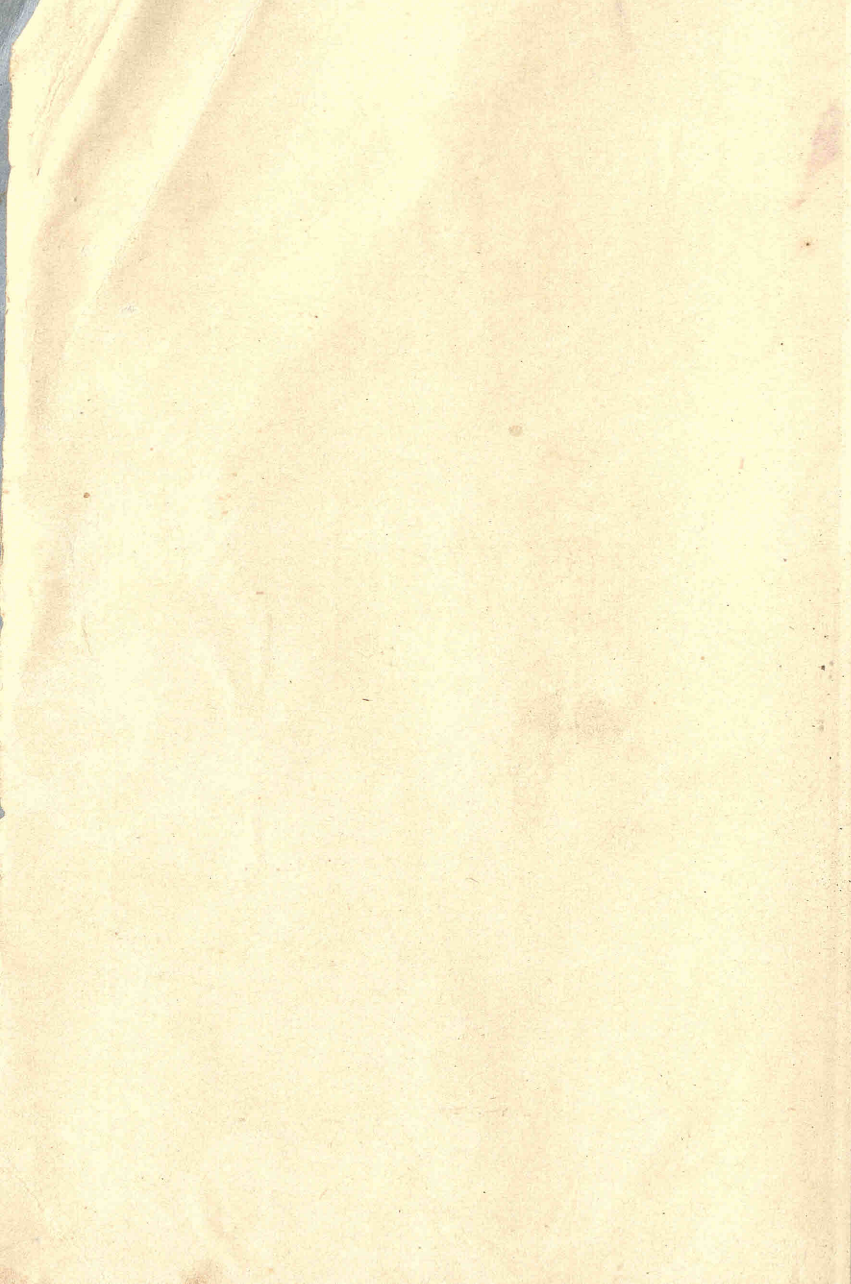


A FIRST BOOK OF
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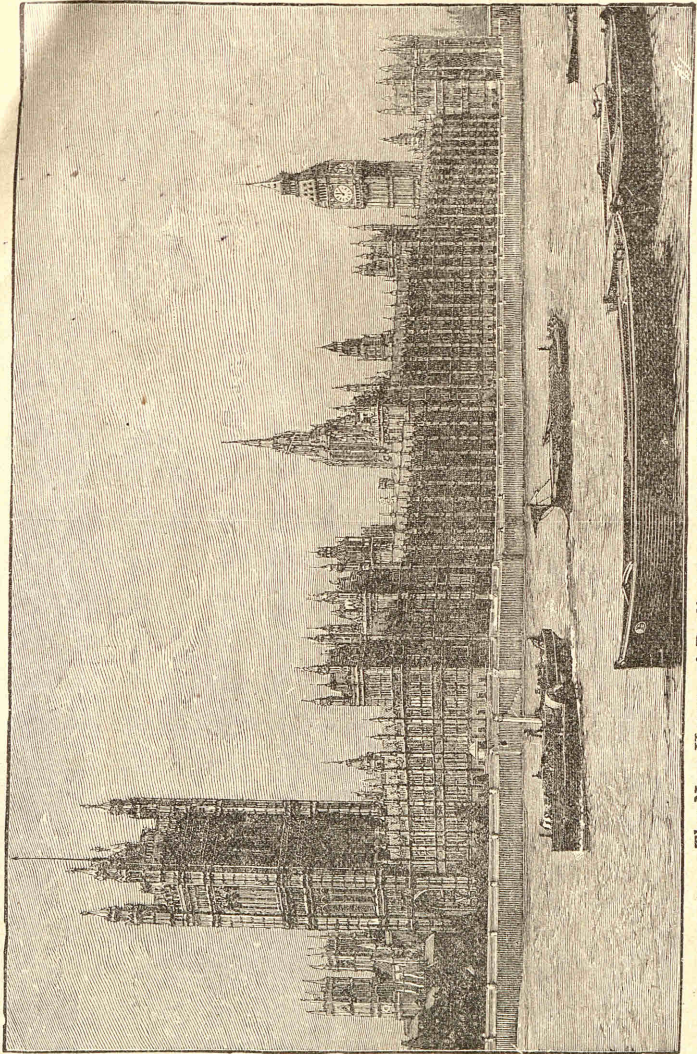


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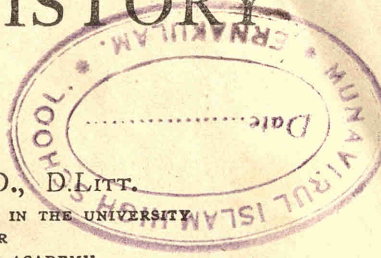
A FIRST BOOK OF BRITISH
HISTORY



The New Houses of Parliament; designed by Barry, opened 1852.

J. A. Somappan
Form 10.

A FIRST BOOK OF BRITISH HISTORY



BY

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WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

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PREFACE

THIS book is a special edition for India of "A First Book of British History," the briefest of the three volumes which jointly form my "Historical Series for Schools," based on the "Concentric System," Book I being a sketch filled in with increasing fullness in Books II and III. It has enjoyed a very considerable circulation in India, but experienced Indian advisers have suggested that the need which it has met would be more adequately filled were it more specially adapted to the wants of that country. To carry out such a revision effectively, practical experience of Indian requirements was necessary, and I count myself fortunate in having found in my old friend Sir Philip Hartog the ideal collaborator by reason of his wide experience of India and intimate knowledge of Indian education. Further help has also come from my old pupils Mr. and Mrs. John Coatman, who have read all the proofs and have made many valuable suggestions both to me in writing and to Sir Philip in personal discussions over the book at Simla. We both wish to express our gratitude to them.

Our plan for adaptation has been only to make alterations when we have seen special reasons for doing so. We have therefore kept substantially to the original plan. We have shortened the book by omitting detail of minor importance to the Indian student, while sometimes adding information on points linking up Britain and India. The scale of the book makes it impossible to do more than briefly touch upon a few of the more salient features of modern Indian History, but we believe that this will

matter the less since many of its readers will be acquainted with the special text-books devoted to this subject. We may add our hope that the changes made will not render the book unsuitable for other readers than those for whom it has been specially designed.

T. F. TOUT.

September 15th, 1927.

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CHAPTER I

The Britons and the Romans up to 410—How the English came to Britain, 410-597

Principal Person :

Julius Cæsar.

Principal Dates :

55 B.C. Cæsar invades Britain.

43 A.D. Beginning of the Roman Conquest of Britain.

410 A.D. The Romans leave Britain.

449 A.D. Beginning of the English Conquest of South Britain.

1. History is the subject that tells us what has happened to a country or a people in the past. This little book aims at telling the history of the British Islands. We all know that these islands consist of an island called *Great Britain*, now divided into England, Scotland, and Wales, and a smaller island, situated to the west of it, called *Ireland*. Two thousand years ago, however, things were very different in Britain from what they are now. There was as yet no England, for the English people, who gave England her name, had not yet crossed the seas from their old homes, which were in Germany. Southern Britain was inhabited by a people called the *Britons*, from whom the island took its name of Britain. Yet these Britons were not the first people who lived in the island. There were earlier inhabitants, but of them we have little knowledge.

2. The Britons were a tall, fair-haired race, and very brave, strong, and active. They did not live in every part of Britain. In the extreme north, in what are

now called the *Highlands of Scotland*, there lived a fiercer and more warlike race called the *Picts*, and in Ireland a race called the *Scots*. Some of these Scots afterwards crossed over from Ireland to Northern Britain, and gave that country the new name of *Scotland*; and the Scots left in Ireland were no longer called Scots, but Irish. Britons, Scots, and Irish were not,

The Picts
and Scots.



Bust of Julius Cæsar (Naples).

however, very different from each other in their habits and speech.

3. Two thousand years ago the *Romans* were the foremost among civilised nations. They took their name

from the city of *Rome* in Italy. A great Roman general, Julius Cæsar, conquered Gaul which is now called France. He then led an army to Britain, fifty-five years before the birth of Christ. The Britons fought so bravely against Cæsar that he was forced to go away. Next year, however, he managed to defeat the Britons. He did not stay long in the country, but he made the Britons pay a sort of tax called *tribute* to the Romans. Then for nearly a hundred years Britain was left to itself.

Julius Cæsar
and the
Romans.

4. During this time the Christian religion began. Forty-three years after the birth of Christ the Romans at last made up their mind to conquer Britain. The Britons fought bravely, and at last the Romans gave up trying to conquer Northern Britain. Their rule in Southern Britain lasted for more than three hundred years. The Romans brought in peace, law, and good order. They built cities, fortresses and country houses, and made a large number of roads, paved with stone. During this time the Britons adopted the faith of Christ, and many learnt Latin, the language of the Romans.

The Roman
Conquest of
South Britain.

Roman rule
in South
Britain.

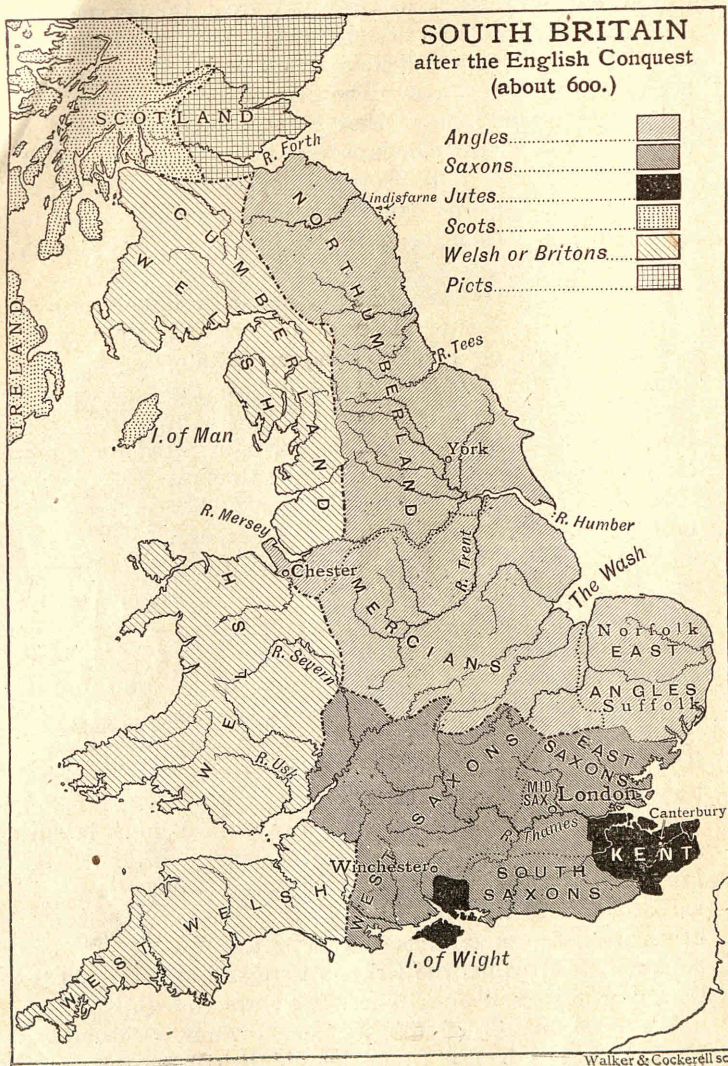
5. Grave trouble now fell upon the Romans. Their Empire was overrun by fierce German tribes, who forced the proud Romans to obey them. It became impossible for the Romans to keep any longer so distant a land as Britain. In 410 they left the island altogether.

The end of
Roman rule
in Britain.

6. After the Romans had gone away, the Britons began at once to quarrel and split up into many little tribes. Like the Romans, they were attacked by barbarous tribes. Bit by bit they were driven into the mountains of the west. The largest district which the Britons were still able to hold is that now called *Wales*. The Welsh are the direct descendants of the ancient Britons. Their language comes from the old British speech, and

The Britons
driven into
the West.

Who the
Welsh are.



their religion is that same Christian religion learnt by their forefathers from the Romans.

7. The new invaders of Britain were a North German tribe called the *English*. Their English language gradually drove out both Welsh and Latin from the parts of the island which they conquered. But it was very different from the English of to-day. The three chief tribes or divisions among the English who came to Britain were the *Jutes*, the *Saxons*, and the *Angles*. They were split up into a great many little states, each with a king of its own. The chief settlement of the Jutes was the kingdom of *Kent*. This was the first English settlement and took place in 449. The other parts of the south of England were settled by the Saxons, who set up the kingdoms of *Essex*, *Sussex*, *Wessex*, and others. The Jutes, the Saxons,

The coming of the English.

among the the Saxons,

The chief divisions among the English.

The other the Saxons,

The Jutes, the Saxons,

8. It was from the Angles that England has taken its name. England means land of the Angles. These Angles conquered Northern, Central, and Eastern England, where they established three chief kingdoms: (1) *Northumbria*, or Northumberland, the land north of the river Humber; (2) *East Anglia*, which took in Norfolk and Suffolk; and (3) the middle kingdom called *Mercia*. The above-mentioned seven kingdoms were the most important of the English kingdoms and those that lasted longest. And the Angles.

And the Angles.

9. It took about a hundred and fifty years for all these changes to take place. At last, after much fighting, there were only four English kingdoms of any importance left, Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex, and Kent. The fighting between the English Kingdoms.

The fighting between the English Kingdoms.

CHAPTER II

How the English became Christians, 597-664—The Union of England and the coming of the Danes, 664-899

Principal Persons :

Pope Gregory the Great ; Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury ; Ethelbert, King of Kent ; Edwin, King of Northumbria ; Egbert and Alfred, Kings of the West Saxons.

Principal Dates :

597. Landing of Augustine in Kent.	871. Danish invasion of Wessex. Accession of Alfred.
627. Conversion of Edwin.	878. Alfred's treaty with the Danes.
839. Death of Egbert.	899. Death of Alfred.

1. The English invaders of Britain worshipped many gods. They stamped out Christianity in all the districts which they conquered. But it was brought back again by Rome. Now, though the Roman Empire had decayed, Rome still ruled the minds of men through the Christian Bishop of Rome, who was called the *Pope*—that is, the father. He was regarded as the chief bishop of Christendom. About a hundred and fifty years after the English settlement in Britain, there was a good and wise man named *Gregory the Great* who became Pope. Long before he had become Pope he had noticed some fair-haired English slave-children for sale in the market at Rome. He asked to what nation they belonged, and was told they were Angles. "They are not Angles," said he ; "they have the faces of angels." Gregory sent *Augustine* as a missionary to preach the faith of Christ to the English.

The religion of the old English.

Pope Gregory and the English heathens.

2. In 597 Augustine landed in Kent, then ruled by a king called *Ethelbert*. Ethelbert welcomed Augustine, and permitted him to preach Christianity to his subjects. Before long Ethelbert himself and most of his people joined the new faith.

Mission of Augustine to Kent.

Augustine was made the first Archbishop of Canterbury, the chief town of Kent. The Archbishop of Canterbury has ever since been the head of the English Church. The conversion of Kent soon led to the conversion of all England to Christianity.

3. The English were now united in the same religion. Not very long afterwards they became united under a single king. For Wessex became the chief English state in those days, and, though there were other kingdoms, *Egbert*, King of the West Saxons, was recognised as their overlord. After many years the Kings of Wessex became the Kings of England, and the blood of Egbert still runs in the veins of George v.

How England became united under one Church and one King. Egbert of Wessex.

4. Egbert was a strong king, and kept good peace. But after his death in 839, a new race of invaders came from beyond the sea and inflicted untold misery upon the English. These were the *Danes* and *Norsemen*, who came from Denmark and Norway. Like the English when they had first crossed over into Britain, the Danes were brave, but fierce and cruel. At first they came simply to rob. Every summer they sailed in their long low ships to the English coast, and when winter came they went home to enjoy their plunder. But before long they found out that England was a pleasanter place to live in than their own country. They then tried, like the English before them, to make new homes for themselves in Britain. The Danes conquered much of northern and eastern England, and in 871 began to attack Wessex. Luckily, at this moment the best of Egbert's grandsons had just mounted the throne. This

The Danish invasions.

The Danes attack Wessex.



was *Alfred*, the greatest of all the early kings of the English.

5. At first the Danes were too strong for Alfred. At last he won a great victory over them, and forced them to make treaties with him. Alfred agreed in 878 to divide England with the Danes, and the Danes took northern and eastern England. The district where Danish law prevailed was called the *Dane law*. However, the Danish princes soon quarrelled with each other and were forced to recognise Alfred as their master. Though he never called himself more than King of the West Saxons, Alfred was really the first King of all the English.

Alfred and the Danes.

6. Alfred was as wise in peace as he was brave in war. He took care to keep off future invasions of the Danes by setting up a better army. Moreover, he built a navy to protect England, and was therefore the founder of England's greatness on the sea. Alfred brought back prosperity to England. He built churches, and trained up priests to preach religion to his subjects. He loved learning; he set up schools, and wrote books in the English language. He collected the old laws of the English, and added to them some new ones. He was good as well as wise. Though constantly suffering from bad health, he never lost heart in working for the good of his kingdom. When he died in 899, he left England stronger, better, wiser, more united than he had found it. He was called *Alfred the Great*, and his name is still held in high honour.

Why Alfred was called Alfred the Great.

CHAPTER III

From Alfred to Edward the Confessor, 899-1066

Principal Persons :

Edward the Elder, first King of all the English ; Edgar the Peaceful ; Archbishop Dunstan ; Edward the Martyr ; Ethelred the Unready ; Swegen, King of Denmark ; King Cnut ; Emma of Normandy ; Edward the Confessor ; Harold.

Principal Dates :

924. Death of Edward the Elder.	1042-1066. Reign of Edward the Confessor.
959-975. Reign of Edgar.	1066. Reign of Harold.
1017-1035. Reign of Cnut.	Battle of Hastings.

1. For more than seventy years after Alfred's death, England continued to flourish. The kings were brave and hard-working, and were able to defeat their enemies. Alfred's son, *Edward the Elder*, first called himself King of the English. He died in 924. Before long his successors conquered the Dane law ; they subdued the Welsh and the Scots ; and began to call themselves Emperors of Britain.

2. The most famous of Alfred's successors was his great-grandson, *Edgar*, who ruled from 959 to 975. His was the only reign in those fierce days in which England remained long at peace, and he was called "Edgar the Peaceful." Edgar ruled not only over England, but also over the whole of Britain, though the Scotch and the Welsh still had kings of their own. But these kings acknowledged Edgar as their overlord. Edgar's chief minister was *Dunstan*, Archbishop of Canterbury, the wisest Englishman of his time, and the first English statesman who was neither a king nor a warrior. He did a great deal for religion, education, and learning.

He was also anxious to make all the races who dwelt in England live on friendly terms with each other.

3. Edgar's two sons, *Edward* and *Ethelred*, next became kings. Edward was cruelly murdered after a very short reign. For this reason he was called Edward the Martyr. Ethelred now became king. He was called Ethelred the Unready, that is, Ethelred wanting in counsel. He was not wise or strong enough to rule properly. Under him fighting and confusion were renewed.

The reigns of Edward the Martyr and Ethelred the Unready.

4. After a few years the Danes came, for the first time since Alfred, to plunder the land and destroy the people. Afraid to fight them, Ethelred paid them to go away. But next year they naturally came back for more money.

The Danes again invade England.

5. Ethelred now tried another way, and ordered many of the Danes settled in England to be murdered. But this only made the Danes in Denmark eager to avenge their fellow-countrymen. At last *Swegen*, King of all Denmark, conquered England. After that he died; and Ethelred died soon after.

The Danes conquer England.

6. Then *Cnut*, Swegen's son, made himself King of all England. The English gladly took him as king, since he was a brave and a wise man, who ruled well, and brought back the peace and prosperity unknown since the death of Edgar. *Cnut* was a pious Christian, and eager to make all his subjects more civilised.

Cnut, King of England and Denmark.

7. *Cnut* died early, and his two sons were men very different from their father. Both reigned badly and died soon. So the English thought it was time to bring back their old line of kings. They sent to Normandy for *Edward*, the son of Ethelred the Unready, and his Norman wife *Emma*. In 1042 Edward became King of the English, and reigned until 1066. He was a pious, well-meaning man.

The reign of Edward the Confessor.

He was therefore called Edward the Confessor, that is, Edward the Saint. He built the famous Westminster Abbey, and cared more for the Church than for the people. As he was not warlike, he did not prove such a useful king as Cnut.

8. We have learnt that Emma, Edward the Confessor's



Edward the Confessor as depicted on his Great Seal.

mother, was a *Norman*. We must now learn who these

Emma of
Normandy.

Normans were, because all English history after Edward the Confessor's time would have been quite different if he had not given the

Normans a chance of settling in England. The Normans were a branch of the Danish or Norse race. They were

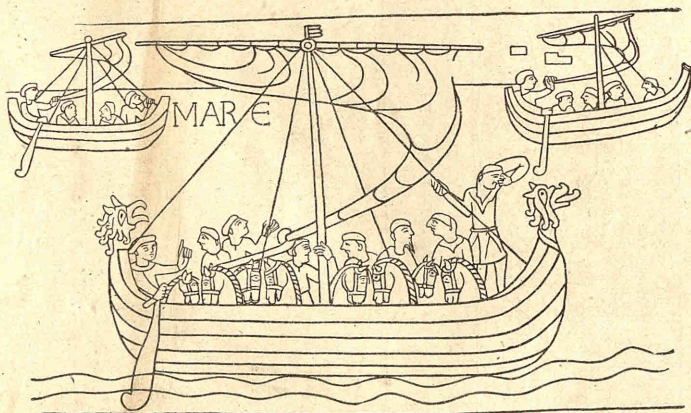
Normandy
and the
Normans.

called Normans, or Northmen, because they came from the North. About the time when some of them were plundering and conquer-

ing England in Alfred's reign, other Northmen were

plundering northern France. At last they conquered a large district situated on both banks of the river Seine, and opposite the south coast of England. This became known as Normandy. Its capital was *Rouen*, on the Seine. Its ruler was called the Duke of the Normans.

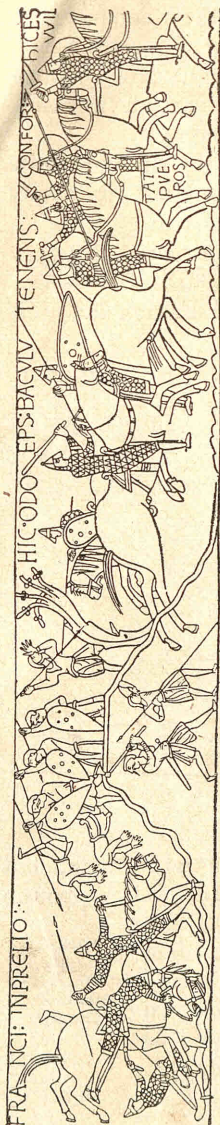
9. The French kings made the Norman dukes recognise them as overlords, but were not able to conquer Normandy and rule it. However, just as the Danes in England slowly became Englishmen, so the Normans in France became like other Frenchmen. They spoke French and adopted French laws and manners.



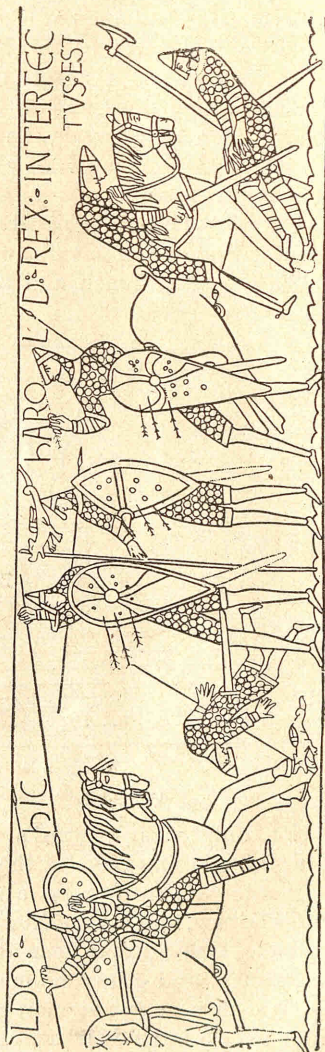
Norman Ships.
(From the Bayeux Tapestry.)

10. Not only was Edward's mother a Norman, but William, the reigning duke of the Normans, was his cousin and friend. Edward was always taking William's advice, and asking Normans to come to England. One Norman he made Archbishop of Canterbury, and others he made *earls*. In those days an earl was a man who acted as governor over a large district of the country.

Edward the Confessor brings Normans into England.



A Scene from the Battle of Hastings. Norman Horsemen attacking English Infantry at the top of the Hill.
 (From the Bayeux Tapestry.)



The Death of Harold.
 (From the Bayeux Tapestry.)

11. At that time Englishmen hated all foreigners, and were very angry with Edward. The strongest of the English nobles was *Harold*, Earl of the West Saxons. He forced Edward to drive his Norman friends into exile. But Edward was too weak to govern by himself, and for the rest of his reign Harold ruled England in his name. He governed well and successfully, and was both brave and wise.

12. Edward died in 1066 and left no children. He had wished that he should be succeeded by Duke William of Normandy. But the English chose Earl Harold as their king, though he was not a member of the royal family of Wessex.

Earl Harold drives away the Normans,

And becomes King of the English.

13. Harold soon found it harder to rule England as king than as Edward's adviser. In a few months William claimed the throne, saying that Edward had promised it to him. He gathered together a great army from Normandy and all parts of France, crossed over the English Channel, landed on the south coast.

Duke William lands in England.

