Alverca. The joy of

the Lisbon mob was beyond all bounds:—that very mob who had forced Pedro to accept the regency.

All Europe was filled with horror at this cruel butchery of a brave and noble prince. In spite of the House of Bragança, the remonstrances of the Pope and of the Duke of Burgundy, and above all, the pleadings of good Queen Isabel prevailed ; and six years after the battle of Alfarrobeira, the remains of the fallen princes were removed to the sepulchres of their fathers in Batalha. This was when João, the queen's second son, (the first was dead) was, shortly after his baptism, declared, with great ceremony, Prince of Portugal. But shortly afterwards, Isabel, in full health and strength, [Dec. 12, 1455] died suddenly at Evora, as it was believed, by poison ; and it is almost certain that the House of Bragança have this, among their other crimes, to answer.

The Turks having now conquered Constantinople, Pope Nicholas V. busied himself in arranging a new Crusade on a very large scale. Alfonso entered into the plan, and made great preparations for it. Among other things, he struck, for the pay of the soldiers, a new piece of

gold money, which had the figure of a cross on one side, and was called a crusado. But on the Pope's death the Crusade came to an end ; and the king, unwilling that his preparations should be thrown away, resolved to employ them in Africa. At first, he thought of attacking Tangier ; but, remembering the strength of the place, and the former disaster that the Portuguese had suffered before it, he changed his mind, and fixed on Alcaçar Seguer as the place to be conquered. The expedition was very popular : and on the 17th of October, 1457, twenty thousand men landed, though not without much opposition and some loss, near Alcaçar. On that same afternoon, the batteries were prepared : the king, mounted on a Sicilian horse, encouraged his men ; and a general assault was made. The Moors defended themselves valiantly, and the assailants were repulsed. Alfonso and his uncle, Dom Henrique, (the same of whom I have already spoken,) gave orders that the troops should be called off, that they might refresh themselves. At midnight, the artillery played upon the city, and the inhabitants, who were not much used to gunpowder, were so excessively terrified, that they sent to propose

terms of surrender. Alfonso would hear of none, but that they should leave the city in a body; and to this condition they were forced to consent. So next morning, which was S. Luke's Day, the Infidels marched out, and the Portuguese entered in triumph. The Great Mosque was consecrated, and thanks solemnly returned. Alfonso, having made Dom Duarte de Menezes governor, went to Ceuta.

In less than a month, the King of Fez, the same that had been so cruel to the poor Infante Dom Fernando, raised thirty thousand horse and an army of foot, which the chronicler calls infinite, and laid siege to Alcaçar. Alfonso marched from Ceuta, to compel him to raise the siege; but, finding this impossible, he resolved to return to Portugal for the purpose of raising more men, and thus to hasten back to the relief of the besieged. A letter was shot into the town, to tell Dom Duarte what had been determined. Dom Duarte shot another letter back, to say that he had neither munition nor provision enough to hold out; but, unfortunately, it fell into the camp of the Moors; and the King of Fez, thus learning the condition of the Portuguese, returned an

answer in the same way, offering honourable terms if the governor would surrender. Dom Duarte refused ; and, to show how little he cared for the Moors, " I know," he wrote, " that you want scaling-ladders ; you are quite welcome to those I have here, if you will accept them." The Infidel king, after some further attempts, retired for fresh troops ; and Dom Duarte took advantage of his absence to build walls, which should insure him a safe communication with the sea. In the following July, the King of Fez raised the largest army that had ever been seen in those parts, and again besieged the place. But he was repulsed with great disgrace ; and Duarte, when he saw that the siege was about to be raised, sent a message to the king, asking him to try a little longer before he gave it up.

In 1460, the Infante Dom Henrique quietly departed this life, in his observatory in Cape S. Vincent. It is to him that the Portuguese owe their great successes in the next century ; for he set on foot those enterprises which they afterwards carried out. In the next year the Duke of Bragança died ; and, notwithstanding all his crimes, he died in peace. But his iniquity was visited on his son.

Alfonso now resolved to attack Tangier. Dom Fernando, the king's brother, had the charge of this expedition, and would not allow Dom Duarte de Menezes to assist him in it. The consequence was, that the Christians were repulsed [A. D. 1464] with great loss, and many were taken prisoners. Seeing that the Moors were busily engaged in looking among the corpses for that of Dom Duarte, a Portuguese captive said, "Our being conquered ought to convince you that he is not there." Nor was this the last misfortune of Alfonso; he was drawn into an ambuscade where many nobles fell, and among them Dom Duarte de Menezes. He returned, with grief, into Portugal.

The English, from the very earliest times, have been, as they still are, the allies of the Portuguese. But in 1469, Edward IV. of England refusing to give satisfaction for twelve Portuguese vessels that had been seized by his subjects, war broke out between the two kingdoms, and so much harm was done to the shipping of the English, that they were glad to make peace.

Alfonso had never forgotten his last disasters in Africa: but being afraid to make another attempt on Tangier, he turned his thoughts towards Arzilla. This is a strong place south of Tangier,

and nearly opposite Tetuan, only on the other side the promontory of Spartel. The fleet, consisting of 300 vessels, with 30,000 men, sailed from Lisbon on the 15th of August, 1471, and in four days reached Arzilla. On the following morning the batteries played on the town: a general assault was made, and the place was taken by storm: the citadel held out some time longer. The loss of the Portuguese was great: but the most important consequence of this conquest was the capture of Tangier. The inhabitants, fearing that, sooner or later, they must become subject to the Portuguese, of their own accord left the city, and went further inland. Tangier was immediately made a bishop's see. Two sons of Muley Xequé, King of Fez, were taken prisoners in Arzilla: one was exchanged for the body of the Infante Fernando, which was buried in Batalha.

We now come to a very important part of the history of Spain. Fernando, son and heir of the King of Aragon, married Isabella, sister to Enrique the Impotent, last King of Castile. This Enrique caused Juana (who was not his daughter, though he pretended that she was) to be declared his heiress, and shortly afterwards died. Fernando

and Isabel were proclaimed King and Queen of Castile and Leon : and five years afterwards, Fernando succeeded to the crown of Aragon : then all Spain (except the Moorish kingdom of Granada and the Christian kingdom of Navarre) was united, as it has ever since remained, under one king and queen.

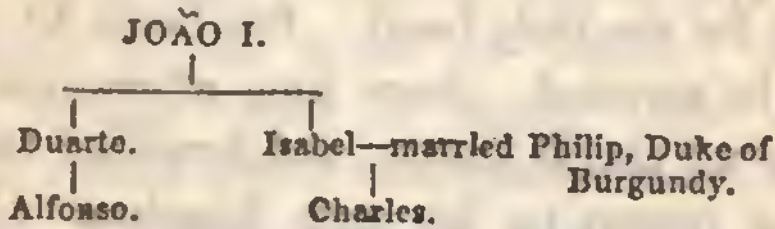
But [A.D. 1474] there were still many who wished that Juana should be Queen of Castile, and to this end they determined to marry her to Alfonso the Fifth. It is true that this king was her uncle, but they thought a dispensation might be obtained ; so both sides prepared for war.

The Portuguese were able to take Zamora, a strong fortress ; but, on the whole, the arms of Fernando and Isabel were successful. One town and fort after another fell into the hands of the Castilians : at last the two armies met at Toro. It was a sad thing to see the Archbishop of Toledo fighting on one side, and the Cardinal de Mendoza on the other. The Infante Dom João, with six squadrons, attacked and threw into confusion the Castilian army : King Alfonso fought with great valour, but more like a soldier than a captain. The King of Aragon, who was in the rear of his

army, perceiving the vigour of the Portuguese attack, gave up all for lost and fled: but in the mean time the superior numbers of the Castilians prevailed. The Portuguese standard was taken and retaken. Dom João retreated to a hill, where he sounded trumpets, and lighted fires at nightfall to recall the fugitives; so that though the Spanish won the day, they gained little more than honour. But when the Portuguese troops were recalled, King Alfonso could nowhere be found. All that night they searched the plain for him, but in vain; and on the following day, when news came that he was safe in Castro Minho, such was the joy of the Portuguese that none could have imagined them so lately to have lost a battle. Zamora immediately afterwards surrendered to Fernando.

Alfonso, vexed at the loss of the battle of Toro, took a very odd resolution. He first made an alliance with Louis XI. of France, the most wicked and the most crafty king of his time; and from him he had received promise of assistance against Fernando and Isabella. But he thought that by going into France himself, he should perhaps obtain that assistance more quickly; and he therefore set out thither. At Paris he was very well re-

ceived. "I thank God and S. Martin," said the wily Louis, "for the favour they show me, poor king as I am, in giving me the honour of receiving so powerful a monarch as yourself: you must not consider yourself in a foreign kingdom while you are in mine; you may command me in all respects." But, notwithstanding all these fair speeches, the King of France made no preparations for assisting Alfonso, and did not declare war against the King of Aragon. "It is impossible to do so," he said, "while I am at war with so powerful a prince as the Duke of Burgundy." Now, this Duke of Burgundy was cousin to Alfonso, as you will see by this table.



And Alfonso, therefore, thought that he might persuade him to make peace with Louis. He went to Nancy, and there saw the duke, and from him he learnt enough to understand how treacherous a friend was the King of France. He, how-

ever, came back to Paris, and there found that he could not obtain the dispensation from the Pope, because, said Sixtus IV., it would be to open the door to an endless war between Castile and Portugal. On which Louis (who cared as little for religion as any man in the world) said, that he was very sorry, but could not think of helping Alfonso, after this refusal of the Pope.

Alfonso found that Louis was actually thinking of delivering him up to his enemy Fernando. In his vexations, he resolved to give up his kingdom, and to end his days in a monastery. He, therefore, sent a messenger into Portugal, commanding that his son João should be proclaimed king, after which he fled into Normandy, designing there to embark for the Holy Land. But Louis XI. caused him to be arrested. Some time afterwards, however, he set him at liberty, and furnished him with ships to return to his own kingdom. Alfonso had already changed his mind, and given up his idea of retiring from the world; and, therefore, he was grieved to hear, on landing at Cascaes, that João had already been proclaimed King of Portugal. João was exceedingly astonished to hear that his father was in Portugal, believing him already to

have been far on his way to Palestine, but he hastened to meet him at Ociras, and throwing himself at his feet, resigned the crown into his hands. "No," replied Alfonso, "you shall be King of Portugal, and I will content myself with the crown of Algarves, and the conquests in Africa." But João would not accept this offer, and so Alfonso became king again, to the great joy of his people ; for though he was but a weak man, he was kind hearted and much beloved ; while, on the contrary, João, though a very able prince, was severe, and greatly feared by all.

The war broke out again with Castile ; but at length Dom Alfonso, finding that he had no hopes of succeeding, resolved to make peace. It was agreed [A. D. 1479] that he should give up all pretensions to the crown of Castile ; that he should promise never to marry Dona Juana ; that she should either not marry at all, or wait till Juan, the eldest son of Fernando, then an infant, should be of age, and should marry him ; but that he, if he did not like the match, should be free from it on paying a certain sum of money. Poor Juana, thus finding herself deserted by all, became a nun, in the convent of

S. Clara, at Coimbra ; though not, it is said, till she was almost compelled to do so.

A cruel plague laid waste the kingdom of Portugal, and the people took it as a sign of God's displeasure against Alfonso for his treatment of Juana. He again thought of retiring into a monastery ; but, in the mean time, he was attacked by the plague at Coimbra, and shortly after died, in the fiftieth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his reign. He was a great patron of literature, and was the first king of Portugal that collected a library. He was buried at Batalha.

CHAPTER XVI.

DOM JOÃO II.

SURNAMED THE PERFECT PRINCE.

A.D. 1481—1495.

JOÃO, on his succession, found that the whole government of his kingdom needed reform. The feudal system was still in full force ; but all its benefits had been lost, and all its evils remained. The feudal chiefs had power of life and death over their subjects ; at least, though an appeal to the King was nominally allowed, it was seldom put into force. João diminished the power of the nobles, and so increased the happiness of his subjects. He also was unwearied in his care that justice should be strictly administered. He sent for a judge who was known to take bribes, and to

be very slow in the despatch of business. "Your hands," he said, "are always open, and your tribunal always shut : look to it." He did not like that any petitions should be made to him through the means of his nobles, as if he acted by favour, and not by justice. Hearing that in some houses at Lisbon, games of chance, forbidden by the law, were played, he gave orders that they should be set on fire. His fault was excessive severity; but this did not prevent his being exceedingly popular; and when he rode abroad, which he always did in great state, multitudes thronged the windows to see him pass. He had a great esteem for brave men, and always took their part. A valiant knight, Dom Pedro de Mello, waiting on him as he sat at table, happened to drop a jug of water, and to wet some of the company. "What are you laughing at?" asked the king. "If Dom Pedro has let the jug fall, he never let his lance fall." He had learned the art of making his subjects doubly obliged when he granted a favour, by granting it at once, and in his own person. They knew that it was the king, and not the ministers, whom they had to thank. He was much given to literature; and a letter of his still

exists, in which he requested the famous Politian (one of the best Latin scholars of modern times) to undertake the history of Portugal; and he was very anxious that the nobility should be well educated. To this end he forbade them the use of arms till they should be twenty-two years old, or should have served a campaign against the Moors in Africa. Above all things, he was very religious. He took great interest in the conversion of the Jews, with whom his kingdom abounded. Being present at the baptism of one of these, it happened that the priest had no towel to wipe away the oil wherewith, in the Roman Catholic Church, persons are anointed after baptism: on which the king tore off the sleeve of his shirt, and gave it for that purpose.

The reforms of João were much disliked by all the nobility; and by none more than by Fernando, Duke of Bragança. He had immense wealth and influence, and was the king's brother-in-law.

João had published an oath to be taken by all the feudal lords. The duke would only take it with certain conditions. Thenceforth João stood on his guard against him, and he soon found all his suspicions increased.

