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English Literature for Secondary Schools
(HISTORICAL SECTION)
General Editor:—J. H. Fowler, M.A.

TALES OF A GRANDFATHER
MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.

*From the engraving by J. Thomson.*
Tales of a Grandfather

First Series

By

Sir Walter Scott, Bart.

Abridged and Edited for Schools by

J. Hutchison
Formerly Headmistress of the Ashton-under-Lyne and District
High School for Girls

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON
1908


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189419
GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

"O great and gallant Scott,
True gentleman, heart, blood and bone,
I would it had been my lot
To have seen thee, and heard thee, and known.

Tennyson.

Boys and girls who learn to know and love Walter Scott secure a friend and comrade who will give them countless hours of happiness, and who cannot be taken from them by any of the chances and changes of this mortal life. Learn to know him first from his novels and poems, and the day will come when his biography in its many volumes, his Journal, and his Letters, will seem all too short, because he himself is the most delightful of human companions, of whose society it is impossible to have too much.

Walter Scott was the son of an Edinburgh lawyer, and was born in that city in 1771. He belonged by descent to a Border clan, and counted many bold raiders and mous-troopers in his ancestry.

A severe illness at the age of eighteen months, from the effects of which he was lame all his life, made it advisable that he should live in the country, and the child was sent to his grandfather's house at Sandy Knowe, in Roxburghshire, near the ruined tower of Smailholme, the scene of one of his earliest ballads. Here he lived some years, and used to spend the fine weather lying on the hillside wrapped in a sheepskin, under charge of the shepherd, listening to the old man's tales of the countryside. Thus, at this early age, he began to fill his mind with that wealth of tradition to
which he was afterwards to give renewed life in the cre-
tions of his imagination.

His surroundings in Edinburgh also favoured this interest
in the past. Among his father's clients were gentlemen who
had lost liberty and property, and almost life itself, in the
Jacobite rising of 1745. His mother, who lived to a great
age, was a perfect storehouse of old family legend, and the
very stones of the ancient city that was his home spoke to
him of Montrose and Argyle, of Claverhouse and Prince
Charlie.

When he was considered strong enough Scott was sent to
the Edinburgh High School, and though he made no great
figure in the routine work of his classes, he attracted the
attention of some of the masters by his enormous store of
miscellaneous reading, and his power of following and
enjoying the meaning of a Latin author, though behind many
of his classmates in knowledge of the language. His own
private studies must have gone on vigorously, for he acquired
enough French to read collections of Old French romances,

enough Italian to read Ariosto, and began that thorough
study of Scotch history and antiquities that may be said to
have ended only with his life. With his schoolfellows he
soon acquired a reputation for story-telling that drew them
round him like flies round a honey-pot, and in spite of his
lameness he was in the thick of all the "bickers" or street
fights with the boys of the town, and was never left behind
in the popular feat of climbing a difficult part of the Castle
rock.

On leaving school he entered his father's office, attended
the law classes of the University, and finally was called to
the bar.

In his earliest college days he began to make what he called
"raids" into the Border country to carry off, not cattle, like
his forefathers, but old ballads. He took them down from
the lips of old men and women as they had received them
from a still earlier generation, and a collection of these
GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

ballads, carefully edited, was published in 1802 under the title of the Border Minstrelsy. From this time he gradually became more and more absorbed in literature, and ceased to practise as an advocate, though he held two legal appointments.

His first poem of any length, the Lay of the Last Minstrel, appeared in 1805, and was followed by Marmion and the Lady of the Lake, each more successful than its predecessor. After the appearance of Rokeby it seemed to Scott that the interest in his poetry was beginning to flag, for, as he put it, Lord Byron "bet" him at poetry. He turned therefore, in 1814, to a prose romance begun some years before, finished it in three weeks, and published it anonymously under the title of Waverley, or 'Tis Sixty Years Since. Its success astonished Scott, and from that time story after story by the "Author of Waverley" held the public spellbound, and Scott's stock of traditionary and historic lore was turned to account in Guy Mannering, Rob Roy, the Antiquary, and many more. The secret of the authorship soon became an open one to all Scott's friends, but he did not publicly avow it till near the end of his literary career.

Scott's life for many years was one of unbroken prosperity. His duties as one of the Clerks of Session kept him about half the year in Edinburgh, while as Sheriff of Selkirkshire he was obliged to reside part of his time in that county. His life even in town was a singularly happy one, but in his country home at Abbotsford, with his children, his old friends, his dogs and his tree-planting, he evidently enjoyed every moment of his day. His fame attracted to him distinguished visitors from all parts of the world, but his own genial nature gained him a friend in the humblest man or woman who came into contact with him,—nay, even animals, not his own dogs and cats only, but comparative strangers, such as pigs and donkeys, followed him with an affection that must sometimes have been embarrassing, but which was never roughly repulsed. If the world knew no more
of Scott than this part of his life-story it would still owe him a deep debt of gratitude.