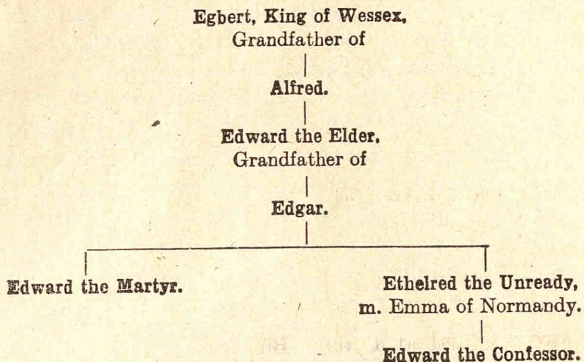
14. Harold was busy in the north trying to defeat the king of the Norwegians, who had landed in Yorkshire. He succeeded in beating the Norwegians and in killing their king. He then hurried south and met William on a hill about seven miles north of Hastings, and there a great battle was fought, which is generally called the *Battle of Hastings*. This fight is described in needlework pictures made soon afterwards, called the *Bayeux Tapestry*. They show us how William won a complete victory. Harold died fighting bravely along with the best of his soldiers. After this success William marched to London, and the English chose him as their king. On Christmas Day, 1066, William was crowned king in Edward's Westminster Abbey. He was called William the Conqueror.

Harold beats the Norwegians and marches against the Normans.

The Battle of Hastings.

William becomes King of the English.

THE CHIEF ENGLISH KINGS BEFORE THE NORMAN CONQUEST.



CHAPTER IV

The Norman Kings, 1066-1154

Principal Persons :

William the Conqueror ; Robert, Duke of Normandy ; William Rufus ;
Henry I. ; Matilda, daughter of Henry I. ; King Stephen.

Principal Dates :

1066-1087. Reign of William I., the Conqueror.
1087-1100. Reign of William II., Rufus.
1100-1135. Reign of Henry I.
1135-1154. Reign of Stephen.

1. William the Conqueror was fond of getting his own way, and was stern and cruel to those who opposed him. But he was not a bad king. His Norman nobles, or barons, who had helped him to conquer England, had to be rewarded, and he paid them by giving them estates taken away from Englishmen. William did not trust the English enough to allow them to help him govern the country. Soon the only great barons, earls, and bishops

How William the Conqueror dealt with the English and the Normans.

were Norman. The English were only allowed to hold small estates.

2. When William granted land to his followers, he made them promise to be faithful to him and to help him fight his battles. In the same way the barons divided their lands among their followers. The grantor was the *lord*, and the receiver of the grant the *vassal*. If the vassal neglected his duty to his lord, he forfeited his estate. This system made the king the lord of all the land, and gave him great power over those who held land under him. It has sometimes been called the feudal system, because the land thus held of a lord was called a *fief*. But it was hard for the king as lord to keep his vassals in order, and for a long period there was a constant fight for supremacy between the king and his barons.

The Feudal System.

3. The Normans covered the land with strong castles, which the English could not capture. The ruins of many of these castles can still be seen. The most famous is the *Tower of London*, which has always been kept in repair. William soon found, however, that the Norman barons were not to be trusted. They were always rising in rebellion against him. They were much more cruel to the English than the king, and the English soon discovered that the king was anxious to protect them against the barons. The result was that when the barons rebelled, the English helped the king to put down their rebellions. William rewarded the English for this help by carrying on, as far as he could, their old laws.

Norman castles.

The English support William against the barons.

4. By these means William made himself a powerful king. This was good for England, since in those days the only way of keeping peace and order was for the king to be strong enough to make everybody do his will. But the English had to pay for the peace which William gave them. For he

How William became a strong king.

forced them to pay high taxes. He had a book drawn up called the *Domesday Book*, in which was set down how much land there was in England, to what people the land belonged, and how much they were bound to pay the king. "There was not," the English said, "a piece of land, nor an ox, or a cow, or a pig passed by."

5. William had three sons, *Robert*, *William*, and *Henry*. The eldest of these was Robert, and when the Conqueror died, in 1087, Robert became Duke of Normandy. The Norman nobles knew that Robert was weak and lazy, and wanted him to be king, so that they might do what they liked. But the Conqueror said, as he lay dying, that he desired William to succeed him. With the help of the English this wish was carried out. The Norman nobles tried more than once to set up Robert on the throne, but failed.

6. *William II.* was a hot-tempered and violent but cunning man. He had red hair, and a red face. He was therefore called *Rufus*, or the *Red King*. He ruled badly, and was killed by an unknown person in the New Forest in 1100.

7. Henry, the youngest son of the Conqueror, was now made King *Henry I.* Once more Robert tried to get the throne for himself, but once more failed. Henry shut him up in prison for the rest of his life. With English help, Henry kept the nobles in order, and upheld peace. He was as cruel as the Red King, but more prudent. He ruled justly, and his subjects called him the *Lion of Righteousness*. Henry married *Matilda*, daughter of the King of Scotland, who, was, through her mother, descended from Alfred.

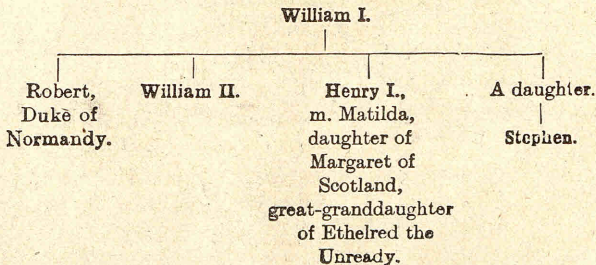
8. Henry I. and Matilda had an only son and a daughter. The daughter was called *Matilda*, like her mother. The son was drowned. The king then persuaded the barons to swear to recognise his daughter Matilda as queen after his death. But it was

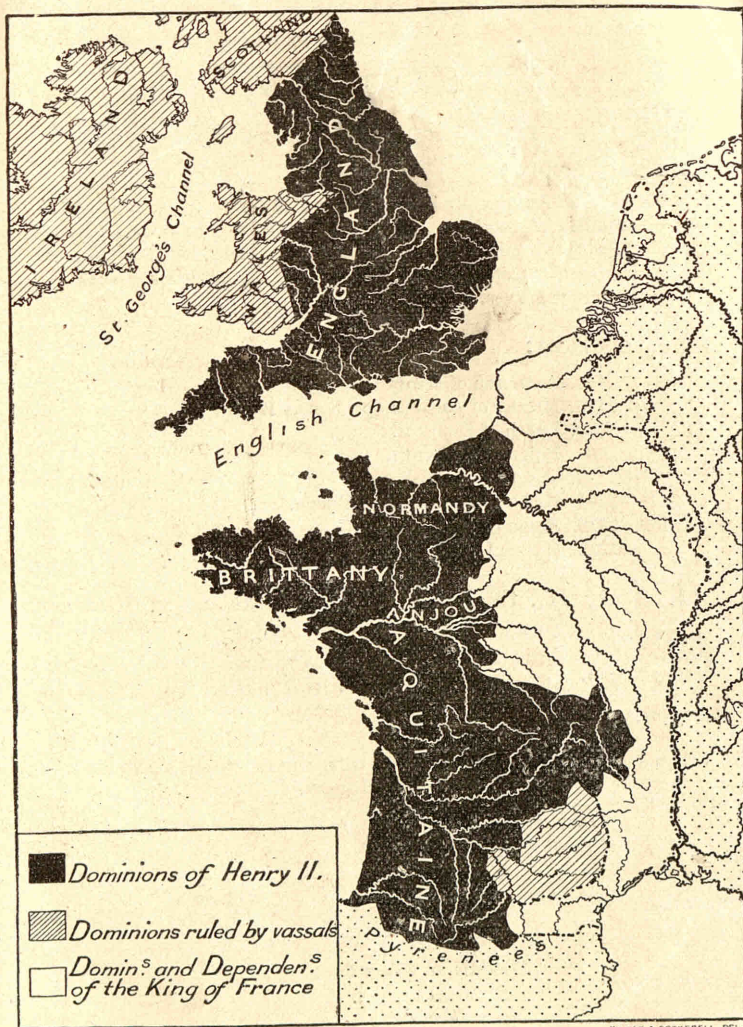


an unheard-of thing in those days for a woman to rule, and the barons broke their oaths. Instead of her, they chose her cousin *Stephen*, a grandson of William the Conqueror. He was a brave soldier, but too weak to be a good king, and the barons did as they liked under him.

9. After a few years Matilda claimed the throne. A long civil war followed. Some of the barons fought for Stephen, and others for Matilda; but most of them cared for neither. Each baron wished to keep up the quarrel of Stephen and Matilda as long as possible, in order that neither should be able to rule with a strong hand. After many years of misery, it was at last agreed that Stephen should reign for the rest of his life, but that on his death Henry of Anjou, Matilda's son, should be the next king. A little after this Stephen died, in 1154. His reign made it clear that the rule of the nobles was worse than the rule of the Crown, and that the strong rule of the Norman kings was the greatest blessing that the Conquest had given to England.

GENEALOGY OF THE NORMAN KINGS.





The Empire of Henry II.

WALKER & COCHERELL, DEL.

CHAPTER V

Henry II., 1154-1189, and his Sons, 1189-1216

Principal Persons:

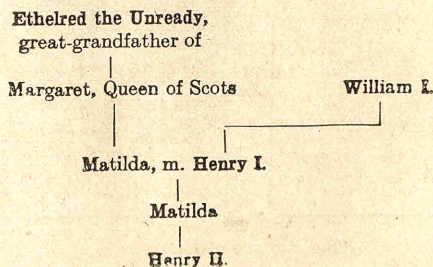
Henry II. of Anjou ; his father, Geoffrey of Anjou ; his grandmother, Matilda of Scotland ; his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine ; Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury ; Richard I. ; Saladin ; the Duke of Austria ; John ; Innocent III. ; Archbishop Langton ; Louis of France.

Principal Dates:

- 1154. Accession of Henry II.
- 1170. Murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket.
- 1189. Death of Henry II.
- 1189-1199. Reign of Richard I.
- 1189. The Third Crusade.
- 1194. Richard released from Prison.
- 1199-1216. Reign of John.
- 1215. Magna Carta granted.

1. *Henry II.*, the son of Matilda, was called *Henry of Anjou*, because his father was Count of Anjou, a district in France. Henry II. and his successors are often called the *House of Anjou*.

TABLE SHOWING DESCENT OF HENRY II. FROM THE NORMAN AND ENGLISH ROYAL HOUSES.



2. Henry II. was already Duke of Normandy and Count of Anjou when he became King of England. He had also won the great territory in southern France called *Aquitaine*, or *Gascony*, through his marriage with *Eleanor of Aquitaine*. Moreover, he conquered the Scots and the Welsh, and part of Ireland. He was the first English king to be called *Lord of Ireland*. But his power was not great in any of these regions, especially in Ireland. It was not until the time of the Tudor Kings that England thoroughly conquered Ireland.

Henry II.'s
great
dominions.

3. Henry II. was a powerful king, and ruled wisely. He was hot-tempered, violent, and sometimes rather cruel. But he made himself obeyed.

He pulled down the castles that the barons had built in Stephen's days without the king's permission. Under him England became again as peaceful and well governed as in the days of his grandfather, Henry I.

Character of
Henry II.

4. Henry II was fond of making changes in the government of the country. He established on a firm basis the system of sending able judges all over the country to try prisoners. This is called the system of Assizes. He also used the plan of *trial by jury* so often that it became the regular way of trying criminals. When the king's judge went round, he was helped in trying the prisoners in each place by a body of men belonging to the neighbourhood, who swore that they would tell the truth as they knew it. They were called a jury, from the Latin word *jurati*, which means sworn men.

Henry II.'s
reforms.



Henry II.

Assizes, and
trial by jury

5. During Henry II.'s long reign the English and Normans gradually became one people. For a long time after the Conquest there was a clear line of division between the Normans and the English. But many Normans had now married English women and many new families arose into power that were wholly English by descent. The upper classes still talked more French than English. But they were thoroughly English in feeling. They were glad to fight the French kings, and the English kings now gave them plenty of chances of doing that.

6. Henry II. had a famous dispute with the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose name was *Thomas Becket*. Thomas first had been the king's chief minister, and had worked very hard in his service. But after Becket became archbishop he was eager to uphold the rights of the Church. The result was that he had a fierce quarrel with the king. Thomas said that clergymen who had committed offences ought only to be tried in the courts of the Church, but the king wished them to be tried by his judges. Henry in his anger drove Becket out of the kingdom, so that he remained in exile for six years.

7. At last, in 1170, Henry and Thomas patched up their quarrel, and Thomas went back to Canterbury. But he soon began to start fresh disputes. This made the king mad with rage. He said: "Will not one of my cowardly servants rid me of this turbulent priest?" Four of Henry's knights took the king at his word. They went straight to Canterbury, and with their swords killed the archbishop in his Cathedral.

8. All Europe was horrified at this murder of Becket. Tales were quickly spread of the holiness of his life and the bravery of his death. His noble death made men think his whole life was noble. He was now called *St. Thomas of Canterbury*,

English and Normans become one people.

Thomas Becket.

Quarrel of Henry II. and Thomas.

The quarrel is patched up and breaks out again.
Murder of Thomas at Canterbury.

Thomas is made a saint.

was noble.

the martyr for the rights of Holy Church. Thousands of men flocked as pilgrims from all parts of Europe to pray at his tomb or shrine in Canterbury Cathedral.

9. Henry was horrified at what the knights had done. They had made him hateful to all Christendom, and nothing prospered with him. He soon saw that he must make it clear that he was sorry for his rash words. He knelt humbly at Canterbury before the tomb of his old enemy, and was flogged with rods as his punishment.

Henry's
troubles and
pilgrimage to
Thomas's
tomb.

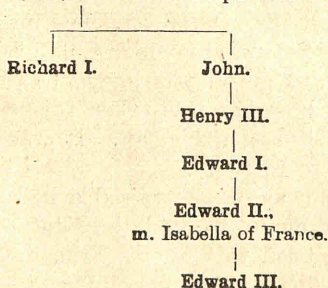
The Pope then declared that the king had atoned for his sin. Henry was obliged to allow the law to go on as Thomas had wished it to be. Until the Reformation, a clergyman who committed a crime was tried in the courts of the Church, and not in the courts of the king.

10. Henry's last years were full of troubles. His sons rose in rebellion against their father, and joined with his great enemy, the King of France. In the midst of one of these rebellions Henry II. died, overwhelmed with misfortunes, in 1189.

Henry II.'s
death.

TABLE SHOWING THE DESCENDANTS OF HENRY II. DOWN TO EDWARD III.

Henry II., m. Eleanor of Aquitaine.



11. The eldest living son of Henry, Richard, now became King *Richard I.* He was fond of fighting, and

more anxious to win glory for himself than to govern his kingdom well. He hardly spent any of his time in England. Yet Englishmen honoured him for his brave deeds and called him

Richard the
Lion Heart.

Richard *Lion Heart*.

12. Soon after he became king, Richard went on what was called a Crusade. A *Crusade* was a religious war against the Mohammedans, and was so called because those who took part in it wore a cross sewn on to their clothes. The *First Crusade* had begun in the days of William Rufus, and Richard took part in the *Third Crusade*. The Crusades were started to drive the Turks out of Jerusalem, and to set up a Christian kingdom in the holy places where Jesus Christ had lived His earthly life.

The
Crusades.

13. The First Crusade had expelled the Turks from Jerusalem, and had set up a Christian kingdom there.

But after nearly a hundred years there arose a gallant Turkish Sultan, called *Saladin*, who drove the Christians out of Jerusalem again.

The Third Crusade was undertaken in order to restore Christian rule in the Holy City.

14. Richard fought well, but he did not manage to conquer Jerusalem, though he came within sight of its

walls. However, he made a truce with Saladin, by which the Christians were allowed to go on pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre.

On his way home he was taken prisoner by the Duke of *Austria*, a German nobleman. It was only in 1194 that he got back to England.

15. As soon as he had raised a large treasure, Richard left England again, to fight the King of France, who had

tried to take his French lands while he was in prison. After five years, he was shot dead from the wall of a castle which he was

Richard's last
years and
death.

besieging.

16. Richard left no children, and his younger brother,

John, became king after him. John was the very wickedest and worst of English kings. Cruel, greedy, self-willed, and violent, he failed in everything and turned most of his subjects against him. King John.

17. The nobles of John's French territories rose in revolt, and the French king who came to their help took possession of Normandy and Anjou. All that was left to John in France was a part of the inheritance of his mother, Eleanor of Aquitaine. This, called *Gascony*, had *Bordeaux* as its chief town, and was governed by the English kings for two hundred and fifty years longer. The loss of Normandy and Anjou.

18. In John's days there lived a famous Pope called *Innocent III*. The Pope wished to give the archbishopric of Canterbury to *Stephen Langton*, the wisest and most learned Englishman of his day. John objected, and a fierce quarrel followed. Innocent III. Innocent at last declared that John had no right to reign any longer, and called upon the King of France to drive John away from his kingdom. This threat made John submit to the Pope. He agreed to accept Langton as archbishop. And he promised that henceforth he would regard the Pope as his overlord, and pay him a sum of money every year. Quarrel of John and Pope Innocent III.
John becomes the Pope's vassal.

19. During all these years John had been reigning very badly. The barons had long hated him, and now the poorer people began to join them. Archbishop Langton wisely tried to bring together all the different classes of Englishmen against John; the barons went to war against him. In 1215 John found that he could resist no longer. He met the barons near Staines, on a meadow by the banks of the river Thames, called *Runnymede*. There he was forced to agree to their demands. The barons oppose John.

20. The demands of the barons were contained in a document called, in Latin, *Magna Carta*, in English, the Great Charter. Up to now the Norman kings had ruled

as they chose, like tyrants. But John was now forced to have regard to the rights of Church, barons, and people.

Magna Carta. He was not to raise fresh taxes without the consent of the barons, and he was not to put any one into prison except according to the law of the land. Thus the Great Charter contains the beginnings of English liberty and of the English constitution. It took a very long while before all its articles were really carried out, but it was something to have made a beginning.

21. John soon broke his word, threw over the Charter, and went to war against the barons. They were forced to call on *Louis*, the eldest son of the French king, to come over to help them. But even with French help, they found John difficult to beat. Luckily, next year, in 1216, John suddenly died.

John throws over the Charter and dies.

CHAPTER VI

Henry III., 1216-1272

Principal Persons :

Louis of France ; Archbishop Langton ; William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke ; Simon of Montfort, Earl of Leicester ; Edward, the King's son.

Principal Dates :

- 1216. Accession of Henry III.
- 1217. Louis of France leaves England.
- 1219. Death of William Marshall.
- 1258. The Provisions of Oxford.
- 1264. Battle of Lewes.
- 1265. Montfort's Parliament and Battle of Evesham.
- 1272. Death of Henry III.

1. On John's death his eldest son, only nine years old, became *Henry III.* The barons who had called in Louis of France refused to recognise Henry, and the civil war

went on for two years longer. But it was felt by many that it was a bad thing to be ruled by the man who on his father's death would become king of France also. The friends of the little Henry showed that they did not intend to allow him to rule as John had ruled. They issued Magna Carta once more as a freewill grant of Henry III. This took away the only good reason for opposing him. In 1217 Louis was forced to leave England, and Henry III. became undisputed king.

Defeat of
Louis of
France.

2. The two chief supporters of Henry in his struggle against Louis were *Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of Canterbury, and *William Marshall*, Earl of Pembroke. These two wise men restored England to peace and prosperity. Gradually the horrors of the civil war were forgotten.

The rule of
Stephen
Langton and
William
Marshall.

3. Unluckily, new troubles arose when Henry III. became old enough to govern. He was pious, gentle, and good-natured, faithful to his friends, and devoted to his wife and children. He was well educated, and loved to build beautiful churches. The most famous church that he built was the Westminster Abbey that now exists, in place of the abbey of the Confessor. Like the Confessor, Henry was weak. He gave many rich estates and high offices to his wife's relations, who came from the south of France, and were very numerous and greedy. Every clever young Frenchman was sure to receive a warm welcome from Henry if he came to England. One of these Frenchmen was named *Simon of Montfort*. He married the king's sister, and was recognised by Henry as Earl of Leicester.

Character of
Henry III.

4. Neither Henry nor his foreign friends knew how to rule England. Henry broke his promise to observe the Great Charter. He was always collecting heavy taxes; and he wasted the money on his favourites, and did not keep good order.

Henry's
weak rule.

The barons at last grew very angry, and resolved that they would force Henry to take their advice, and rule better.

5. Since the Great Charter, the barons had much more power than before. The king was no longer a tyrant, but was expected to ask the consent of an assembly called *Parliament* before he raised fresh taxes or passed new laws. The Parliament of those days was not like the present Parliament, composed of representatives of the whole people. It was more like the



Henry III.

House of Lords than the House of Commons. It consisted of the earls, barons, bishops, and other leading nobles and clergymen. But it was a real check on the king, and especially on a weak king like Henry III.

6. Parliament found an excellent leader in the king's brother-in-law, Simon of

The Pro-
visions of
Oxford.

Montfort, who had now become a good Englishman.

He was so much wiser than Henry that he grew disgusted with his careless ways. In 1258 the Parliament met at Oxford, and drew up, under Simon's guidance, some new laws, called the *Provisions of Oxford*. By these the foreigners were driven out of the country, and the government of England handed over from the king to the barons.

7. The new system worked pretty well for a few years. But Simon quar-

The Barons' War.

relled with the rest of the barons. This gave Henry and his clever son Edward their chance. They started fighting against the barons.

The civil war that followed is called the *Barons' War*.

8. Simon of Montfort now took the lead. In 1264 he won a great victory over the royalists at *Lewes*, in Sussex, where Henry and Edward were both made prisoners.

9. Simon was now the real ruler of England. Early in 1265 he called together a Parliament to help him. Up to this time most Parliaments had, as we have seen, been gatherings of nobles only. But ^{The Parli-} Montfort's Parliament of 1265 was ^{ment of 1265.} a great deal more than this. He summoned every county and every town to elect two representatives to speak on its behalf. This was the first time that the towns had been asked to send members to Parliament. Montfort asked them to come because he believed that every class of the people ought to have their say in the government of the country.

10. Simon's power lasted less than a year. Though he was wise and great, he was proud and quarrelsome. Some of the nobles hated him because he trusted the people, and others because they ^{The Battle} believed he was too ambitious. Henry was ^{Evesham.} old, and Edward was the real leader of the royalists. He cleverly escaped from prison and joined Simon's enemies. In 1265 he defeated and killed Simon at *Evesham*, in Worcestershire.

11. Edward then restored his father to his throne. After this, things remained quiet for the rest of the old king's reign. After a year or two, Edward went to the East on a Crusade. He was still ^{The restora-} abroad when Henry III died, in 1272. ^{tion and death} of Henry III.

CHAPTER VII

Edward I., 1272-1307 ; Edward II., 1307-1327

Principal Persons :

Llywelyn, Prince of Wales ; John Balliol, King of Scots ; William Wallace ; Robert Bruce, King of Scots ; Edward, Prince of Wales ; Piers Gaveston ; Isabella of France, wife of Edward II.

Principal Dates :

- 1272. Accession of Edward I.
- 1282. Death of Prince Llywelyn, and Conquest of Wales.
- 1292. Edward makes John Balliol King of Scots.
- 1296. Edward deposes Balliol.
- 1297. Confirmation of the Charters.
- 1298. Battle of Falkirk.
- 1307. Death of Edward I.
Accession of Edward II.
- 1314. Battle of Bannockburn.
- 1327. Deposition of Edward II.

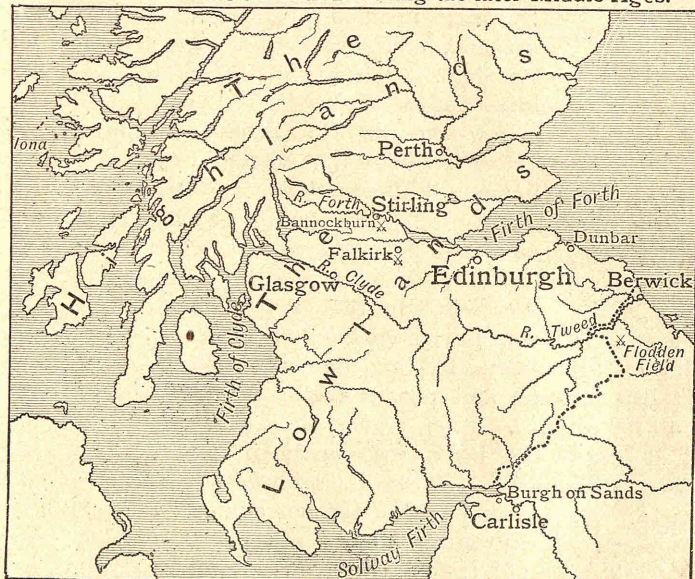
1. Though it was nearly two years before *Edward I.* returned, everything went on peaceably during his absence.

Character of Edward I. The new king had well learnt the lessons of Earl Simon's life, and ruled much better than Henry III. He was fond of power, but he saw that he would get more of his own way if he took the people into some sort of partnership with him. He was brave, energetic, straight-forward, and honourable. He boasted that he always kept his word, though sometimes he was content to keep the letter rather than the spirit of his promise. He was sometimes hard and cruel. But few rulers have done more good to England.

2. One of the chief events of this reign was the conquest of *Wales*. The greater part of *Wales*, the old refuge of the Britons, was still ruled by a prince of its own. *Llywelyn*, Prince of *Wales*, refused to take the oath to obey Edward, which earlier

Welsh princes had always taken to the English king. At last, however, Edward conquered all Llywelyn's dominions. Llywelyn was killed in battle in 1282. A few years afterwards, Edward made his eldest son, *Edward*, Prince of Wales. In later times it became the custom for the king's eldest son to be called Prince of Wales. That custom has lasted down to our own day.

SOUTHERN SCOTLAND during the later Middle Ages.



Walker & Cockerell sc.

3. Scotland was now the only part of Britain that was not ruled by the English king. Scotland was much larger than Wales, and was governed by a Edward king. And though some of the kings of makes John Balliol King Scotland had recognised the English kings as of Scots. their overlords, the Scottish kings were much stronger than the Welsh princes. But a few years after the conquest of Wales, Edward had a good chance of making his

power felt in Scotland. He was invited to decide between different candidates for the Scottish throne, and he asked all the candidates to admit that he was overlord of Scotland. All of them agreed to this. Edward declared that John Balliol had the best title to be king. Balliol then swore to obey Edward, and was crowned King of Scots.

4. But Edward and Balliol soon quarrelled; and in a very few years war broke out. In 1296 Edward quarrels with Balliol, and conquers Scotland. Edward invaded Scotland, took Balliol prisoner, and forced him to give up his kingdom. Then he appointed English governors to rule over the Scots.

5. After a few months the Scots rose in revolt. They chose as their leader a fierce and resolute soldier, named *William Wallace*, and drove the English out of Scotland. Next year Edward came to Scotland with a great army. In 1298 he defeated Wallace in the battle of *Falkirk*. But though Edward won this battle, he was far from having conquered Scotland. It was only after seven years' fighting, and after Wallace had been taken prisoner and put to death, that Edward subdued all the land.