The duke had three brothers, great advocates for the feudal system, and who were disgraced by the king; and one of them, the Marquis of Montemor, entered into a treasonable correspondence with Fernando of Castile. The Duke of Bragança professed to disapprove of this conduct; and yet he himself was nearly as guilty. His crimes were discovered in a curious manner. The king had given orders that all the deeds by which the nobility held their estates should be brought in to him, for the purpose of being examined. The duke put this off as long as he could, but at length wrote to his steward, desiring him to look for them among the family papers at Villa Viçosa. The steward was ill, and passed the order on to his son. His son was idle, and took one Lopo de Figueredo to help him look. Lopo discovered the letters that the Duke of Bragança had written to Fernando, and also the answers which he had received; and he laid them before the king. João caused copies of them to be taken, and then returned them to their place. To arrive at the truth of this matter, he pretended to take the duke into his favour. At the same time, to revenge himself on the King of Castile and

Aragon, he caused Juana to leave her convent, and wrote to Phœbus, King of Navarre, exhorting him to marry her.

The power of the Duke of Bragança was so great, that João was anxious, if it were possible, not to be forced to extreme measures. He went so far as to give him secret hints that he knew of his guilt; but the duke was blind to everything but his own ambition, and pursued his traitorous conduct. One thing only hindered João from arresting him. At the last peace between Castile and Portugal, hostages had been given on both sides; the king's son, Alfonso, was one of these, and, therefore, was in Castile. João proposed an exchange of hostages, and as soon as ever he had his son safely back, he caused the duke to be arrested and imprisoned. This was well pleasing to the people, but the nobility were exceedingly indignant. It was the turning point for the safety and grandeur of the Portuguese crown. João hurried on the trial; and refusing the duke's claim to be tried by his peers, appointed some commissaries to be his judges. At the same time, he allowed him the two most celebrated advocates in the kingdom for his counsel. The king himself was present at

all the meetings of the commissaries, and was evidently afraid lest they should acquit the prisoner. At the end of the trial he made a speech, exhorting them to clemency ; but they found the Duke of Bragança guilty of high treason. He was sentenced to be beheaded, and his goods to be confiscated. On the 22nd of July he was removed, under good guard, to a house in the great square of Evora. He confessed and communicated ; then he drew up his will, in which he exhorted the duchess and his brothers not to revenge his death, but to be loyal subjects. He wrote to the king, commending to his care his innocent wife and children. João replied, that all justice should be done to them. Early the next morning [July 23, 1483] a scaffold was raised in the square, and the duke was conducted to it in solemn procession, priests with crosses going before him. As the scaffold was not quite ready, a chair was provided for the prisoner, in which he went to sleep. As soon as his head was struck from his body, the great bell of the cathedral tolled ; and João, who had been waiting for the signal, rose and said to his attendants, " The duke's soul has just departed ; let us commend

it into the hands of God." And, kneeling down, he repeated, with many tears, the appointed prayers for the dead. The sons and brothers of the duke fled into Castile.

But no sooner was João freed from this danger than he was met by a more terrible peril. The nobles were so much enraged by what had passed, that they resolved to murder João and his son, Alfonso, and to raise to the throne the Duke of Viseu, a son of that Fernando who was brother of Alfonso V., and had failed so miserably in his attack on Tangier. The Duke of Viseu was, therefore, cousin to João, and brother-in-law besides ; for Queen Léonora was his sister. It is said that the king was warned by a ghost of his danger ; but it shows his generous nature, that when the conspiracy was revealed to him by a man of whose truth he did not think highly, he waited for better evidence before he would take any steps to punish the conspirators. At length, Dom Vasco Coutinho brought him certain information of the names of all concerned in the plot ; his own brother, Guthero Coutinho, and Pedro de Attaide, had engaged to murder the king. João now wished to get all the conspirators together,

that none might escape. Therefore he went on just as usual, only taking care that his life-guard was always on the alert. But this precaution was in vain. One day, as with a very few attendants he was going up the stair-case of the palace, he met the two murderers ; and he saw that De Attaide was getting his dagger in readiness. "Now," thought he, "my time is come, unless I can preserve myself by presence of mind. Why, Dom Pedro, what are you about ?" he continued, advancing close to the traitor. "I was near falling, my liege," returned Pedro, wanting presence of mind to strike at the moment. "Take care of falls," replied João, hastening quickly up-stairs ; and so, for that time, escaping his enemies. But shortly afterwards he fell into a danger still more alarming. Having gone to visit a church beyond the city walls, he found himself surrounded by nearly all the conspirators, while he had hardly a friend at his side. He kept on his guard, talking all the while so pleasantly and familiarly, that none dared to attack him. When he was in the church, the conspirators, who remained outside, reproached themselves with their cowardice in allowing him to escape. "When he comes out

again," they said, "we will not suffer him to pass us alive." Coutinho told the king, who sent for his life-guards, and with them returned to the city.

I do not think that João's next action can be justified in any case; but if it were ever lawful, it was so in this. He found himself surrounded by murderers. The Duke of Viseu had already written to reproach them with their tardiness. He did not dare to bring that nobleman to trial; but it was necessary, for his own safety, that he should not escape. João was now at Setubal, and thither he sent for the duke, who came without any suspicions. It was dark when he entered the palace, and João ordered that he should be at once admitted into his private room. "Cousin," said he, after receiving him in a friendly manner, "what would you do to the man that sought to kill you?" "I would kill him myself," answered the duke. "Die, then!" cried João, stabbing him; "you have pronounced your own sentence."

All was confusion. The gates of the city were closed, that tidings might not be carried to the other conspirators. There were numerous inquiries, hastening to and fro, congratulations to

the king, and curses on the memory of the duke. The Bishop of Evora, one of the principal conspirators, was thrown into a noisome dungeon, and there died, it is supposed by poison, at the end of three days. Two, only, of the conspirators escaped ; and one of these was slain on the road to France.

This action of the king was differently judged by different people ; but he soon became as popular as ever, and the plague, which again raged throughout Portugal, and more particularly in Alemtejo, gave him the opportunity of showing his care for his subjects, by providing, as far as possible, for their comfort and cure.

Now we will leave these rebellions and murders, and speak of the increase of Portuguese commerce ; for in this reign, Portugal was fast rising to be one of the first powers of Europe : in the two next it maintained and increased its glory : after which it gradually fell, never it seems, to rise again.

Christopher Columbus, then bent on discovering America, offered his services, and gave his plans to João. The king himself was well disposed to undertake the expedition : but his council were

less adventurous, and, unfortunately for Portugal, it fell to the ground. João then built a fort in Guinea, which had been discovered in his father's time: and the trade in gold and ivory brought in great riches. The king was afraid that other nations would set afoot the same traffic: and to prevent this, he spread reports that the enterprise was very difficult, and that no vessels but those of the Portuguese were adapted for it. Hearing that the Duke of Medina Sidonia was building a fleet in England for the Guinea trade, he complained to Edward IV., and persuaded him to put a stop to the plan. To his other titles, "King of Portugal and Algarves," João now added, "and Lord of Guinea."

Up to this time, though something was known to Europeans of India and the countries round it, and indeed they had been visited by a few adventurous travellers, the only known way of reaching them was by what is now called the overland passage. People used to go to the Holy Land, and so travel eastward through Syria and Persia. The southern half of Africa was quite unknown. João imagined that it would be possible, perhaps, to get round it, and to sail eastward to India.

And though this was not accomplished in his time, he opened the way for his successors to do it, and in the mean time made several important discoveries. But before I tell you of them, I will explain to you why the Portuguese found it so difficult to get south. Now, we know how to take advantage of the trade winds. These are winds which blow regularly from east to west, and from west to east, across the Atlantic. So when a captain wishes to go to India, he gets into these winds, sails right over to the South American shore, then goes south-east, and so gets round the Cape of Good Hope. But the first navigators, who knew nothing of all this, used to sail directly south : and the consequence was, that when they were near the equator, they came into what are called the 'horse-latitudes,' because the calms there are so frequent and so long that provisions fail, and to make them last the longer the horses are thrown overboard. Sometimes these adventurers were becalmed for weeks together, without being able to stir a mile : and some, long after the discovery of the passage round the Cape, actually had to turn back to Europe, because they were not able to get a north wind which should carry them on.

An expedition which João sent out to discover the south-eastern passage was commanded by a brave officer, by name Diogo Cão : he sailed southward as far as the river Zahera, and there discovered the kingdom of Congo. Here he fell in with several natives, who spoke a language quite unknown to his interpreter. They told him by signs, that their king lived a short distance up the country ; and he sent four bold men as ambassadors to this prince, retaining with him four negroes as hostages. As the Portuguese did not return, he carried off the hostages, promising them to bring them back in the fifteenth moon. On the voyage, they learned to speak Portuguese, and gave Cão an account of their country.

João and his courtiers were much pleased with these men : and the king, more especially, was very anxious that the natives of Congo should be taught the law of God. For you will find it always to have been the case, that the Portuguese, in extending their conquests, were eager also to extend the True Faith :—how sad a contrast to our own country ! Cão was again sent back to Congo, with the natives : he found the Portuguese, whom he had left, quite safe, and was well

received by the king. He then sailed still further south, for two hundred leagues, and returned again to Congo. Here, according to João's desire, he set himself to preach the Gospel: why no priests were sent out in this voyage, I cannot tell you. However, as there were none, Cão did the best he could: and though he was a plain blunt sailor, without education, yet, as he was very much in earnest, he convinced the king, by God's grace, of the folly of idol worship; and when he sailed for Portugal, he promised to return, and bring some priests with him. The King of Congo sent some of his pages to Lisbon to be instructed in Christianity. About the same time, though by another expedition, the kingdom of Benin was discovered.

Meanwhile, João resolved to send some able men into Africa, by way of Egypt, to obtain some knowledge of the southern passage. He despatched two, who returned without doing anything: he then sent Alfonso de Paiva and Pedro Covelhãa to Alexandria. Here the friends separated. Paiva went into Ethiopia: but Covelhãa, embarking on the Red Sea, went (you must get the map and follow him) to Aden, and thence to Goa, Calicut, and other cities of India. Hence he returned

by the coasts of Persia and Arabia, crossed over to Africa, and went to Mozambique. Here he learned that far, far away to the south, the continent ended in a cape:—and with these important tidings he hastened to Cairo, where he was to meet his companions. Falling ill, he drew up an account of what he had learned for the King of Portugal, which was forwarded to him, after this bold traveller's death, by Paiva, who himself settled in Abyssinia.

This increased João's desire of doubling the Cape. He did not, however, forget the request that he had received from the King of Congo. The negroes whom he had sent to Lisbon were soon afterwards baptized, the king and queen standing sponsors: and in two years, accompanied by several monks, they returned to their own land. Here the Church increased very fast: the king, queen, and many of the principal persons were baptized, temples were pulled down, and churches built. All this seemed very promising: but the end, as you will find, did not answer to the beginning.

[A.D. 1487] João having fitted out three vessels for discovery, sent them forth under the command

of Bartholomew Dias, a brave man and a good officer. He ventured farther and farther south, till at last he reached the great southern promontory of Africa : he doubled it with great difficulty, and gave it the name of the Cape of Storms : he only proceeded as far as the little island of Santa Cruz, and then returned to Portugal : and João, not wishing to discourage his subjects, very wisely altered the name of the new discovery to "the Cape of Good Hope."

Another expedition which João sent forth became, through the wickedness of the commander, a disgrace to his country. [A.D. 1489] Beorni, King of the Jalofes, whose country is near the Gambia, was driven from his throne, and came to Lisbon to implore the assistance of the king. João received him well : he was baptized, professed himself a tributary of the crown of Portugal, wrote a letter of submission to the Pope, and was entertained with great pomp. He promised to open a way through his dominions for the Portuguese to trade with the Emperor of Ethiopia : and João willingly agreed to assist him. To this end Pedro Vaz de Cunha was sent out with twenty ships · many missionaries went in it, and great

hopes were entertained that God was now really bringing in Africa to the fold of the Church. But as soon as they reached the river Senegal, De Cunha, disliking the trouble of the war, murdered poor Beorni with his own hand. It is strange that King João, generally so severe, should have allowed this foul crime to remain unpunished.

I cannot stop to tell you of João's successes in Fez : he was engaged in frequent warfare with the Moors ; but was, on the whole, victorious. On one occasion, Don Francisco Coutinho, Governor of Arzilla, was, with sixty men, drawn into an ambuscade of 600 Moors. He engaged the Moorish chief : their horses were killed under them ; they leaped to the ground, and fought hand to hand : at last the Infidel yielded and his people fled.

The king's only legitimate son, Dom Alfonso, a youth of great promise, was married at Evora to Isabel of Castile. The marriage was celebrated [November, 1490,] with great pomp, though the plague was ravaging the country ; and, among other things, there was a tournament on the grandest scale that had ever been seen in Portugal, and which had hardly ever been surpassed in any other kingdom. But these rejoicings were inter-

rupted by a sad accident. João, with two attendants, being parched with thirst, while in the country, drank from a fountain to which they came : the courtiers died almost instantly; the King, after a long illness, recovered : none ever knew by whom, or for what reason, that fountain had been poisoned.

The military orders of Aviz and Santiago were now so powerful, that their Grand Master had greater influence and authority than, in João's opinion, any subject ought to have. He obtained leave from the Pope to unite the two Masterships in but one, and to make them an hereditary dignity in the royal family.

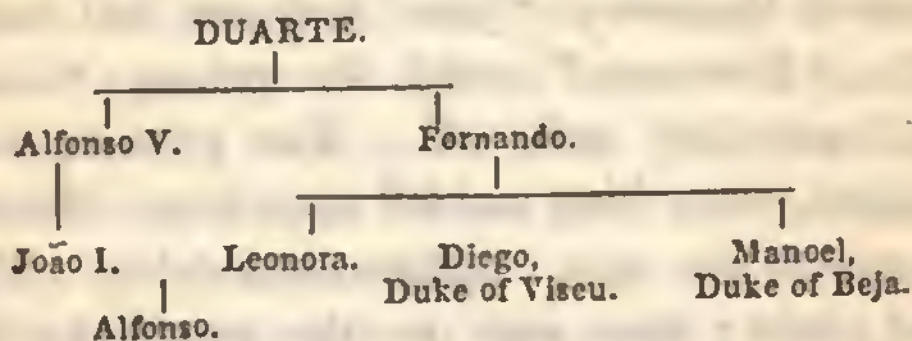
The court was now at Santarem : in the summer evenings it was João's custom to bathe in the Tagus. On the 13th of July, 1491, he inquired of Dom Alfonso if he would not accompany him. The prince replied that he was tired, and would rather not. As he was shortly afterwards standing with the Princess Isabel at one of the palace windows, he saw João passing below ; the king looked up gravely, and bowed. Alfonso, fearing that he had offended his father by his refusal, said, " Well, I will go after all !" and gave orders

that his mule should be saddled. As the attendants were a long time in getting it ready, he ran to the stable, mounted a spirited horse that was ready saddled, and with a courtier, named Dom João de Menezes, rode to the river-side. When he came to the river, he found that the king was already bathing, and that it was too late to join him. "Come, Dom João," he said, "let us have a race on this turf." "It is getting dark," answered Menezes; "your highness had better not." "Nonsense!" cried the prince, "come, start!" and they rode off. The prince's horse stumbled, threw him, and fell upon him. Menezes hastened to the spot. Alfonso was dying. They called João: they sent to the palace for the queen, and for the poor princess: they moved the dying prince into a fisherman's hut; and there, in the arms of his wife, his father, and mother, he shortly afterwards expired. He was only seventeen years of age.