But adversity came, and the record of the brave, honourable, humorous spirit in which Scott faced it is as great a gift to us as even his novels and poems. During a commercial crisis in 1825 a printing and publishing house in which Scott was a partner failed for £117,000. There was little hope for the creditors had the partners been declared bankrupt, but Scott, determined that no man, if he could help it, should be a loser through him, asked for no favour but time to work, and heroically set himself to discharge the whole debt with his pen. In eighteen months he had earned by Woodstock and his Life of Napoleon Bonaparte nearly £40,000, and had his health lasted there is no doubt he would have discharged the obligations in full. In spite of pain and weakness he toiled on to the end, and at his death in 1832 the great debt was more than half cleared, and it was finally extinguished in 1847 through the value of the copyrights he had left behind him.

The book from which these extracts are taken was written during the very worst of Scott's troubles. He had just finished the Life of Napoleon when he records in his Journal, "A good thought came in my head to write Stories for little Johnnie Lockhart, from the History of Scotland. . . . I will make, if possible, a book a child shall understand, yet a man will feel some temptation to peruse should he chance to take it up."

Johnnie Lockhart was a delicate child who died before his grandfather, but in the summer of 1827 he was sufficiently strong to mount his pony, and the old man and the little boy ambled about the woods together, Scott telling the Tales, to see if they were suited to the comprehension of boyhood before reducing them to writing. They were perhaps only too suitable, for Johnnie stabbed his little brother—very feebly, probably, and fortunately with no serious results—with a pair of scissors, and issued the command that he was
GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

to be told no more about Civilisation,—as he did not like it at all. A juvenile critic is always sincere and sometimes acute, and his preference for the chapters full of incident to those dealing with social progress is shared by his elders to this day.

The reception of these Tales was more enthusiastic than that of any of Scott's works since Ivanhoe, and they certainly have much in common with that popular novel,—breadth and vigour of narration, vivid portraiture, and what he himself called "a hurried frankness of composition, which pleases soldiers, sailors, and young people of bold and active disposition." They are the outpouring of a full mind, and of a heart to which the past of his country was dear, and are permeated with that interest in human character, that sense of the oneness of human nature, that filled the Waverley novels with kings and queens, smugglers and gipsies, Highland chiefs and Border freebooters, all instinct with life, and as actual as the men and women we meet every day. Written for a real boy, whose delicate frame was tenanted by a spirit like his grandfather's own, the Tales are full of that air of chivalry, that breathless passing from adventure to adventure, that appeals to high-spirited lads all the world over. "A wild world, my masters," says Scott, "must this Scotland of ours have been. No fear of want of interest, no lassitude for want of work,—

* 'For treason, d'ye see,
   Was to them a dish of tea
   And murder bread and butter.'"

On such tea and bread and butter, strange to say, the mildest of us in this milder age love to feast, and the Tales of a Grandfather have made the past of Scotland a real and living thing to the descendants of those who fought on both sides at Flodden and Bannockburn, many of whom have since fallen side by side on hard-fought battle-fields in distant lands.
### CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

*(For Reference)*

#### EVENTS IN SCOTTISH HISTORY.

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#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND.

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CHAPTER I.

1034–1296.

CONQUEST OF SCOTLAND BY EDWARD I.

DUNCAN and Macbeth, the Scottish kings with whom the Tales of a Grandfather begin, are known to the world chiefly through Shakespeare. Macbeth was succeeded by Malcolm Canmore, son of Duncan, and during his reign and that of his immediate successors a question arose which occasioned long years of strife and bloodshed between England and Scotland.

The Scottish kings at various times overran and possessed themselves of the northern provinces of England,—Lothian, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmoreland.

After much disputing, the Scottish kings came to hold 10 these provinces as vassals of the English kings, to whom they did homage for them.

The English kings made many attempts to enforce this homage for the whole kingdom of Scotland, and in 1174, when William the Lion fell into the hands of Henry II., his nobility ransomed him at the price of acknowledging the English king's supremacy. This state of affairs, however, only lasted for fifteen years, for Richard Cœur de Lion acquitted the Scottish king of his obligations, in return for a large sum of money, which assisted in furnishing the 20 expenses of Richard's expedition to Palestine.

The question slumbered during the reigns of Alexander II. and Alexander III., but was revived during the confusion caused by the death of Alexander's granddaughter, Margaret of Norway.

An old Scottish legend says that Thomas the Rhymer prophesied that the sixteenth of March,
1286, should be the stormiest day that ever was witnessed in Scotland. The day came, and was remarkably clear, mild, and temperate. But while they were all laughing at Thomas the Rhymer on account of his false prophecy, an express brought the news that the king had been killed by being thrown from his horse over a cliff. "There," said Thomas, "that is the storm which I meant, and there was never tempest which will bring more ill luck to Scotland."