6. Soon the Scots rose again in revolt. They had a new leader in *Robert Bruce*, whose grandfather had claimed the throne against John Balliol. Edward, who was now nearly seventy years old, tried to conquer Scotland for a third time. He marched to Carlisle with a great army. But before he could enter Scottish soil he died. It was natural that the Scots should look upon Edward as a cruel tyrant. Yet he had meant to do rightly. He believed that it was best for all Britain to be ruled by one king, and that he would be able to govern the Scots more wisely than they could themselves.

7. It is pleasant to turn from Edward's constant wars with the Scots to his good work in England. He was

famous for passing a large number of wise laws, and for making England more peaceable and better governed than ever it had been before. But the greatest good that Edward did to England was to settle that Parliament should always be, like Simon of Montfort's Parliament of 1265, composed of representatives of the people as well as of the great lords and bishops. Such a Parliament met in 1295. It has sometimes been called the *Model Parliament* because its example set the fashion for later assemblies. Finally, long afterwards, Parliament was divided into two parts. The lords and bishops made up the *House of Lords*, and the members for the counties and towns formed the *House of Commons*. Thus Edward I. is, much more than Simon de Montfort, the man who began the *English Constitution*.

Edward as
lawgiver and
creator of the
English
Parliament.

8. Edward was forced to make greater concessions to his people than he wished to do. In 1297 he found that the people would not help him against the Scots unless he agreed to a new *Confirmation of the Charters*, by which the king promised to raise no more fresh taxes without the consent of Parliament.

The Con-
firmation of
the Charters.

9. Edward Prince of Wales, now *Edward II.*, thought of nothing but amusing himself, and allowed worthless favourites to rule England in his name. The first of these was *Piers Gaveston*, a young man who came from Gascony, the part of southern France which the English kings still ruled. Before long the barons grew angry that Gaveston should have more influence over the king



Edward I.

Edward II.
and Gaveston.

than they had themselves. They took him prisoner, and cruelly put him to death.

10. While Edward was quarrelling with his barons about Gaveston, Robert Bruce was gradually conquering all Scotland. Edward and his barons were now better friends than they had been, and in 1314 they agreed to march with an army into Scotland. The two armies met at Bannockburn, but the battle proved an overwhelming victory for the Scots. A few years later the English recognised Bruce as Robert, King of Scots, and agreed that the English king had no claim to be his overlord. But much trouble resulted from there being two independent kings in one little island. For the next two hundred years the English and Scots were nearly always fighting each other.

11. After Bannockburn things in England got worse and worse. At last even Edward's wife, *Isabella of France*, turned against him, and joined his enemies. The wretched Edward was now driven from the throne, and his eldest son made king, as Edward III. Next year Edward II. was cruelly put to death.

CHAPTER VIII

Edward III., 1327-1377, and Richard II., 1377-1399

Principal Persons :

Philip VI. of Valois, King of France ; Isabella, mother of Edward III. ; Edward the Black Prince ; John, King of France ; John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster ; Wat Tyler ; John Wycliffe ; the Duke of Gloucester ; Henry of Lancaster.

Principal Dates :

1327. Accession of Edward III.	1377. Death of Edward III.
1346. Battle of Crecy.	Accession of Richard II.
1349. The Black Death.	1381. The Peasants' Revolt.
1356. Battle of Poitiers.	1384. Death of Wycliffe.
1376. The Good Parliament.	1399. Deposition of Richard II.

1. *Edward III.* was a vain, showy man, who kept up a magnificent court. He wished to win battles, and to make a name for himself as a soldier. In his reign there began a great war between England and France, which has been called the *Hundred Years' War*. This does not mean that England and France were constantly fighting for exactly a hundred years. Yet for longer than that time the two countries were nearly always unfriendly, and often at war with each other.

Edward III.
and the
Hundred
Years' War.

2. There were many causes of this mighty struggle. So long as the English king remained Duke of Gascony, a part of France, he was the subject of the King of France, and this led to many disputes. Moreover, the English were disgusted because the French had helped the Scots. But the thing that brought these disputes to a head was Edward III.'s claim to the French throne. Edward claimed the throne through his mother, Isabella of France. But the French custom would not allow a woman to reign, or a man to claim the throne through a woman. They therefore passed over Edward, and chose as their king Philip VI., the nearest male heir. For nearly ten years Edward said very little about it.

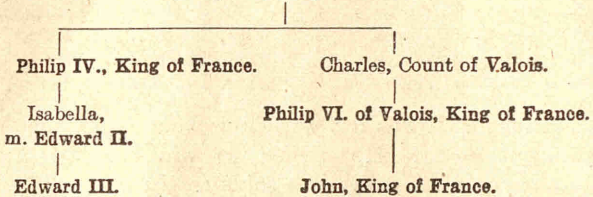
Causes of
the war.

3. After all this time Edward quarrelled with Philip VI. for various reasons. Thereupon he renewed his former claims. He took the title of King of France, and declared that he was bound to go to war to drive out the usurper Philip. His claim was not a just one. But he soon won famous victories over the French, and gained for the English the reputation of being the best soldiers in Europe.

Beginnings
of the war.

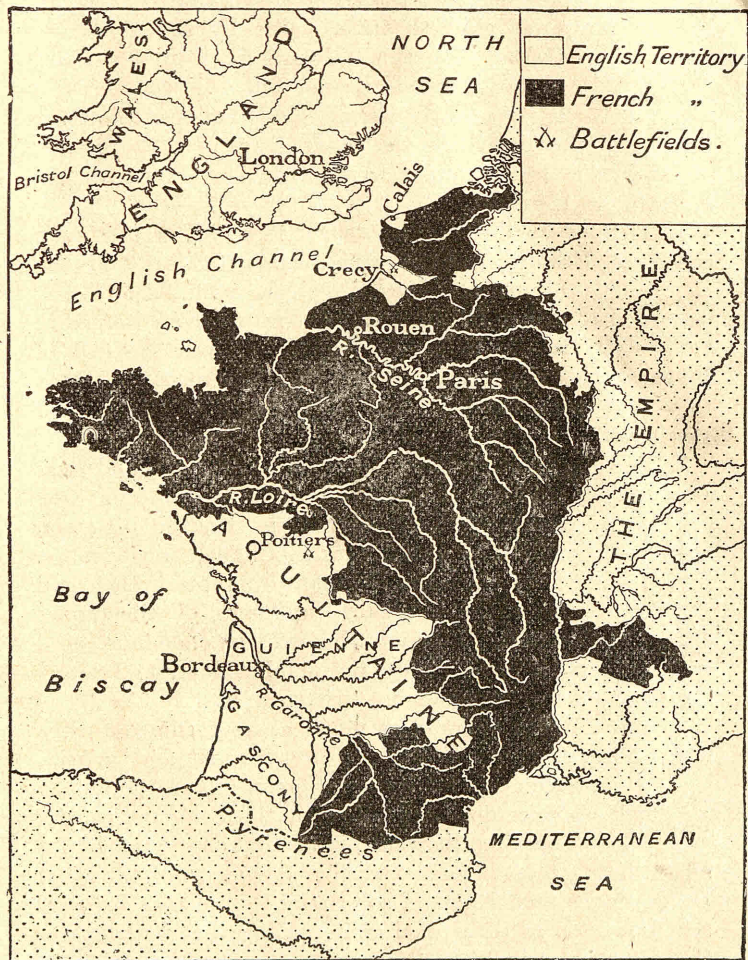
TABLE SHOWING EDWARD III.'S CLAIM TO THE FRENCH THRONE.

Philip III., King of France.



4. One of Edward's greatest victories over the French was in 1346. In that year Edward and his son, Edward, Prince of Wales—called, from the colour of his armour, the *Black Prince*—landed in Normandy and marched almost to the gates of Paris, the capital of France. But the French now gathered together a much bigger army than that of the English, and forced them to retreat towards the north. At last the English turned, and fought the French at *Crecy*. Though the French were much more numerous than the English, they were badly beaten. The Black Prince, though a mere boy, fought bravely, and won for himself a great name. Soon afterwards the English captured the French town of *Calais*, after a long siege. It remained English for more than two hundred years.

5. Ten years after the battle of *Crecy*, the Black Prince won another famous victory. This time Edward III. was in England. Edward had made the Prince Duke of Gascony, and he now lived at *Bordeaux*, its chief town. In 1356 he led a brilliant army northwards against the French. King Philip was now dead, but his son, King John, tried to block the Black Prince's retreat home to *Bordeaux*, and forced him to fight a battle near *Poitiers*, against overwhelming odds. But the Black Prince and his gallant English and Gascon soldiers easily defeated the French, and made King John a prisoner.



The English Dominions in France after the Treaty of Calais, 1360.

6. France now fell into a terrible state; and in 1360 the French king was glad to make peace by the *Treaty of Calais*. By this Edward gave up his claim to the French throne, but received, besides Calais, nearly all the lands between the river Loire and the Pyrenees, the same districts that Eleanor of Aquitaine had brought to the English Crown on her marriage to Henry II.

7. This peace did not last very long. The provinces ceded to Edward rose in revolt against him, and the French soon began to help them. The Black Prince fell ill, and went home from Bordeaux to die in his own land. Before the end of Edward III.'s reign, the English had lost nearly all that they had won, save a few sea-ports like Calais and Bordeaux.

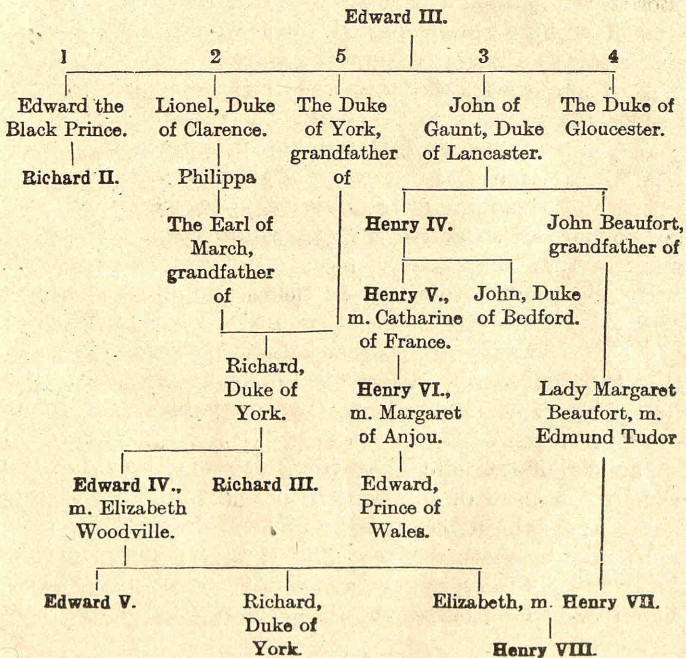
8. The English won great glory in these wars, and took an immense pride in themselves and their country. One result of this was that the English king and nobles began to talk English once more. Ever since the Norman Conquest French had been the ordinary language of the upper classes in England. But now English was once more used by the great as well as by the smaller folk, and many famous books were once more written in it.

9. The English suffered as much as they gained by the war. They became fiercer and more cruel and greedy. Even a kindly gentleman like the Black Prince dealt harshly with the common people. The English soon found that the French war meant heavy taxes. Then a terrible plague, called the *Black Death*, devastated England so cruelly that it was believed that one man in three died of it. The worst outbreak of this plague was in 1349.

10. Things grew still worse as Edward III. became old and foolish. At last Parliament set to work to try to make the king rule better. In 1376 a Parliament met,

which did so much for the people that men called it the *Good Parliament*. The last service that the Black Prince did to his country was to back up the Good Parliament against his father. While the Prince of Wales was thus on the side of the people, his younger brother, the Duke of *Lancaster*, named *John of Gaunt*, or Ghent (his birthplace), helped the old king and his courtiers. The Black Prince died while Parliament was still sitting, and then John of Gaunt and the courtiers were strong enough to send the members of Parliament home, and bring back the evil ministers that Parliament had driven from power. Soon after, Edward III. died, after a reign that gave England more glory than happiness. And even the glory was gone before his death.

TABLE SHOWING THE DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD III.



11. The next king was *Richard II.* He was the eldest son of the Black Prince, and was only a child when his grandfather died. During the first years of his reign his uncle, John of Gaunt, ruled England for him. But everything went wrong, and the people became very discontented. At last, in 1381, there was a general revolt all over England.

The minority of Richard II.

12. This rebellion, led by Wat Tyler, is often called the *Peasants' Revolt.* The peasants were ignorant and brutal, and committed terrible deeds of violence. There was a good deal of hard fighting before the rebellion was put down, and the king's friends behaved as cruelly as the rebels themselves had done in the time of their success. Though the Peasants' Revolt seemed at first sight a failure, yet some good came from it. It showed everybody that even the poor labourer must have his rights respected, or he would take up arms and become a danger to the whole State.

The Peasants' Revolt.

13. There were other discontented people in England besides the peasants. Ever since the distant days when Augustine first taught Englishmen the Christian faith, everybody had believed the teaching of the Church. But the Church was not so pure or so active as it had once been. It was so wealthy that many worldly men became clergymen in order to enjoy its riches and power. About this time a priest, named *John Wycliffe*, who was both bold and learned, began to teach that the Church was in sore need of being reformed. His followers were called *Lollards*; that is, babblers, or sayers of vain things.

The state of the Church.

John Wycliffe.

14. Wycliffe taught that the Pope of Rome had no right to be head of the Church in England. He advised the nobles to take away from the Church its wealth, so that the clergy, being poor like Christ, might also be able to live more Christ-like lives. He turned the Bible into English, so that

Wycliffe tries to reform the Church.

Englishmen might be able to read it for themselves. He sent out a number of his disciples, who were called Wycliffe's *Poor Priests*. These men explained their master's teaching to the people. At last he boldly denied some of the chief teachings of the Church. The bishops stopped Wycliffe's teaching. Soon afterwards he died, in 1384. Even after his death the Lollards remained very numerous.

15. Richard II. was no idler like Edward II. But he was proud, jealous, fanciful, and eager to be a despot. After John of Gaunt gave up the government, another of his uncles, the Duke of Gloucester, took the chief place among his ministers. One day Richard suddenly asked his uncle Gloucester, "How old am I?" Gloucester told him that he was twenty-two years old. Richard answered, "Then I am quite old enough to manage my own affairs." He soon got everything into his own hands. He took his revenge, and killed several of his chief enemies, one of them being his uncle Gloucester. He now thought he might rule like a despot, and laugh at Parliament and the nobles.

Richard II.
tries to make
himself a
despot.

16. One of Richard's old enemies was his cousin, *Henry of Lancaster*, the eldest son of John of Gaunt. Henry had deserted Gloucester, and Richard had therefore pardoned him. A few years later, however, Richard found an excuse for sending Henry into banishment. While Henry was abroad, John of Gaunt died, and then Richard seized the great estates of the Duchy of Lancaster. Henry was very angry at this, and, in 1399, he returned to England, declaring that he had come back to claim his father's estates. Many people joined him, being disgusted with the despotic rule of Richard. Henry soon claimed his cousin's throne as well as his father's duchy. Richard made a poor fight for his kingdom. Parliament recognised Henry as king, and dethroned Richard. A little later, Richard, like Edward II., was murdered in prison.

Henry of
Lancaster
deposes
Richard II.

CHAPTER IX

The Lancastrian Kings, 1399-1461, and the
Yorkist Kings, 1461-1485

Principal Persons :

Henry IV. ; Henry V. ; Henry VI. ; the Earl of March ; the Earl of Northumberland, and his son, Henry Percy ; Owen Glendower ; Charles VI. and Charles VII. of France ; Catharine of France ; John and Philip, Dukes of Burgundy ; Joan of Arc ; John, Duke of Bedford ; Margaret of Anjou ; Richard, Duke of York ; Edward IV. ; Henry VI. ; Margaret of Anjou ; Warwick the Kingmaker ; Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. ; Edward, Prince of Wales, afterwards Edward V. ; Richard, Duke of York ; the Lady Margaret Beaufort ; Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond.

Principal Dates :

1399-1413. Reign of Henry iv.	1455. Battle of St. Albans.
1413-1422. Reign of Henry v.	1461. Battle of Towton.
1415. Battle of Agincourt.	1461-1483. Reign of Edward iv.
1422-1461. Reign of Henry vi.	1470-1471. Henry vi. restored.
1429. Joan of Arc saves Orleans.	1483. Reign of Edward v.
1453. The English driven out of France.	1483-1485. Reign of Richard iii.

1. Parliament had made Henry of Lancaster King *Henry IV.*, and Parliament had every right to do so. But some people believed that, when one king died or was deposed, the nearest heir ought at once to receive the throne. Now, the nearest heir to the throne was not Henry of Lancaster, but the *Earl of March*. Yet there was no need for Parliament to make the Earl of March king, and the people had been so much alarmed at Richard's attempt to become a despot that they thought it wise not only

Why Henry IV. was made king.

to get rid of him, but to set up his chief enemy in his place. Owing his throne to Parliament, Henry iv.'s accession was a triumph for Parliament and the Constitution. The kings of the House of Lancaster were *constitutional kings*, who followed the wishes of Parliament.

2. Henry iv. was a great friend of the Church and put down the Lollards, the followers of Wycliffe, as teachers of false doctrine. He also had trouble with various rebellions. The nobles who had helped him to the throne rose in revolt against him. At their head was *Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland*, and his son, also *Henry Percy*, whom men called *Hotspur* because of his rash bravery. They made an alliance with a bold and wise Welsh gentleman, called *Owen Glendower*, who tried to restore the independence of Wales, and was obeyed by most Welshmen as Prince of Wales. But the Percies and Owen did not work well together, and gradually Henry was able to beat them all.

3. At last Henry got over his worst difficulties. But he wore himself out in the struggle and fell into bad health. On his death, in 1413, his eldest son Henry became *Henry V.*

4. As a boy Henry v. is said to have been wild. However that may be, he was grave and virtuous after he became king. He was a splendid soldier, and anxious for glory. He was a popular and a successful king. The great event of his reign was the renewal of the war with France.

5. Henry v., like Edward iii., claimed the French crown, though his claim was absurd. However, in 1415, he led a well-trained army into France and won the battle of *Agincourt*. It took place not very far from Crecy, and was quite as brilliant and magnificent a victory. But the victorious army was so small that all Henry could do after the battle was to make his way to Calais.

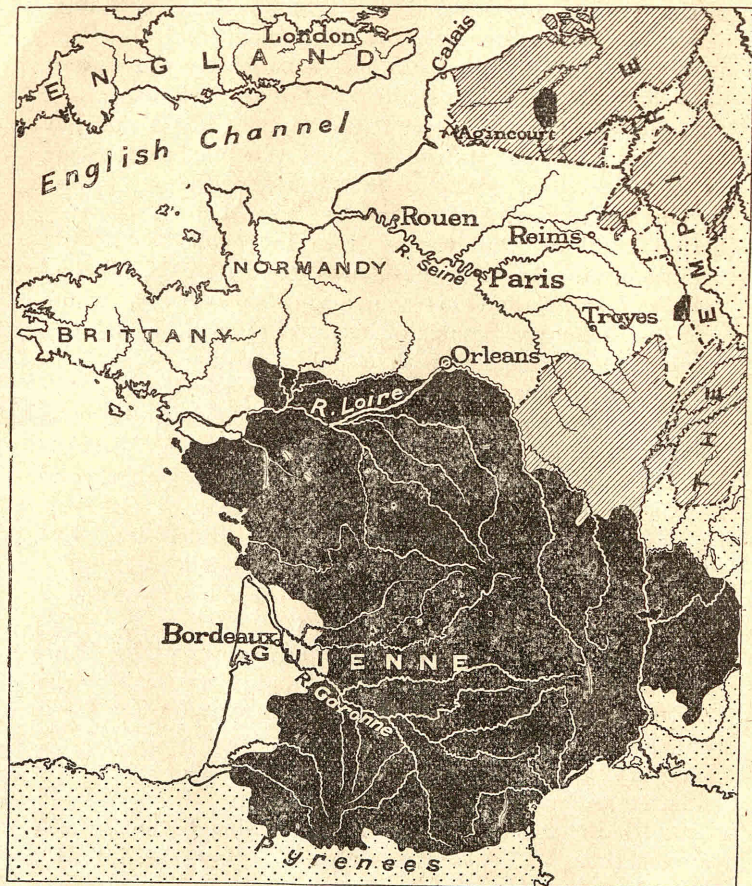
Henry IV.
puts down
the Lollards.

Revolts
against
Henry IV.

Death of
Henry IV.

Character of
Henry V.

The Battle of
Agincourt.



WALKER & COCKERELL, DEL.

English Territory
 French
 Burgundian

X Battlefields.

Lands held by Henry VI. and Charles VII. in France about 1429.

6. Two years later, Henry invaded Normandy, and conquered it bit by bit. France was, in those days, in a sad condition. The king, *Charles VI.*, was a madman, and the French nobles ^{The Treaty of Troyes.} thought more of fighting each other than of resisting the English. There were two great parties. One was headed by the mad king's son, whose name was also *Charles*. The other was headed by his cousin *John, Duke of Burgundy*, a very powerful prince. At last the friends of Charles cruelly murdered the Duke of Burgundy. Burgundy's followers were so disgusted that they made a treaty with Henry of England. By this treaty, called the *Treaty of Troyes*, the mad king was to go on reigning for the rest of his life, but was to marry his daughter Catharine to Henry v. Moreover, Henry was to rule the country in Charles vi.'s name; and on his death, Henry was to become king of France, and ever after the two thrones were to be united.

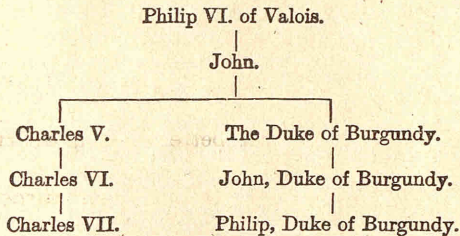
7. In 1422 Henry v. died. Charles vi. of France died soon afterwards, and the baby son of Henry and Catherine was proclaimed King of France and England. Against him was set up Charles vii., son of ^{Bedford upholds} the mad king. The little *Henry VI.* had a ^{Henry VI.'s throne.} wise guardian in his uncle, *John, Duke of Bedford*, the brother of Henry v. Bedford strove with all his might to win for his nephew the throne of France, as well as the throne of England.

8. A great many Frenchmen of the Burgundian party still fought on the English side. At last there happened one of the most wonderful things in all ^{The mission of Joan of Arc.} history. In 1429 a country girl, named *Joan of Arc*, told Charles vii. that God had sent her to save France from the foreigner, and to make him the real king of all France. At that moment the English were besieging *Orleans*, and the French were on the point of giving up the town. But Joan put on armour like a man, and forced her way

into Orleans at the head of a troop of soldiers. Her faith and courage inspired the defenders with a new spirit. Before long she drove the English from the siege. Then she led Charles to the city of *Reims*, and saw him crowned king.

Joan relieves Orleans and takes Charles VII. to Reims.

TABLE SHOWING THE FRENCH KINGS AND DUKES OF BURGUNDY DURING THE HUNDRED YEARS' WAR.



9. Even now Joan's mission was not finished. She told the English to go back home, as she had been commanded by God to expel them from her country. She at last fell into the hands of her enemies, who burnt her to death at Rouen. She died so nobly that the rough English soldiers who watched her were struck with awe. "We are undone," they cried, "for this maid whom we have burnt is indeed a saint."

10. The simple faith of Joan of Arc saved France from ruin. She made those Frenchmen who fought for the English ashamed of themselves, and, not many years after her death, Philip, Duke of Burgundy himself gave up the English alliance, and recognised Charles VII. as lawful King of France. Bedford struggled heroically to prevent the ruin of the English cause, but died in the year in which France and Burgundy made peace. At last, by 1453, the English were driven out both from Normandy and from Gascony, which had been ruled by its English Dukes since

The death of Joan.

The fall of the English power in France.

the days of Henry II. Of all the English king's lands in France, Calais alone remained to him.

11. Henry VI. had now grown up to manhood. He was good, pious, and intelligent, but he was not strong enough, either in mind or body, to rule England. His wife, Margaret of Anjou, had the courage and force which he did not possess. But people hated her because she was a Frenchwoman, and she always thought most of helping her own friends. Under such a king as Henry the nobles could do what they pleased. England was soon almost as full of bloodshed and violence as France had been. Bit by bit Englishmen found out that things would never get better as long as Henry was on the throne. But in 1453 Henry suddenly went mad.

12. As the king seemed useless, men turned to his cousin, *Richard, Duke of York*. York was the grandson and heir of that Earl of March who was descended from Lionel, Duke of Clarence, the second son of Edward III. By birth, then, he was nearer the throne than the king himself. As yet, however, no one thought of making him king. When Henry went mad, York was made *Protector*. But Henry soon recovered and drove York from power. The best chance of good rule was thus lost.

13. York would not be put aside without a struggle. In 1455 he waged war against the king's ministers, and defeated them at the *Battle of St. Albans*. This was the beginning of thirty years of warfare. These wars were known as the Wars of the Roses, from the white rose worn as a badge by the Yorkists and the red rose worn by the Lancastrians. They only ended in 1485. But York was soon cheated out of the fruits of victory, and once more took up arms. At last he claimed the throne, declaring that he was the rightful heir, and that the Lancastrians were usurpers. Henry had not enough spirit to resist vigorously, but Queen Margaret fought with all her might,

Henry VI.'s
weak rule.

Richard,
Duke of
York.

The Wars of
the Roses
and fall of
Henry VI.

and before long she defeated York. But York's son, Edward, proved a more dangerous enemy. He marched to London, and was proclaimed King *Edward IV.* In 1461 he won the *Battle of Towton*, near York. This battle secured him the throne. Margaret fled to France, and Henry was imprisoned in the Tower of London.

14. *Edward IV.* claimed the throne as the nearest heir of Edward III.; but his real claim to rule was claim to the throne. that he was a wiser man and better soldier than the weak Henry VI.

15. Like Henry IV., Edward IV. found it harder to keep his throne than to win it. He had been greatly helped by *Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick*, the wealthiest of the English nobles. So powerful was Warwick that men called him the *king-maker*. But Edward and Warwick now quarrelled. For the moment Edward got the upper hand, and in 1470 Warwick was forced to flee to France.

16. Warwick now made friends with Margaret of Anjou, and agreed to help her to restore her husband to the throne. In a few months he was back in England. This time it was Edward's turn to flee. Warwick now took Henry VI. out of the Tower, and made him king again. Thus, for the second time, he earned his title of "king-maker." Indeed, he was now king in all but name, for Henry had become mad again owing to his misfortunes, and Margaret had not yet returned from France.

17. It was still easier to conquer than to hold England. In 1471 Edward IV. came back to recover his throne. He defeated and slew Warwick in the battle of *Barnet*. Margaret of Anjou soon afterwards returned. But Edward won another victory over her at *Tewkesbury*, and sent her back to France. Through these two battles Edward IV. again became king. Poor Henry VI. was now again his prisoner, and was soon secretly put to death. For the next twelve

years Edward iv. reigned in peace. He kept good order, and summoned parliaments very seldom. He died in 1483, when still quite young.

18. Edward iv. left two sons, *Edward, Prince of Wales*, and *Richard, Duke of York*. The elder of these now became King *Edward V.* He was too young to rule, so his uncle, *Richard, Duke of Gloucester*, Edward V. iv.'s younger brother, was made Protector.