The people believed this to be a judgment of God on João for having seized some Church property, in order to accommodate some of his court at the wedding of his son. The monks who were there threatened him that God would punish him

in that very son ; and the words sank so deep into the king's heart, that he sent to Rome to obtain the Pope's absolution.

João was almost broken-hearted, and for some months he was almost incapable of exerting himself. Isabel went back into Castile. By this sad loss the heir to the Crown was Manoel, Duke of Beja, brother to that Duke of Viseu whom the king had stabbed, and cousin to the king : thus—



But this João could not bear. He fixed all his affections on his natural son, Dom Jorge, and sent an embassy to Rome, requesting the Pope to make him legitimate. He might, perhaps, have succeeded, had it not been that Fernando of Castile had opposed him. The Duke of Beja behaved with great prudence, and seemed to take no interest in the matter.

While thus engaged, João showed the greatest attention to justice. Some French pirates had

seized a Portuguese ship laden with gold and ivory. João seized all the French ships in his ports, and demanded restitution from Charles VIII. of France. All the goods were sent back ; but when the merchants came to count them over, lo ! a parrot was missing. João sent word to Charles that till that parrot was returned, he should not give up the French vessels ; and the bird came back.

At last the waters of the poisoned fountain began to tell on the king's health, and for three years he was in a languishing condition ; besides which he had to move from city to city to escape the plague. At length he felt that his time was come, and he prepared for death with great piety and courage. In making his will it is said that he proposed to name Dom Jorge as his successor, but that the lawyer who wrote it, and his confessor, so forcibly laid before him the injustice that he would thus do to Dom Manoel, and the miseries that he would bring on his kingdom, that he did not insist. He would not be called " your highness " on his death-bed : an altar was raised in his room, so that he constantly might fix his eyes on the crucifix. The Bishop of Tangier, believing that the king was dying, began the office for those in the agony :

João said, "I shall live two hours more," and he did. At last he breathed forth his spirit with the words, "LORD, That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on me!" He had lived forty years, and reigned fourteen. He was the greatest prince, except Alfonso Henrique, that had yet filled the Portuguese throne; and as he was respected in his life, so he was much lamented after his death. Many witty sayings of his are related, which I have not time to tell you.

CHAPTER XVII.

House of Visen.

DOM MANOEL,

SURNAMED THE GREAT AND FORTUNATE.

A.D. 1495—1521.

MANOEL began his reign by recalling the princes of the house of Bragança. He then proposed to marry the Princess Isabel of Castile, the widow of Alfonso, but Fernando was unwilling to give her to him. At last the match was settled, on condition that all Moors and Jews should be banished from Portugal.

Manoel was anxious to continue the discoveries of João II. He prepared a fleet of four sail, the command of which he entrusted to the ever famous Vasco da Gama. He was to double the Cape as Bartholomew Dias had done, and then to pursue his voyage to India. Da Gama having sworn

allegiance to Manoel and to his successors, went to the Church of S. Mary, on the banks of the Tagus, where their standard was blessed. On the following day [July 9, 1497,] the clergy, followed by the crews, went in solemn procession from the same church to the harbour, where Vasco da Gama embarked with a favourable wind. The people uttered cries and shed tears, believing that they should never see the adventurers again.

A few days after, the news arrived that the marriage of Isabel with Dom Manoel had been concluded. He went to meet her ; and after their marriage, the death of Juan, only son of Fernando, which had hitherto been kept secret, was published. By this Isabel became heir to the crowns of Castile and Aragon ; and had it pleased God that a son of hers had lived, he would have been king of the whole Spanish Peninsula, from which, by this time, the Moors were expelled ; but Isabel died in giving birth to a son, and the prince did not long survive his mother.

And now let us follow Vasco da Gama, whose expedition is the more famous, because it is the subject of the *Lusiad* of Camoens ; which, next to our own *Paradise Lost*, and the *Jerusalem Freed*

of Tasso, is the most beautiful epic poem of modern times.

He met with very rough weather in his passage southward, and before he had doubled the Cape, the sailors and officers united in beseeching him to return back. Gama refused, and a conspiracy was set on foot to murder him. Fortunately it was discovered by his brother: Vasco ordered the mutineers into irons, took the helm into his own hands, and doubled the Cape on the 20th of November, 1497. He coasted Africa as far as Sotola, where he left two of his crew to learn the language. In the voyage from this place to Mozambique, a third part of his crew died of the scurvy. Having advanced as far north as Melenda, he there committed himself to the open ocean, and running 700 leagues in twenty-one days, he reached Calicut in India, at the end of May, 1498. The astonishment of the inhabitants of this rich city was very great, and the Portuguese were almost equally surprised to find there merchants from the ports of Barbary. Vasco paid a visit to the Zamorin, or king of that country, who received him well, and made a treaty of alliance with Manoel. But the Moors, always enemies to the Christians,

feared that their own commerce would suffer if this alliance lasted : they waited on the Zamorin, and gave him such an account of the Portuguese, that he determined on murdering all. Da Gama discovered the plot, and embarked on board his fleet, and coasted India as far as Goa. Finding that his fleet was not numerous enough to frighten the natives into good behaviour, he returned to Africa, and thence to Lisbon, which he reached in September, 1499.

Dom Manoel was delighted with the success of this expedition, and was never weary of talking to Gama on the subject. He had by this time lost his queen, Isabel, and had, by a dispensation from the Pope, married her sister, Dona Maria. He now sent out a fleet of thirteen vessels to the Indies, commanded by Pedro Alvares Cabral. A storm drove him back into Lisbon : when he sailed again, he was, at least as he thought, driven far out of his course to the west ; and on the 24th of May, 1501, to the great terror of his pilots, they discovered land. He called the unknown region Santa Cruz, and sent one vessel back to Lisbon with the news. But soon afterwards, on account of a valuable wood called *Brazil*, which grew abundantly there, the

country itself came to be known by that name. After a stormy voyage, Cabral reached Calicut, where he was at first well received ; but the Moors again stirred up the Zamorin, who murdered fifty Christians ; and in revenge, Cabral burnt all the vessels in the harbour, and bombarded the city.

When he came back to Portugal, Vasco da Gama sailed with a fleet of ten ships, under the title of Admiral of the Indies. Cabral had left some Portuguese at Cochin, and thither Vasco went, after punishing the Zamorin for his treachery. At Cranganor he found that there was a Christian Church already founded in India : S. Thomas had preached the Gospel there, and the Church had continued from his time. Unhappily, they were hereticks : they received their principal Bishop from the Metropolitan (or *Catholick* as he is called) of Babylon, who is a *Nestorian* ; that is, one who denies that our LORD JESUS CHRIST united the two natures of GOD and man in One Person. However, these Christians of S. Thomas (for so they were commonly named) were very glad of the arrival of Da Gama, and offered allegiance to the King of Portugal.

Gama returned to Europe, but his uncle Sodre remained to guard the Portuguese possessions in India. The Zamorin declared war against the King of Cochin, whose name was Trimumpara, because the latter defended and protected the Portuguese. Trimumpara was in great danger, and the faithless Sodre did nothing to protect him, but leaving him to his enemy, sailed away to practise piracy on the Persian seas, where he was drowned. The merchants who remained in Cochin did their best to assist the king against the Zamorin ; but the city must have been taken had not a fleet of four ships arrived from Portugal, under the command of the celebrated Alfonso Albuquerque, and carrying the no less famous Duarte Pacheco. Albuquerque relieved Cochin from its danger, and leaving Pacheco in it with a garrison of 150 men, sailed away again. Then the Zamorin gathered an army of 50,000 men : the King of Cochin had but 5000, and they seem to have been of little use. But Pacheco intrenched himself with his handful of men, and these 150 four times drove back the many thousands of the Zamorin. The latter resigned his crown, not daring to meet his subjects after so great a disgrace. Pacheco may well remind us of

Solomon's words, "There was a little city, and few men within it, and there came a great king against it, and besieged it. Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he, by his wisdom, delivered the city, yet no man remembered that poor wise man." For though Pacheco, when he returned to Portugal, was most honourably received by Dom Manoel, he afterwards died poor in a hospital.

Francisco de Almeida was now sent out as first Viceroy of the Indies. At Cananor he built a fortress, and sent back eight ships loaded with treasure to Portugal; on their way home, they discovered the island of Madagascar. The Maldivé islands were visited: and factories (by a factory is meant a company of merchants, established in a foreign country, and having, in some degree, the privileges of a corporation,) were established on the island of Ceylon. The King of Goa was forced to ask for peace. Not content with these discoveries, the Portuguese pushed on to farther India, and established factories in Sumatra and Malacca. Missionaries, too, went out, and great good was done by them; but I shall tell you more about them, when I have to speak of the glorious labours of S. Francis Xavier, the Apostle of Japan.

Alfonso de Albuquerque was now sent out as second viceroy. For it was the wisdom of the King of Portugal, not to allow one man to be governor of those distant regions for too long a time, lest he should be tempted to throw off all allegiance to Portugal, and to declare himself independent. Manoel had given orders to Albuquerque to seize three places : Aden, the entrance to the Red Sea,—Ormuz, the entrance to the Persian Gulf, and Malacca. The island of Ormuz was therefore besieged : it was defended by 20,000 men : but at length the king consented to receive a garrison. He soon repented, however, and drove it out : Albuquerque bombarded the city, but not being able to take it, went on to Cochin. Almeida refused to resign the government till he had finished a war in which he was engaged, and even arrested Albuquerque. But he was persuaded to set him at liberty : and in his return to Europe, was killed on the coast of Africa.

[A. D. 1510.] It now struck Albuquerque, that Goa would be a convenient capital for the whole of Portuguese India. The town is situated in an island close to the coast : the air is good, and the country fertile. Of all their vast conquests in India,

this is the only spot that now remains to the Portuguese! As the governor was absent, the viceroy persuaded the inhabitants to surrender, telling them that their own kings loaded them with tributes; and he made his entry into the city on the 16th of February. He left a garrison there, and departed: the governor returned, and again seized on Goa: Albuquerque retook it a second time, and barbarously put part of the inhabitants to the sword. Next he sailed [A.D. 1511] to Malacca, which he took: and the Kings of Pegù, Siam, and Sumatra hastened to make peace with him. However, as soon as he was gone, an alliance was made among the heathen princes; Malacca was besieged, and had nearly been taken by treason, though it escaped. Albuquerque, never quiet, was now at Aden, which he besieged, but could not take it. Thence he went to Ormuz, and desired leave to erect a fortress there: the king consented through fear; the minister refused, on which Albuquerque had him beheaded. But this was his last success: his health was worn out, and he returned to Goa, after making his will. Before reaching that place, he heard that he was recalled: this disgrace broke his heart, and he died at sea in sight of Goa, after

writing to Dom Manoel, and commending his son to his care. The king had been persuaded that Albuquerque had been seeking to make an empire for himself, instead of for Portugal :—but he was afterwards very sorry. Albuquerque is always known to the Portuguese as *the Great*.

We must now see what Manoel had been doing in Africa. The garrisons of Tangier and Arzilla made continual excursions, in which they took a good deal of plunder : and, in 1506, the city of Saphim yielded to the Portuguese, and was made a bishoprick.

The King of Mesquinez, having been expelled from his capital, fled to Azamor, and proposed to deliver that place up to the Christians. João de Menezes went to conquer it, and found that he had been deceived by the Moor, who had drawn him thither for the sake of destroying him. To be revenged, he joined with the governors of Arzilla and Tangier. But news was brought that the King of Fez was about to invade Arzilla : the governor hastened back, and was just in time to enter the city. The king immediately formed the siege : his immense army made a breach in the walls, and took possession of the place itself. The

Portuguese retired into the citadel, and held out with great courage. Menezes hastened round by sea : but his fleet was not strong enough to relieve Arzilla. Some of his bravest soldiers fought their way into the place, to assist the garrison : and when the King of Fez heard of it,—“The better,” he said ;—“the more defenders, the more prisoners.” And, indeed, it did seem as if this were likely to be the case. Menezes sent for succour not only from Portugal, but from Castile, it being a cause in which all Christians were concerned : and some Spanish troops and artillery arrived, which saved the citadel of Arzilla : the King of Fez set fire to the town and retreated.

Another brave chief in these wars was Dom Nuno Fernandez Ataide. He conquered the whole country as far as the foot of Mount Atlas, and laid a tribute on every town and village. The King of Fez raised an army of 600,000 men to besiege Saphim :—Ataide and the African governors met him, and compelled him to retreat. A bold and faithful Moor, named Yahia ben Tafut, was of great use to the Christians in these expeditions. But a spy belonging to the King of Fez persuaded Dom Nuno that Ben Tafut was a

traitor, and orders were given to the Portuguese captains that fought under him, to leave his standard. Ben Tafut was deeply wounded: and to prove his honour, he marched, with very inferior numbers, against the King of Morocco. Dom Nuno confessed himself wrong, and sent a messenger after Ben Tafut, requesting him to wait till he should be joined by five hundred horse that he would send on the next day. The Moor refused to stop: and when the horse at length joined him, he had already put the King of Morocco to flight. For this he was made governor of a strong place, called Almedura. The Duke of Bragança [A.D. 1513] took Azamor: his officers wished him to advance on Morocco itself; and had he done so, he would probably have been successful. But he refused: and henceforward the Portuguese empire in Africa began to decline.