This story may very possibly be false, but the general belief in it serves to show that the death of Alexander III. was looked upon as an event of the most threatening and calamitous nature.

The full consequences of the evil were not visible at first, for although all Alexander's children had died before him, yet one of them, who had been married to Eric, King of Norway, had left a daughter, Margaret, the Maid of Norway, upon whom the crown of Scotland devolved.

Edward I. of England proposed a marriage between the young Queen of Scotland and his eldest son, and had the marriage been effected the union of England and Scotland might have taken place three hundred years sooner than it did, but the young Queen sickened and died, and the treaty for the marriage was ended with her life.

There was not any descendant of Alexander III. remaining, but the country was thrown into distraction by the appearance of no fewer than twelve claimants to the throne, all nobles distantly related
to the royal family. Most of them were powerful from the number of their followers, and if they should dispute the question by the sword, it was evident that the whole country would be at war, from one sea to the other.

To prevent this great dilemma, the Scotch nobility resolved to submit the question to Edward I. as umpire, but he refused to give judgment unless they would acknowledge his right as Lord Paramount of Scotland.

The Scottish nobles were surprised to hear this claim advanced, but they were much divided among themselves, and the competitors for the crown, rather than hazard their own claims by offending Edward, consented to resign the independence of their country, which had been so long and so bravely defended.

When the claims were examined the right of succession was found to lie between John Baliol and Robert Bruce. Both were powerful barons, and had great estates in England as well as in Scotland. Edward declared Baliol to be King of Scotland, and he closed the disgraceful scene by doing homage to the King of England on 20th November, 1292.

King Edward soon began to show Baliol that it was not his intention to be satisfied with a bare acknowledgment of his right of sovereignty, but that he was determined to exercise it with severity on every possible occasion. He encouraged the Scottish subjects to appeal from the courts of Baliol
TALES OF A GRANDFATHER.

to his own, and as Baliol declined making appearance in the English tribunals, Edward insisted upon having possession of the three principal fortresses of Scotland.

Baliol agreed to surrender these castles, but the people murmured against this base compliance, and Baliol himself, perceiving it was Edward's intention gradually to destroy his power, entered into a league with France, and sent a letter to Edward renouncing his dependence upon him.

The King of England accordingly assembled a powerful army and defeated his rebellious vassal in a great battle near Dunbar. Baliol, who appears to have been a mean-spirited man, gave up the contest, and made a most humiliating submission. He confessed that through bad counsel and folly he had rebelled against his liege lord, and that in atonement he had resigned the kingdom of Scotland, with the inhabitants, to their liege lord, King Edward. He was then permitted to retire uninjured.

Edward marched through Scotland, compelling all ranks of people to submit to him. He removed to London the records of the kingdom of Scotland, and was at the pains to transport to the Abbey Church at Westminster a great stone, upon which it had been the national custom to place the King of Scotland when he was crowned for the first time. He did this to show that he was absolute master of Scotland, and that the country was in future to have no other king but himself, and his descendants
the Kings of England. The stone is still preserved, and to this day the King's throne is placed upon it at the time when he is crowned. Last of all, King Edward placed the government of Scotland in the hands of John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, a brave nobleman; of Hugh Cressingham, a clergyman, whom he named chief treasurer; and of William Ormesby, whom he appointed the chief judge of the kingdom. He placed English soldiers in all the castles and strongholds of Scotland, from the one end of the kingdom to the other; and not trusting the Scots themselves, he appointed English governors in most of the provinces of the kingdom.
number of standards, banners, and pennons (all flags of different kinds), made so gallant a show that the bravest and most numerous host in Christendom might be alarmed to see King Edward moving against them.

Upon the 23rd of June (1314) the King of Scotland heard the news, that the English were approaching Stirling. He drew out his army, therefore, in the order which he had before resolved on.

10 The van of the English army came in sight, and a number of their bravest knights drew near to see what the Scots were doing. They saw King Robert dressed in his armour, and distinguished by a gold crown, which he wore over his helmet. He was not mounted on his great war-horse, because he did not expect to fight that evening. But he rode on a little pony up and down the ranks of his army, putting his men in order, and carried in his hand a sort of battle-axe made of steel. When the King saw the English horsemen draw near, he advanced a little before his own men, that he might look at them more nearly.