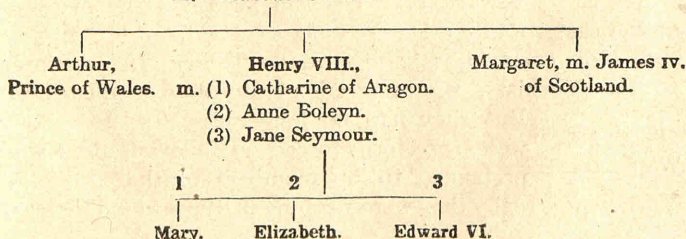
Gloucester was a clever but cruel and ambitious man. In a few weeks he made himself king. The little Edward v. and his brother Richard, Duke of York, were shut up in the Tower of London, and they were probably murdered.

19. Thus Gloucester became King *Richard III.* But he did not gain much by his wickedness. Neither the Yorkists nor the Lancastrians would support Richard III. him. The heir of the House of Lancaster was now *Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond*. Henry's mother, Lady Margaret Beaufort, was a descendant of John of Gaunt, though his father was the son of a Welsh gentleman named Tudor. Richmond had long been in exile. In 1485 he landed in Wales, and received such help from his fellow-countrymen that he was able to make war against Richard. At the battle of *Bosworth* in Leicestershire, Richmond defeated Richard, who lost both crown and life. Thus the House of Lancaster at last won back the throne. The Welshman, Henry Tudor, now became King *Henry VII.*

GENEALOGY OF THE TUDOR KINGS.

Henry VII.,

m. Elizabeth of York.



CHAPTER X

Henry VII., 1485-1509, and Henry VIII.,
1509-1547

Principal Persons :

Elizabeth of York ; Perkin Warbeck ; Arthur and Henry, Princes of Wales ; Ferdinand, King of Spain ; James IV. of Scotland and his wife, Margaret Tudor ; Henry VIII.'s six Wives : Catharine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catharine Howard, Catharine Parr ; Henry's three Children : Mary, Elizabeth, Edward ; Cardinal Wolsey ; Sir Thomas More ; Thomas Cromwell ; Archbishop Cranmer ; James IV. of Scotland ; Pope Clement VII. ; Martin Luther.

Principal Dates :

1485. Accession of Henry VII.	1529. Fall of Wolsey.
1492. Discovery of America.	1534. Pope's Power abolished in England.
1509. Death of Henry VII.	1535. Execution of Sir. T. More.
1509. Accession of Henry VIII.	1540. Execution of Cromwell.
1513. Battle of Flodden Field.	1547. Death of Henry VIII.
1517. Luther begins the Reformation.	

1. *Henry VII.* was an unfeeling and selfish man. But he was far-seeing, careful, and thrifty, and he wished to be king over the whole nation. He now married *Elizabeth of York*, the daughter of Edward IV. By this marriage the disputes of Lancaster and York were at last settled.

2. Not even his marriage made Henry VII. welcome to the Yorkists, who formed many plots against him. But they had no longer any leaders. They were, therefore, forced to follow leaders who pretended to be members of the House of York, when really they were nothing of the sort. The most

The union of York and Lancaster.
The imposture of Perkin Warbeck.

important of these was *Perkin Warbeck*, a foreigner. He claimed to be Richard, Duke of York, the younger son of Edward IV., who was generally thought to have been murdered along with his brother, Edward V. Warbeck played his part so well that many people seriously believed that he really was the Duke of York. For many years he was a dangerous enemy to Henry. But in 1497 he was taken prisoner and shut up in the Tower of London. A little later he was put to death for trying to escape. With his failure the Wars of the Roses came to an end, and no one disputed any longer Henry's claim to the throne.

3. Henry tried to make himself more powerful by marrying his children to great foreign princes. The leading king in Europe in those days was *Ferdinand, King of Spain*. Henry married his eldest son, *Arthur, Prince of Wales*, to Ferdinand's daughter, Catharine of Aragon. Before long, however, Prince Arthur died, and his younger brother, *Henry*, became Prince of Wales. Henry set so much store on the Spanish marriage that he arranged for the marriage of Catharine to the new Prince of Wales, her former husband's brother. The king thus managed to keep the great riches which Catharine had brought from Spain. At the same time he kept her father as his friend. Henry married his eldest daughter, *Margaret*, to *James IV.*, King of Scots. The king hoped that it would make the English and Scots more friendly. At first little came of this hope, but a hundred years later the great-grandson of James and Margaret became king of both England and Scotland.

4. Henry was fond of money, and his subjects grumbled at the heavy taxes which he compelled them to pay. But he used his wealth wisely and he kept good order. *Up to now the nobles had done almost what they liked. The Wars of the Roses had been caused by their constant

The
marriages
of Henry's
children.

How Henry
VII. in-
creased the
royal power.

quarrelling with each other. But Henry gave more power to a court of justice, which was called the *Star Chamber*, because it sat in a room whose ceiling was painted with stars. The chief work of this court was to force the nobles to obey the law. Henry succeeded so well that he became a much more powerful king than those who had gone before him.

5. After Henry VII.'s death in 1509, Henry, Prince of Wales, became *Henry VIII.* All Englishmen agreed that he was their lawful king, and he was able to be bolder than his father. He was very handsome, he dressed splendidly, and amused himself in a magnificent fashion. He made his people love him by his hearty ways. Later on he grew hard and cruel, and at last he became little better than a despot. But, with all his faults, he did a great work.

6. Henry loved power better than anything else, and worked hard at the king's business of ruling the country.

To carry out his schemes he needed clever helpers. At last he found a minister after his own heart in a young clergyman named *Thomas Wolsey*, who rose through his favour to the highest posts in Church and State. He became Archbishop of York, a *Cardinal* of the Roman Church, and the legate, or representative, of the Pope in England. He was also *Lord Chancellor* and chief minister of the king. He lived in a more splendid fashion than the greatest nobles. He spent great sums of money in building schools and colleges. Wolsey took great pains to make England's power again felt abroad. During his ministry, Henry VIII. twice went to war against the French, but did not win much glory. Henry also fought against his brother-

Cardinal
Wolsey.

Wolsey
restores Eng-
lish power
abroad.

in-law, James IV. of Scotland. James was beaten and killed at the Battle of *Flodden Field* in 1513. For a long time after this Henry had no great trouble from the Scots.



King Henry VIII.

(From a Picture belonging to the Earl of Warwick.)

7. Henry had married, as we have seen, Catharine of Aragon, the widow of his brother Arthur. But he fell in love with a lady named *Anne Boleyn*, and became eager to divorce her. He found an excuse for this in pretending that his conscience was uneasy at marrying his brother's widow. Such a marriage was against the law of the Church; but the Pope had *dispensed with*, or specially set aside, this law in the case of the marriage of Henry with Catharine. Now, however, Henry said that even the Pope had not power to do this. Accordingly he went to another pope, *Clement VII.*, and begged him to declare that his marriage with Catharine had never been lawful. He tried to get Wolsey to help him with the Pope, but the Pope did not give way.

8. Henry was very angry with both the Pope and Wolsey. He could not touch the Pope, but he drove Wolsey from all his offices. Next winter he summoned him to London to answer a charge of treason. Luckily for Wolsey, he died on the road.

9. Henry had now to get his marriage declared unlawful by other ways. For many hundreds of years all Europe had believed that the Pope was the head of the Christian Church. But in 1517 a German, named *Martin Luther*, began preaching against the Pope's power, and bringing in many changes in religion. This was the beginning of what is called the *Reformation*, which broke up Europe into different Churches. Luther and his followers were called *Protestants*, because they protested against the Pope, while those who still followed the Pope were called *Roman Catholics*. But the Protestants soon grew numerous in northern Europe. Ever since this time, disputes between Protestants and Catholics have played a great part in the history of Britain and of Europe.

10. Hitherto Henry and England had been in favour of

the Pope and against Luther. But finding that Clement VII. was determined not to allow him to put away Catharine, Henry persuaded Parliament to pass laws which said that the Pope had no power at all in England. *Thomas Cranmer*, the Archbishop of Canterbury, soon declared Henry's marriage with Catharine unlawful. Thereupon the king at once married Anne Boleyn. Soon after, in 1534, Parliament passed a law declaring that Henry was *Supreme Head of the Church of England*. This was called the *Act of Supremacy*.

Henry VIII.
abolishes the
Pope's power
in England.

11. Henry told all his subjects that they must declare that Anne Boleyn was his lawful wife, and that he was supreme head of the Church. Those who refused were to be put to death as traitors. A few brave men, however, ventured to oppose Henry's wishes. The most important of these was *Sir Thomas More*, a very learned and good man, who had succeeded Wolsey as Chancellor. More became so disgusted with the king's acts that he gave up office. Henry then had him condemned to death as a traitor. In 1535 he was beheaded on Tower Hill, outside the Tower of London. His fate frightened less bold men into obeying the fierce king.

Execution of
Sir Thomas
More.

12. Henry soon aimed a new blow against the old Church. Since the days of Augustine a great many of the most pious and devoted of Englishmen and Englishwomen had taken vows to give up the world for the sake of religion. They were called *monks* and *nuns*, and the houses in which they lived were called *monasteries* and *nunneries*. They were not allowed to marry; they had nothing which they could call their own, and they were bound to obey strictly the head of the house and the law of the community. They fed on the coarsest food, and spent most of their time in prayer and meditation. Among them were many of those who had taken the greatest places in English history. But

The Suppression of the
Monasteries.

the great days of the monks had gone by. Many monasteries were too rich, and the monks became idle and extravagant. Henry thought it would be a fine way to make himself rich, if he put an end to the monasteries and seized their lands and money. He called on *Thomas Cromwell*, an old servant of *Wolsey's*, to help him in the matter. Cromwell was clever, selfish, and unscrupulous. In 1536 he began by abolishing the smaller monasteries; and by 1539 he had got rid of them all. Part of the monks' property went to the Church, but most of it went to the king. Henry used some of it to build ships and defend the country. But he gave a great deal away to his friends, and was soon as poor as ever he had been.

13. Cromwell persuaded Henry to make other changes in religion, and it looked as if the king were gradually becoming a Protestant like Luther. Like *Wycliffe*, the reformers translated the Bible into English. The king ordered that a copy of this English Bible should be bought for every parish church, where it was to lie open, that every one might read it.

14. Cromwell, like *Wolsey*, did not keep the king's favour for long. Henry got tired of making changes in the Church, and blamed Cromwell for being too friendly to the Protestants. Since the king had put aside *Catharine of Aragon*, he had had several wives. He soon grew tired of *Anne Boleyn*, and cut off her head. He at once married a third wife *Jane Seymour*. This lady was the mother of Henry's only son, the future *Edward VI.*, but she died soon after his birth. Cromwell then persuaded Henry to take as his fourth wife a German princess, *Anne of Cleves*, hoping to make friends with the German Protestants. But Henry found that *Anne* was ugly and stupid, and put her away at once. His anger fell on Cromwell, and in 1540 he cut off his head.

Anne of
Cleves and
the fall of
Cromwell.

15. Before long the king married a fifth wife, *Catharine Howard*, a cousin of Anne Boleyn's. But she was soon beheaded like Anne, and Henry then found a sixth wife in a young widow named *Catharine Parr*. She was more prudent or lucky than the others, and managed to outlive her husband. The end of Henry VIII.'s reign.

As Henry grew older he became more and more savage. He believed that he had found a "middle way" between the Protestants and the Roman Catholics, and tried to make everybody believe exactly what he believed. He burnt Protestants, because he called them *heretics*, or teachers of false doctrine; and Roman Catholics he beheaded as traitors. But, merciless as he was, he kept England in good order and peace.

16. Henry VIII. left three children. The elder ones were two daughters, *Mary*, whose mother was Catharine of Aragon, and *Elizabeth*, the child of Anne Boleyn. The third was his only son, *Edward*, Prince of Wales, the child of Jane Seymour. Henry VIII.'s children.
On his father's death this prince became Edward VI.

CHAPTER XI

Edward VI., 1547-1553; Mary, 1553-1558; and Elizabeth, 1558-1603

Principal Persons :

The Protector Somerset; the Duke of Northumberland; Lady Jane Grey; Lord Guildford Dudley; Philip II, of Spain; Archbishop Cranmer.

Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots ; Lord Darnley ; Philip II. of Spain ; James VI., King of Scots ; [Christopher Columbus] ; Lord Howard of Effingham ; Sir Francis Drake ; William Shakespeare.

Principal Dates :

- 1547. Edward VI. becomes King.
- 1549. English Prayer-book drawn up.
- 1549. Northumberland drives Somerset from Power.
- 1553. Accession of Mary.
- 1558. Death of Mary.
- 1558. Accession of Elizabeth.
- 1568. Mary Stewart escapes to England.
- 1577-1580. Drake's voyage round the world
- 1587. Execution of Mary Queen of Scots.
- 1588. Defeat of the Armada.
- 1600. East India Company founded.
- 1603. Death of Elizabeth.

1. *Edward VI.* was a boy ten years old, not old enough to reign for himself. His uncle, *Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset*, his mother's brother, was there-fore made Lord Protector. He was to rule on his nephew's behalf. Somerset was a friend of the Reformation. He began to make more changes in the Church. Up to now the services in church had been said in Latin. Thinking that prayers should be said in English, which the people could understand, he set Archbishop Cranmer to work to turn the service-books into English, and to alter them so as to suit the new notions about religion. In 1549 Parliament passed a law that henceforth every church should use the new English service-book, which was called the *Book of Common Prayer*.

2. Many of the ministers were selfish men. They governed England badly, and neither Somerset nor Cranmer was strong enough to keep them in order. At last, in 1549, the people rose in rebellion. Somerset was too weak to put the rebels down, and was therefore driven from power. In his place *John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland*, became

ruler of England. He was more resolute and strong-minded than Somerset, but he was greedy and unscrupulous. He pretended to be a very earnest Protestant, and made further changes in religion. Before long he put Somerset to death.

3. Edward VI. was a thoughtful and serious boy, and an eager Protestant. But his health was poor, and he knew that he had not long to live. It troubled him greatly that his elder sister, Mary, would be Queen of England, as she was no friend of the new religion. When Edward died in 1553, Northumberland tried to make Lady Jane Grey queen. She was the cousin of Edward VI. and his own daughter-in-law. But even the Protestants would not all support him. Lady Jane was a good and pious girl, and worthy of a better fate. She only reigned ten days.

4. *Mary*, Edward's elder sister, then became queen. After the cruel fashion of the time, Mary put Northumberland, the Lady Jane, and her husband to death. Mary drove away the Protestant clergy or put them in prison. Before long she got rid of the Book of Common Prayer and brought back the Latin services. Not contented with that, she persuaded Parliament to agree to recognise the power of the Pope. Thus the old state of the Church was restored as regards everything except the monasteries. The nobles had got most of the monks' lands, and Mary did not venture to make them give them up.

5. It was not only in religion that Mary went back to the old ways. She made friends with Spain, her mother's country, and married her cousin, *Philip II.*, King of Spain, the most powerful king in Europe, and a leading supporter of the Pope. To please her husband, Mary went to war against the French. During the war the French conquered Calais, which had been English since the days of Edward III.

The death of Edward VI., and attempt to make Lady Jane Grey queen.

Mary Tudor becomes queen.

The Spanish marriage.

Mary was so grieved at losing Calais that she said,



Queen Elizabeth.

“When I die, you will find Calais written upon my heart.”

6. Nowadays everybody in England is allowed to believe

what he likes, and worship God after his own fashion. This was not so, however, in early days. Mary was very earnest, and thought that she was doing God's work in stamping out Protestantism. During her reign over three hundred Protestants were burnt to death. Among them was Archbishop Cranmer. Cranmer died declaring his belief in the Protestant religion. The more Protestants Mary burnt, the more Englishmen admired their constancy in suffering. They looked upon them as *martyrs*, that is, as men who had laid down their lives as witnesses to the truth.

The Protestant martyrs.

7. Mary's last years were made unhappy by the feeling that, despite all that she had done, her sister Elizabeth would upset her work as soon as she was dead. Cruel as she was against the Protestants, Mary was a well-meaning and upright woman, and we should pity rather than blame her.

Mary's last years.

8. *Elizabeth*, the new queen, was good-looking, hardworking, and well educated. She was like Henry VIII. in many ways, though less cruel. She had the hearty manners that had made her father popular. She was vain and selfish, and loved to be flattered.

Elizabeth, her ministers and favourites.

Though mean in most things, she wasted money in amusing herself, in buying fine dresses, and in making presents to her favourites. But she was wise in great things, and followed the advice of wise ministers. Elizabeth loved power and ruling more than anything else in the world. She made up her mind that she would never marry, because she would not share power even with a husband.

9. Elizabeth had first to settle the future of the Church. She once more put an end to the power of the Pope in England, and got rid of the Latin services. She brought back the English Prayer-book of Edward VI., and drove from their bishoprics

The Church finally reformed.

all those bishops who remained faithful to the teaching of Queen Mary's days. But, like her father, she was very careful not to alter things too much.

10. Before long the thorough-going Protestants complained that the queen did not go far enough for them.

Elizabeth, Puritans, and the Roman Catholics. These extreme men were called *Puritans*, because they wished for greater purity in the Church. Though the Puritans gave Elizabeth a great deal of trouble, they agreed with

her in opposing the *Roman Catholics*. Elizabeth put many of the Puritans in prison. But she was much more stern to the Roman Catholics. After a few years the Pope sent Roman Catholic missionary clergymen to England to keep up the love for the old doctrines. Nor was this all. The Pope declared that Elizabeth had no right to be queen of England. This made it hard for a good Roman Catholic to be a loyal subject. It gave Elizabeth a good excuse for going back to the policy of Henry VIII., who had put Roman Catholics to death as traitors. Before Elizabeth's death she had hanged as many Catholics for their religion as Mary had burnt Protestants for theirs.

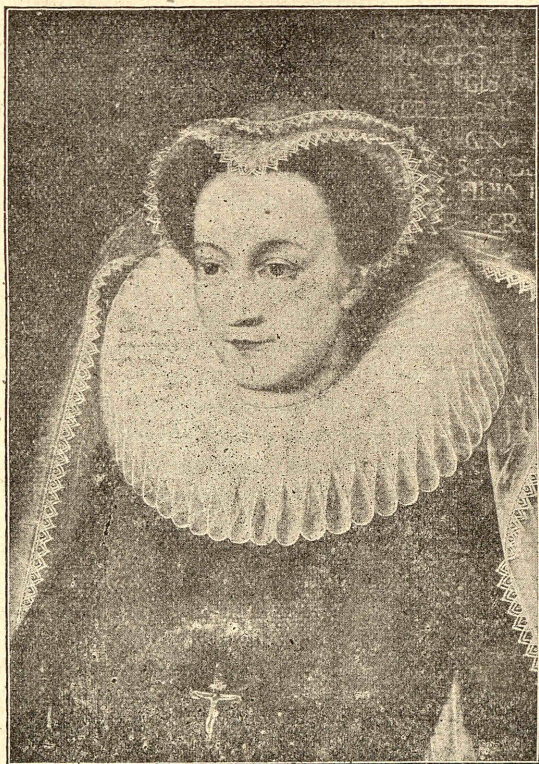
11. Elizabeth had much trouble abroad. She feared both France and Spain. At first the King of France was

her most dangerous enemy. He had married *Mary Stewart* and the Reformation in Scotland. *Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots*, the granddaughter of Margaret Tudor and King James IV. Mary had been Queen in Scotland

ever since she was a baby. She was beautiful and clever, but ambitious and unscrupulous. As long as she was Queen of France, she was a real danger to Elizabeth. But her husband soon died, and then she went back to Scotland. She was, however, a Roman Catholic, and the Scots had lately become Protestants. They were not Protestants like Queen Elizabeth, but strong Puritans. The Scotch Protestant Church became what is called *Presbyterian*—that is to say, it had no bishops, but was governed by little meetings of clergymen equal to each other, called

presbyters. Naturally, Mary did not get on well with the Presbyterians.

12. Mary now fell into serious trouble in her own



Mary Queen of Scots.

country. She had married as her second husband her cousin, *Lord Darnley*, a very foolish and jealous man. Mary soon began to hate him. After a time Darnley was murdered, and everybody in Scotland believed that his wife had set his

Mary
Stewart in
Scotland.

murderers to work. The Scots rose in revolt against Mary and shut her up in a lonely castle, and made her baby son King *James VI.* in her place. But before long she escaped from her prison and tried to win back her throne. She was, however, beaten in battle, and ran away to England.

13. Mary asked Elizabeth for help. Instead of giving it, Elizabeth shut her up in prison. But Mary was more dangerous to Elizabeth than she had been as Queen of France and Scotland. The Catholics rose in revolt to raise her to the throne of England. After Elizabeth had put down their rebellion, they continued to make conspiracies in Mary's favour. Elizabeth's ministers believed that as long as Mary lived Elizabeth would never be safe. They at last accused Mary of having a share in an attempt to murder Elizabeth, and brought her up for trial. In 1587 Mary was condemned and beheaded.

14. With Mary's death Elizabeth's worst troubles passed away. Mary's son, James VI. of Scotland, was a Protestant, and a friend of Elizabeth. And Protestant Scotland had given up the old alliance between Scotland and France, since France still remained a Catholic country, and the Scots hated Catholics more than any other men. So for the first time since the reign of Edward I. England and Scotland were becoming friendly. This was the more important, since James VI. was the next heir to the English throne after Elizabeth's death. It was of no use to kill Elizabeth when the next English king was likely to be the Protestant King of Scots.

15. In her early years Elizabeth kept on fairly good terms with her brother-in-law, Philip II. of Spain. Philip hated Elizabeth's religion, but he wanted her help against the French. But England and Spain soon began to quarrel with each other for religious reasons. There was a country called the Netherlands ruled by Philip of Spain. There were a great

many Protestants in the Netherlands, especially in that northern part of it called *Holland*. Philip cruelly persecuted the Protestants of Holland, and at last the Dutch, as the people of the Netherlands are called, rose in revolt against him. The English helped the Dutch to win their independence from Philip. This made Philip very angry, and he tried to revenge himself by helping all the conspiracies in favour of Mary Stewart. He was the more angry as he was unable to put down the Dutch. They set up a free commonwealth called the *United Netherlands*, which took in all the north of that country. Only the Southern Netherlands, now called Belgium, which were Catholic, remained under Philip's rule.

16. Englishmen and Spaniards soon quarrelled about other things besides religion. In the days of Henry VII., *Christopher Columbus* had discovered the new world called *America*. Though Columbus was an Italian, he was a servant of King Ferdinand of Spain, and his discovery gave the Spaniards the first chance of getting America for themselves. By the time of Philip II. the Spaniards had enormous possessions in America. In Spanish America there were many rich silver-mines, and every year great fleets of Spanish ships sailed home from America, laden with the treasures of her mines.

The discovery of America.

17. Before the days of Elizabeth few Englishmen were fond of the sea, but the stories of the wonderful discoveries made in far-off countries now made them long to travel and win glory and riches. Thus English seamen began to be seen in distant parts of the world, but wherever they went they found the Spaniards in possession. They became angry when they discovered that they were not allowed to trade peacefully with the Spanish colonies. But they saw that the Spanish colonies were too big to be easily protected, and that it was not difficult to rob them. Before long no part of the Spanish Empire was safe from

Quarrels of English and Spanish seamen.

the English sailors. Most of them were zealous Protestants, and believed that they were helping religion by plundering the Catholic Spaniards.

18. The most famous of these English seamen was *Sir Francis Drake*. Between 1577 and 1580 he sailed right round the world, coming back safely to England with his ship laden with riches taken from the Spaniards. He was the first Englishman to make a voyage round the world.

19. All these things made the English and Spanish bitter foes. At last Philip II. resolved to send out a great fleet so that he might conquer England. This fleet was called by the Spaniards the *Invincible Armada*, that is, the fleet which could not be conquered. In the summer of 1588 the Armada appeared in the English Channel. The English had beaten the Spaniards so often before that they were not afraid of them now. Elizabeth made *Lord Howard of Effingham* the admiral of her fleet, and under him were Drake and other old sailors who were lifelong enemies of the Spaniards. The English ships were smaller than the Spanish, but were better managed, and could sail much more quickly. The English were therefore able to attack the Spaniards when they liked, and could always sail away from them if they found them too strong to beat. In this way they worried the Spaniards so much that they gradually lost their courage. Then the English fleet fell upon the Spaniards and defeated them in a pitched battle in the Straits of Dover. Terrible storms destroyed many of the Spanish ships, and few reached home in safety.

20. Elizabeth's victory over the Armada made her famous all over Europe. She remained at war with Spain for the rest of her life, and gained many victories over other Spaniards. From those days onwards Englishmen have remained foremost as sailors and discoverers.

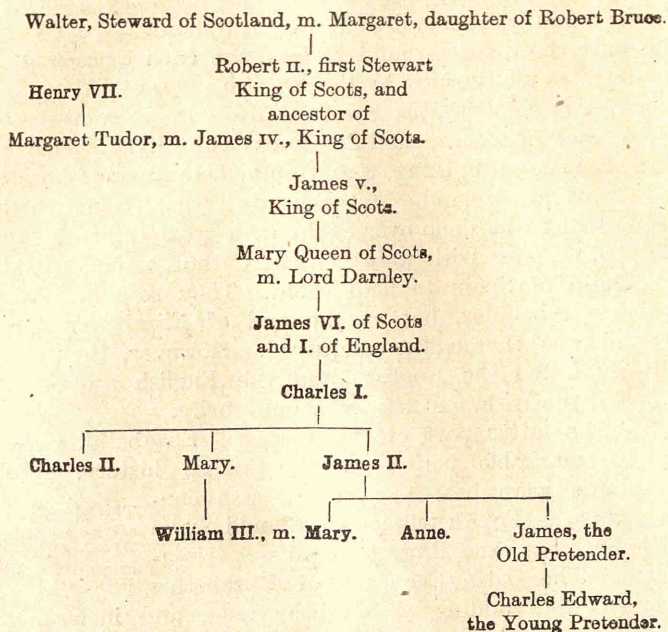
21. In Elizabeth's reign Ireland was first really con-

quered by England. Since Henry II.'s days the King of England had had some little power in Ireland. But only the district round *Dublin*, the Irish capital, was really ruled by the English kings. The Tudor conquest of Ireland.

The rest of Ireland was governed by a large number of chiefs, each of whom could do almost as he liked. Henry VIII. was the first king who resolved to make himself master of all Ireland. But the work that Henry had begun had to be done over again with great difficulty by Elizabeth. The Irish were Roman Catholics, and called on Philip of Spain to help them. They rose in three separate rebellions, but at the end of Elizabeth's life, Ireland was thoroughly conquered. However, the Irish bitterly hated the English, and the English too often despised the Irish, and treated them cruelly.

22. The latter part of the reign of Elizabeth is the most remarkable period in all English history. The Spaniards were beaten; Ireland was conquered; the Pope's missionaries could make little headway, and Protestantism was triumphant. The glories of the end of Elizabeth's reign. The daring voyages of Elizabeth's seamen were adding to English trade, and increasing knowledge of the remotest parts of the world. England was prosperous, happy, and contented. The rich lived more luxuriously and elegantly, and the poor had better wages, and became more comfortable. But the most wonderful thing of all was the large number and fine quality of the poems, books, and plays which were written by Englishmen. It was the age of *William Shakespeare*, the greatest of all writers of plays, in whose dramas and poems we can still see all the energy, vigour, and movement of this famous reign. It was now that Englishmen first began to be like what they have been ever since. They were more restless, active, enterprising, curious, and eager than they had ever been before. For this reason we are often told that Modern Times really begin with the age of the great queen.