For about the year 1510, the family of the Xerifs arose. A Moor, by name Mahomet ben Hamed, but who took the name of Xerif, gave out he was descended from the False Prophet, and sent his sons on pilgrimage to Mecca, whence they returned with great power and influence. At first they were by no means successful: and in

the battle of Teduest were thoroughly routed : the Christians advanced within ten miles of Morocco, and might certainly have taken that nest of Moorish infidelity, had not the generals been jealous of each other. Old Xerif died of grief : his sons carried on the war, and still unsuccessfully. The first great loss of the Portuguese was an attempt to build a fort on the coast : 8000 men were employed in the work : but the Kings of Mesquinez and Fez with a great army attacked them, and slew 4000 men : and forced the rest to re-embark. Some time after the brave knight Ataide was slain, and Yahia ben Tafut treacherously murdered. The Xerifs then proposed to the King of Morocco the siege of Saphim : and being invited to court to settle the plan, they murdered him, and the elder Xerif reigned in his stead.

The affairs of India were not, at this time, in a good state. The successors of Albuquerque were weak and avaricious men : and the depravity and wickedness of the Portuguese were very great. Fernando Pues de Andrades sailed to China : and, by reason of his good behaviour, was well received at Canton. But his brother Simon, who succeeded

him, was a bold bad man :—the Portuguese became odious,—some were thrown into prisons and died there miserably : and their conduct induced the emperor not to receive an ambassador who had been sent to him. But the glory of Portuguese Asia had not yet come to the full.

Manoel also made an alliance with David, Emperor of Æthiopia. There is a Christian church here, but it is heretical, and has received many customs from the Jews, as that of circumcision.

He sent an embassy to the Pope, with several presents : among these was a swift ounce, and an elephant carrying a tower, which had been taught to kneel down in the presence of kings. They were exhibited before the Pope and Cardinals, and delighted them much.

Dom Manoel, after a very glorious reign, departed this life in December, 1521. He was one of the most fortunate kings that ever lived ; and, which is much better, a good man. He executed justice with great care ; and was never angry at being called to hear the complaints of any that were oppressed, not even though it were at night. He was married three times : his third queen was sister to Charles V., who succeeded Fernando as King of Spain, and was also Emperor of Germany.

CHAPTER XVIII.

JOÃO III.

SURNAMED THE PIOUS.

A.D. 1521—1557.

WE have now at length reached the summit of Portuguese glory. The way was opened on all sides for conquest and commerce: no foreign nations had as yet interfered: the new king, João, possessed great talents and courage, and was determined to carry out his father's plans to the full. To write a full history of this reign would require a large book, instead of a little chapter: but I can perhaps tell you enough to make you wish to read more.

There were disputes between Castile and Portugal, as to the division of the lands conquered in the newly-discovered countries. The Pope had

given all these regions to those two kingdoms,— which he had no right to do : and an imaginary line was drawn, which separated the right of conquest, as it was called, of the two crowns ; that is, the extent of land which each of the kings was allowed to conquer. There happened to be a difficulty as to which nation contained the Moluccas ; and commissioners were appointed to settle it. [A.D. 1524.] They came to no conclusion : but peace continued between Portugal and Castile, and João married Catharine, daughter of Charles V., Emperor of Germany and King of Spain.

Henrique de Menezes was now Viceroy of the Indies. The King of Calicut, who had been for some time at war with the Portuguese, desired peace : but as his faithlessness was well known, it was denied to him. The viceroy made an attack on the best harbour in the kingdom : the Indians gave battle both by sea and land, and were defeated with great loss. The viceroy was everywhere successful, and Portugal began to recover the reputation it had lost under the few last governors. As Menezes wished to attack the King of Cambara, he made peace with

the King of Calicut : and the latter took advantage of the time he thus gained to raise an army of 70,000 men, and to besiege the Portuguese fortress that had been built in his capital. A Sicilian renegade, (that is, one who, having been a Christian, had been persuaded to turn Mahometan,) had charge of the enemy's artillery : for by this time they well knew the use of fire-arms. The governor, João de Lima, sent with all speed to the viceroy for assistance : and a small force was despatched to the relief of the besieged.

The King of Calicut began to grow impatient, and to complain of the Moors who had led him into the war. The Sicilian engineer laboured hard to invent something which should put a speedy end to the siege. A mine was made under-ground, and the castle might have been taken, but for a Portuguese renegade, who had not quite lost all love to his country, and who gave the garrison notice of their danger by singing a song at one of the gates in the night time. Then the engineer made two wooden towers of equal height with the walls, by which he hoped to take the place : but the fire of the Portuguese destroyed them. At length the viceroy himself came to the

assistance of his friends ; and landing in spite of great opposition, defeated the Indians in a most bloody battle.

On the death of Henrique de Menezes, which happened not long after, the officers met [1526] to open the letter in which the king had appointed his successor ; and they found that Dom Pedro de Mascarenhas was named to the office of viceroy. But as he was at a distance, they proceeded to open the letter in which a second successor was appointed, and this was found to be Lopo de Samparo. He was accordingly made viceroy, after swearing to give up his dignity as soon as Mascarenhas should return : but he broke his oath, and the two viceroys were in open arms against each other. At length they came to an agreement, and the strong city of Dio was soon after taken. Soliman, the Emperor of the Turks, who made it his business to oppose the Christians everywhere, sent a large fleet to besiege this place : the Portuguese threw themselves into the citadel, and defended it with the greatest courage. Soliman sent an ambassador to the King of Calicut, requesting him to send some forces to assist in the siege, and offering, in return, to protect

him. But the proud pagan king was indignant at the promise of protection, thinking that he could take care of himself: and so the treaty was broken off. The siege of Dio was at last raised, and Soliman's army retreated with great loss.

In Africa, the empire of the Xerifs continued to increase, and that of the Portuguese to decline. The two brothers, indeed, quarrelled with each other, and both were at enmity with the King of Fez: but notwithstanding this, the Infidels gradually prevailed. At length João, wearied out with these petty wars, and wanting more men for the Indies, ruined four of his strongest fortresses: namely, Alcaçar Sezuer, Arzilla, Avamog, and Saphim. Now mark this. When a nation, like the Portuguese, possessing but a small country, and not numerous in its population, has been, year after year, exerting itself in enterprises far beyond its strength, the first step backward is a sure sign that the decline of the people is at hand. It is a proof that that natural decay has begun, for which there is no cure for nations, any more than there is for individuals. If you ask why Portugal should have stopped at just this point of greatness, I can only answer, Because it was the Will of

GOD. She now possessed Brazil and the western coast of India : and GOD said, Thus far shalt thou come, and no farther.

But now I must tell you of the greatest glory of Portuguese India : its missionaries.

Ignatius Loyola had founded the company of the Jesuits, which afterwards became so famous, in the year 1540. Besides the three vows that all monks made,—of chastity, obedience to their superiors, and poverty,—these took a fourth, of particular and especial obedience to the Pope : so that they were bound to go at a moment's notice wherever he might send them, to the wildest and most savage regions. João III., hearing much of the piety of this new company, and finding that his subjects indulged all their passions without giving one thought to GOD's law, the Indian gold giving them the means of doing so, thought that, if he could obtain some Jesuits for his own kingdom, and more particularly for his conquests, he should do a deed well pleasing to GOD. As the company was at first very small, two only were sent to Portugal, and one of these was Francis Xavier, a gentleman of Navarre, who was perfectly on fire with zeal for converting the heathen. He

sailed in the year 1541, with the Viceroy Alfonso de Sousa, passed the winter at Mozambique, and arrived, the next year, at Goa. There his first care was to make the Portuguese cease from their wicked customs, for they were living like heathens: and thence he went along the Fishery Coast, as far as Cape Comorin. It would be endless to tell you of his journeyings by land and by sea: how, taking his life in his hands, he exposed himself to all kind of dangers: how he baptized thousands on thousands of heathen, many of whom, and still more of whose children, became glorious martyrs of CHRIST: how he first proclaimed the Gospel in Japan, and planted the church there, which, in the next century, gave such remarkable examples of resistance unto blood. And as, in the mean time, the king had founded a college at Coimbra for the Jesuits, fresh labourers were sent out into the wide field of the east, through whom a multitude of souls were saved. Of these missionaries, Gaspar Barzeo, commonly called the Apostle of Ormuz, is the most famous: but the first of the Jesuits that died a martyr was Antonio Criminal: he suffered on the Fishery Coast, at the beginning of June, 1549. S. Francis Xavier, meanwhile, continued

his labours and his miracles : for God is said to have wrought great wonders by the hand of His faithful servant. From Goa he went to Ceylon, to Meliapor, back to Goa, to Japan, to Malacca, thence to Goa again. He last set his heart on preaching the Gospel in China : everything seemed to oppose him, but he still thought that God had called him there. But, like another Moses, he saw the land with his eyes, but went not in thereto : for in the little island of Sancham, in sight of China, he was called to his reward, on the 2nd of December, 1552. The college at Coimbra sent also out missionaries to Brazil : Manoel de Nobréga was the apostle of that country.

João de Castro, who succeeded Sousa, was the most celebrated Portuguese Viceroy of India. His two greatest feats were the defence of Dio against a vast army of Moors ; and the victory his troops obtained by sea, near Malacca, over the fleet of the King of Achen. The latter was thought to be granted in answer to the prayer of S. Francis Xavier, who was then in Malacca.

• Noronha, another viceroy, was infamous for his exactions. He once, without any reason, demanded 12,000 ducats from a prince of Ceylon, and threw

him into prison, because he refused them. In his time the Moluccas revolted: they threw down their churches, and turned back to heathenism; and no wonder: for their governor was a disgrace to the name of Christian. But a famine and an earthquake followed: and those that survived these judgments, considering them punishments for their apostasy, returned to Christianity.

In the midst of these successes, João III. departed this life, [June 11, 1557] in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the thirty-seventh year of his reign. He was a great and a good king: and it is a pity that we know so little of his management of Portugal. The historians are quite taken up with describing the victories in India and Africa. He founded three bishopricks in Portugal: besides those of Cape de Verd, Cochin, and other places. In his time Évora was made an archbishoprick. He made many excellent laws: by one of these, he forbade that thieves should be branded in the face, "because," he said, "it is unjust that those who may amend their lives should always bear the marks of their crimes." His death was sudden: three days before he had joined a procession on foot.

The Portuguese Church could boast of many holy men during this reign. The most famous is Bartholomeo dos Martyres, Archbishop of Braga, whose care and love for his flock, patience, and humility were truly like those of the apostles. The Cardinal Henrique, the king's brother, was also a great man: he had nearly been elected Pope.

João had nine children: six sons and three daughters. Of these, two only grew up. The one was Maria, who married Philip II. of Spain: the other João, who married Joanna of Austria, and died soon afterwards. After his death, Joanna had a son, named Sebastian; and this little prince (for he was only three years old when his grandfather died) was thus heir to the crown of Portugal.

CHAPTER XIX.

SEBASTIAN,

SURNAMED THE REGRETTED.

A.D. 1557—1578.

JOÃO III., on his death-bed, appointed his Queen, Catharine of Austria, regent. She governed with great prudence, till she of her own accord resigned the regency to Cardinal Henrique.

The settlement of Brazil now went speedily on, and it grew to a mighty kingdom. Bahia was then its capital: and here were the head-quarters of the Jesuits, who also had houses in each of the captaincies into which Brazil was divided.

As the young king grew up, he showed great courage and love of war. João III. preferred, as I told you, his Indian to his African conquests. Sebastian, who was never weary of listening to the

accounts about Menezes, and the other heroes in Africa, set his mind on driving back the Moors, and making himself a vast kingdom there. Those about the king encouraged him in these wild fancies, till he may be considered almost to have lost his senses on this point. His nobles were all anxious to have the management of affairs, which could, of course, only be done by humouring the king: and so, in spite of the opposition of his wiser and sober counsellors, he used all means to prepare for the African war. When he was of age, (this was at fourteen) [1568] he began to exercise soldiers, and to long for the time when he might himself lead them to the field. And yet he had many most excellent qualities. As the title of the King of France is "most Christian," and that of the King of Spain "Catholic," so Sebastian wished that the name of the kings of Portugal should be "most Obedient:"—but this title has not been adopted by his successors.

It happened that a civil war broke out in the empire of Morocco: and Muley Hamet, one of the pretenders to the crown, sought the aid of Philip II. of Spain. Philip was far too wise a prince to give him any help. Next he turned to Sebastian: and

this was just the opportunity that the young king desired. But all the men and money of the kingdom were in India, and what was to be done?—In fact, Portugal [1577] was just like a man who has been over-exerting himself: rest was quite necessary. And rest, just at that time, might have enabled Portugal to keep the place in Europe that she then held, and in a few years she might have been ready to take another step onward. But Sebastian was full of the wildest schemes: he thought of subduing the whole of northern Africa, and even, it is said, of taking Constantinople. He loaded his people with taxes: he hired foreign soldiers, and did everything in his power to forward his plans. Three years before this time, he had gone, against the advice of all, into Africa, and there had spent some time in hunting: he had then been nearly cut off by the Moors. Philip of Spain, pitying the madness of his nephew, tried to persuade him against the enterprise: but afterwards, for reasons which you will see by-and-by, did all he could to help it on.

: At length Sebastian had prepared fifty-five vessels, and 15,000 men, of whom 9000 were Portuguese: the rest were Spaniards, Italians,

and Germans: and he had only twelve pieces of artillery. Nobles, clergy, and people saw that the end of this armament must be destruction: they wept and prayed in vain, and a deep gloom sank down over Portugal. Sebastian thought himself to be fighting for the Cross: and in that thought he felt invincible. Cardinal Henrique was made regent: and the fleet sailed in June, 1578.

Now there was not one good officer among the Portuguese: they were too proud to be commanded by a foreigner: and the king, though as bold as a lion, knew nothing of war. The whole campaign was a succession of blunders: when the Portuguese landed between Arzilla and Tangier, at Almadruves, none knew what was to be done next: when it was determined to besiege Larache, they madly determined to march by land. When they were on their way, they loitered as if they wished to give their enemy, Muley Moluc, all the time possible for preparing to meet them.