There was a knight among the English, called Sir Henry de Bohun, who thought this would be a good opportunity to gain great fame to himself, and put an end to the war, by killing King Robert. The King being poorly mounted, and having no lance, Bohun galloped on him suddenly and furiously, thinking, with his long spear, and his tall 30 powerful horse, easily to bear him down to the ground. King Robert saw him, and permitted him
to come very near, then suddenly turned his pony a little to one side, so that Sir Henry missed him with the lance-point, and was in the act of being carried past him by the career of his horse. But as he passed, King Robert rose up in his stirrups, and struck Sir Henry on the head with his battle-axe so terrible a blow, that it broke to pieces his iron helmet as if it had been a nut-shell, and hurled him from his saddle. He was dead before he reached the ground. This gallant action was 10 blamed by the Scottish leaders, who thought Bruce ought not to have exposed himself to so much danger when the safety of the whole army depended on him. The King only kept looking at his weapon, which was injured by the force of the blow, and said, "I have broken my good battle-axe."

The next morning being the 24th June, at break of day the battle began in terrible earnest. The English as they advanced saw the Scots getting into line. The Abbot of Inchaffray walked through 20 their ranks barefooted, and exhorted them to fight for their freedom. They kneeled down as he passed, and prayed to Heaven for victory. King Edward, who saw this, called out, "They kneel down—they are asking forgiveness." "Yes," said a celebrated English baron, called Ingelram de Umphraville, "but they ask it from God, not from us—these men will conquer, or die upon the field."

The English King ordered his men to begin the battle. The archers then bent their bows, and 30 began to shoot so closely together that the arrows
fell like flakes of snow on a Christmas day. They killed many of the Scots, and might, as at Falkirk and other places, have decided the victory; but Bruce, as I told you before, was prepared for them. He had in readiness a body of men-at-arms, well mounted, who rode at full gallop among the archers, and as they had no weapons save their bows and arrows, which they could not use when they were attacked hand to hand, they were cut down in great numbers by the Scottish horsemen, and thrown into total confusion.

The fine English cavalry then advanced to support their archers, and to attack the Scottish line. But coming over the ground which was dug full of pits, the horses fell into these holes, and the riders lay tumbling about, without any means of defence, and unable to rise, from the weight of their armour. The Englishmen began to fall into general disorder; and the Scottish King, bringing up more of his forces, attacked and pressed them still more closely.

On a sudden, while the battle was obstinately maintained on both sides, an event happened which decided the victory. The servants and attendants on the Scottish camp had been sent behind the army to a place afterwards called the Gillies' Hill. But when they saw that their masters were likely to gain the day, they rushed from their place of concealment with such weapons as they could get, that they might have their share in the victory and in the spoil. The English, seeing them come
suddenly over the hill, mistook this disorderly rabble for another army coming to sustain the Scots, and, losing all heart, began to shift every man for himself. Edward himself left the field as fast as he could ride.

He rode to Dunbar, where the English still had a friend in the governor, Patrick, Earl of March. The earl received Edward in his forlorn condition, and furnished him with a fishing skiff, or small ship, in which he escaped to England, having entirely lost his fine army, and a great number of his bravest nobles.

The English never before or afterwards, whether in France or Scotland, lost so dreadful a battle as that of Bannockburn, nor did the Scots ever gain one of the same importance. Many of the best and bravest of the English nobility and gentry, as I have said, lay dead on the field; a great many more were made prisoners; and the whole of King Edward's immense army was dispersed or destroyed.

The English, after this great defeat, were no longer in a condition to support their pretensions to be masters of Scotland, or to continue, as they had done for nearly twenty years, to send armies into that country to overcome it. On the contrary, they became for a time scarce able to defend their own frontiers against King Robert and his soldiers.
CHAPTER VI.

1314–1329.

THE HEART OF BRUCE.

Some years of desultory war between Scotland and England followed the Battle of Bannockburn, but in 1328 a treaty of peace between the two countries was signed at Northampton. By it the English King renounced all claim to the supremacy of Scotland, and acknowledged Robert Bruce as an independent monarch.

King Robert did not long survive his crowning success. His health had been undermined by the hardships of his youth, and he died at Cardross in 1329, at the age of fifty-four.

10 King Robert assembled around his bedside the nobles and counsellors in whom he most trusted, and told them that he sorely repented all his misdeeds, and particularly that he had, in his passion, killed Comyn with his own hand, in the church and before the altar. He said that if he had lived, he had intended to go to Jerusalem, to make war upon the Saracens who held the Holy Land, as some expiation for the evil deeds he had done. But since he was about to die, he requested of his 20 dearest friend and bravest warrior, the Good Lord James Douglas, that he should carry his heart to the Holy Land.
Douglas wept bitterly as he accepted this office,—the last mark of the Bruce's confidence and friendship.

The King soon afterwards expired; and his heart was taken out from his body and embalmed. Then the Douglas caused a case of silver to be made, into which he put the Bruce's heart, and wore it around his neck, by a string of silk and gold. And he set forward for the Holy Land, with a gallant train of the bravest men in Scotland, who, to show their value and sorrow for their brave King Robert, resolved to attend his heart to the city of Jerusalem.