GENEALOGY OF THE HOUSE OF STEWART.



CHAPTER XII

James I., 1603-1625 ; Charles. I to the Beginning of the Civil War, 1625-1642

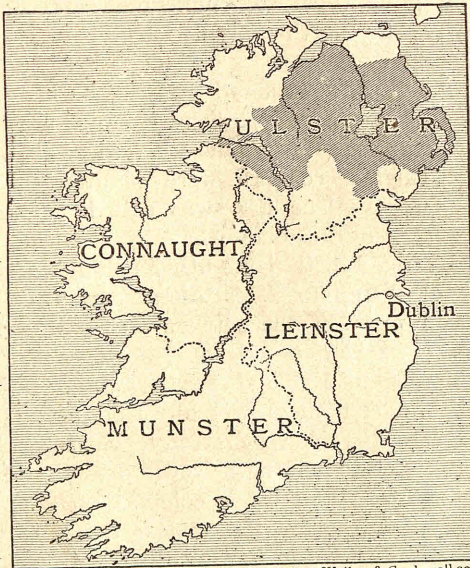
Principal Persons :

Guy Fawkes ; the Duke of Buckingham ; Prince Charles ; the Spanish Infanta ; Queen Henrietta Maria ; John Hampden ; Archbishop Laud ; Lord Strafford.

Principal Dates :

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1603. Accession of James I. | 1625. Accession of Charles I. |
| 1605. The Gunpowder Plot. | 1628. Petition of Right. |
| 1607. Foundation of Virginia. | 1640. Long Parliament meets. |
| 1623. Charles's Voyage to Madrid. | 1642. Civil War begins. |
| 1625. Death of James I. | |

1. For more than a hundred years the Welsh *House of Tudor* had ruled England. Now came the Scottish *House*



The shaded part shows the Protestant districts in Ireland, which resulted from James I's Plantations.

of Stewart which had been united by marriage with the Tudors in the reign of Henry VII. (See table on p. 70.) For hundreds of years the English and Scots had always been quarrelling with each other. Now, at last, they were brought together under the rule of a single king. James was proud

James I. becomes King of Great Britain

of being the king of the two countries. Instead of calling himself King of England and Scotland, he called himself *King of Great Britain*.

2. James was king of Ireland as well as of Great Britain, and he thought it would be a good plan to settle in Ireland a large number of English and Scotch Protestants who would be loyal to him. He drove the native Irish from their lands in eastern Ulster, and gave them to Englishmen and Scotchmen. This is why the north-east of Ireland is still mainly Protestant and British.

3. The sailors and explorers of Elizabeth's reign had shown the way to the fresh lands of North America. Soon after James became king, the first successful English colonies were planted in the new world. The first was called *Virginia*, after Queen Elizabeth, the virgin queen, and was settled in 1607. A little later other colonies were set up far north of Virginia. This district was called *New England*, and most of the settlers there were Puritans.

The first of these were called the *Pilgrim Fathers*. They left their homes in England because James, like Elizabeth, would not let them worship God after just their own way. They were very steady, hard-working, and thrifty men. Before long both New England and Virginia became prosperous, and other colonies grew up. These lands have since become the *United States of America*. English traders also began to send ships with goods to the distant regions of the East, and particularly to *India*. A

company of merchants trading to India was established at the end of Elizabeth's reign. This was called the *East India Company*, and it soon began to build up an extensive trade. Later on, it became mixed up in the internal politics of India, and it was through the Company that British influence was gradually extended over all India. Henceforth British history is not the history of one or two little islands. We

Beginnings
of British
Colonial and
trading
Empire.

The East
India
Company.

have to tell of the fortunes of the British people all over the world.

4. At this same time great changes were beginning in England itself. All the Tudor kings had governed England much as they liked. But the Stewart kings found that they could not go on as the Tudors had done. They were not so wise or so strong as Henry VIII. or Elizabeth. Moreover, Englishmen were now thinking and acting for themselves, and believed that they ought to have a share with the king in the government of the country. The result was that Parliament, which had supported the Tudors, began to oppose the Stewarts. A contest between king and Parliament began under James I., and lasted as long as the Stewarts reigned in England.

5. James I. never understood Englishmen. He was not thrifty and saving, like Elizabeth, but was always in want of money. His chief way of getting money was by asking Parliament to raise new taxes for him. But he took no trouble to please his Parliaments, and was always quarrelling with them.

6. In religious matters James treated harshly both the Puritans and the Catholics, though his own mother had been a Catholic. Some of the Catholics formed plots against him, as they had against Elizabeth. The most famous of these was made in 1605, and called the *Gunpowder Plot*. This was a plan to blow up with gunpowder the king and all his Parliament. Luckily James's ministers found out all about the plot. The Protestants were terribly frightened, and the cruel laws against the Catholics were carried out more strictly than ever, though only a few Catholics had taken part in the plot.

7. James I. easily fell under the rule of favourites. The chief favourite was *George Villiers*, whom James made *Duke of Buckingham*. Buckingham was also a great friend of the king's eldest son, Charles, Prince of Wales.

The Stewarts
quarrel with
their
Parliaments.

Character of
James I

The Gun-
powder Plot.

The old king used to call Buckingham "Steenie," and his son "Baby Charles," and made people laugh at the foolish ways in which he showed his affection.

8. James was fond of peace. As soon as he became king he ended the long war with Spain. He wished his son Charles to marry a daughter of the King of Spain. But the plan failed, and Charles was so angry that he persuaded the old king to make war again on Spain. Soon after, however, James I. died, in 1625.



Charles I.

9. Prince Charles now became King *Charles I.* He was good-looking, serious, and dignified, but he was neither clear-headed nor straightforward. He, too, was under Buckingham's influence. But the

people hated Buckingham, so that Charles had no chance of making himself popular. Charles quarrelled with his Parliaments even more bitterly than James I. had done, though he needed the help of Parliament still more than his father. James had generally been at peace, but Charles was at war with Spain, and required much money to pay his soldiers and sailors. But when he asked his Parliaments for money, they answered that they would only vote for new taxes if he gave up Buckingham. Charles refused, and sent his Parliaments home.

10. Charles turned for help to the King of France, and married *Henrietta Maria*, the sister of the French king. This marriage was not popular in England, because the new queen was a Roman Catholic. War with France and Spain. Moreover, Charles soon quarrelled with France as well as with Spain. This fresh war made him more dependent on Parliament than before.

11. In 1628 a new Parliament drew up what was called the *Petition of Right*. This demanded that Charles should never raise taxes or loans without consent of Parliament, or put people in prison except for lawful reasons. Charles was forced to consent to this, because he could only thus obtain enough money to fight France and Spain. It was the greatest victory that Parliament had won over the king since it had driven Richard II. from the throne. The Petition of Right.

12. Charles prepared an army and fleet to fight the French, but nothing came of all his efforts. Buckingham, who was to have been general of the expedition, was murdered, and Charles was forced to make peace both with France and Spain. Charles sends away his Parliament. Parliament soon met again, and complained that Charles had not honestly kept the *Petition of Right*. It denounced Charles so bitterly that the king put an end to it. For the next eleven years he ruled without any parliament.

13. During these years Charles had to raise money as best he could. He tried by all sorts of clever tricks to

get supplies in ways which did not seem to be against the law. He found out that in earlier days kings had raised a tax for building ships of war, without its being granted by Parliament. This was called *ship-money*. Charles now called upon all his subjects to pay him ship-money. A gentleman named *John Hampden* refused to pay it. He said that

John Hampden resists ship-money.



John Hampden.

no tax was lawful unless it had been agreed upon by Parliament. But the judges decided against Hampden, and declared that the king had a right to ship-money.

14. Charles's way of dealing with religious matters disgusted his subjects even more than his attempts to raise money. He was more opposed to the Puritans than even Elizabeth and James I. had been.

His chief adviser in affairs connected with the Church was *William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury*. Laud was too fond of interfering with things that he had better have left alone. He was so hostile to the Puritans that they thought him little better than a Roman Catholic.

15. Laud and Charles wanted to make the Puritan Church of Scotland more like the English Church. The Scots Presbyterians were now forced to obey the rule of bishops. At last Laud drew up a Prayer-book which Charles ordered the Scots to use. They refused to obey, and rose in revolt. Charles found that neither English nor Scots would fight for him, so that he was compelled to make peace. Thus the Scots Church once more became Presbyterian, and the success of the Scots also encouraged the English to oppose the king.

16. After Laud, Charles's chief adviser was *Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford*. He and Laud called their plans for ruling the people "thorough." Wentworth became governor of Ireland, where he made himself hated through his harsh ways; and there was a great outcry against both him and Laud.

17. Being again in great need of money, Charles was forced once more to call a Parliament, in 1640. It sat for so many years that men called it the *Long Parliament*. Charles was obliged to do what Parliament told him to do. It chose as its leader John Hampden, the man who had denied the king's right to levy ship-money. It then began to attack Charles and his ministers.

18. The Long Parliament hated and feared Strafford more than any of Charles' friends. It therefore passed a law that Strafford should be put to death because he had done so much harm to the country by upholding the king. Charles was so afraid of Parliament that he did not dare to refuse his consent to the law; and Strafford was beheaded on Tower Hill.

Archbishop Laud was shut up in the Tower, and after several years he also was executed like Strafford. It was a cruel thing to treat him so harshly.

19. The Long Parliament passed many wise laws, which made it impossible for any king to rule, as Charles had done, without the support of Parliament. Charles gets the Church party on his side. Hampden and many of its leaders were very strongly in favour of the Puritans; and they wanted the English Church to be made Presbyterian like the Church of Scotland. Many people, who had agreed with the Puritans in punishing Strafford and Laud and in cutting down the king's power, thought that this was going too far. As Charles was much opposed to these changes in the Church, the friends of bishops and the Prayer-book began to support him.

20. By winning over the Church party Charles gained a great many people to his side. As long as almost everybody was against him, Charles had been quite helpless, but now he began to think of fighting his Parliament. He still made many blunders, and disgusted his friends by his want of straightforwardness. This led Parliament to wish to cut down his power still more. Charles thought he was strong enough to resist, and in 1642 went to war against Parliament.

CHAPTER XIII

Charles I. and the Civil War, 1642-1649; the Commonwealth, 1649-1660

Principal Persons :

Oliver Cromwell; Charles II., King of Scots; Richard Cromwell; General Monk; Louis XIV., King of France.

Principal Dates :

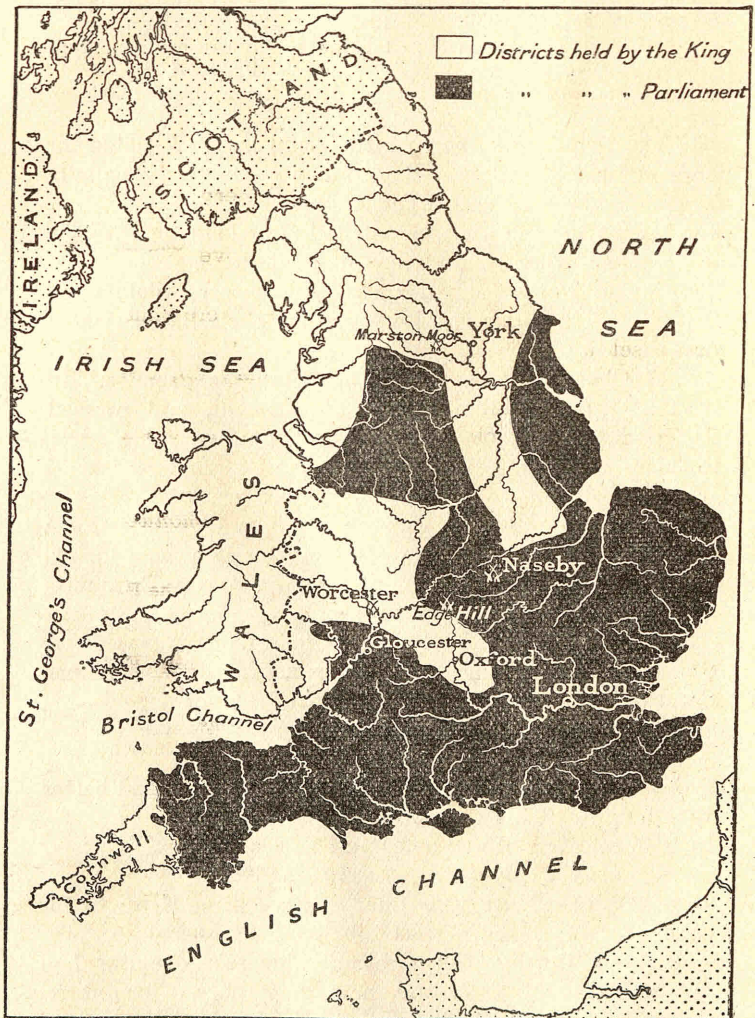
1642. Battle of Edgehill.	1649-1653. Rule of the Rump.
1644. Battle of Marston Moor.	1653-1658. Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector.
1645. Battle of Naseby.	1660. Restoration of Charles II.

1. The *Great Civil War*, which began in 1642, lasted for more than four years. Englishmen were fairly equally divided between king and Parliament. Those who fought for the king were called Royalists Cavaliers and Roundheads. or *Cavaliers*—that is, horsemen or gentlemen. Those who fought for the Parliament were nicknamed *Roundheads*, because the Puritans cut their hair so short that their heads looked round.

2. At first the king did better than his enemies. In 1642 he won the first battle, at *Edgehill*, and pressed Parliament so hard that at last the Scots had to come to their help. In 1644 the Scotch and English together won their first great victory in the *Battle of Marston Moor*, near York. Even after this the king won fresh triumphs. It almost looked as if some of the Parliament's generals were afraid of beating the king too completely.

3. The best soldier on the side of Parliament was *Oliver Cromwell*. He belonged to the same family as Thomas Cromwell, the minister of Henry VIII. Oliver grew angry at the slowness of the parliamentary generals. He drew up a plan for making the army better disciplined, better paid, and better able to fight. This was called the *New Model*. In 1645 the New Model defeated Charles completely at the *Battle of Naseby* in Northamptonshire. Next year Charles gave himself up to his enemies.

4. Even during the fighting Charles's enemies had not agreed very well, and now they began to quarrel fiercely, both as to how England should be governed and how the Church was to be ruled. The Long



England and Wales during the Great Civil War.

WALKER & COCKERELL, DEL.

Parliament took one side, while the New Model army took the other. Both sides wanted to win the king's support. Charles listened to both, but proved true to neither. Once more it was seen that the king was a man whose word no one could trust.

Quarrel of
the army and
Parliament.

5. The army soon got the better of Parliament, and Cromwell became the chief man in the country. He severely blamed the king for his treachery and deceit, and asked that he should be tried as a traitor to the nation. He drove away all those members of Parliament who would not agree to this. Those who were left, who were called *The Rump*, set up a *High Court of Justice*. This court condemned Charles to death, and on January 30, 1649, his head was cut off before his own palace in London. Charles died so nobly and piously that many of those who had distrusted him felt sorrow and pity for his cruel end.

The execu-
tion of
Charles I.

6. The Rump now voted that England should have no more kings, but should be henceforth a *Commonwealth* or Republic. They abolished the House of Lords as well as the Monarchy, so that the House of Commons became the only thing in the State that was left.

The rule of
the Rump.

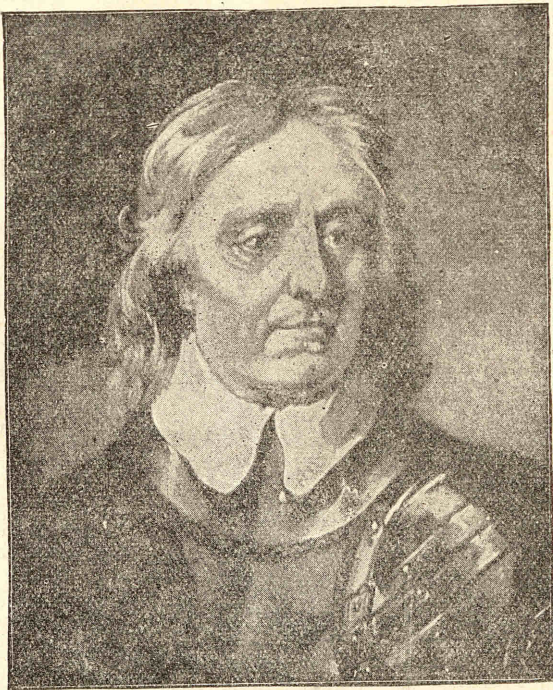
7. The fighting was not yet over. Though England was entirely in the hands of the Rump, the Scots called upon the dead king's eldest son, *Charles, Prince of Wales*, to become their king as Charles II. Besides this, Ireland mostly declared for the young king. The Irish Catholics had no love for the English Church, but they were still more afraid of the Puritans. So the New Model had to conquer Scotland and Ireland before its task was really over. In 1649 Cromwell invaded Ireland, and made himself absolute master of the whole island.

The conquest
of Ireland.

8. In 1650 Cromwell attacked Scotland, and defeated the young king at the *Battle of Dunbar*. Next year Charles made a desperate effort to invade England.

But Cromwell pursued him closely, and beat him utterly at the *Battle of Worcester* in 1651. This was the last fighting that was necessary. Charles managed to escape to France. All the three kingdoms were now in the power of Cromwell.

The conquest
of Scotland.



Oliver Cromwell.

9. Cromwell soon quarrelled with the Rump of the Long Parliament. In 1653 he went down to Parliament and turned out all the members. Thus the army and its general put an end to the House of Commons as well as to the king, the House of Lords, and the old Church. But the soldiers did not like

Cromwell
made Lord
Protector.

it to be thought that the three kingdoms were ruled by the sword alone. The officers therefore drew up a new plan for the government of England. The country was still to be a commonwealth; but there was to be a single person to act as chief ruler with the title of *Lord Protector*. Cromwell was made Protector, and with this title he governed England until his death.

10. Cromwell was as wise as a statesman as he had been as a general. He ruled the country justly. But he was very stern against all who disobeyed him. He quarrelled with his Parliaments as much as Charles I. had done, but he was much more rough in putting down their opposition than the weak king had been. He formed all sorts of plans for the improvement of the country. He was not content that Parliament should represent England and Wales only, but summoned Irish and Scotch members to his Parliaments. He tried to settle the Church question by giving liberty to all sorts of Puritans to worship as they chose. Yet he would not allow Churchmen or Roman Catholics the same freedom. Cromwell's rule was not generally liked. The English royalists, most of the Scotch and Irish, and all English Churchmen and Roman Catholics hated it. And many of Cromwell's own Puritan friends now ceased to support him, since they thought he was becoming a sort of king, and they hated monarchy of any kind. Indeed, before his death Cromwell was offered the title of king by his Parliament. He refused to accept it, because he knew that by doing so he would give offence to his soldiers.

11. The best side of Cromwell's rule is seen in his dealings with foreign powers. He revived the old glory of Elizabeth. Like her, he joined France against Spain. France was now ruled by *Louis XIV.*, the most successful of its later kings. Cromwell and Louis won victories over the Spaniards both by sea and land.

12. Oliver died in 1658. His son, *Richard Cromwell*,

was made Protector in his stead. But Richard was a lazy and foolish fellow. He was soon driven from power by the Army. The Army then brought back the Rump of the Long Parliament to power, but soon began to quarrel with it again.

13. Every one grew tired of this state of affairs. Under the guidance of George Monk, general of the army, a new Parliament was elected which met in 1660, and asked the son of Charles I. to return to England and take up the government. On May 29, 1660, which was his birthday, *Charles II.* entered London. Thus was brought about what was called the *Restoration*. And everybody rejoiced that the rule of the soldiers and Puritans was over, and that the king had come back to his own again.

Fall of
Richard
Cromwell.

Monk
restores
Charles II.

CHAPTER XIV

Charles II., 1660–1685, and James II., 1685–1688

Principal Persons :

Louis XIV. of France ; James, Duke of York ; the Earl of Shaftesbury.

Principal Dates :

1660. Accession of Charles II.	1673. Test Act passed.
1661. Bombay ceded to Britain.	1678. The Popish Plot.
1665. The Great Plague of London.	1685. Accession of James II.
1666. The Great Fire of London.	1688. Fall of James II.

1. *Charles II.* was by far the cleverest of the Stewart kings. He understood Englishmen better than his father had done, and was willing to let them have some of their own way so long as they were willing to keep him as their king. But he was selfish and pleasure-loving. He set a very bad example to his subjects, which many of them followed too

Character of
Charles II.

faithfully. There was soon a great deal of grumbling. Yet Charles was so shrewd, good-natured, and witty that he never altogether lost his popularity.



Charles II.

(From a Portrait by Sir Peter Lely in Christ's Hospital.)

2. King and Parliament set to work together to make things once more as they had been before the Civil War.

Cromwell's army was broken up. A few regiments, however, were kept under arms, and these regiments were the beginning of the modern "standing army." Cromwell's union of England with Scotland and Ireland was given up, and both Scotland and Ireland got back their own Parliaments. In Scotland bishops were restored in the Church, and the Presbyterians were badly treated. The English Church was made what it had been before the Rebellion, and the Prayer-book and bishops were brought back. The Puritans were now very unpopular, and few people cared what became of them. Many of the Puritans set up separate churches of their own. They were called *Dissenters*, because they "dissented" or disagreed with the Church. They were not allowed to build chapels of their own or meet together for worship. Parliament, which before the Civil War had been on the side of the Puritans, now passed many harsh laws against the Dissenters.

3. In some things Charles II. tried to follow in Cromwell's footsteps. He kept up Cromwell's friendship with France. But Charles could not hold his own against Louis XIV. like Cromwell. Before long he began to take bribes from the French king. Moreover, Louis XIV. was now so powerful that Englishmen were growing afraid of him. These things made the French alliance unpopular in England.

4. Charles II. was as careful as Cromwell to protect English commerce and colonies. He fought two wars against the Dutch, Britain's chief rival at sea. As time went on, the English took away from the Dutch much of their trade. But Dutch and English became better friends, as they both had to join together against Louis XIV. In one of the wars against the Dutch, England captured the chief Dutch colony in North America. The English now gave it the name of *New York*, in honour of the king's brother, the Duke of York. Other new colonies were also set up in America.

5. In India, as elsewhere, European traders now appeared. There was much rivalry between the English and their European competitors, the Dutch, the Portuguese, and the French. The supreme power in India was the Mogul Emperor at Delhi. He allowed the foreign merchants to establish and fortify trading stations. The East India Company set up the first of these at Madras in 1639. It received from Charles II., in 1661, the island of Bombay, which he had obtained as part of the marriage portion of his Portuguese queen. Calcutta was founded later in 1690. From these centres the Company traded so successfully that it soon became stronger than its rivals.

The English
in India.

6. Two heavy troubles fell upon London during the reign of Charles II. In 1665 there broke out the *Great Plague of London*. So many people died of the disease that they had to be buried in great pits which held hundreds of bodies. Next year (1666) there was the *Great Fire*, which burnt down a large part of the city of London. But some good came from the fire, for the town was rebuilt in more healthy fashion. The streets were made broader, and the houses were built of brick instead of wood.

The Plague
and Fire of
London.

7. After the Restoration the harsh laws passed against the Catholics were not carried out so strictly as before, and many important persons turned Catholic. The chief of these was *James, Duke of York*, the younger brother of Charles II., and the next heir to the throne. Charles himself cared very little about religion. He tried to give toleration both to the Catholics and to the Protestant Dissenters; but Parliament was against any toleration. In 1673 it passed a law called the *Test Act*, which prevented Roman Catholics from holding any office. Men remained jealous and suspicious of the Roman Catholics for many years, and were willing to believe anything that was said against them.

The Test Act.

8. The cleverest statesman of these days was the *Earl*

of *Shaftesbury*. He had once been one of the king's ministers, but had been driven from power, and was anxious to get office again. He was unscrupulous, and did not care what he did if he could get what he wanted.

The Habeas
Corpus Act
and the Ex-
clusion Bill.

He persuaded Parliament to pass some wise laws. The best was the *Habeas Corpus Act* of 1679, which made it harder to shut up innocent people in prison. He tried to get Parliament to pass a bill excluding the Duke of York from the throne because he was a Catholic. But the House of Lords rejected the bill.

9. England was now divided into two parties, one for Shaftesbury, the other against him. Shaftesbury's friends were called *Whigs*, while his enemies were called *Tories*. At last Shaftesbury escaped to Holland, and died there. For the rest of Charles II.'s life the Tories remained in office.

Whigs and
Tories.

10. Charles II. died in 1685, and the Duke of York became King *James II*. James was much duller than his brother, and had many of the faults of Charles I. The best thing about him was his devotion to the Roman Catholic Church. He had run the risk of losing the throne rather than give up what he believed to be true. Now that he had become king, he saw that he owed his throne to the support of the Tories, who were mostly Protestants. He said that he would let the Protestant Church go on as it was, provided that he could worship God after his own fashion. For a short time everything went well. Charles's Tory ministers were kept in office, and James ruled by their advice. When Parliament met, it supported the new king.

11. Unable to win power by other means, some of the Whigs started a revolt against James. Their leader was the king's nephew, the *Duke of Monmouth*. But James put down the rebellion at the *Battle of Sedgemoor* (1685), in Somerset, the

Monmouth's
rebellion.

last pitched battle fought in England. Monmouth was put to death, and his followers were very cruelly treated.

12. James now began to adopt a bolder policy. He thought it unfair that Roman Catholics should be kept out of all offices by the Test Act, so he set to work to get round the law. He claimed what was called a *Suspending Power*—that is, a right of stopping any law being carried out if he were so minded. He then filled the army and navy with Catholic officers. At last he issued what he called a *Declaration of Indulgence*—that is, he declared that he would suspend all the laws which prevented men worshipping God after their own fashion.

The suspending power.

13. James hoped to unite Roman Catholics and Protestant Dissenters to attack the Church. But the Dissenters distrusted him, and before long all Protestants joined together to save the liberties of England and Protestantism.

General opposition to James.

14. James was an old man, and up to now his next heir had been his daughter, the *Princess Mary*. She was a good Protestant, and had been married to her cousin, *William, Prince of Orange*, the chief ruler of the Dutch Republic, and the leading Protestant in all Europe. But now a son was born to James. This child was to be brought up a Catholic, and it looked as if the line of Catholic kings would go on for ever. This was more than the English could endure. Some leading men of both the Whig and Tory parties met together, and agreed to invite the Prince of Orange to come over to England and save the country from King James. William promised to do this. He landed in Devonshire and at once marched to London. James found that no one would fight for him, and ran away to France. A Parliament met, and offered the throne to William and Mary, who accepted it. Thus was brought about what most Englishmen called the *Glorious Revolution* of 1688. It ended the long struggle of king

The Revolution of 1688.

and Parliament that had began with the accession of James I. And it ended it by driving out a king who had tried to set himself up against his people, and by making a new king by Act of Parliament. Parliament thus became the strongest power in the English state.