This Muley Moluc was a most able and wise prince. He was at this time in a dying state: but made all his preparations with great prudence and courage. He proclaimed that all who pre-

ferred Muley Hamet to himself had leave to depart: he sent a body of 3000 men, on whom he could least depend, close to the enemy, that they might desert if they pleased: and by thus trusting in them, made them faithful to him for ever.

The two armies drew near each other: the Moors are variously reckoned from 50,000 to 150,000: the Portuguese, as I said before, had but 15,000. Sebastian put himself into such a deplorable condition, that, his provisions being almost spent, he was forced to fight or to surrender: Muley Moluc, who was rapidly dying, wished the battle to be fought while he had life to guide it. Muley Hamet advised, at all risks, to retreat, or at least to begin the battle late in the afternoon, that, if the Portuguese were defeated, night might put an end to the slaughter. But Sebastian, headstrong to the last, ordered that the engagement should begin on the following morning. [August 4, 1578.] At break of day, the Portuguese army was drawn up in order of battle: the volunteers in the vanguard, the regular troops in the centre, with two regiments as a reserved body: the Spanish were on the left, the Germans, Italians,

and garrison of Tangier to the right. The horse formed two triangles : on the left was the royal standard. The Infidels formed in a crescent, hoping to surround the Christians : in the first line were the Moors who had been driven from Andalusia : in the second, the renegades : in the third, the Africans. King Sebastian, on horseback, encouraged his men : Muley Moluc did the same from his litter, (for he was not able to ride :) and the battle joined.

At the first onset, the Christian cavalry were driven back : they were rallied by the king :—in their turn the Moors gave way : Sebastian charged them so fiercely with the Portuguese foot, that the whole army tottered : Muley Moluc threw himself on horseback, and would have in vain been withheld by his servants, but that he fainted : he was placed in his litter, and died immediately, laying his finger on his lips, as a sign that his death should not be mentioned, lest his soldiers should be discouraged. The Portuguese infantry began to give way : Sebastian rallied them again and again : three horses were slain under him : at last numbers prevailed. “ Let us die !” he then said, and rushed into the thickest of the fight.

From that time he was never seen alive. A body was indeed found, which was believed to be his : but others as confidently declared that they had seen him unhurt after the battle, and attempting to cross a river. But whether he fell in the fight, or was drowned, or—as some say—was taken by the Spanish troops, and confined in a Spanish dungeon, will never be known in this world. To this day the Portuguese country people believe that he is alive, and that he will at some time appear, to restore their country to its former glory.

The rout of the Portuguese army was most complete, and most dreadful : and eighty noblemen were taken prisoners. They were afterwards ransomed for 400,000 cruzados. Muley Hamet fell : and his skin, stuffed with straw, was exposed to the derision of the Moors. Such was the issue of the battle of Alcaçar Seguer.

The fleet sailed along the coast, picking up such Christians as had been happy enough to make their escape : and then returned to Portugal with the dismal news. At first the people would not believe that Sebastian had really fallen, and they continued to look on Henrique as regent for some time.

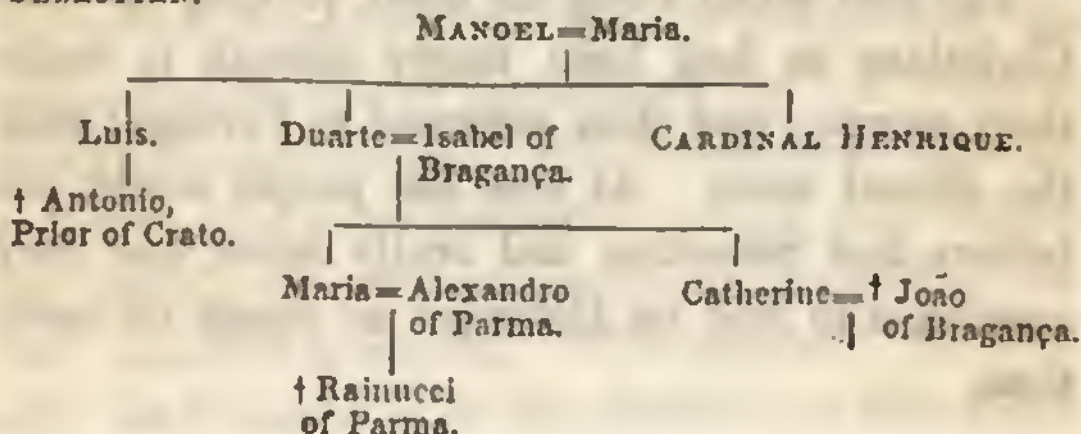
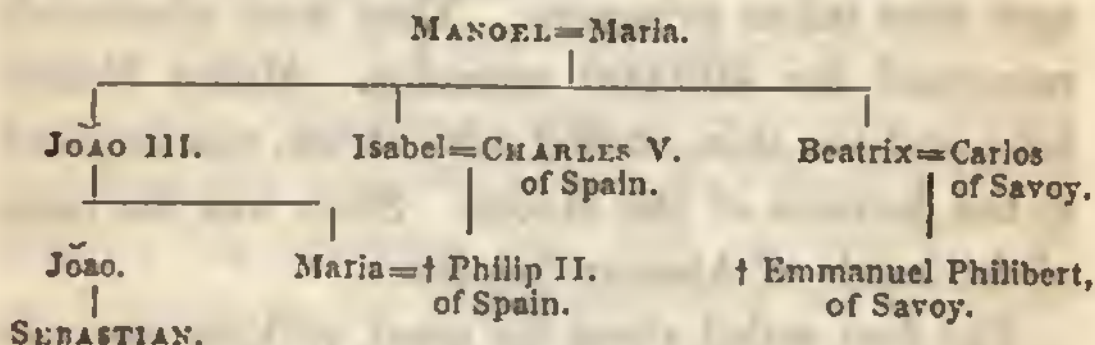
CHAPTER XX.

THE CARDINAL KING HENRIQUE,

SURNAMED THE CHASTE.

A.D. 1578—1580.

SEBASTIAN was succeeded by Henrique, Archbishop of Evora, the last male of the royal house. He is almost the only instance in which the same person was both bishop and king. As he was seventy-seven years old, and besides, being a Roman Catholic priest, could not marry, there were great disputes as to the succession. I will make a list of those who claimed it.



I have marked all the claimants of the crown with a cross. And besides these, there were three others, Catherine de Medicis, Queen of France, Elizabeth, Queen of England, and the Pope.

The poor old king was quite perplexed by the number and pretensions of these candidates ; and resolved to call the States together, in order to help him. [April 1, 1579.] He sent a citation to all those that had any claim to the crown, to forward it to him, together with all the proofs. He then desired the States to choose fifteen persons, out of whom he would select five : they, after his death, should name his successor, and, till this succession was named, they were to be regents. Now let us see what each of the claimants had to say for themselves. The claim of Philip II. would have been by far the best, had it not been for the laws of Lamego. By his mother, he was grandson to Manoel : and his wife was daughter to João III. : by the last of these rights, in another kingdom, he would have been the true heir. But the laws of Lamego expressly said, If a Portuguese princess marry with a foreigner, she loses all right to the crown. Philip said in his defence, that when Beatrix, daughter to Fernando, had married into

the house of Castile, it was expressly agreed, in defiance of the laws of Lamego, that her son should succeed. To which it was replied, that Fernando had no right to make such an agreement, and that it was never carried out; since, as you know, João I. really succeeded.

But what said Emmanuel Philibert, Duke of Savoy? He also was a grandson of Manoel; and to him there was the same objection as to Philip II.—namely, that his mother, by marrying into a foreign house, had lost her right. “It is true,” he answered, “that, according to the strict letter of the law, she did; but that law, though expressed generally, had really reference only to Castile. If Castile and Portugal were ever united under one king, the greater kingdom would swallow up the less, and Portugal would be ruined. But if Portugal were joined with a weaker kingdom, like Savoy, it would receive no harm; and, therefore, the spirit of the law of Lamego would not be broken.”

Next comes Antonio, Prior of Crato. There is no difficulty here, you will say: he was the son of Manoel's son, and, therefore, must have been the true heir. So he was: but his father and mother

had never been married. He, indeed, affirmed that they had, but no one believed him, although he had witnesses to prove what he said.

Rainucci of Parma was the great-grandson of Manoel, and had a better right than Emmanuel Philibert, inasmuch as the grandson of a son succeeds before the son of a daughter.

João, Duke of Bragança, claimed in right of his wife, Catherine, daughter to Duarte, son to Manoel. Catherine, then, was the true heir: she had married a Portuguese, and, therefore, had not forfeited her right.

Catherine of Medicis claimed, because, she said, she was descended from Matilda, Countess of Boulogne, married to Alfonso IV. But she could not prove that Alfonso had had any children by Matilda.

The Pope claimed, because the property of Cardinals dying without a will belongs to the See of Rome.

Elizabeth's can hardly be called a claim. She possessed, she said, all the rights of the house of Lancaster, who had intermarried with the royal house of Portugal.

Of all these, there were three claims only that

were thought much of :—Philip's, who was the strongest; Antonio's, which was the most popular; and the Duke of Bragança's, which was the most just. The agents of the King of Spain were busy throughout the kingdom: the Duke of Bragança and the Prior of Crato were banished from Lisbon. The prior began to raise an army, and sent messengers to the courts of France and England, praying for assistance. Both courts promised it to him. Philip endeavoured to come to an agreement with his two rivals, but the thing was impossible.

At one time, Cardinal Henrique, worn out and aged as he was, thought of obtaining a dispensation, and marrying. But of this the Pope would not hear. When the States met at Almeirim, in 1580, he was evidently sinking. The nobles were compelled to swear that they would abide by the choice of the regents; and then Henrique declared the number of claimants reduced to two,—the Duke of Bragança and Philip II. At this time the plague—called by the Portuguese the Great Plague—was raging at Lisbon: no rain fell, and a famine was threatened. Henrique was now confined to his bed, and great efforts were made on both sides to persuade him to name his successor.

Padre Torres, a good and learned man, said boldly to the dying king, "Your Highness will die in mortal sin, if you do not name the duke as your successor : you will give account at the tribunal of God for all the miseries that you are bringing on your kingdom." Henrique sent for the Duchess of Bragança, and she came. But, after all, on the night of the 31st of January, he died without having named his successor. He had lived seventy-eight years, and reigned seventeen months; and, had he never been king, would have left a higher character behind him. At the beginning of his reign he punished those who had offended him before he came to the crown; a thing most unworthy of any monarch, especially of a Cardinal King. Like Jehoram, "he departed without being desired."

CHAPTER XXI.

The Castilian Usurpation.

A.D. 1580—1640.

By the death of the Cardinal, Portugal was thrown into the most horrible confusion. Every one thought a civil war was unavoidable; and there were hatreds and violences in all parts. Of the five regents, three were supposed favourable to Philip: but the deputies of the people in the States, almost to a man, took the part of Antonio. "We," they said, "have a right to choose our king; we will not be dictated to by the regents." The clergy, also, took the people's part, but many of the bishops and nobility had been won over by the King of Spain. Antonio went to Lisbon, but found that the mob did not rise in his favour. He therefore hastened to Santarem, whither the

deputies of the people had betaken themselves. Great disturbances took place. The rector of Santarem was murdered by one of Antonio's servants : the magistrate arrested the servant, and ordered him to be hung: there was a struggle round the very gallows; the gallows was thrown down, but the man was hung.

Philip declared war against Portugal ; and the Duke of Alva, with an army of 24,000 men, entered it. The regents requested the King of Spain to retire till they had decided on his claim. He answered, that they had no authority in the matter. Antonio, meanwhile, was declared king at Santarem ; thence he advanced to Lisbon, and the regents fled. Antonio was again proclaimed king, and the regents were declared rebels.

The Duke of Alva saw that he had no time to lose. He besieged and took several towns in Alemtejo; and the Duke of Bragança, finding that there were no hopes for himself, made peace with him. This gave the Spanish party fresh strength. Philip ordered a fleet to sail round Portugal, under the Marquis of Santa Cruz, (the same who was afterwards, but for his death, to have commanded the Invincible Armada,) and one place after another

fell into the hands of the usurper. Cascaes, near Lisbon, resisted; the officers were executed by the cruel Duke of Alva, and the soldiers condemned to the galleys. Thus the foreign army was successful. At last they attacked Antonio, drove him from his entrenchments, and forced him to retreat to Coimbra. Lisbon surrendered, and the Portuguese fleet was taken; on which Philip was proclaimed King of Portugal.

PHILIP I. (II. OF SPAIN.)

SURNAMED THE PRUDENT.

A.D. 1580—1598.

ANTONIO was not able to remain at Coimbra, for the Spanish army, under General de Avila, marched after him. He entered with 12,000 men to Porto; the inhabitants refused to admit him. But a gate was opened by one of his friends, and he committed great excesses in the city. De Avila reached Villa Nova, between which and Porto runs the Douro. This is a broad and deep river, and Antonio had taken care to destroy all the boats. A Spanish officer marched ten miles along the bank, and still

could find nothing. At last he saw a good-sized boat in the middle of the river, and in it were three Portuguese. He placed all his men in ambush but himself and one other; they dressed themselves in miserable clothes, and cried to the boatmen to take them in, for that the Spaniards had stripped them of all they had. The Portuguese believed them, and took them in: the officer fired a pistol; his men rushed out and seized the boat. Thus, being able to cross the river, they collected about twenty other boats; with these the army made a shift to pass, and the Portuguese, who ought to have opposed its landing, fled. Antonio fought another battle under the walls of Coimbra: he was defeated, and driven into the city, and the Spanish entered along with him. He escaped to Viana, (in Entre-Douro-e-Minho,) and there embarked; but the sea was rough, and he was obliged to put back. Parties of Spaniards were pursuing him in all directions: a large reward was offered for his body, dead or alive, and it seemed that he could not escape. His adventures were something like those of our own Prince Charles Edward. He remained some months in the country, and at length fled into France.