Douglas never got to the end of his journey. In going to Palestine he landed in Spain, where the Saracen King, or Sultan of Grenada, called Osmyn, was invading the realms of Alphonso, the Spanish King of Castile. King Alphonso easily persuaded the Scottish earl, that he would do good service to the Christian cause, by assisting him to drive back the Saracens of Grenada, before proceeding on his voyage to Jerusalem.

After the battle Douglas saw Sir William St. Clair of Roslyn, who had pursued the enemy too far, fighting desperately, surrounded by many Moors. He galloped to his rescue, but presently was himself also surrounded. When he found the enemy press so thick round him, as to leave him no chance of escaping, the Earl took from his neck the Bruce's heart, and speaking to it, as he would have done to the King had he been alive,—"Pass first in fight," he said, "as thou wert wont to do, and Douglas
will follow thee, or die." He then threw the King's heart among the enemy, and rushing forward to the place where it fell, was there slain. His body was found lying above the silver case, as if it had been his last object to defend the Bruce's heart.

Many of Douglas's followers were slain in the battle in which he himself fell. The rest resolved not to proceed on their journey to Palestine, but to return to Scotland. They brought back with them the heart of the Bruce, and the bones of the Good Lord James.

The Bruce's heart was buried below the high altar in Melrose Abbey. As for his body, it was laid in the sepulchre in the midst of the church of Dunfermline, under a marble stone. But the church becoming afterwards ruinous, and the roof falling down with age, the monument was broken to pieces, and nobody could tell where it stood. But six or seven years ago,\(^1\) when they were repairing the church at Dunfermline, and removing the rubbish, lo! they found fragments of the marble tomb of Robert Bruce. Then they began to dig farther, thinking to discover the body of this celebrated monarch; and at length they came to the skeleton of a tall man, and they knew it must be that of King Robert, both as he was known to have been buried in a winding-sheet of cloth of gold, of which many fragments were found about this skeleton, and also because the breastbone appeared to have been sawed through, in order to take out the heart. So

\(^1\)Written in 1827.
orders were sent from the King's Court of Exchequer to guard the bones carefully, until a new tomb should be prepared, into which they were laid with profound respect. A great many gentlemen and ladies attended, and almost all the common people in the neighbourhood; and as the church could not hold half the numbers, the people were allowed to pass through it, one after another, that each one, the poorest as well as the richest, might see all that remained of the great King Robert Bruce, who restored the Scottish monarchy. Many people shed tears; for there was the wasted skull, which once was the head that thought so wisely and boldly for his country's deliverance; and there was the dry bone, which had once been the sturdy arm that killed Sir Henry de Bohun, between the two armies, at a single blow, on the evening before the battle of Bannockburn.
CHAPTER VII.
1329-1406.

ROBERT THE THIRD.

Robert Bruce was succeeded by his son, David II., who died leaving no children.

The next heir to the throne was Robert Stewart, the son of Marjory, daughter of Robert Bruce. Marjory Bruce had married one of her father's officers at Bannockburn, Walter, the Lord High Stewart, or Seneschal, of Scotland, and from them are descended the Stewart sovereigns of Scotland, who eventually reigned over England also.

Robert II. reigned nineteen years, and was succeeded by his son John, who changed his name to Robert III., as the misfortunes of John of England, John of France, and John Baliol had led the name to be regarded as unlucky.

Robert III. remained as unfortunate as if his name had still been John.

The disturbances of the Highlands were one of the plagues of his reign. The losses which the Low Country had sustained by the English wars had weakened the districts next to the Highlands so much, that they became unable to repress the mountaineers, who descended from their hills, took spoil, burned and destroyed, as if in the country of an enemy.

It happened, fortunately perhaps for the Low-
lands, that the wild Highlanders were as much addicted to quarrel with each other, as with their Lowland neighbours, and at this time two clans fell into such deadly feud with each other, as filled the whole neighbourhood with slaughter and discord.

When this feud or quarrel could be no otherwise ended, it was resolved that the difference should be decided by a combat of thirty men of the Clan Chattan, against the same number of the Clan Kay; that the battle should take place on the North Inch of Perth, a beautiful and level meadow, in part surrounded by the river Tay; and that it should be fought in presence of the King and his nobles. Now, there was a cruel policy in this arrangement; for it was to be supposed that all the best and leading men of each clan would desire to be among the thirty which were to fight for their honour, and it was no less to be expected that the battle would be very bloody and desperate. Thus, the probable event would be, that both clans, having lost very many of their best and bravest men, would be more easily managed in future. Such was probably the view of the King and his counsellors in permitting this desperate conflict, which, however, was much in the spirit of the times.