CHAPTER XV

William III., 1689-1702 ; Mary II., 1689-1694 ;
and Anne, 1702-1714

Principal Persons :

Princess Anne ; James, the Old Pretender ; Sophia, Electress of Hanover ; Louis XIV ; The Duke of Marlborough ; Philip, King of Spain.

Principal Dates :

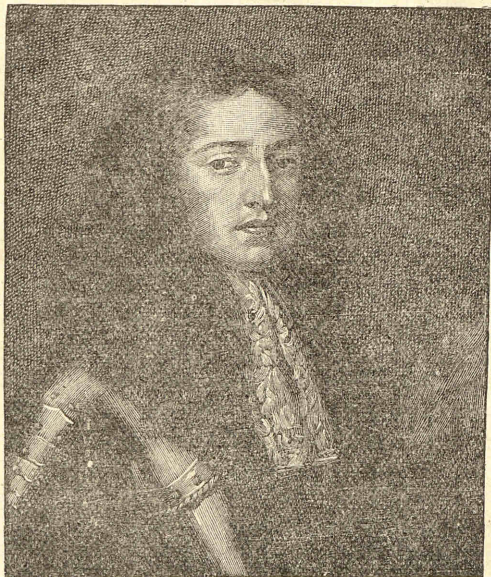
1690. Battle of the Boyne.	1704. Battle of Blenheim.
1694. Death of Mary.	1707. Union with Scotland.
1702. Death of William III.	1713. Peace of Utrecht.
1702. Accession of Anne.	1714. Death of Anne.

1. *William III.* was a grandson of Charles I., and Queen *Mary II.* was a daughter of James II. They reigned because they had been asked to rule by Parliament. Parliament, however, was careful not to break away from the ordinary line of succession any more than it could help. This was why it made Mary share the throne with her husband. We always call the king's wife the queen, but it is only in Mary's case that we call the reign after the queen's name as well as after the king's. The

William and Mary made king and queen by Parliament.

reason is that Mary was a reigning queen, like Elizabeth and Victoria.

2. Parliament now passed some laws to prevent any future king acting as James II. had done. The chief of these was called the *Bill of Rights*. It declared that no king had a right to a suspending power such as James II. had claimed. It also said that Roman Catholics should



William III.

not be allowed to rule in England. By other laws it was arranged that if William and Mary died without children, the next ruler should be Mary's younger sister, *Anne*. If *Anne* died without children, *Sophia, Electress of Hanover*, and her Protestant descendants were to succeed to the throne. *Sophia* was a grand-daughter of James I. She was chosen because she was the nearest Protestant

The Bill of Rights and the Toleration Act.

relative of the king and queen. Another law of the same time was the *Toleration Act*, which gave the Protestant Dissenters a right to worship freely in their own chapels.

3. Unlike the Stewart kings, William III. strictly obeyed the law, and was forced to govern in a fashion that pleased Parliament. Parliament only gave him enough money to carry on the Government from year to year, and so kept power in its own hands. William was thus forced to choose all his ministers from the party that was strongest in Parliament. At first William chose some Whigs and some Tories to be his ministers. But a Whig Parliament forced him to dismiss the Tories from office, and keep no ministers except Whigs. When, a few years later, the Tories got the majority in Parliament, William was forced to have none but Tory ministers. Thus began what is called "party government" in England, which has lasted ever since. Its result was to hand over to Parliament a great deal of the power the kings had had up to that time.

4. William III. had to fight hard before he made himself master of Ireland and Scotland. The Irish Roman Catholics supported James, who went to Ireland and reigned there for some time. But in 1690 William defeated James at the *Battle of the Boyne*, and soon drove him out of the island. Thus Ireland was once more conquered. The Catholics were punished for supporting James. They lost nearly all their land, and only Protestants were allowed to govern the country. This state of things lasted for more than a hundred years.

5. The Scots followed the example of the English, and drove James II. from the throne. They chose William and Mary as king and queen, and abolished bishops in the Scottish Church. Ever since that time the Church of Scotland has remained Presbyterian. Before long, however, the *Highlanders*, who dwelt in the hills in the north of Scotland,

rose in revolt in favour of James II. But after winning a battle the Highlanders went home, and so the friends of King William got the upper hand.



Queen Anne.

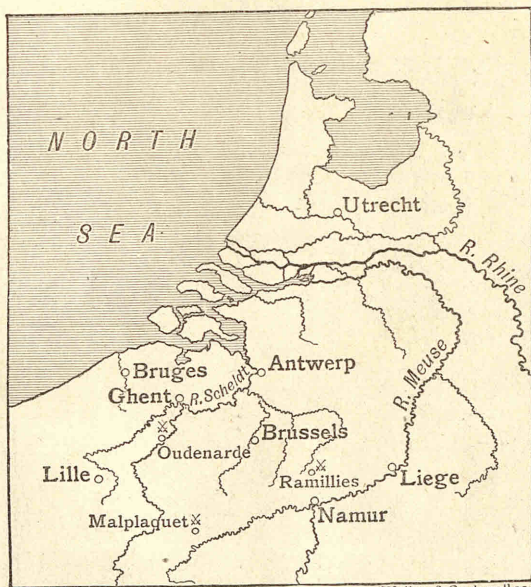
(From a Portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller.)

6. After James II. was driven from England, he got help from Louis XIV. of France. William III. had been long struggling against the power of France. He now

persuaded the English to declare war against Louis. For eight years the English and French went on fighting.

The war
against
France.

England was not very successful on land, but gained a complete victory over the French at sea. At last peace was made. This war cost so much that William was not able to pay for it year by



Map of the Netherlands to illustrate Marlborough's Campaigns.

year. He had to borrow money and pay interest upon it. This is the beginning of the *National Debt*.

7. Queen Mary died in 1694. She was more English and was more beloved than William. William was a

William III.
and the
Jacobites.

very able man, but he took no pains to understand English ways, and became so unpopular that many attempts were made to bring back his father-in-law to the throne. James II.'s friends were

now called *Jacobites*. This word comes from *Jacobus*, the Latin for James. Louis XIV. still supported James II., and when he died the French king recognised his son as James III. This made William and the English so angry that they made ready to fight Louis again. But before anything could be done, William III. died, in 1702.

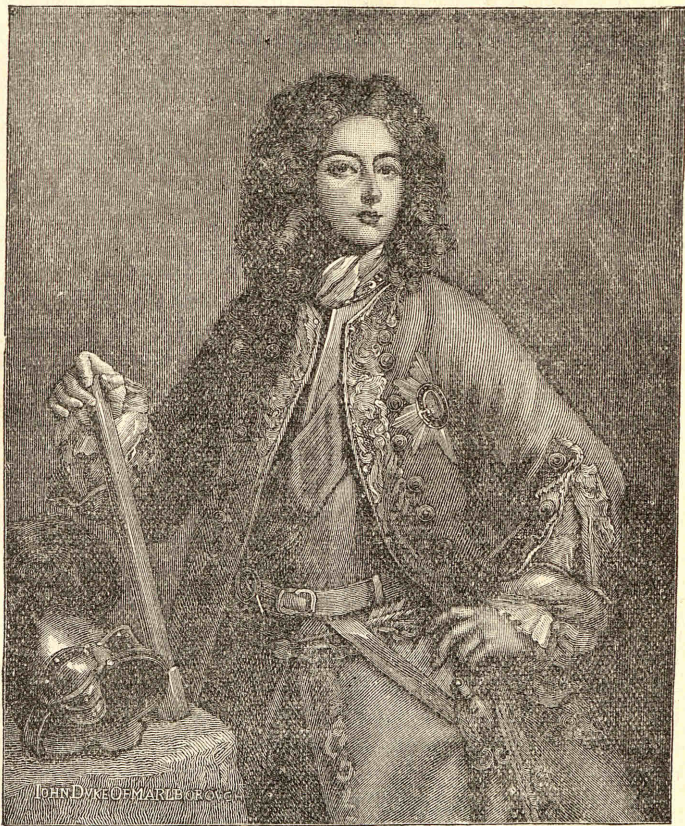
8. William was succeeded by Queen *Anne*, who was kind and good-natured, but not very clever. For several years the most powerful person in England was the Duke of Marlborough, who was both general ^{Anne and} Marlborough. of the army and chief minister.

9. The war that was now fought was called the *War of the Spanish Succession*. Louis XIV. wished to make his grandson *Philip* king of Spain. England, ^{The War of} Holland, Austria, and many other states ^{the Spanish} joined together in what was called the *Grand Succession*. *Alliance* in order to prevent him. Their chief reason for doing this was that they were so much afraid of the power of France that they did not wish France and Spain to be joined together.

10. During this war Marlborough won many famous victories over the French. They were fought at *Blenheim*, in Germany, in 1704; and at *Ramillies*, ^{Marl-} at *Oudenarde*, and at *Malplaquet* in the ^{borough's} Netherlands. In this war the English captured ^{victories.} the rock of *Gibraltar* in the south of Spain, which has remained British ever since. But the British could not drive Philip out of Spain, because nearly all the Spaniards supported him.

11. The war was very bloody and costly. Before long people began to wonder why peace was not made. In particular the Tories became very anxious to end the war. Marlborough had always been ^{The Tory} a Tory, but he was so eager to go on fighting ^{Ministry and} that he joined the Whigs. His ministry, which ^{the Treaty of} had been Tory, thus became Whig. But the Whigs made ^{Utrecht.} the mistake of continuing the war longer than was necessary.

Soon a great cry rose for peace. The Tories got a majority in Parliament, and drove Marlborough from office. The



John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough.

(From a Portrait belonging to Earl Spencer, K.G.)

Tories now made peace with France by the *Treaty of Utrecht*, signed in 1713.

12. A great event of Queen Anne's reign was the union between England and Scotland. Though England and

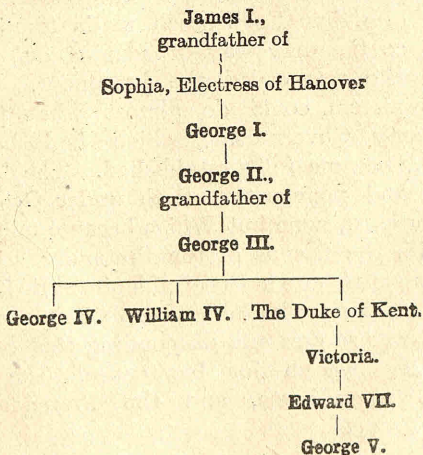
Scotland had had one king since 1603, each country was still governed in its own way; and, except in Cromwell's time, each country kept a separate Parliament. But this did not work well, and the English and Scots disagreed so much that it seemed likely that the union of the crowns would come to an end. To avoid these quarrels, and with the consent of both countries, the *Act of Union* was passed in 1707. Henceforward a single Parliament of Great Britain sat at Westminster. In this Scotland was represented both in the House of Lords and in the House of Commons. But Scotland kept her own Presbyterian Church. The union was not popular at first in either country, but it was a wise measure, and turned out a great success.

The union
with
Scotland.

13. Queen Anne died in 1714. She had married Prince *George of Denmark*, and all her children had died before her. She was succeeded by George I., Elector of Hanover, and great-grandson of James I. Thus the *House of Hanover* succeeded the House of Stewart.

The last years
of Queen
Anne.

GENEALOGY OF THE HOUSE OF HANOVER.



CHAPTER XVI

George I., 1714–1727, and George II., 1727–1760

Principal Persons :

The Old Pretender ; Sir Robert Walpole ; Maria Theresa ; the Young Pretender ; the Duke of Cumberland ; the Duke of Newcastle ; William Pitt ; General Wolfe ; Robert Clive ; Dupleix.

Principal Dates :

1714. Accession of George I.	1742. Fall of Walpole.
1715. The Jacobite Revolt.	1745. Jacobite Revolt.
1720. The South Sea Bubble.	1757. Battle of Plassey.
1727. Death of George I.	1759. Capture of Quebec.
1727. Accession of George II.	1760. Death of George II.

1. *George I.* was more than fifty years of age when he became king. He knew nothing of England, and never learnt English. No one cared much for him, but Englishmen made him their king as the only way of keeping out the son of James II., who was called the Pretender. Under this rule the ministers could do almost what they liked, and so Party Government, which had begun with William III., became fully established. The Tories now lost power and popularity. Both under George I. and his son, George II., none but Whigs became ministers.

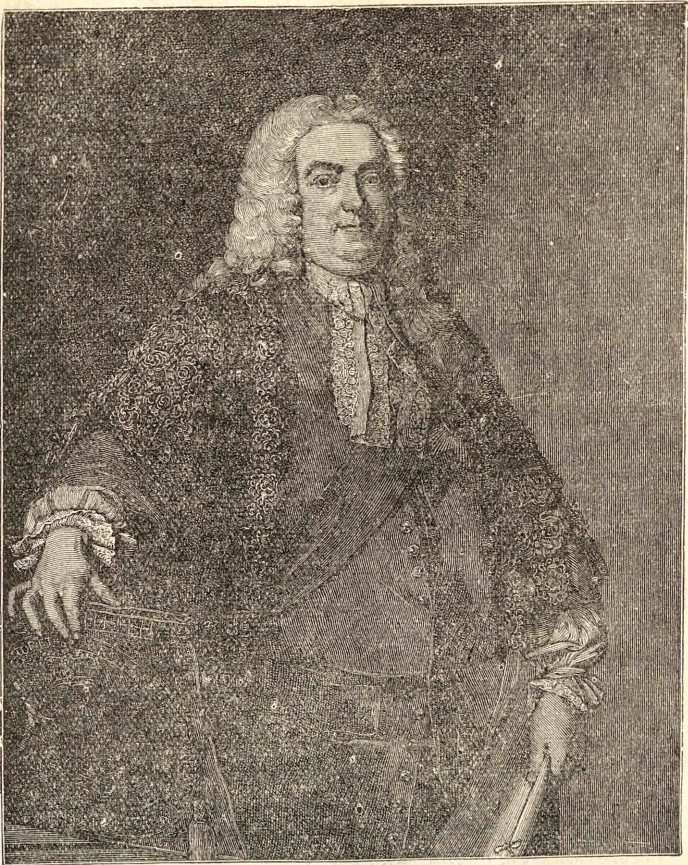
2. In 1715, the friends of the Pretender stirred up a rebellion against George in the Highlands of Scotland. The Pretender himself went to Scotland. But he was so dull and desponding that he killed all enthusiasm for his cause. The disgusted Highlanders went home, and the Pretender quickly returned to France.

3. Ever since the Peace of Utrecht, England had been very prosperous. Men were making much money in trade, and were looking out for good ways of getting a high interest for their savings. A great many people put their money into a company called the *South Sea Company*, started to trade with South America, and into similar companies, many of which were mere swindles. After a while trust gave way to panic. The *South Sea Bubble*, as the movement was called, had been blown so big that it burst. Many people were ruined, and the whole country was plunged into deep distress. This happened in 1720. The East India Company, which was solidly established, survived the trouble.

4. Some of those ruined by the South Sea Bubble found out that the king's ministers had been bribed by the South Sea Company. A great outcry rose against them, and they were driven from office. *Sir Robert Walpole* was now made chief minister. He had the best head for figures of any one in the country, and took such wise measures that the panic was soon at an end. He remained in office for more than twenty years. Long before he fell, George I. died, in 1727.

5. *George II.* was a thorough German, but he knew more about England than his father. He wisely kept Walpole in office. Walpole soon won so strong a position that all the other ministers were forced to obey him. He was the first minister who was called *Prime Minister*. As long as he remained in power, he kept England at peace. He was a very prudent statesman. Under him the people became so contented with the House of Hanover that the Jacobites had no chance of bringing back the Pretender. As Walpole grew old, however, there was a great outcry for war against Spain. The merchants complained that the Spaniards would not let them trade with the Spanish colonies in South America. Very unwillingly Walpole

gave way, and in 1739 declared war. But he did not carry it on vigorously, and in 1742 he was driven from office.



Sir Robert Walpole.

(From the Picture by Van Loo in the National Portrait Gallery.)

6. Before Walpole's fall the war with Spain had grown

into a war with France also. The struggle was called the *War of the Austrian Succession*. England supported the claim of *Maria Theresa*, a young girl, to the Austrian throne, while France and other powers wanted to divide her dominions between them.

The War of the Austrian Succession.

7. One result of the war was that the Jacobites again rose in revolt against the House of Hanover. James, the Old Pretender, was still alive, but the real head of the Jacobites was now his son, *Charles Edward*, called the *Young Pretender*.

The Jacobite Revolt of 1745.

Charles Edward was good-looking, bright, and enthusiastic, and a much better leader of men than his melancholy father. In 1745 he landed in the Highlands. The Highlanders gave him a hearty welcome, and he was soon master of nearly all Scotland.

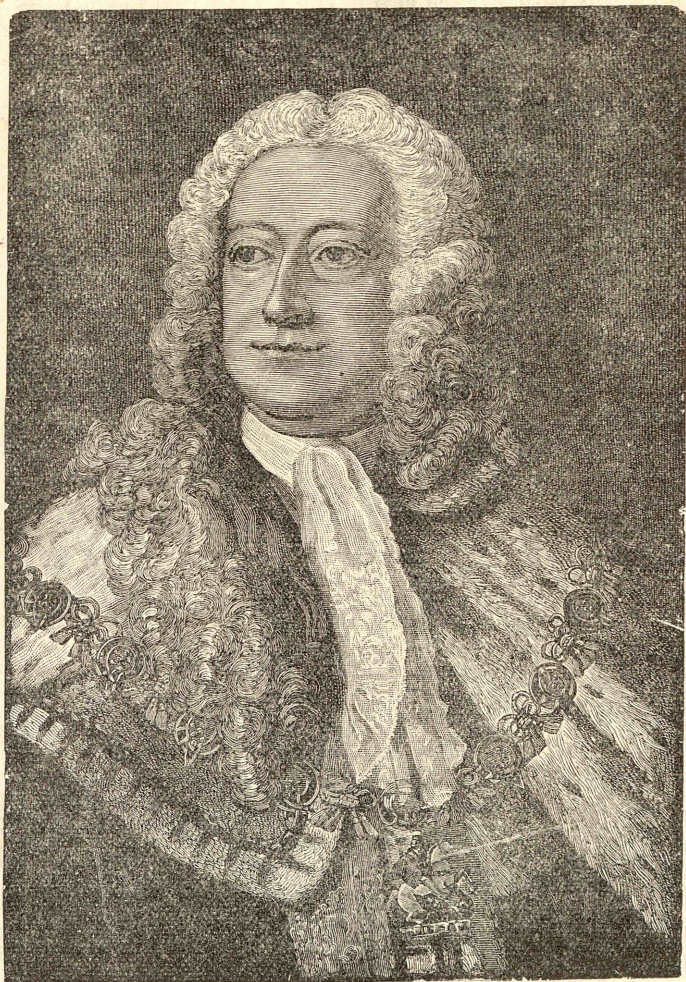
8. The *Young Pretender* now invaded England. He advanced south as far as *Derby*; but so few of the English joined him, that he had to retreat rapidly to Scotland. In 1746, he was defeated by the king's second son, the *Duke of Cumberland*, at *Culloden Moor*, near *Inverness*. The Highland revolt was cruelly put down by *Cumberland*, and *Charles Edward* escaped to the Continent. He lived for many years, but soon lost all influence. Henceforth the House of Hanover remained firmly established on the throne.

The march to Derby, and the Battle of Culloden.

9. The period after the fall of *Walpole* was a dull time. The Whigs continued to govern the country. Most of their leaders were great noblemen or land-lords who cared very little about the common people. They kept themselves in power by bribery. Yet, with all their faults, they did not govern badly. They were clear-headed, sensible men of business, but there was nothing noble or inspiring about them. About this time their leader was the *Duke of Newcastle*, an incompetent man.

Newcastle and the Whig nobles.

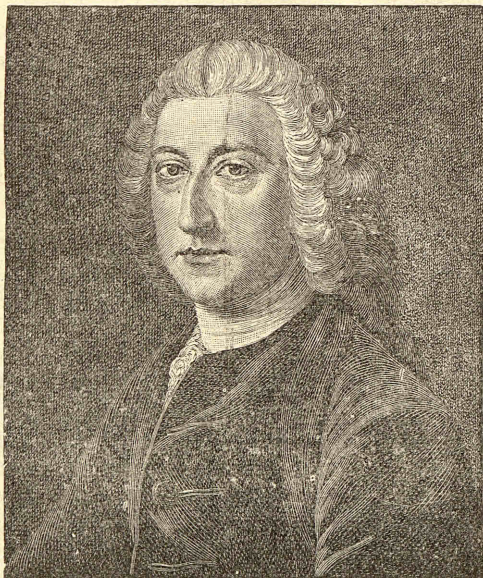
10. Fortunately, England had a far greater statesman



George II.

(From the Portrait by Thomas Hudson in the National Portrait Gallery.)

in *William Pitt*. Pitt did not belong to one of the great Whig families, and was never a good man of business. But he was wonderfully eloquent, high-minded, and patriotic. He had a lofty scorn for the bribers and wirepullers. He was extremely popular with the mass of Englishmen, who called him the *Great Com-*



The Right Hon. William Pitt, Paymaster of the Forces,
afterwards Earl of Chatham.

(From a Painting by Hoare.)

moner. Unluckily, Pitt had not so much influence with the House of Commons as with the people. In those days the members of the House of Commons were chosen by very few electors. While Pitt had great power over the people, Newcastle had more authority over the Parliament.

11. During these years France and England again drifted into war. Troubles began with a struggle between the French

and English for mastery in *America* and *India*. We have seen how, since the days of James I., the English had set up colonies on the eastern coast of North America. These were now thirteen in number, and had become very prosperous. But the French had also colonies in North America. The chief of these was *Canada*, which lay along the great river St. Lawrence, while the next important was *Louisiana*, on the Lower Mississippi. The French wished to join *Canada* and *Louisiana* together, and so to shut up the English on the east coast. There was fighting in the backwoods of America, and at first the French defeated the English.

12. There was a similar struggle between the English and French in *India*. Up to now *India* had been ruled by the Mogul Emperors, and the English and French only went there as traders. But the great Mogul Empire was now breaking up and many princes struggled with each other for supremacy. These divisions gave the European traders established in some of the ports a chance of becoming politicians as well as men of business. A Frenchman of genius, Dupleix, first saw how French influence might be extended by lending soldiers to the Indian princes in their contests with each other. At first he was so successful that he made the French power felt all over southern *India*, and the English at *Madras* were hard pressed by him. Meanwhile the *Nawab of Bengal* captured the British Company's settlement at *Calcutta*. The officers of the *Nawab* shut up the British prisoners in a room called the *Black Hole of Calcutta*. In one hot night nearly all the prisoners perished from the heat and overcrowding.

13. In Europe, as the result of these troubles, war broke out in 1756 between England and France. Newcastle was then Prime Minister, but was quite incompetent to carry on the war, and disasters fell upon the British in every part of the world. Newcastle then made an alliance with Pitt, who

Quarrels of
English and
French in
America,

and in *India*.

The Seven
Years' War.

joined with him in the ministry in 1757. Pitt's faith, courage, and enthusiasm soon changed the whole face of affairs. He had a wonderful power of choosing the right



Robert Clive.

(From the Original Painting by Nathaniel Dance, R.A., at Walcot.)

men to lead the fleets and armies, and of inspiring them with his own faith in the greatness of England. He sent *General Wolfe* to conquer Canada from the French. In 1759 a battle was fought outside *Quebec*, the capital of

Canada. Though Wolfe was killed in the fight, the French were utterly beaten, and all Canada was soon conquered. Equal success attended British arms in India. *Robert Clive*, a genius as great as Dupleix, then an officer of the East India Company at Madras, imitated Dupleix's methods and restored for the British the commanding position in the south that Dupleix had threatened. After the loss of Calcutta, Clive was sent north and in 1757 defeated the Nawab of Bengal at the *Battle of Plassey*. A few years later the *diwani*, or financial control, of Bengal passed from the Nawab to the East India Company. Thus the British Empire in India began. Thanks to the genius of William Pitt, the Seven Years' War, which had begun so badly for Britain, had now become the most glorious and successful war that it had fought since the days of Marlborough. It was still going on when George II. died in 1760, and was succeeded by his grandson, George III.

CHAPTER XVII

George III., 1760-1820

Principal Persons :

William Pitt, Earl of Chatham ; the Duke of Newcastle ; Lord North ; Admiral Rodney ; William Pitt the Younger ; Charles James Fox ; Admiral Nelson ; Napoleon Bonaparte ; Joseph Bonaparte ; Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington ; George, Prince Regent. For Warren Hastings and the Marquis Wellesley, see p. 121

Principal Dates :

- 1760. Accession of George III.
- 1763. End of the Seven Years' War.
- 1770. Lord North becomes Prime Minister.

- 1773. North's Regulating Act.
- 1783. American Independence granted.
- 1783. Pitt becomes Prime Minister.
- 1784. Pitt's India Bill.
- 1789. Outbreak of the French Revolution.
- 1800. Union of Britain and Ireland.
- 1805. Battle of Trafalgar.
- 1815. Battle of Waterloo.
- 1820. Death of George III.

1. *George III.* was born in England, and was proud of it. He was not quick, but he was persevering, and he wanted as much power as the law allowed him. He saw how the Whigs under George I. and George II. had taken away many of the powers that the king had once enjoyed. For that reason he hated the Whigs bitterly, and drove them from office as soon as he could. He ended the war with France in 1763. He was in such a hurry to make peace that he did not win for Britain all that she might have got. Nevertheless, it was a very profitable peace for Britain. By it Britain kept Canada and Bengal.

George III. and the Whigs.

2. George's chief desire was to choose his own ministers freely. Since the Revolution of 1688 the kings had gradually been forced to take as their ministers the leaders of the party that was strongest in the House of Commons. George wished to go back to the earlier custom, and have whatever ministers he thought best. At last George found a minister to please him in *Lord North*, the first Tory Prime Minister since Queen Anne's time. North remained in power from 1770 to 1782.

George aims at choosing his own ministers.

3. The great event of Lord North's ministry was the *revolt of the American colonies*. The Seven Years' War had cost England a great deal, and George thought that the Americans ought to pay something towards it. He therefore got Parliament to pass a *Stamp Act* which called on the Americans to pay certain stamp duties to the English

Revolt of the American Colonies.

Government. The Americans were very angry. They said that they ought not to be taxed by the British Parlia-



George III. in 1767.

(From a Painting by Allan Ramsay in the National Portrait Gallery.)

ment, because they sent no members to it. They raised such an outcry that the law taxing America was repealed.

But before this was done grave troubles had taken place. The Americans raised an army and revolted against King George. War broke out in 1775, and immediately afterwards the Americans issued a *Declaration of Independence*. In this they declared that they would be no longer subjects of King George. The thirteen colonies all joined together, and took the name of the *United States of America*.