Philip now thought that he might safely come and take the government of his new possessions: at Thomar he assembled the States, and swore to observe the laws and rights of the kingdom. He was naturally very stern; but now he tried to be as obliging and gentle as possible. But he came hated, and he remained hated. He excepted fifty-three persons from the general pardon, of whom Antonio was, of course, one. He stayed two years in Portugal, and in that time was acknowledged by Portuguese Asia and Africa. The Azores alone refused to acknowledge him, till they were subdued by the Marquis of Santa Cruz, who defeated Antonio and his French and English allies in a sea fight.

I have already told you that the Portuguese could not be persuaded of Sebastian's death. In 1585 appeared an impostor, who pretended to be this prince; but he was soon arrested, and carried to Lisbon, where, instead of being put to death,—to which he was condemned,—he was sent to the galleys. Two years before, Alvares, a monk of Cintra, had become a hermit near Ericena. The people believed him to be Sebastian; he assured them that he was not: but they were not to

be persuaded. He was at last persuaded to take up arms : he wrote to Cardinal Albert, regent of the kingdom, to leave Lisbon and Portugal : and he was not taken without difficulty, and being brought into Lisbon on an ass, was hung.

Antonio, in the mean time, was not idle. He lived for some years at Paris ; but finding that the civil wars in that country left the French no men for foreign service, he went into England, and arrived there just after the defeat of the Spanish Armada. The English were not only eager to be revenged on Philip, but persuaded, after their great victory, that they could not fail of conquering any Spanish army. The promises that Antonio made proved him to be a villain, and Elizabeth ought to have paid no attention to him. He engaged to pay her a large sum for her forces, and an annual tribute when he should be King of Portugal ; to receive English garrisons in the principal fortresses ; and to give Lisbon up to a twelve days' plunder : 20,000 men sailed from Plymouth, and landed at Corunna. Antonio was proclaimed king at Torres Vedras, and the invaders advanced towards Lisbon. But not a single Portuguese joined them : the garrison of

Lisbon made so effectual a sally that the English were thrown into confusion, and after seizing on the fortress of Cascaes, determined to return. Thus this enterprise ended almost as disgracefully for us, as that of the Spanish Armada had done for Philip.

After this [1594] there was yet another impostor, who pretended to be Sebastian. He appeared in a convent of Spain, but was seized and hung before he had done any mischief. In the same year, the Cardinal Regent of Portugal was made Archbishop of Toledo, and five commissioners were appointed in his place. Philip died in 1598 and with him ended the greatness of the Spanish empire.

CHAPTER XXII.

PHILIP II. (III. OF SPAIN.,

A.D. 1598—1621.

Of this reign I have hardly anything to tell you, because its events properly belong to the history of Spain. Philip was a weak man, and was persuaded to hate his Portuguese subjects. He once visited them : but they were none the better for his coming, and he left them more discontented than he found them. The nobles of Castile behaved haughtily to those of Portugal : taxes were imposed to which the States had not given their consent. Portuguese money was carried into Spain : and even the revenues of religious houses were seized by the king. Still the Portuguese endured the oppression of the king and the insults

of his ministers : but endurance could not last for ever.

Now let us see what was the state of Portuguese affairs in India. It was declining, but not very fast, and advantages were continually gained. Goa was made an archbishoprick ; a large college of the Jesuits was founded there, as well as an Inquisition. Malacca and Cochin were made the sees of bishops, under Goa. Menezes, the Archbishop of Goa, at the accession of Philip II. made a visitation of great part of India, in which he encountered great difficulties, and exposed himself to much danger. He was a good and a bold man ; and though his conduct to the Syrian heretics, of whom I have already spoken, was not always wise nor just, he did much good, and left the memory of his zeal behind him. His most famous act was the assembling of a synod at Diamper, which he opened on the 20th of June, 1599, and which was intended to bring the Syrian Christians into a perfect union and communion with the Roman Church.

Some time after this the viceroyalty of India was divided into three separate governments : that of *India*, which contained all the Portuguese

settlements from the island of Soeotra, the most easterly point of Africa, to the island of Ceylon: that of *Malacca*, which contained everything eastward of this: and that of *Monomotapa*, which embraced Africa.

The Dutch had rebelled against Philip of Spain, in 1579: and shortly after this their East India Company was formed. In 1602, the first English fleet sailed for India: and now danger and trouble beset the Portuguese on all sides. There were probably no men who ever made themselves more like devils than the Dutch in India; their barbarities are beyond belief, and they stirred up heathen princes to persecute the Church of God. The Dutch, in time, drove the Portuguese from Ceylon: the Persians took Ormuz: and Goa itself was not secure against Holland. It is quite impossible to tell you of all the battles that were fought between the Portuguese governors and the Dutch admirals, and the heathen princes: I should only perplex and tire you.

In Japan, though the Portuguese had no empire, their missionaries were spreading the Church far and wide. S. Francis Xavier had

arrived there in 1549 : in 1582 three kings had already embraced the faith : in 1587, the Japanese Christians were reckoned at 200,000. But in 1588 a persecution broke out, which lasted for ten years, and in which many Martyrs glorified God. In 1598 it ceased by the death of the emperor : in the next year 40,000 pagans were converted, and the year after that, 30,000 ; and fifty new churches were built. But in 1602 the persecution broke out again, and continued during that whole century, till it had destroyed the Japanese Church. It would take a whole book to describe the martyrdoms of even a few of those that suffered in it. In 1609 the emperor forbade all Europeans to trade to his states, with the exception of the Dutch, because they sent no missionaries and made no converts. And this must suffice for the reign of Philip II., who died in March, 1621.

CHAPTER XXIII.

PHILIP III. (IV. OF SPAIN.)

A.D. 1621—1640.

As I have nothing to tell you of Portugal, during the reign of this bad man and worthless king, let us see what was doing in Brazil. In 1621 the Dutch had formed their West India Company, and one of its objects was to drive the Portuguese out of Brazil. Admiral Willekens, in 1624, took S. Salvador, then the capital, and Diego de Mendoça, the governor, was sent prisoner to Holland. Then the Dutch, by using the Spanish flag in the harbour, enticed many vessels there and obtained great plunder. These news were received with the greatest grief in Portugal: and even Philip wrote to his subjects to console them,

and to promise them his assistance. The allied Portuguese and Spanish fleet took S. Salvador again, April 20, 1626.

But Portugal was in a miserable condition. A large fleet perished in a tempest off the coast of France: the Dutch insulted Lisbon itself. Pernambuco, in Brazil, fell into the hands of the West India Company; a Portuguese fleet, sent to recover it, was defeated in two engagements, and almost destroyed: Count Maurice, of Nassau, [1636,] won still more important victories, and half Brazil was in the hands of the Dutch. Fernando Mascarenhas was sent out to oppose them with forty-six vessels: the Portuguese thought themselves certain of recovering their old conquests, but the plague broke out in their fleet, and carried off 3000 men. Mascarenhas was not discouraged: he disembarked at S. Salvador, collected all the men and vessels that he could find, and, with ninety-three ships of different sizes, gave the invaders battle. Never was success worse. In four different engagements the Portuguese were entirely defeated: many perished: many were driven on to the coast, where some died of thirst: strife broke out between the

Spanish and Portuguese troops : and of all that great armament only six vessels went back. Such was the diabolical fury of the Dutch soldiers, that the Marquis of Montalvão, the Portuguese Viceroy, found it necessary to demand from Count Maurice a meeting of commissioners to determine as to what was lawful and unlawful when Christian nations were at war. This assembly had met, when most surprising news arrived from Portugal, to which we must now return.

You remember that when Philip II. of Spain seized on Portugal, the Duke of Bragança was the true heir of the kingdom. This right, of course, descended to his heirs, and they had never lost sight of it. The present Duke of Bragança behaved with great prudence : he appeared wholly given up to hunting and feasting, while he had secret agents all over the kingdom, stirring up the people to hatred against the Spaniards, and reminding them of their old line of kings. Insurrections broke out in several places, more particularly at Lisbon and Evora : but the duke had nothing to do with them, because he felt that the time was not come for him to declare himself.

In the mean time, Philip, who suspected that some conspiracy was forming in Portugal, summoned the chief nobles and prelates to Madrid, on important business. What passed there is not known. It is generally said that the king's design was to make Portugal into a province, so that its parliament was to be joined with that of Spain. It is also said that, whatever was the demand made, the nobles returned for answer, We can do nothing without the consent of the Cortes.

In the mean time the conspiracy in favour of the Portuguese rights became very formidable. More than forty noblemen and gentlemen were concerned in it, and among them was the Archbishop of Lisbon. The first meeting was held at Lisbon, Oct. 11, 1640, and it was then determined to offer the crown to the Duke of Bragança. He at first hesitated to accept the proposal; but it was necessary for him to do something: he had orders to lead a body of Portuguese into Spain to fight against the Catalonians, who were in revolt, and when there he would be completely in Philip's power. Confirmed by the advice of his duchess, on whom he greatly depended, he told the conspirators at length that he would live and

die with them. The Duchess of Mantua now governed Lisbon as vice-queen : and a heavy tax imposed on Portugal made the people willing to join in any rebellion. Still there was great danger : the secret was known to so many : and the Spanish court was so suspicious. The conspirators continued to hold their meetings till Sunday, Nov. 20, and then it was finally determined that the rising should take place at Lisbon on the 1st of December. The ten days which yet remained were to be spent in preparing the people for the revolt. This perilous task was undertaken by João Pinto, one of the most zealous partizans of the league : and he succeeded so well that the greater part of the magistrates of Lisbon entered more or less warmly into it. There was much disputing about whose lives should be taken : some proposèd that the Archbishop of Braga, as violently attached to the Spanish yoke, should be slain : but it was finally agreed that Miguel Vasconcellos, secretary of state to the vice-queen, a man hated by the Portuguese, should perish alone. The Duke of Bragança prepared, as well as he could, the province of Alentejo to rise on his behalf ; and all things

seemed going on favourably, when the duke received a letter from the Duke of Olivares, Prime Minister to the King of Spain, commanding him, without loss of time, to come to Madrid. He made answer that he would be there in eight days, and sent forward some of his servants on the road. Then he wrote to the conspirators to lose no time. "One of two things," he said: "either you must rise, or I must go to Madrid."

There was one João da Costa, who had always seemed a courageous man, and a mortal enemy of the Spaniards; and Antonio de Almeida, one of the league, thought he would gladly enter into the conspiracy; so he told him of it. "I will have nothing to do with it," answered Da Costa, "it is a mad enterprise: you have neither men nor provision: and the Duke of Bragança will be the first to betray you." "Coward!" cried Almeida: "you have my secret, and I will have your life." He drew his sword, and rushed at him: Da Costa leaped out of the way, and cried, "Stop! stop! I will join you, and swear secrecy." He bound himself by the most solemn oaths not to reveal what he had heard. But Almeida did not altogether trust him: and when he told the other con-

spirators, they cried out that the plan was ruined. Many were of opinion that the rising must be put off for some days, till the advice of the Duke of Bragança could be obtained. But João de Pinto was firm. "Now or never!" he said: "delay is certain destruction." And he brought the rest of his friends over to his opinion; and the 1st of December was still the day fixed.

But on the afternoon of the 30th of November Miguel Vasconcellos left the palace, and crossed the Tagus. "Now," said the league, "all is over with us! The secretary has heard of the conspiracy, and is gone to send for troops." There was the greatest confusion and distress, but it did not last long: at nightfall the secretary came back, having only been out to a dinner party. The conspirators met for the last time in the Duke of Bragança's palace: Lisbon was quiet: no one seemed to have any suspicion: the guards remained at their posts as usual. The leaguers agreed to meet early on the following morning at the houses of the principal chiefs, not later than nine o'clock. Each knew what he had to do. One party were to fall on the Castilian, another on the Swiss life-guard: another to throw Miguel de Vasconcellos

from a window of the palace, by way of terrifying the opposite party : another to proclaim the Duke of Bragança King of Portugal, by the title of João IV. The duke himself was too prudent to enter Lisbon : he remained at his country seat of Villa-Viçosa, and an express was to be sent to him with tidings. Having settled this, the conspirators went home, and passed the night in the deepest anxiety. It was a bold step. They had no soldiers, no allies, nothing to fall back upon : nothing, under God, to trust to, but the hatred of the people for the Castilian yoke. They must win all, or lose all, in the course of a few hours. The ladies who were in the secret encouraged their sons, and armed them with their own hands, and sent them forth to fight for their country. Nine o'clock had hardly struck, when the conspirators entered the court of the palace, well armed, and full of resolution. They divided themselves into two bodies, and waited for the signal : Almeida and a few others went into a room of the palace, called the "Sala dos Tudescos." A pistol was fired as the signal : Almeida, drawing his sword, cried, "Liberty ! God save Dom João IV., King of Portugal !" De Mello fell on the

Castilian guard : the Spaniards retreated to the guard-room, calling to their comrades for help : but they were soon forced to join in the general cry. Almeida attacked the Swiss, who yielded in a moment : the people flocked to the outside of the palace, and the brave chief spoke to them from a window. Voice after voice took up the cry : " God save King João IV., and death to all his enemies !"

João Pinto, with some of the boldest of the league, as soon as the entrance of the palace was secure, rushed to the apartments of Vasconcellos. The corregidor, Francisco Soares, who was with the secretary, and had heard an uproar, came out to quiet it, and met them. " What is the matter ?" he cried. " What are you seeking ?" " God save Dom João IV.!" they shouted : " Long live the King of Portugal !" " God save King Dom Philip IV., King of Spain and Portugal !" answered the corregidor : and they were the last words he ever spoke : for a pistol shot stretched him on the ground. They next met Antonio Correa, under-secretary, and left him for dead ; but he made a shift to escape. In the mean time an officer burst into the secretary's rooms, and conjured him to

escape. "Cæsar," replied Vasconcellos, "went to the senate, though he was warned of his danger: fortune may do with me as she will." But an old woman, who had long served him, burst into tears, and besought him to hide himself. And now the steps and shouts of the conspirators were heard: and Vasconcellos, terrified, hid himself in a cupboard. Hardly was he shut in, when Pinto and his companions burst into the room: they looked round it, but could not find him: they caught hold of the servant, and demanded where he was. She was overpowered by fear, and pointed to the wall, in which the cupboard was ingeniously concealed. They drew out the secretary, shot, stabbed, and threw him out of window, where his corpse was treated by the rabble with every possible outrage. The vice-queen, meanwhile, heard of the outbreak, and throwing open the window of the room in which she was sitting, she cried for help, and, at the same time, tried to address the people. Almeida and many others entered her room, and, while treating her with all respect, refused to permit her to leave it. "Gentlemen," she said with courage, "you are sufficiently revenged. You have slain the minis-

ter you hated,—now return to your obedience : I pledge my word to obtain his majesty's pardon." The Archbishop of Braga, who was with her, tried to speak. "My lord," said Almeida, "be silent : I have had trouble enough already to obtain that your life should be spared. And you, madam,"—to the vice-queen,—“had better retire to your own apartment : the people no longer acknowledge the King of Spain, and you may be insulted.” “I shall leave the palace,” said the queen. “I hope, madam, you will not try to do so,” said De Noronha ; “or we shall be forced to fail in the respect we owe you.” “As how ?” asked the duchess. “Madam,” replied De Noronha, “by throwing you out of window.” The archbishop seized a sword, and tried to cut the conspirator down : Almeida held the prelate, and forced him to retire. The duchess made no further resistance, and went to her own apartment.