The parties on each side were drawn out, armed with sword and target, axe and dagger, and stood looking on each other with fierce and savage aspects, when, just as the signal for fight was expected, the commander of the Clan Chattan perceived that one of his men, whose heart had failed
him, had deserted his standard. There was no time to seek another man from the clan, so the chieftain, as his only resource, was obliged to offer a reward to any one who would fight in the room of the fugitive. Perhaps you think it might be difficult to get a man, who, for a small hire, would undergo the perils of a battle which was likely to be so obstinate and deadly. But in that fighting age men valued their lives lightly. One Henry Wynd, a citizen of Perth, and a saddler by trade, a little bandy-legged man, but of great strength and activity, and well accustomed to use the broadsword, offered himself, for half a French crown, to serve on the part of the Clan Chattan in the battle of that day.

The signal was then given by sound of the royal trumpets, and of the great war-bagpipes of the Highlanders, and the two parties fell on each other with the utmost fury; their natural ferocity of temper being excited by feudal hatred against the hostile clan, zeal for the honour of their own, and a consciousness that they were fighting in presence of the King and nobles of Scotland. As they fought with the two-handed sword and axe, the wounds they inflicted on each other were of a ghastly size and character. Heads were cloven asunder, limbs were lopped from the trunk. The meadow was soon drenched with blood, and covered with dead and wounded men.

In the midst of the deadly conflict, the chieftain of the Clan Chattan observed that Henry Wynd,
after he had slain one of the Clan Kay, drew aside, and did not seem willing to fight more.

"How is this," said he, "art thou afraid?"

"Not I," answered Henry; "but I have done enough of work for half-a-crown."

"Forward and fight," said the Highland chief; "he that doth not grudge his day's work, I will not stint him in his wages."

Thus encouraged, Henry Wynd again plunged into the conflict, and, by his excellence as a swordsman, contributed a great deal to the victory, which at length fell to the Clan Chattan. Ten of the victors, with Henry Wynd, whom the Highlanders called the Gw Chrom (that is, the crooked or bandy-legged smith, for he was both a smith and a saddler, war-saddles being then made of steel), were left alive, but they were all wounded. Only one of the Clan Kay survived, and he was unhurt. But this single individual dared not oppose himself to eleven men, though all more or less injured, but, throwing himself into the Tay, swam to the other side, and went off to carry to the Highlands the news of his clan's defeat. It is said, he was so ill received by his kinsmen that he put himself to death.

Some part of the above story is matter of tradition, but the general fact is certain. Henry Wynd was rewarded to the Highland chieftain's best abilities; but it was remarked that, when the battle was over, he was not able to tell the name of the clan he had fought for, replying, when asked on
which side he had been, that he was fighting for his own hand. Hence the proverb, "Every man for his own hand, as Henry Wynd fought."

Robert III., though he presided at this cruel combat, was a religious and peace-loving man, but unfortunately not firm of mind, and easily imposed upon by those about him.

His brother, the Duke of Albany, was crafty and ambitious, and when he found that the King's elder son, the Duke of Rothesay, had given displeasure to his father, he did all he could to keep up ill feeling between them.

We do not know distinctly what charges were brought against the Duke of Rothesay, or how far they were true or false, but it seems certain that he was delivered up by his father to the power of his uncle of Albany, who treated him with the utmost cruelty.

A villain named Ramorgny, with the assistance of Sir William Lindsay, was furnished with a warrant for apprehending and confining the person of the heir-apparent of Scotland. Armed with this authority, they seized upon him as he was journeying in Fife, without any suspicion—placed him upon an ordinary work-horse, and conducted him to the strong tower, or castle, of Falkland, belonging to Albany. It was a heavy fall of rain, but the poor prince was allowed no other shelter than a peasant's cloak. When in that gloomy fortress, he was thrown into a dungeon, and for fifteen days suffered to remain without food, under the charge of two
ruffians named Wright and Selkirk, whose task it was to watch the agony of their victim till it terminated in death. It is said that one woman, touched with his lamentations, contrived to bring him from time to time thin barley cakes, concealed in her veil, which she passed through the bars of his prison; and that another woman supplied him with milk from her own bosom. Both were discovered, and what scanty resources their charity could afford were intercepted; and the unhappy prince died in the month of March 1402 of famine,—the most severe and lingering mode among the many by which life may be ended.

King Robert III. was now exhausted by age, infirmities, and family calamity. He had still a remaining son, called James, about eleven years old, and he was probably afraid to entrust him to the keeping of Albany, as his death would have rendered that ambitious prince next heir to the throne. He resolved, therefore, to send the young prince to France, under pretence that he would receive a better education there than Scotland could afford him. An English vessel captured that on board of which the prince was sailing to France, and James was sent to London. When Henry IV. heard that the Prince of Scotland was in his power, he resolved to detain him a prisoner. This was very unjust, for the countries of England and Scotland were at peace together at the time. The King sent him to prison, however, saying, that “The prince would be as well educated at his court
as at that of France, for that he understood French well." This was said in mockery, but Henry kept his word in this point; and though the Scottish prince was confined unjustly, he received an excellent education at the expense of the English monarch.