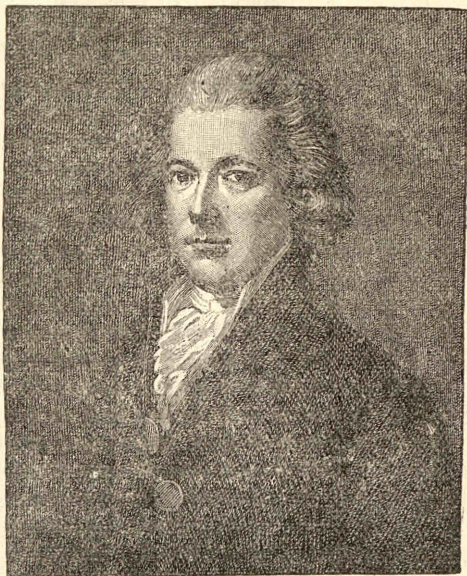
4. Many people in England had sympathised with the Americans when they resisted the new taxes. Among these was William Pitt, who had now become *Earl of Chatham*. He rejoiced that America had resisted George III. But the whole blame of the war did not rest with George. Some of the American leaders were anxious from the beginning to be independent of Britain. Chatham grew very angry when he saw that the result of this was likely to be the break-up of the British Empire. He was still more indignant when France, Spain, and other old enemies of England took up the cause of the Americans and declared war against her. With his dying breath he declared that the British Empire, which he had done so much to make, should not be rent asunder. He soon died, and with him went the last hope of the Americans and British remaining united. But when the British colonists in the thirteen states thus threw off allegiance to the old country, the French of Canada remained loyal to King George, so that Canada still remained a British possession.

5. Britain had now to face both the Americans and half Europe as well. George III. and Lord North did their best, but were not able to carry on the war with the spirit Chatham had shown during the Seven Years' War. For a time England even lost the command of the seas. But a great admiral called *Rodney* won victories over the French which made Britain mistress of the ocean once more. The war in America went badly. Two British armies were forced to surrender to the Americans. When peace was made in

1783 Britain was forced to acknowledge the independence of the United States.

6. Lord North resigned office before the war was over. After a period of great trouble, the king found in 1783 another minister whom he could trust. This was *William Pitt*, the second son of the great Lord Chatham. He was only four

The ministry
of the
younger Pitt.



William Pitt the Younger,

and twenty when George made him his Prime Minister. He was not such a genius as his father, but he was eloquent, clear-headed, and business-like. He could work with others much better than his father had done. He made himself trusted by the people as well as by the king. Pitt remained continuously in office from 1783 to 1801, and then only resigned because he disagreed with the king. Pitt was generally called a Tory, though his views were very

like those of his father, who had always been called a Whig. With North and Pitt began a long period of Tory rule, which lasted longer than the reign of George III. Pitt's chief rival was the Whig leader, *Charles James Fox*. Fox was a very fine speaker, and was good-tempered and generous. George disliked him very much, so that he had little chance of holding office.

7. England was changing very quickly during Pitt's ministry. It was for the first time becoming a great manufacturing country. Up to now Britain had been a land of farmers and merchants. Some wonderful machines were now invented which made it possible to make goods more quickly and more cheaply than in the days when yarn was spun and cloth woven by hand. Moreover, the steam-engine was for the first time made use of to drive all sorts of machines. Good hard roads were everywhere built and deep canals cut. By means of these, manufactured goods could be taken easily and cheaply from the factory to the place where they could be sold. Great towns now arose wherever there was coal or iron. More money was made in England and more people lived in it. But much trouble arose in consequence of all these changes. There were many poor, and they were badly looked after. Wages were low, and men were often out of work. Neither masters nor men in the manufacturing districts had any voice in electing members of Parliament. The workmen in factories were often so miserable that they were not likely to stand up for England in her day of trouble. For many years, however, things looked very prosperous. Pitt understood trade better than most statesmen, and did much to help forward these changes.

8. In 1789 the French Revolution broke out. Up to this time France had been ruled by despotic kings, and the people had been very badly treated. The French king was now forced to summon a sort of parliament of his people. This

body, like the English Long Parliament, took everything into its own hands. It set up a constitutional government something like that of England; but the new system did not work. Before long the extreme men got



Lord Nelson.

to the head of affairs. They beheaded the king and queen and set up a *Republic*. Thousands of Frenchmen were put to death. A time set in so full of horrors that it was

called the *Reign of Terror*. And the fierce rulers of France now offered to help all nations who wished to follow the example of the French and overthrow their kings.

9. In 1793 Britain went to war against the French Revolution. England and France remained at war for more than twenty years, with only one short peace of a few months. It was a desperate struggle. Pitt was not so successful a war minister as his father, and the French gained many victories on land over Britain and her allies. Luckily, Britain's victories at sea prevented the French crossing the Channel and invading Britain. But the danger grew worse as time went on. At last the greatest of the French generals, *Napoleon Bonaparte*, overthrew the Revolution and made himself Emperor of the French. He forced not only France, but nearly all Europe, to obey him. He then gathered together a great army along the north coast of France, and tried hard to entice the British navy away from the Channel, so that he might cross over into the island. The fleet was then commanded by *Lord Nelson*, the greatest of all British admirals. In 1805, Nelson fell upon the French navy and utterly destroyed it in the *Battle of Trafalgar*, off the south-west coast of Spain. Nelson himself was killed during the fight. But he had already won the victory for his fleet. From that time onward England had such complete power over the seas that she was in no serious danger of invasion.

The great war against France.

10. A little before the Battle of Trafalgar, Pitt, who had become minister again in 1804, persuaded Austria and Russia to go to war against Napoleon. However, the French emperor was completely successful against them. At last he agreed with the Emperor of Russia that he should do what he liked in the east, while the Emperor of the French was to do what he liked in the west. A little before this alliance, Pitt died, in 1806, worn out with

Napoleon's successes.

anxiety. Though he had made many mistakes, he never lost heart.

11. Pitt had not only to fight against the French abroad. The new manufacturing towns of the north were full of ignorant and suffering men who wished to follow the example of the French. Pitt put down with a firm hand all who attempted to adopt French ways. Men called him the pilot that weathered the storm of the Revolution. But England was too well off to make it likely that she would act as the French had done. Unluckily, the fear of the French Revolution made those in power afraid to make any changes at all. Pitt, like his father, had once been in favour of reforming the way in which Parliament was elected. But the majority of people feared that any reform would lead to revolution. Long after Napoleon had upset the Revolution in France, people in England were still afraid of its teachings.

12. Pitt had a great deal of trouble in Ireland. Since Ireland had been conquered by William III., it had been harshly ruled by the English, although things had become better during the reign of George III. None but Protestants could sit in the Irish Parliament, and none but Protestants were allowed to hold offices in the Irish government. This kept the Catholics very dissatisfied, and at last, in 1798, they rose in revolt. The rebellion was, however, successfully stamped out, and Ireland was once more reduced to peace.

13. Pitt saw that it was no longer possible to allow the Irish Protestants to go on ruling Ireland as they liked. He brought forward a plan for uniting Ireland to Great Britain, just as England and Scotland had been united. The Irish Protestants were very angry at this, since the Irish Parliament was in their hands. But the Irish Catholics were either careless about the plan or in favour of it. Pitt tried to win the Catholics over by promising that when the union had been

Pitt prevents changes in Britain.

The revolt of 1798 in Ireland.

The union of Great Britain and Ireland.

carried the Catholics should be allowed to sit in Parliament and act as ministers. He then passed the *Act of Union* in 1800. The Irish Parliament hated the plan, but was bribed into consenting to it. The Irish Parliament now ceased to exist; but Irish peers and Irish members of the House of Commons were henceforth allowed to sit in the united Parliament of the three kingdoms at Westminster.

14. Unhappily George III. prevented Pitt carrying out his plan of freeing the Roman Catholics, which was called *Catholic Emancipation*. The king declared that he had promised when he had been crowned to uphold the Protestant Church, and that he would break his coronation oath if he granted Catholic Emancipation. Pitt was much disgusted, and resigned office in 1801. The Catholics felt that they were tricked, and soon got to dislike the Union. But the blame for this does not belong to Pitt, but to the king. Pitt remained out of office until he was called back to power to carry on the great war against Napoleon. We have seen how he threw all his energies into this task, and how nobly he died fighting at his post.

15. On Pitt's death his old rival, Fox, became Prime Minister. Fox had objected to the war against Napoleon; but he did his best to wage it vigorously. But within a few months he died. George again made the Tories his ministers, and they remained in office for the rest of his reign. They did good service by constantly fighting the French emperor. Master of all Europe, Napoleon wished also to conquer England. But, even when fighting single-handed against him, Britain's command of the sea enabled her to hold her own.

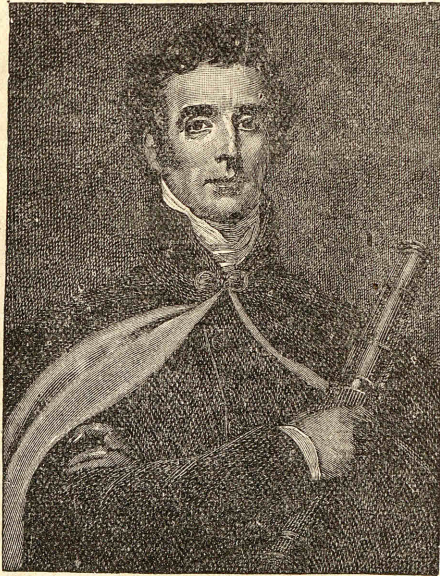
16. After 1808 the British began to fight successfully against Napoleon by land as well as by sea. They sent an army to fight him in Spain under *Arthur Wellesley*, who had already made a name for himself by his victories in India. He now

Pitt's
resignation.

The long
Tory rule.

The
Peninsular
War.

won such great victories over the French that he was made *Duke of Wellington*. From 1808 to 1814 he carried on the *Peninsular War* against the French emperor. It was so called because it was fought in the peninsula which is taken up by Spain and Portugal. Wellington was often very hard pressed by the French, and generally had to retreat after each victory. But he kept up his troops' courage, and in



The Duke of Wellington.

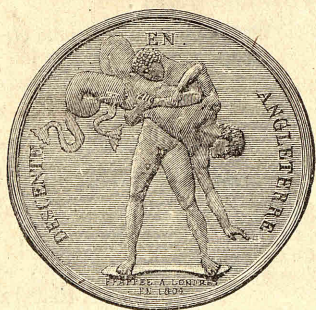
1814 he drove the French out of Spain. He was the greatest British general since Marlborough.

17. In 1812 Napoleon quarrelled with Russia, and invaded that country. But when winter came he was forced to retreat, and lost nearly all his army.

The fall of
Napoleon.

This Russian defeat was the beginning of the fall of Napoleon. The nations that he had so long kept under his power now rose against him,

and in 1814 he was forced to resign his empire and go into banishment to *Elba*, an island off the coast of Italy. But in 1815 he returned to France and was restored to power. All Europe now united to put down the great despot, and armies were collected all round France. Napoleon fell suddenly upon the army which had assembled in the Netherlands, containing a large number of British troops, of which Wellington was the general. After a fierce fight, Wellington defeated Napoleon at *Waterloo*. The French emperor was then kept a prisoner for the rest of his life in the British island of *St. Helena*, in the southern Atlantic.



Napoleon's Medal struck to commemorate the Invasion of England which never took place.

(From a Cast in the British Museum.)

18. George III. died in 1820, after a reign of sixty years. In 1810 he had become insane, and his eldest son, *George*, became ruler of England, with the title of *Death of Prince Regent*. On the old king's death the *George III.* regent became *George IV.*

CHAPTER XVIII

George IV., 1820—1830, and William IV., 1830—1837

Principal Persons :

George Canning ; the Duke of Wellington ; Daniel O'Connell ; Sir Robert Peel.

Principal Dates :

1820. Accession of George IV.

1829. Catholic Emancipation granted.

1830. Death of George IV., and accession of William IV.

1832. Reform Bill passed.

1837. Death of William IV.

1. *George IV.* was a bad man and a weak king. But one good thing came from his weakness. He lost the power which George III. had won back for the Crown ; and Parliament again decided what ministers should be appointed.

Character of
George IV.

2. The Tories remained in power all through the reign of George IV. Most of their chief men were opposed to all reforms. But some Tories followed the more liberal teaching of William Pitt. Their leader was the brilliant *George Canning*, who gradually obtained great power. But Canning soon died, and then power went to the Duke of Wellington, who was a famous statesman as well as a famous soldier.

George
Canning.

3. Unlike Canning, Wellington was very old-fashioned in his ideas. He had always opposed Catholic Emancipation, while Canning, like Pitt, had been in favour of it. But a great outcry now arose in Ireland in favour of giving the Roman Catholics equal rights with the Protestants. A very active and able Catholic Irish lawyer, named *Daniel*

Catholic
Emanci-
pation.

O'Connell, became head of this agitation. Wellington was convinced that it was wise to give in; and in 1829 he passed an Act of Parliament which allowed Roman Catholics to sit in Parliament and become ministers.

4. George IV. died in 1830. As he had no children, his brother William became King William IV. Just before George's death the first *railways*, worked by steam-engines, were opened for traffic. Steam-engines had long been used for pumping and for working machinery. They had also been used for about twenty years for making ships travel independently of the wind. Now the *locomotive steam-engine* was invented, and soon became as important as the *steam-ship*. The first important railway was that between Liverpool and Manchester, opened in 1830. Railways and steamships soon became common. They made it easier, quicker, and cheaper to move passengers and goods from one place to another. Britain was the place where they were first largely used. They enabled Britain to take a greater share in the trade of the world than in the days of the younger Pitt.

The begin-
nings of
steamships
and railways.

5. *William IV.* was good-natured and well-meaning though he was not very wise. The great event of his short reign of seven years was the *reform of Parliament*. Though everything in Britain had changed so much, the House of Commons was still elected as it had been hundreds of years before. Each English county returned two members, whether it was large and rich like Yorkshire, or small and poor like Westmorland. Many great towns, such as Manchester and Birmingham, did not send members to Parliament at all, though many very small places returned two members each. The worst of these were called *rotten boroughs*. Very few people had votes, especially in Scotland, and the new manufacturing districts were hardly represented at all. There had long been a cry for parliamentary reform, and both the Pitts had supported it.

The need for
reform of
Parliament.

But for a long time people were so afraid of the French Revolution that they feared to make any changes at all.

6. Under George iv. the Whigs took up the cry for parliamentary reform. Wellington, the Prime Minister, opposed it. But the country had long been in a bad state, and many people believed that everything would go right if the reform were granted. After William became king, the Whigs once more became the larger party in the House of Commons, and drove Wellington from power. Thus ended the fifty years of Tory rule. In 1832 the Whigs carried through the first *Reform Act*. This famous Act abolished the rotten boroughs, gave members to all the great towns, and increased the number of members in the larger counties. The number of voters became much larger, though the reformers were afraid to give votes to many working-men. The new law cut down the power of the landlords and gave great authority to the middle classes.

7. The Whigs remained in power for the rest of William iv.'s reign. They carried out many other useful reforms besides the Reform Act. By one of these laws all slaves within the British Empire were set free. Up to this time the sugar plantations in the British colonies of the West Indies had been tilled by *negro slaves*, who had been stolen from their homes in Africa and sold to masters, who forced them to work for them. Thirty years before this the *slave-trade*, as it was called, was put an end to, and those who brought fresh negroes from Africa were severely punished. Now the negroes themselves were made free men.

8. Before William iv. died the Whigs had got quite tired of making changes, and the people were beginning to lose faith in them. The Tories had made themselves very unpopular by opposing parliamentary reform. They now had a very honest and prudent leader in *Sir Robert Peel*, a Lancashire manufacturer's son. He gradually won over the support

The Reform Act passed.

Abolition of negro slavery.

Peel and the Conservatives.

of the new voters. As the name Tory still had an evil sound, because of what it had meant before 1832, Peel called himself and his followers *Conservatives*. The Whigs also began to drop their old name, and preferred to be called *Liberals*. They were still in office when William IV. died in 1837, and was succeeded by his niece, Queen Victoria, the daughter of his brother, the Duke of Kent.

9. Another change under William IV. was that the East India Company finally ceased to be a trading company, and became simply the body which administered the large extent of India under its influence. Since Clive's days the Company had become much more political than commercial. It was not, however, allowed to act as it pleased. In 1773 Lord North's *Regulating Act* established the control of the British Government over the Company. It gave the Crown the power to appoint the Governors-General of the Company's possessions. The first Governor they appointed was Warren Hastings, who acted from 1774 to 1785. He laid the basis of the civil administration of British India, and was specially careful of the interests of the cultivator. He was the most outstanding British figure in India after Clive. In 1784 Pitt's *India Act* further increased government influence over the Company by setting up a *Board of Control* in London over its Directors. Before long another great Governor-General arose in the Marquis Wellesley, who ruled between 1798 and 1805. He strove to get power over the greater part of India in order to keep out Napoleon and the French. In his campaigns, his brother Arthur, afterwards Duke of Wellington, first showed his great gifts as a general.

Develop-
ments in
India.

CHAPTER XIX

Victoria, 1837-1901

Principal Persons :

Prince Albert ; Sir Robert Peel ; Daniel O'Connell ; Lord Palmerston ; Benjamin Disraeli ; William Ewart Gladstone ; the Marquis of Salisbury ; Napoleon III. ; General Gordon ; Joseph Chamberlain ; Lord Kitchener.

Principal Dates :

- 1837. Accession of Victoria.
- 1841. Peel becomes Prime Minister.
- 1846. The Corn Laws abolished.
- 1854-1856. The Crimean War.
- 1857. The Indian Mutiny.
- 1858. End of the East India Company.
- 1865. Death of Palmerston.
- 1867. The second Reform Act.
- 1884. The third Reform Act.
- 1886. Gladstone declares for Home Rule for Ireland.
- 1899. Beginning of the Boer War.
- 1901. Death of Victoria.

1. Queen *Victoria* was only eighteen years old. She had inherited some of the firmness of her grandfather, George III., and took good care that her influence as queen should be felt. She married her cousin, *Prince Albert*, who proved a wise counsellor. She kept herself above parties, and had all the more power because she was unselfish and devoted herself to the welfare of her people. All through her reign the people were steadily winning more power in the government of the country. Yet they had such trust in the queen that they regarded her with affection, and were glad she was the head of the British State.

2. The country was much disturbed in the early years of the queen's reign. In Ireland there was a great outcry



Queen Victoria.

against the Union with England. O'Connell, who was still the chief Irish leader, headed in Parliament a party

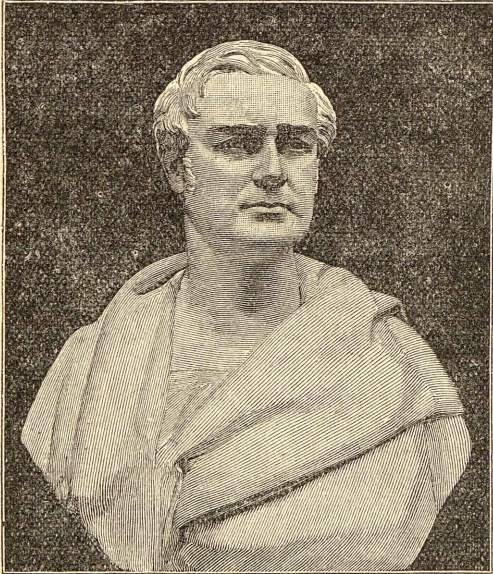
called *Repealers*, who demanded a repeal of the Union. In England and Scotland the state of the people was bad. Wages were low, and food was dear. *Repealers* and *Chartists*. This was all the more disappointing, since better times had been hoped for after the Reform Bill had been passed. A party now arose called the *Chartists*. The *Chartists* had great influence over the workmen in the towns. They drew up a plan for a more thorough reform of Parliament, which they called the *People's Charter*. They got their name of *Chartists* from their demand for this *People's Charter*. But neither *Repealers* nor *Chartists* carried things as they wished.

3. One of the chief causes of distress among the people was the high price of bread, due to the *Corn Laws*. Foreign corn was only allowed to enter the country when a heavy duty on it had been paid. The *Anti-Corn Law League*. *Corn Laws* had been passed to help the British farmers. But some people now thought that they kept the price of food so high that they did more harm than good. A society was started to get rid of this tax. It was called the *Anti-Corn Law League*.

4. The Whig Government was afraid of all these movements. Its weakness made it lose power, bit by bit. At last, in 1841, the Whigs were beaten at a new election. The Conservatives now formed a strong ministry under their leader, Sir Robert Peel. *The Peel Ministry*.

5. Peel remained minister from 1841 to 1846. He governed the country wisely, and put the money affairs of the State into good order. He was rather slow, but very honest. He did not mind changing his opinions, if facts showed him that they were wrong. He had always upheld the *Corn Laws*, but experience now taught him what distress was caused by the high price of food. A terrible famine in Ireland proved to him that the high bread-tax could not be kept up. Though the Irish were crying for repeal of

the Union, the chief thing that made Ireland discontented was the poverty of its people. The land was tilled by very small farmers, who paid such high rents that they had very little left to live on. They had mainly fed on potatoes, because potatoes were the cheapest food they could get. But a disease of the potatoes now made them unfit to be eaten. The result was that Ireland was made miserable by famine.



Sir Robert Peel.

(From the Bust by Noble in the National Portrait Gallery.)

6. Peel saw that food could not be taxed when millions were starving. In 1846 he abolished the Corn Laws, and brought in Free Trade in bread. The landlords and farmers had supported Peel up to now, because they believed he would keep up the Corn Laws. They now cried out that they had been

Repeal
of the
Corn Laws.

betrayed. Peel could only carry his Bill with the help of the Whigs or Liberals. Some of his old supporters opposed him bitterly. They were called *Protectionists*, because they believed in protecting English agriculture and industries by duties. Their leader was *Benjamin Disraeli*, a Jew by birth, who was clever and brilliant, but strange in his dress and ways. After the repeal of the Corn Laws, Disraeli joined with the Whigs and drove Peel from office.

7. It was nearly thirty years before the Conservatives again got a majority in the House of Commons. During most of this time the Liberals were in power. Peelites, Protectionists, and Whigs. Their ranks were strengthened by those friends of Peel who had remained on his side after the revolt of the Protectionists. These were called the *Peelites*. The most important of them was *William Ewart Gladstone*, the son of a Liverpool merchant. Peel died soon after his fall from power. Gladstone was as able a financier as Peel. He had learnt from Peel to believe in Free Trade, and now passed laws which did away with most of the duties which still upheld Protection. Soon every one was for Free Trade. After a few years, quarrels among the Liberals led to their defeat, and Disraeli became minister for a short time. As soon as he came into power he also gave up his idea of Protection. He and his followers now made up the Conservative party. The Peelites joined with the Whigs to form the Liberal party. The most popular among the Whigs was *Lord Palmerston*. He was more than once minister for foreign affairs, and did much to make England respected and feared abroad. He did not care about making many changes at home.

8. Between 1854 and 1856 Britain was at war with Russia. She had as her ally her old enemy France, now ruled by the emperor *Napoleon III.*, a nephew of the Great Napoleon. Both England and France were alarmed at the progress made by Russia in the East. In particular they feared

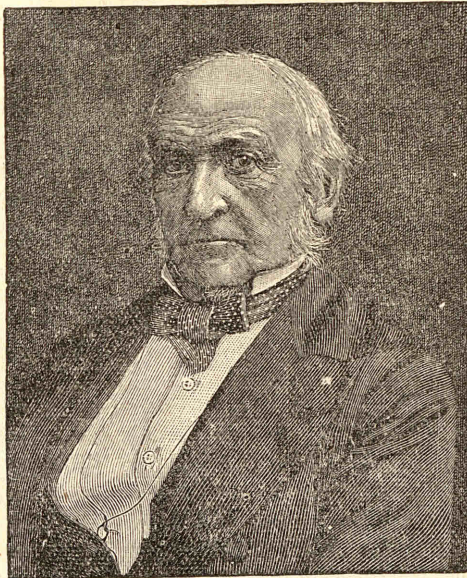
The Crimean War.

that Russia would conquer *Turkey* and its capital, *Constantinople*. Turkey was not like the other countries in Europe. The mass of its inhabitants were Christians, but all power was in the hands of the Turks themselves, who were Mohammedans from Asia. The Turks were splendid soldiers, but hard and careless rulers. They treated their Christian subjects badly, and Russia had long helped the Christians of the East against the Turks. England and France now helped the Turks against the Russians. They sent an army to the *Crimea*, a peninsula belonging to Russia, which runs into the northern part of the Black Sea. There the Russians had built a great fortress, called *Sebastopol*, which the allies besieged. The war that followed was called the *Crimean War*. The siege lasted all through the winter, which was a very severe one. The generals were incapable, and the troops were shamefully neglected. The sufferings from cold, hunger, and disease were much worse than those inflicted by the Russian bullets. At last Sebastopol was captured, and peace made in 1856.

9. In 1857 a trouble even more serious than the Crimean War fell upon the British Empire. This trouble was called the *Indian Mutiny*. Since the days of Clive the British had gradually got control over a large part of India. The army which upheld their power consisted partly of *Sepoys*, or Indian troops. In 1857, perhaps owing to the mistaken belief that the British wished to convert them forcibly to Christianity, many of these Sepoys in the north of India mutinied. But other Sepoys and the chief Indian princes remained loyal to the British. The handful of Englishmen who ruled British India showed wonderful courage and skill; and the mutiny was put down. Great changes now followed in the government and position of India. The powers of the East India Company still remained considerable, though they had been placed under the control of the British Government by the Regulating Act of 1773

The Indian
Mutiny.

and Pitt's India Bill. It was now thought best that they should be completely transferred to the British Crown. The change was announced by Queen Victoria in 1858, in her famous proclamation to the princes and peoples of India. Among other things the proclamation stated that all religious beliefs and



William Ewart Gladstone.

observances in India would be equally respected, and that "so far as may be" Indians of whatsoever race or creed would be freely and impartially admitted into the service of Government.

10. The ministers had been sadly to blame for the sufferings of the soldiers in the Crimea. They were driven from office, and lost a good deal of reputation. Palmerston alone came well out of the war. He became Prime Minister, and was

Death of
Palmerston.

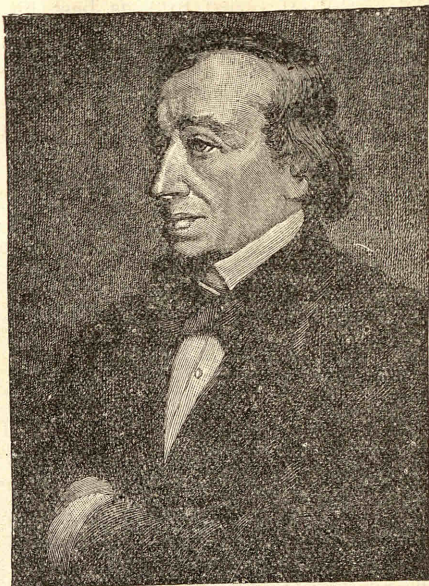
nearly always in office until he died, a very old man, in 1865.

11. So long as Palmerston lived, he kept Gladstone in check. Now Gladstone became the real leader of the Liberal party, and at once prepared the way for a series of great changes. Disraeli, the Conservative leader, opposed him as best he could; but Gladstone was always in office, except in 1867, when a quarrel among the Liberals gave the Conservatives power for a short time. Disraeli was anxious to show that he was not afraid of the people. So he passed, in 1867, the *second Reform Act*, which gave votes to nearly all the workmen who lived in towns. But he could not keep his power after the election.