The city was now secured : but the castle was still in the hands of the Spanish garrison. The conspirators again went to the vice-queen and demanded from her a note to the governor, enjoining him to deliver the fortress to the bearers. At first she refused : but when they threatened to

take off the heads of all the Spaniards in the city, she signed the paper, hoping that the governor would see that it was extorted from her, and refuse to obey it. But the governor was a coward, and throwing open the gates, thought himself happy to escape with his life. In like manner, the duchess was compelled to sign orders for the surrender of the strongest places about Lisbon.

As soon as the castle was secured, an express was sent off to Villa-Viçosa, which is about eighty miles from Lisbon, to acquaint the duke with the success of the conspiracy. The Archbishop of Lisbon and the canons sang *Te Deum* in the cathedral, at which the conspirators were present; and the good prelate was then persuaded to take upon himself the regency, till the king should arrive. Multitudes followed him to the palace: the great standard of Portugal was displayed: and the vice-queen and Archbishop of Braga returned to Xabregas. The greater part of the citizens were somewhat perplexed to know who João IV. was, so retired had been the life of the duke: and the joy that reigned in the city, when all was explained, was beyond measure great. Sixty years of slavery had only made true liberty the sweeter.

CHAPTER XXIV.

House of Bragança.

DOM JOÃO IV.,

SURNAMED THE RESTORER.

A.D. 1640—1656.

THE king, having received the joyful news, set forward, on the 3rd of December, to Lisbon; where he made a triumphant entry. But still, though he was now acknowledged in Portugal and Algarves, he was not secure. He made the best preparations in his power: he sent ambassadors to England, France, and Holland, and was acknowledged by all of them: in due time the Indies and Brazil recognised his title: Tangier and Terceira alone held out, but were compelled to surrender. The States met, and proclaimed him their king, and his son, Dom Theodosio, heir to the crown.

Spain of course declared war : but Philip was taken up by the Catalonian revolt, and could bring no large army into the field. The most singular thing was, that the Dutch, who were carrying on a cruel war against the Portuguese in Brazil, became their zealous allies in Europe : and an allied Portuguese and Dutch fleet actually defeated a Spanish squadron.

The revolution which placed João on the throne cost but little bloodshed : but it was not to be expected that every one should be satisfied. The nobles, especially, could not bear that one of themselves should be preferred to all the rest : and the Archbishop of Braga did all in his power to increase the discontents. A conspiracy was formed, which was discovered, and the archbishop died in prison : and soon after a more dangerous plot was hatched. There was one Domingos Leite, a man of the worst character, and a native of Lisbon. He went to Madrid, and offered, on the promise of a large reward, to murder the king. To this end, he came back into Portugal, and hired a house in Lisbon, by which the king and all the court were to pass, in a public procession, determining to shoot him from a window, and

then to escape by a back way. But, when the time came, his courage failed him; and he stood at the open window without doing anything. The Spanish ministers made still greater offers;—and Leite returned to Lisbon, determining to carry out his plan. But he revealed it to a friend of his, by whom it was laid before the government: Leite was arrested and put to death. The war still continued, and generally to the advantage of the Portuguese. In the battle of Campo Maior [1644] and at Telhena, they defeated superior Spanish forces: it being observed that the Portuguese were routed by the Castilian cavalry, and that the infantry, by its courage, restored the day.

But the successes of the Portuguese, in Brazil, were most remarkable. When João IV. came to the throne, half that country, as I said, was in the hands of the Dutch. They were continually sending fresh troops, and he continually recalling soldiers for his Spanish war, and yet the Brazilian Portuguese gained one battle after another, and gained stronghold after stronghold, till, in 1654, Arcassa, with a few other places, were surrendered, and the invaders entirely driven out of Brazil. This was partly the consequence

of Oliver Cromwell's victories over the Dutch, which prevented their sending fresh troops to America. But in India, the case was different: for in 1650, the Dutch completed the expulsion of the Portuguese from Ceylon, and, in their treaties with the native princes, wickedly made it an article, that no missionaries should be allowed in their dominions. Yet all this while the Dutch troops were assisting João in the Spanish war.

In the mean time, the state of the royal family was not happy. The Infante Theodosio, a prince of great promise, died at the age of nineteen. The next heir, the Infante Alfonso, was a child, and of a very bad disposition; and the king was in a declining state of health, and threatened with the dropsy. He was not a great man; he showed his want of courage at the time of the conspiracy, and still more so afterwards. If, instead of exposing his kingdom to the miseries of continual invasions, he had boldly marched to Madrid, he could hardly have failed, in the then weakness of the Spanish empire, to have taken it. He was jealous of the talents of his son Theodosio, and would not allow him any share in the government. He became worse and worse, the

physicians gave him over, and with great constancy and resignation he departed this life, Nov. 6, 1656; having lived fifty-two years, and reigned sixteen.

CHAPTER XXV.

ALFONSO VI.,

SURNAMED THE VICTORIOUS.

A.D. 1656—1667.

THE new king was so wild and ungovernable, that the queen was appointed regent, not only till he should be of age, but till the States should declare him fit to govern. She was a Spaniard, of the house of Medina Sidonia, and the people at first suspected that she could not be in earnest in carrying on the Spanish war. She soon convinced them that they did her injustice. She raised men, and made preparations with great spirit, but there probably was never a war more feebly carried on. Neither the Spanish nor Portuguese officers knew what they were about, and they both, in turn, made the most miserable blunders.

Yet [1660] when Catalonia was subdued, and the Spaniards could turn all their strength against Portugal, its end seemed near. But the queen raised foreign troops, and put them under the command of Marshal Schomberg, the most famous general of his time. The Infanta Catherine was married to Charles II. of England: with her, Bombay and Tangier, and a large sum of money, were given as dowry; and in return for this, some English regiments were sent into Portugal. The Spanish, on their side, were now commanded by Dom John of Austria, also a famous commander. The war was carried on with more vigour, and therefore less cruelty, on both sides. The Portuguese lost and regained Evora; Dom John was defeated with loss, and some time after resigned his command; and the battle of Villa-Viçosa, in which Caracene, who succeeded him, was routed, delivered Portugal from all fear of the Spanish yoke.

In the east, Ceulan was besieged by the Dutch [1661] and taken; they next gained Negapatam and Cranganor, and then ventured to attack Cochin itself [1662.] In the first siege, they were compelled to retire by bad weather; in the

second, [1663] they took that strong city, and thus gave the death-blow to the Portuguese dominion in India.

The missions in Cochin China were now prospering. The Church had been planted there in 1615, by two Jesuits, whom the violence of the persecutions had driven from Japan. It had to suffer many afflictions. The first martyrdom took place in 1664, and the fury of the storm lasted till 1677. At that time there were 100,000 Christians in the kingdom, and they afterwards increased. The missionaries, for many years, came and returned with the Portuguese trading vessels from Macao, not being allowed to remain in the country.

But during all this time, the condition of the court of Lisbon was deplorable. As he grew up, Alfonso took to himself a band of ruffians, with whom he committed all kind of excesses; he rushed about the streets by night, breaking windows, knocking at doors, and frightening whomever he met. Then he took to robbing and murdering, till the citizens would bear it no longer. The palace was turned into a house of lodging for the worst of people: the Council of

State interfered: the queen regent tried to persuade her son, but in vain. In 1662, he forced her to give up the regency: then he and his companions took to committing highway robbery, and once attacked the citizens in a procession. When the comet of 1665 appeared, he fired a pistol and swore at it.

It was thought that if he were married, things might go on better; and the wife he chose was Mademoiselle d'Aumale, daughter to the Duke of Nemours: but the only change was that, to all his other crimes, he added ill-treatment to his queen.

Pedro, the brother of Alfonso, was very different from him in character, and saw, in all these disturbances, a way by which he himself might reach the crown. The queen, too, a wicked woman, liked him better than her husband, and promised, if Alfonso could be dethroned, to marry him. Pedro began quietly to excite discontent: and a Lisbon mob is easily raised. The crowd surrounded the palace [1667], demanding that the wicked companions of the king should be punished; and Alfonso showed so much cowardice, that his people began to despise as much as they had hated him. The queen left the palace, and

took refuge in a Franciscan convent: and what follows, is the eternal disgrace of herself and her brother-in-law. She published a letter to the king, declaring that he had never treated her as his wife, and that she would not live with him any longer. Alfonso hurried to the convent, and demanded to see her: the gates were shut: Pedro came up with a body of men, and obliged him to return into the palace. Next morning, before he was up, a band of counsellors and others entered the king's bed-room, and forced him to resign the crown, Pedro being appointed regent. Alfonso was condemned to be imprisoned during the rest of his life: it was agreed that he should be treated well. The States met, and requested the queen to marry Pedro. For this a dispensation was necessary. The Cardinal de Vendôme, her uncle, gave one; and thus this wicked and adulterous marriage was celebrated. Afterwards, an application to the Pope was made to confirm it: and Clement IX. did that at once which Innocent III., or S. Gregory VII. would have refused, though it had cost them their lives.

CHAPTER XXVI.

DOM PEDRO II.,

SURNAMED THE PACIFIC.

REGENT, 1668—1683: KING, 1683—1707.

A CONSPIRACY was formed on behalf of King Alfonso, but it was discovered, and he was banished to the Azores. Had not Spain been miserably weak, Portugal, by means of all these quarrels, must have returned to the Castilian yoke. But, as it was, both parties were tired of the war: and by the peace of Lisbon, in which our Charles II. had a hand, Spain renounced for ever all claims on Portugal. The kingdom being now in a state of perfect peace, Alfonso was brought back to Portugal, and spent the rest of his days in the beautiful palace at Coimbra, where he died in 1683. The wicked queen died in the same year.

Pedro was engaged in the celebrated and bloody "war of the succession." This properly belongs to Spanish history, but I must say a few words about it here. On the death of Charles II. of Spain the succession was disputed. There were two more especially who professed to be heirs; the Dauphin of France, and Leopold, Emperor of Germany. But as Europe, for the sake of preserving the balance of power, (which has been explained in the History of England,) would not suffer two such powerful kingdoms as Spain and France, or Germany and Spain, to be united under one and the same king, the dauphin resigned in favour of his brother Philip of Anjou, and the emperor in favour of the Archduke Charles, his younger son. Europe was divided on one side or the other: France, the Pope, and Spain itself, were on that of Philip, who was acknowledged king: England, Holland, and Germany, on that of the archduke; and with these last Pedro joined himself. The war lasted for several years with different success. The English generals, more especially Lord Peterborough, did wonders; for there are no better troops in the world than Portuguese and Spanish when officered by English leaders. Philip was

driven from Madrid: the allied army made a triumphant entry there. But the king, in his ill fortune, showed greater talents and courage than hitherto he had been known to possess: his cause was felt to be the cause of the nation; every little village poured out its men and money: the allies commanded no further than where they were actually encamped, and the great battle of Almanza relieved Philip from his most pressing danger.

Pedro did not live to see this time. He departed this life in 1706.

CHAPTER XXVII.

J O Ã O V.

SURNAMED THE MOST FAITHFUL.

A.D. 1706—1750.

You will think that I am telling you but little of these later Portuguese kings. The truth is, that they did very little either for good or for bad; and though the nation was probably much happier than under those princes of whom I have had so much more to say, history, unfortunately, is not a record of happy times or of joyful events.

By the peace of Utrecht [1713], the war of the succession was ended: a war in which, if Portugal had gained no profit, she had experienced no loss. João was now at liberty to turn all his thoughts to the arts and the literature of his country. During the Castilian usurpation the

Portuguese language had lost much of its purity. Spanish words and phrases had been introduced, and fifty years' longer bondage would probably have turned it into a kind of corrupt Castilian. There were no authors of any note. Literature was as low as it could be. João established the Royal Academy of History, which was at first a very useful body; latterly it has done little.

João resolved to build some great edifice which should make his name famous. He erected the Convent of Mafra on a most magnificent scale. The works of the clocks, chimes, and bells, of which there are a vast number, were so exceedingly expensive, that the Dutch manufacturers, to whom the order was given, were afraid that the kingdom of Portugal was not rich enough to pay for them. They accordingly wrote back to Lisbon, saying that the king was perhaps not aware of the cost he was incurring, and had better think again. João said that he should wish to alter the order, and accordingly so changed it as to involve double the expense. Portugal was rich with the long peace, and with the Brazilian colonies.

The king had also found that great delay was occasioned by having to send to Rome for dispen-

sations, and also by appeals from the Portuguese ecclesiastical court. He thought of refusing to acknowledge the Pope's supremacy altogether, but was providentially hindered from this step. The Pope was willing to make all proper concessions, and accordingly raised the archbishopric of Lisbon into a patriarchate. The patriarch was allowed to give dispensations in many cases, and to receive some appeals, which had before been reserved to Rome. But though this bishop is called a patriarch, you must not imagine that he is so in the full sense of the word: for there are only five real patriarchs; those of Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem.

João moreover took great interest in college education, and introduced some reforms into it: he was also careful that justice should be strictly administered.

He was married to Mariana of Austria, and had many children, of whom only three survived him.

In 1742 he was seized with a painful illness, which he never entirely lost, and which he bore

with great patience and courage. He died, much regretted by all his subjects, in 1750. He had taken the title of *Most Faithful King*, and it has been adopted by all his successors.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

JOSÉ.