This new misfortune, which placed the only remaining son of the poor old King in the hands of the English, seems to have broken the heart of Robert III., who died about a year afterwards, overwhelmed with calamities and infirmity.
CHAPTER VIII.
1406-1513.
THE BATTLE OF FLODDEN.

After the death of Robert III. the Duke of Albany and his son Murdac held the Regency in succession, the young King of Scotland remaining a prisoner in England for eighteen years. He was at length ransomed, and was crowned at Scone in 1424.

James I., known as the Poet King, was the first of five monarchs bearing that name, who all alike had troublous reigns, and died tragic and untimely deaths. He was assassinated at Perth in 1437 by some of the turbulent nobles whose violence he had tried to curb.

James II. was killed at the age of twenty-nine by the bursting of a cannon, the firing of which he was superintending at the siege of Roxburgh Castle.

His son, James III., was treacherously slain, after his defeat by his insurgent nobles at Sauchie Burn, by a man wearing the garb of a priest, who approached his couch on the pretence of hearing the confession of the wounded King.

It appeared at first as if the reign of James IV. might form a break in the long tale of woe and disaster. He did penance for his offence against his father in accompanying the rebel lords against him by wearing a belt of iron under his clothes, to which a link was added every year. He was active in the discharge of his duties as King, and during the long truce with England the country enjoyed a greater share of prosperity than ever before.

The wisdom of Henry VII. endeavoured to find a remedy for the perpetual strife with Scotland by
trying what the effects of gentle and friendly influence would avail, where the extremity of force had been employed without effect. The King of England agreed to give his daughter Margaret, a beautiful and accomplished princess, to James IV. in marriage. He offered to endow her with an ample fortune, and on that alliance was to be founded a close league of friendship between England and Scotland, the kings obliging themselves to assist each other against all the rest of the world. Unfortunately for both countries, but particularly so for Scotland, this peace, designed to be perpetual, did not last above ten years. Yet the good policy of Henry VII. bore fruit after a hundred years had passed away; and in consequence of the marriage of James IV. and the Princess Margaret, an end was put to all future national wars, by their great grandson, James VI. of Scotland and I. of England, becoming King of the whole island of Great Britain.

The claim of supremacy, asserted by England, is not mentioned in this treaty, which was signed on the 4th of January, 1502; but as the monarchs treated with each other on equal terms, that claim, which had cost such oceans of Scottish and English blood, must be considered as having been then virtually abandoned.

The marriage was celebrated with great rejoicing, and a season of tranquillity followed it, but the unfortunate country of Scotland was destined never to remain any long time in a state of peace or
improvement; and accordingly, towards the end of James's reign, events occurred which brought on a defeat still more calamitous than any which the kingdom had yet received.

Henry VII. was succeeded by his son Henry VIII., whose military disposition chiefly directed him to an enterprise against France. The King of France prevailed upon James to renew the old alliance between France and Scotland, and when, in 1513, Henry VIII. sailed to France, James, contrary to the advice of his wisest counsellors, determined to invade England with a royal army. The Parliament were unwilling to go into the King's measures. The tranquillity of the country, ever since the peace with England, was recollected, and as the impolitic claim of the supremacy seemed to be abandoned, little remained to stir up the old animosity between the kingdoms. The King, however, was personally so much liked, that he obtained the consent of the Parliament to this fatal and unjust war; and orders were given to assemble all the array of the kingdom of Scotland upon the Borough-moor of Edinburgh, a wide common, in the midst of which the royal standard was displayed from a large stone, or fragment of rock, called the Harestone.

Various measures were even in this extremity resorted to for preventing the war. One or two of them seem to have been founded upon a knowledge that the King's temper was tinged with a superstitious melancholy, partly arising from constitutional habits, partly from the remorse which
he always entertained for his accession to his father's death. It was to these feelings that the following scene was doubtless addressed:—

As the King was at his devotions in the church of Linlithgow, a figure, dressed in an azure-coloured robe, girt with a girdle, or sash of linen, having sandals on his feet, with long yellow hair, and a grave commanding countenance, suddenly appeared before him. This singular-looking person paid little or no respect to the royal presence, but pressing up to the desk at which the King was seated, leaned down on it with his arms, and addressed him with little reverence. He declared, that "his Mother laid her commands on James to forbear the journey which he purposed, seeing that neither he, nor any who went with him, would thrive in the undertaking." He also cautioned the King against frequenting the society of women, and using their counsel; "If thou dost," said he, "thou shalt be confounded and brought to shame."