12. Gladstone was made Prime Minister in 1868, and began to carry through a number of sweeping reforms. He tried to make Ireland more contented by new laws, the most important of which made Irish farmers more independent of the landlords owning the fields they cultivated. It was now that the *Education Act* of 1870 first made it compulsory that all children should be sent to school. But in a few years Gladstone had made so many changes that people began to wish to rest for a little.

13. Disraeli now had his chance. In 1874 the elections gave him a majority, and he became Prime Minister. He held office till 1880, and tried hard to increase British influence abroad. During these years the Russians were again at war for a time with the Turks, and Disraeli was accused of wishing to help the Turks against the Russians. He managed to make peace between Turks and Russians, but the peace took away from the Turks a great deal of their territory. This territory did not, however, go to Russia, but the Christians living in it were allowed to govern themselves. Still, the Turks kept Constantinople and a large amount of land in Europe. Since that contest other

wars have broken out from time to time, as a result of what is called the *Eastern Question*. In the course of this war, Gladstone made eloquent speeches against the Turks, and declared that Disraeli had done what he could to keep up their cruel rule. The voters turned against



Benjamin Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield

Disraeli at the next election in 1880, and sent a Liberal majority to Parliament. Gladstone was once more made Prime Minister, and next year Disraeli died. He had shown great patience and skill in teaching the Conservatives that they must trust the people, and had done much towards promoting the greatness of the British Empire.

14. Gladstone's second ministry was a very troubled

one. There were great difficulties in *Egypt*, whose ruler had become so extravagant that he had to be deposed. Now, Egypt was very important to Britain, because there had lately been dug a ship canal through the Isthmus of *Suez*. The way through the *Suez Canal* became the quickest road to India, and it was dangerous to Britain not to have control over it. The British therefore took possession of Egypt, but they soon found that they had a great many difficulties. A new trouble arose when the great region on the Upper Nile, called the *Sudan*, rebelled. The rebellion became so dangerous that the Government sent *General Gordon*, a high-minded and capable soldier, to put it down. But the rebels killed Gordon, and the Government, making no attempt to punish them, left the Sudan altogether. Thirteen years later, however, the Sudan was reconquered by *Lord Kitchener*, and is still ruled by the British. Egypt now manages her own internal affairs, but Britain retains control of her foreign policy and of the *Suez Canal*.

15. At home the Gladstone Government had also great difficulties. The worst was from a new Irish *Home Rule* movement, a movement in favour of restoring an Irish Parliament at Dublin. The Home Rulers joined with the Conservatives, and threw Gladstone out of office in 1885. His last Act was to pass the *Reform Act of 1884*, by which Parliament was reformed for a third time. Every man who lived in a house of his own was given a vote, both in towns and counties. The country was divided into districts, roughly equal in population, each of which was to send a single member to Parliament. By this Act the power of controlling the Government passed over altogether to the people. So the British Islands became what is called a *democracy*, that is, a State governed by the people.

16. The Conservatives were now led by the *Marquis of*

Salisbury. Neither they nor the Liberals were strong enough to form a lasting ministry, and power passed quickly from one side to the other. At last, in 1886, Gladstone made an alliance with his old enemies, the Irish, and proposed to give Ireland Home Rule. Many of the Liberals were so disgusted at this that they deserted Gladstone and joined the Conservatives. These were called *Liberal Unionists*, and their leader was *Joseph Chamberlain*, a Birmingham manufacturer. The party formed by the Conservatives and the Liberal Unionists was called the *Unionist* party. Those faithful to Gladstone were called *Gladstonians* or *Home Rulers*.

17. The country, as a whole, did not wish for Home Rule for Ireland, and Gladstone's friends were badly beaten at the elections. The Unionists therefore formed a Ministry under Lord Salisbury. This party remained in power for the rest of Victoria's reign, except for one short period. During that period Gladstone died at a great age. Though he failed to make Englishmen believe in Home Rule, his eloquence, courage, faith, and enthusiasm kept for him to the last a wonderful power over the hearts of his countrymen.

18. The last years of the queen's reign were much taken up with foreign and colonial questions. Britain had to wage war in various parts of the world, and many of the European powers were unfriendly to her. The two most severe of these wars were fought in Africa. One was the reconquest of the Sudan by Lord Kitchener, of which we have already spoken. The other was the *Boer War* against Dutch farmers called *Boers*, that is, countrymen, who disputed with England the rule of South Africa. The lands round the Cape of Good Hope had been for about two hundred years colonised by the Dutch, but during the wars against Napoleon England had taken the Dutch settlements and called them *Cape Colony*. But many of the old-fashioned

Boers left Cape Colony, and established two Boer Republics, called the *Transvaal* and the *Orange River Free State*. There was constant quarrelling between the British and the Dutch, and things got worse when rich diamond and gold mines were discovered in the Boers' lands. A large number of British and other emigrants came to dig in the mines, and got on badly with the Boers. At last a great war broke out in 1899. The Boers were splendid soldiers, and fought very bravely; while the British were not well led, and suffered many disasters. It was only after large numbers of British troops had been poured into South Africa that the Boers were defeated. The war was still going on when the queen died in 1901, but the Boers had no longer any hope of winning.

19. It was not only in Africa that British rule was spread during Victoria's reign. All over the globe the British colonies increased immensely in numbers and importance. Canada, which was French until the days of George II., became partly English through British settlers taking up their abode in Upper Canada. There were many quarrels between the old French and the new English settlers, just as there were between Dutch and English in South Africa. These were, however, partially healed, and in 1867 most of the British American colonies were united in what is called the *Dominion of Canada*. Moreover, Australia, first settled in the days of the younger Pitt, suddenly grew great and rich through discoveries of gold, and also became the home of many British settlers. In 1901, the independent Australian colonies were all joined together in a single state called the *Commonwealth of Australia*. Much earlier *New Zealand* had acquired a similar unity. Not only were the British lands beyond sea thus joined together in great communities; each group had self-governing institutions that made it practically independent. Thus the foundations were laid of the British Commonwealth

The
Dominion of
Canada and
the Common-
wealth of
Australia.

The British
Common-
wealth of
Nations.

of free nations which has gradually taken the place of the Colonial Empire.

20. Queen Victoria's reign was the longest in British history. She died in 1901, leaving the throne to her eldest son, *Edward VII.*

Death of
Queen
Victoria.

CHAPTER XX

Edward VII., 1901–1910 ; and George V. and the Great War, 1910–1936

Principal Persons :

Lord Kitchener ; Arthur Balfour ; Joseph Chamberlain ; Herbert Asquith ; David Lloyd George ; General Haig ; Marshal Foch ; William II., the German Emperor ; Ramsay Macdonald ; Stanley Baldwin.

Principal Dates :

- 1901. Accession of Edward VII.
- 1902. End of Boer War.
- 1906. Conservative defeat at General Election.
- 1910. Union of South Africa. Death of Edward VII.
Accession of George V.
- 1911. Parliament Act.
- 1914–1918. War against Germany.
- 1916. Lloyd George Ministry.
- 1918. Fourth Reform Act.
- 1919. Peace with Germany.
- 1919. Government of India Act.
- 1926. Imperial Conference.

1. *Edward VII.* was nearly sixty when he became king. His father, Prince Albert, had died when he was quite a

young man, and since then he had helped his mother, Queen Victoria, by going about to represent her on great occasions. He had travelled all over the world, and knew every part of the Empire. He was shrewd, kindly, and hard-working. He visited kings and presidents in many countries of Europe, and welcomed them to England. He was anxious to make Britain more friendly with foreign countries.

Character of
Edward VII.

2. The first important event of the new reign was the end of the Boer war. The Boers saw that it was useless to resist any longer, and in 1902 they agreed to obey Edward VII. as their king. It was difficult for Boers and Britons, who had been so recently enemies, to live in peace side by side. But gradually things got better. Four years after the peace, the Boers were allowed self-government. In 1909 the Boer states were joined together with the old British colonies in South Africa, just as Canada and Australia had previously been united under Queen Victoria. The first prime minister of a united South Africa had been the chief general of the Boer armies during the Boer war.

The Union
of South
Africa.

3. During the first half of Edward VII.'s reign the Unionists still governed the country. Lord Salisbury, Queen Victoria's last prime minister, was now growing old, and soon gave up office and died. The next prime minister was his nephew, Arthur Balfour, who was in power until 1905. During his time of office, the ministers had many difficulties to face. They began to disagree among themselves. Joseph Chamberlain, one of the strongest of them, declared that the system of free trade, which had been working for nearly fifty years, was turning out badly. Chamberlain therefore proposed what he called *tariff reform*, and recommended that foreigners who sent goods into Britain should pay a tax or duty upon them. He hoped thus to help British manufacturers, who, he said, were being beaten by foreigners. Chamberlain wished

The
Unionists
and Tariff
Reform.

also to allow goods from British dominions to come into the country more cheaply than those produced by



King Edward VII.

foreigners. He called this *colonial preference*. He was so eager to preach tariff reform and colonial preference that

he gave up his post as minister, and devoted himself to going about the country and making speeches in favour of them. He gradually persuaded most of the Unionists to agree with him, but the Liberals strongly opposed him.

4. In 1905 Balfour resigned and the Liberals came back to office. Early in 1906 there was a new general election, which proved very favourable to the Liberals.

The Liberals therefore remained in office for the rest of the king's reign, and after a short time had as their prime minister Herbert

The Liberal
Ministry of
Edward VII.

Asquith. They proposed many new bills, but some of the most important of these were thrown out by the House of Lords, which was always opposed to the Liberals. At last, in 1909, the House of Lords rejected the *budget* by which the Liberals proposed to raise more taxes from rich people than they had previously paid.

5. To settle this dispute a new general election was held in 1910. The difficulty was, however, that there were many other questions to be decided besides that of the House of Lords. Tariff reform was still much talked about. When the new

The Liberals
and the
Lords.

parliament met, the Liberals, though not so strong as in 1906, were able to force the House of Lords to accept their budget; and they also passed resolutions through the Commons, called the *Veto resolutions*. By these the Commons declared that the House of Lords should not be allowed to interfere in matters of taxation, or to stop laws which the Commons wished to pass. These proposals raised the whole question whether parliament should consist of two houses or one. Before, however, the dispute had gone very far, the king died in 1910.

6. Under Edward VII. two things need special mention.

One of these is that men were trying to pass laws which aimed at making the mass of the British people better educated, better cared for, and better able to live happy and useful lives.

Social Re-
form and
the Empire.

The other is that the lands, scattered all over the world and inhabited, or ruled, by British settlers, were becoming more important and more independent. It was because of this that Edward VII., when he became king, changed his royal title, and called himself king not only of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, but also of the British Dominions beyond the Seas. He also took the title of Emperor of India which his mother had first used.

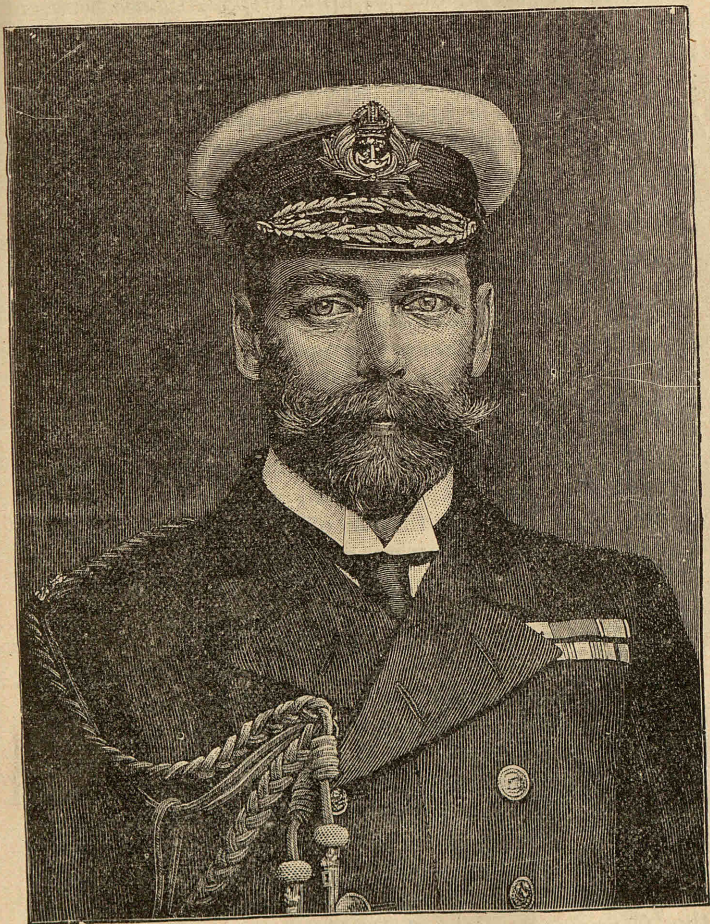
George V. 7. King Edward was succeeded by his son, George V. The new king was forty-five years old when he became king, and had been brought up as a sailor.

8. The fierce quarrel between the Lords and Commons went on into the early part of the new reign. The Asquith government passed in 1911 what was called the *Parliament Act*, which turned the *Veto resolutions* into law. By this the powers of the Lords were severely cut down. The Lords were not to be allowed either to reject, or alter, any *money bill*, that is, a proposal for raising money to carry on the government. In the case of other bills, the Lords had power to delay, for three years, their becoming law. A bill, if sent up by the Commons to the Lords for the third time, was to become law, whether the Lords accepted it or not. The effect of the *Parliament Act* was soon seen. The Commons passed a bill giving

Home Rule to Ireland. The Lords threw out this and other proposals on two occasions, but in 1914 the Commons sent them up for the third time. According to the *Parliament Act* they became law by the end of that year. But the Protestants in Ulster bound themselves by a solemn oath to resist Home Rule by force. The Nationalists, who wished for it, also prepared to fight. Before anything more happened, war threw the Irish question into the background.

9. The great European war began in August, 1914. The cause of this war was the desire of Germany to control

the whole world, and the natural opposition of other nations to this ambition. In 1870-71 Ger- Causes of the many had beaten France in a short and sharp Great War. war, and had taken away from her Alsace and part



George V

of Lorraine. At the same time, she became a single state, governed by the King of Prussia, who was now called German Emperor. Her great victories made Germany over-proud. She made herself the chief military power in the world, and set up a *Triple Alliance* between herself, Austria, and Italy, believing that with their aid she would control Europe. She was so much feared that France and Russia made a *Dual Alliance* against her. Thus Europe was divided into two rival leagues from which Britain kept herself as free as she could, hoping to live in friendship with both the Triple and the Dual alliances.

10. Germany also enriched herself by manufactures and trade, set up colonies in Africa and in the Pacific Ocean, and built a great navy. In all these schemes she deliberately set herself to rival Britain, whom she looked upon as her most dangerous enemy. As years went on, Britain took alarm, and made an agreement with France to preserve peace. At last new disputes arose which showed that peace was not likely to last much longer.

11. There had long been trouble in South Eastern Europe. Bit by bit the Christian peoples of the Balkan lands had thrown off the rule of the Turks. But they were quarrelsome and jealous of each other. Germany took advantage of their jealousies to stir up difficulties between the Balkan peoples, hoping in the long run to control them with the help of Austria. She made friends with the Turks, hoping that the Turkish lands in Asia would give her a road to attack the British power in India.

12. In the summer of 1914, the heir of the Austrian throne was murdered by a Serbian. Austria accused Serbia of plotting the crime. Serbia was the one of the Christian Balkan States which stood most in the way of the power of Austria and Germany, and was friendly with Russia. William II., the German Emperor, helped Austria in making the

The Anglo-French Agreement.

The troubles in the Balkan Lands.

Outbreak of the Great War.

murder an excuse for humbling the Serbians. Thereupon Russia got ready to help Serbia. Germany at once told Russia that, unless she gave up her preparations, she would have to face war with Germany. On Russia's refusal, both Germany and Austria declared war against her. France then went to the help of Russia.

13. Germany was the only state really ready for war. Her plan was to crush France quickly and Russia afterwards. Now the eastern frontier of France against Germany was strongly fortified, but her northern frontier against Belgium was practically undefended. The reason for this was that all the chief powers, including Germany, had agreed long before that Belgium was to be a neutral state, and outside all European wars. The Germans, however, broke their promises, and marched their troops through Belgium because it was the easiest way to get into France. Britain strongly objected to Germany's breaking her word and invading Belgium. The Germans had thought that Britain was too peace-loving and cowardly to fight, and that the British army was so weak that it did not much matter whether it joined France or not. But when Germany poured her troops into Belgium, Britain at once declared war, and sent her army to France.

The attack
on Belgium.

14. At first nearly everything went as the Germans had hoped. Belgium was rapidly invaded, and great German armies marched through Northern France towards Paris, driving the French and their British allies before them. But the Germans were stopped when within 40 miles of Paris, and after the long fierce fight called the *Battle of the Marne*, were forced to fall back. But before long they dug themselves into strong positions and stayed their enemies' advance.

The Battle
of the Marne.

15. The war of rapid movement was now followed by nearly three years of trench warfare. From the North Sea to the Swiss frontier, vast armies

The period
of trench
warfare.

watched each other from their earthworks and tried to find out the weak points in their enemies' positions.

16. During this period the war became general, and there were campaigns in Eastern Europe and in Asia.

Russia invaded Austria, and Germany came to the help of her ally, and Russia was invaded in her turn. At last, in 1917, a Revolution broke out in Russia. The Emperor of Russia was driven from power, and a republic was set up. The government of Russia was seized by fanatics called *Bolsheviks*, who deserted Russia's allies and made peace with Germany and Austria. This enabled the Germans and Austrians to send their eastern armies to fight in France.

17. There was war too in South Eastern Europe and in Asia. The Austrians and Germans persuaded the

Turks to join the war on their side. Thereupon Britain sent an expedition to the *Dardanelles*, but after nine months of hard fighting the expedition was withdrawn. Attacks on the Turks in Mesopotamia and Macedonia led to little result. The most helpful thing to the allies was Italy's breaking from the Triple Alliance and going to war against Austria.

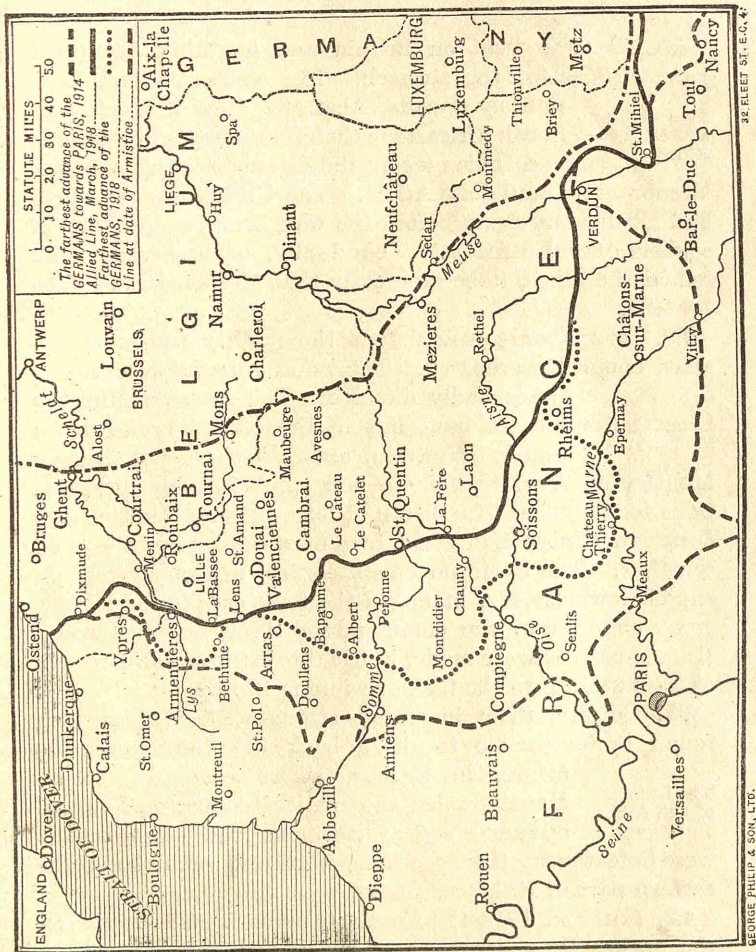
18. On the sea British supremacy was preserved with difficulty. At first the German warships won some unexpected successes. But the only big naval battle was fought off Jutland, in 1916. Both sides lost heavily, but the Germans only avoided destruction by escaping in the darkness, and never ventured on another great sea fight. They now sought to threaten British naval supremacy by their crafty use of the *submarine* and the mine. The German submarines discharged torpedoes which sunk hundreds of merchant ships belonging to neutral powers and to the allies. German mines were set adrift in all parts of the sea and destroyed any vessel that came in contact with them. The Germans also sent great airships and aeroplanes which dropped

The War at sea.

The War against the Turks.

The War in Russia.

bombs over English and French towns. But though they destroyed thousands of lives and an immense amount of property, they failed to starve out Britain, and failed to



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stop the transports that carried the armies of the allies over the world. Moreover, they turned many neutrals against them, chief among whom were the United States of America. In 1917 the United States joined the war against Germany.

19. As time went on Britain and her allies equipped great armies for the struggle. The overseas dominions, notably Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, took their full share in this burden; and Indian troops did fine service in Palestine, Mesopotamia, and East Africa. The United States, which had hardly any army before the war, sent two millions of soldiers over the Atlantic. Gradually, as these vast levies joined the allies, it became clear that Germany would be beaten.

20. It was only slowly that the mighty forces of the allies could be prepared. The efforts made were sometimes badly directed. The Asquith Ministry did its best, but in the end it broke down under the strain, and Lloyd George became Minister of War. He put a new spirit into the preparations for defence. In 1916 he became Prime Minister of a Coalition Ministry, in which men of various parties worked together. The State now took control of everything. It supplied war needs, managed the food supply, and made great changes in the command of the army and navy. Huge mistakes were made, but it threw the whole strength of the nation into the task of winning the war.

21. Despite their increased strength, the allies long found it impossible to drive back the Germans. The armies in France, where General Douglas Haig now led the British troops, made small advances, but at enormous cost. The Italians were defeated by the Austrians, who conquered the north-eastern part of Italy.

22. Early in 1918 the Germans made a last effort. In the spring they drove back the British and French in

France, and once more threatened Paris and the Channel Ports. One reason for these successes was that each army of the allies had fought for itself, and that there was no single mind to direct the whole campaign. At last Marshal Foch, the ablest of the French generals, was made supreme commander, and Haig, the British general, loyally served under him.

23. In their desperate efforts to gain victory before the American armies came, the Germans advanced farther than was prudent. Foch took full advantage of their blunders, bided his time until his plans were ripe, and fell with irresistible forces upon them. Thus July 1918 saw the final turning of the tide on the Western front. Between July and October the Germans still struggled bravely, but they found that they had met more than their match.

24. Before the turn of the Western tide the allies won real successes in the East. One British army conquered Mesopotamia. Another invaded Palestine, captured Jerusalem, and advanced into the heart of Syria. In both of these campaigns Indian troops took an important part. After long inaction, the allies at Salonica began to re-conquer Serbia. The Turks laid down their arms. The Italians drove the Austrians back to their own frontiers. Early in November, Austria, like Turkey, was forced to ask for peace.

25. The Germans alone proved too weak to face the world in arms, and an Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. Thereupon the allies took possession of what they had not already conquered in France and Belgium, and occupied Germany as far as the Rhine. Moreover, the Germans surrendered their warships, their aeroplanes, their submarines, their guns and their prisoners. Revolutions in Germany and Austria drove away the Emperors who had carried on the war, and made negotiations easier.

The unity
of command.

The turn of
the tide.

Victory in
the East.

The Armis-
tice.

26. In June, 1919, Germany unwillingly accepted at Versailles the conditions imposed upon her. Germany was to be content with a small army and navy ; she was to pay heavy compensation to the allies. She was to restore Alsace and Lorraine to France, give up her colonies to the control of her enemies, and surrender her Polish provinces to become part of a revived kingdom of Poland. Austria was broken up into several states roughly representing the different nations previously under her.

27. Included in the peace was a plan for starting what was called the *League of Nations*. By this, representatives of the nations all over the world were to meet together every year and try to make future wars impossible, or at least difficult.

The League of Nations.

The League of Nations could not do much until the hostile nations were of a mind to work peaceably together. In the years after 1919 this was far from being the case. It was found impossible to deal with Bolshevik Russia, and the proposals made for peace with Turkey were so objectionable to the Turks that there was war again in the East until, in 1923, the allies agreed to revise their terms. Both in the east and west the allies disagreed with each other, and Germany showed unwillingness to carry out the treaty forced upon her. Moreover, the United States refused to join the League of Nations, and withdrew from all European politics. The result of all this was that the outlook abroad remained very gloomy. Latterly things have improved, and Germany has been admitted to the League of Nations.

28. At home the Coalition Government passed, in 1918, a new *Reform Act* which greatly increased the number of voters and gave votes to many women. It

The Fourth Reform Act.

carried through an Act giving Home Rule to Ireland. By this, Ireland was to have two subordinate Parliaments, one for eastern Ulster and the other for the rest of Ireland. Protestant Ulster accepted

its Parliament, but the plan was unpopular in the rest of Ireland. A party called *Sinn Fein* declared that the scheme was a miserable make-believe and that Ireland must become an independent republic. Soon Sinn Fein prevented the execution of the Act and stirred up civil war. Finally the English government came to terms with the Irish, and it was settled that all Ireland, except eastern Ulster, should have the same freedom as the self-governing dominions beyond the seas, such as Canada and Australia. Accordingly, in 1922 an Act of Parliament set up the *Irish Free State* on those lines. Many of the Irish resisted this, insisting on complete independence. The result was a new civil war between the extreme and the moderate Irish. In the long run the Free State got the upper hand, so that the new constitution had a fair chance.

The Irish
Free State.

29. By the Government of India Act of 1919 some great changes were made in the system of government in India, corresponding to those which had transformed the Colonial Empire into the British Commonwealth of Nations. Responsible self-government or, as we might say, Home Rule for India, to be reached by stages as Indians gained experience in the art of government, was frankly stated to be the object of British policy in India. Training in the use of the machinery of self-government was provided in the provinces. There the device known as *dyarchy*, or dual government, entrusted the administration of some departments of government to ministers chosen from and responsible to the Legislative Councils, while it left others in the hands of the Governor of the province and his executive council. Dyarchy was not introduced into the central government, but the elected representatives of the people were given greater powers of control than before, particularly in finance, and the central Legislature was given a majority of elected members.

The Govern-
ment of
India Act.

30. In 1922 the Conservatives refused to support the

Coalition any longer, and forced it to resign. A general election gave the Conservatives a majority and set up a purely Conservative ministry. This was soon weakened by the Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin, reviving Chamberlain's schemes of tariff reform and colonial preference. In a new general election he lost his majority and was forced to resign. Since 1922 the Liberals had been so weak that power now passed to the Labour Party, because it was the strongest party in the opposition. For some months a Labour Ministry, under Ramsay Macdonald, governed the country. But it depended on Liberal support, which was soon withdrawn. Thereupon the Conservatives got back to office and have remained there until 1927. But the bulk of the opposition was still Labour.

31. In 1926 the Baldwin government held a conference of the members of the British Empire in London. Its resolutions mark a further step in the development of the British Commonwealth of Nations. The independence of the self-governing dominions under the common sovereignty of the king was recognised.

The Imperial
Conference.

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