A.D. 1750—1777.

WE meet now with one of the most remarkable statesmen of modern times, José de Carvalho, better known as the Marquis de Pombal. He had been born in 1699, near Coimbra; and, after gaining some little notice for his talents, he was sent by João V. as envoy to London.

Here he remained for six years, but without exciting any particular attention. He was busily engaged in comparing, in his own mind, England with Portugal, and began to think of making great reforms in his own country if ever he should have the power to do so. In 1745 he was sent to Vienna, where he married, as his second wife, a lady who had been a favourite of Queen Mariana;

so that when Carvalho returned to Lisbon he had hopes of making his way. But old king João, who was too good-natured to hate many things, did hate a reformer with all his heart; and Carvalho tried to induce some of the king's favourites to be his own friends. In particular, he spent much time in endeavouring to procure the good-will of the Jesuits; and because he failed in this, took a violent hatred to the whole of that body.

When José succeeded, Carvalho was made one of the three secretaries of state, and from that time forward had more influence than any one else. While he was gradually preparing the way to expel the Jesuits from the Portuguese dominions, Lisbon was visited with a dreadful judgment. On All Saints Day, 1755, at half-past nine in the morning, the celebrated earthquake began.—Almost every one was at church, and thousands thus perished. Whole streets were rolling about, first one way and then the other: the dust that rose from the falling buildings made it as dark as night: a fire broke out, and destroyed what the earthquake had spared, being driven on by a strong wind. The city was covered with showers of flame like hail: the streets were full of mangled

or half-consumed corpses,—the cellars and ruins, of those who vainly cried for help. Multitudes fled, without any property, into the country. Bands of robbers infested the city, and for fifteen days return thither was not safe. The king demanded hopelessly of Carvalho, “What is to be done?” “Feed the living and bury the dead,” he answered; and, to set an example to others, he passed days and nights together in his carriage or on horseback. Soldiers were placed in all parts of the ruins: whoever could not give a clear account of the property he had with him was hung. Three hundred and fifty persons thus perished. The exportation of grain was prohibited: foreign grain was allowed to be imported duty free. The granaries were thrown open at moderate prices, and beasts were sent for from all parts of the kingdom. Much of the good management then shown was owing to Carvalho. England and Spain both sent money and provisions for the relief of the sufferers. It was for some time debated whether the seat of government should not be removed to Brazil, since Rio de Janeiro was well fitted to be the head of an empire, and there would no longer be the continual

danger of a Spanish invasion. But Carvalho's influence prevailed against the design.

A few years afterwards, a conspiracy broke out, as hard to understand as any in history. Carvalho was the declared enemy of the nobility, whom he tried to humble in every possible way: he was also an enemy to the Church. As King José was known to be completely under his influence, it was resolved to place Pedro, the king's brother, on the throne. All that is known with certainty is, that on the night of Sept. 3, 1758, the king, passing along the streets, in a carriage with only one attendant, was fired at, though the powder flashed in the pan: the coachman turned the carriage round: two more shots were fired, and one wounded the king in the arm. The matter was made a great mystery: Carvalho was busy in finding out the names of the conspirators; and at length the Duke of Aveiro, a rude, savage nobleman, the Marchioness of Tavora, and her two sons, were arrested. They were confined in dens which, before the earthquake, had been used for wild beasts, and executed at Belem, near Lisbon, on the 12th of January, 1759. Carvalho's enemies declared that the conspiracy was entirely

a contrivance of his own, in order to remove those noblemen whom he hated most : Carvalho, on the other hand, said, that, if he had done his duty, the streets of Lisbon would have been swimming with the blood of noblemen. Many persons were left in prison for eighteen years, on the ground of having been concerned in this plot. Carvalho tried to persuade the king that Dom Pedro was guilty, but José was too tender-hearted a man to allow any harm to be done to his own brother.

The minister next accused the Jesuits of having been at the bottom of this plot. This order had become hateful throughout Europe, too often, from their intermeddling spirit, but chiefly on account of the stand which they made against the infidelity then overwhelming Europe like a flood. Great instance was made to Pope Clement XIII. to suppress the order; but one hundred and eighty bishops of different countries signed a paper in which they requested him to stand by it to the last. Carvalho, finding there was no hope of suppressing his enemies, caused them to be all, at different times, embarked in Portuguese vessels, and landed in Italy. There the Pope did what he could for them: but their

numbers made the assistance he could give nearly useless, and they wandered about the Italian cities in great poverty and wretchedness. This led to an open quarrel between Rome and Lisbon, which lasted for some time; and it was to defend the position of the Portuguese that Antonio Pereira, the most learned divine Portugal ever produced, wrote his famous *Tentativa Theologica*. The dispute lasted till Clement XIV. became Pope: he suppressed the Jesuits, and a good understanding between Portugal and Rome was restored.

José had no sons, and he was thus in great difficulty. If he married his daughters to a foreign family, they would lose all right to succeed: if he married them to any Portuguese noblemen, he would discontent all those that were not so honoured. So Maria, his eldest daughter, actually, by a dispensation from the Pope, married her own uncle Pedro. To this marriage Carvalho was much opposed, Dom Pedro being his greatest enemy. But his opposition was in vain.

In 1761, what is called "the family compact" was made between Spain and France. By this it was agreed, that as the two kings were of the same family, so their kingdoms should have but one

and the same interest. They commanded Portugal to join this alliance, and Carvalho refused. At that time there were but 8000 men in the army, and they so wretchedly provided, that the very sentinels used to beg. But England sent the Count de Lippe, as general : the Spanish invaded Tralos Montes, and had to retreat with loss ; and in the general peace of 1763, Portugal was included. In time, the army was raised to the number of 35,000 men.

Carvalho caused Lisbon to be rebuilt on a magnificent scale. He encouraged agriculture, and abolished slavery in Portugal, it having been held, till that time, that the descendants of a slave could never be free. José died in 1777 : and was considered by his people the best king that they had possessed since the time of João III.

CHAPTER XXIX.

MARIA I.

A:D. 1777—1816.

It is said that Pombal had wished to exclude Maria from the throne, and to place her son João on it. In this he was disappointed, and therefore had everything to fear from the vengeance of Pedro. Maria, however, treated him well; he retained his power some months longer, and was dismissed with praise. He retired to his estate at Pombal, and the queen's own guard escorted him there. He died at the age of eighty-three, in 1782. He has been by some blamed more than he deserved: he certainly did much good: yet he was a cold-blooded and cruel man, and (perhaps without meaning it) the worst enemy that the Portuguese Church has known.

Maria was a weak woman, but meant well. She continued her father's plans for promoting literature: and she established the Royal Academy of Sciences, in imitation of that of History. But the great power of France and Spain forced her into that which her father had successfully resisted—the family compact: and, at the same time, a clear division was made between the possessions of Portugal and Spain in South America; but this was done in a manner very favourable to Spain.

When the queen had reigned fifteen years, she began to show that her mind was affected, and João, her son, Prince of Brazil, was appointed regent. He declared war against France, but was soon glad to make peace. In 1799, as the queen's illness was confirmed and hopeless, he was appointed perpetual regent with the full powers of a king.

And now Napoleon Bonaparte had begun his wonderful, and no less wicked than wonderful, conquests. I am not writing the history of the Peninsular war, and shall, therefore, only put down the dates of that which chiefly concerns Portugal in it.

After 1801, João had but little real authority, but he still kept up the name and appearance of a court. In 1807, however, Napoleon declared that the house of Bragança had ceased to reign; and a large army, under General Junot, invaded Portugal. João, with all the court, embarked for Brazil, leaving Portugal to the mercy of the invaders, and carrying on the government at Rio de Janeiro. Sir Arthur Wellesley was sent to defend the country. The Portuguese on all sides flocked to his standard, and a convention was formed at Porto to carry on the government. The battle of Vimiero (Aug. 21, 1808) delivered Portugal for a time from the French invaders. But when Madrid had been taken, the French, under Marshal Soult, again entered the kingdom, defeated the Portuguese and English forces at the battle of Carvalho da Este, and took Porto. Sir Arthur Wellesley hastened to Lisbon, (where, by an odd coincidence, he arrived on S. George's day, S. George being the patron saint both of England and Portugal,) and a second time drove the French from the country. They invaded it a third time, in 1810, under Marshal Massena, when Sir Arthur Wellesley, by the position he occupied,

(generally known by the name of the Lines of Torres Vedras,) saved Lisbon : and the French, for a third time, retreated. After this they entered it no more.

After the fall of Napoleon, João did not return to Portugal, but preferred remaining at Rio Janeiro. There, on the death of Maria, he became in name, what he had been long in reality, king.

CHAPTER XXX.

J O Ã O V I.

A.D. 1816—1826.

THE Portuguese were much discontented that the seat of government should be established in a colony. They disliked the great influence that England had: and there were continual quarrellings between Marshal Beresford, the Commander-in-chief, and the Council of Regency. Marshal Beresford, therefore, thought it better to go over to Rio, and lay the state of matters before João: but while he was gone a revolution broke out (August 24, 1820) at Porto. The soldiers and the magistrates swore to obey the king, the cortes, and the "constitution:" that is, that form of government and body of laws which might hereafter be decided

on. In September, a like revolution broke out at Lisbon, and in October the two sets of leaders joined: the regency was deposed, but no blood was shed; and a message was sent over to Rio, requesting either João or his son Pedro to come over and carry on the government. João accordingly came, leaving Pedro Viceroy in Brazil: but, before he was allowed to land, the poor old king was made to swear obedience to certain new regulations that the Cortes had made, tending to diminish the royal power. Then the constitution was finally passed; it was an utter change in the laws of the country, intended to make the people more free and happy. To add to the general confusion, Pedro was persuaded to declare himself emperor of Brazil, and thus the mother country and the colony were quite separated.

But these proceedings were very hateful to the queen, and to Dom Miguel, the second son of João: and they planned a counter-revolution to bring back the old laws, and destroy the "constitution." Bad as this constitution was, and bad as were the men that had made it, this was not the way to set matters to right: however, they persuaded the king to agree with them, and to

publish an edict, by which the constitution was declared null and void. They next endeavoured to persuade João to declare himself absolute, and finding him resolute in refusing this, Dom Miguel raised troops and issued proclamations as if he had been king. João was afraid that he should not be safe in his son's hands, and escaped to an English vessel in the Tagus. Dom Miguel followed him, confessed his faults, and received permission to travel. The poor old king's last days were embittered by a threatened war with Brazil, so that there was danger of a father and son taking up arms against each. But the good nature of João prevailed: he surrendered Brazil to his son, only retaining to himself the title of Emperor. Finding that his days were drawing to an end, he appointed his daughter, Isabel, Regent of Portugal, and departed this life, March 10, 1826.

CHAPTER XXXI.

PEDRO III.

A.D. 1826.

PEDRO, of course, succeeded : and by him a constitution was given to Portugal. But, as he could not govern both Brazil and the mother-country, he resigned the crown of Portugal to his daughter, Donna Maria, on condition that she married her uncle, Dom Miguel.

CHAPTER XXXII.

MARIA II.

SURNAMED DA OLORIA.

WHILE the queen yet remained in Brazil, an attempt was made to proclaim Dom Miguel absolute king, but it failed. However he was [July, 1827] appointed lord-lieutenant of the kingdom, and hastened to Lisbon. When he arrived there he soon showed that he meant to abolish the constitution: and, though for the present he called himself regent, he was evidently intending to become king. Porto declared against him, and an army of 6000 men advanced to Lisbon, but were forced to retire. At last, when he had prepared all things, he summoned the Cortes and was proclaimed King of Portugal. Pedro, they said,

was a foreigner, and had no right to the crown himself, and therefore none to leave it to another. Maria, who was on her way to Europe, found that it would not be safe for her to land in Portugal, and therefore went to England, where she was received as queen. The reign of Miguel was one of terror: at one time 50,000 persons were under arrest.

The queen returned to Rio: there a revolution broke out, and Pedro was obliged to resign the crown to his infant son. On this, he came to England with his daughter, calling himself Duke of Bragança, and enlisted troops both here and in France. Terceira, one of the Azores, still acknowledged Maria, and thence he published a proclamation, declaring Miguel a rebel. He took possession of S. Michael's, and thence [June 27, 1832] sailed for Portugal with about 10,000 men. He first took Porto without the loss of a man: Dom Miguel advanced to its relief, and was forced to retire. But he increased his army, took Villa Nova, one of its suburbs; made a general attack, [Sept. 29,] which was repulsed; and then blockaded the city. Next year, Admiral Napier, an Englishman, was put in command of the

queen's ships: he soon after utterly destroyed Dom Miguel's fleet.

In the mean time another body of royalists had landed in Portugal, and marched towards Lisbon: Algarves acknowledged Maria, and the inhabitants of the capital rose as one man, and expelled the garrisons, proclaiming the queen. Thither Dom Pedro sailed, and France and England at once acknowledged Maria as queen. [1833.]

Miguel had still an army of 18,000 men: but one place after another deserted him, and in the battle of Almoester he was routed by the queen's troops. Still he held out at Santarem; but at length [1834] the two parties came to terms. Miguel promised to leave Portugal for ever, and to resign all his claims: in return for which he was to have all his property, and £15,000 a year. He sailed to Genoa, and there he had the wickedness to publish a proclamation to the effect that he had been forced to resign the kingdom by violence, but still was its rightful monarch.

Thus Portugal was again at peace: but a very different kingdom from that which it was in the days of its glory. Its monasteries were dissolved,

its Church impoverished, and its fleet a mere pretence.

Dom Pedro was appointed regent, and shortly after died; the queen, in 1835, married the Prince of Leuchtenburg, but he died within a few months. She then married Prince Ferdinand of Saxe Coburg, by whom she has several children.

There was another revolution in 1836, which threw still further power into the hands of the people by altering the constitution.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Sermons and Commentaries	1
Devotional	5
Theological and Scholastic	11
Ecclesiological and Architectural	15
Parochial and Church Works	18
Poetry	19
Music	20
Historical, Biographical, and Educational	22
Tales, &c.	27
Juvenile and Rewards	31
Reward Books, Classified for Prices	34
New Tracts, &c.	41
Miscellaneous	48

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