These words spoken, the messenger escaped from among the courtiers so suddenly, that he seemed to disappear.

Another story, not so well authenticated, says, that a proclamation was heard at the market-cross of Edinburgh, at the dead of night, summoning the King, by his name and titles, and many of his nobles and principal leaders, to appear before the tribunal of Pluto within the space of forty days. This also has the appearance of a stratagem, invented to deter the King from his expedition.
But neither these artifices, nor the advice and entreaty of Margaret, the Queen of Scotland, could deter James from his unhappy expedition. He was so well beloved that he soon assembled a great army, and placing himself at their head, he entered England near the castle of Twisell, on the 22d of August, 1513. He speedily obtained possession of certain Border fortresses, and collected a great spoil. Instead, however, of advancing with his army upon the country of England, which lay 10 defenceless before him, the King is said to have trifled away his time with Lady Heron of Ford, a beautiful woman, who contrived to divert him from the prosecution of his expedition until the approach of an English army.

While James lay thus idle on the frontier, the Earl of Surrey advanced at the head of an army of twenty-six thousand men. As the warlike inhabitants of the northern counties gathered fast to Surrey's standard, so, on the other hand, the Scots 20 began to return home in great numbers; because, though according to the feudal laws, each man had brought with him provisions for forty days, these being now nearly expended, a scarcity began to be felt in James's host. Others went home to place their booty in safety.

Surrey, feeling himself the stronger party, became desirous to provoke the Scottish King to fight. He therefore sent James a message, defying him to battle. James returned for answer, that to meet 30 the English in battle was so much his wish, that
had the message of the Earl found him at Edinburgh, he would have laid aside all other business to have met him on a pitched field.

But the Scottish nobles entertained a very different opinion from their King. They held a council at which Lord Patrick Lindsay was made president, or chancellor. He opened the discussion, by telling the council a parable of a rich merchant, who would needs go to play at dice with a common hazarder, or sharper, and stake a rose-noble of gold against a crooked halfpenny. "You, my lords," he said, "will be as unwise as the merchant, if you risk your King, whom I compare to a precious rose-noble, against the English general, who is but an old crooked churl, lying in a chariot. Though the English lose the day, they lose nothing but this old churl and a parcel of mechanics; whereas so many of our common people have gone home, that few are left with us but the prime of our nobility."

He therefore gave it as his advice, that the King should withdraw from the army, for safety of his person, and that some brave nobleman should be named by the council, to command in the action. The council agreed to recommend this plan to the King.

But James, who desired to gain fame by his own military skill and prowess, suddenly broke in on the council, and told them, with much heat, that they should not put such a disgrace upon him. "I will fight with the English," he said, "though you had all sworn the contrary. You may shame your-
selves by flight, but you shall not shame me; and as for Lord Patrick Lindsay, who has got the first vote, I vow, that when I return to Scotland, I will cause him to be hanged over his own gate.”

While King James was in this stubborn humour, the Earl of Surrey had advanced as far as Wooler, so that only four or five miles divided the armies.

The Scottish army had fixed their camp upon a hill called Flodden, which rises to close in, as it were, the extensive flat called Millfield Plain. This eminence slopes steeply towards the plain, and there is an extended piece of level ground on the top, where the Scots might have drawn up their army, and awaited at great advantage the attack of the English.

Surrey, becoming distressed for provisions, was obliged to resort to another mode of bringing the Scots to action. He moved northward, sweeping round the hill of Flodden, keeping out of the reach of the Scottish artillery, until, crossing the Till near Twisell Castle, he placed himself, with his whole army, betwixt James and his own kingdom. The King suffered him to make this flank movement without interruption, though it must have afforded repeated and advantageous opportunities for attack. But when he saw the English army interposed betwixt him and his dominions, he became alarmed lest he should be cut off from Scotland, and resolved to give signal for the fatal battle.

With this view the Scots set fire to their huts,
and the other refuse and litter of their camp. The smoke spread along the side of the hill, and under its cover the army of King James descended the eminence, which is much less steep on the northern than the southern side, while the English advanced to meet them, both concealed from each other by the clouds of smoke.

The Scots descended in four strong columns, all marching parallel to each other, having a reserve of the Lothian men, commanded by Earl Bothwell. The English were also divided into four bodies, with a reserve of cavalry led by Dacre.

The battle commenced at the hour of four in the afternoon. The first which encountered was the left wing of the Scots, commanded by the Earl of Huntly and Lord Home, which overpowered and threw into disorder the right wing of the English, under Sir Edmund Howard. Thomas Howard, the lord high admiral, who commanded the second division of the English, bore down, and routed the Scottish division commanded by Crawford and Montrose, who were both slain. Thus matters went on the Scottish left.

Upon the extreme right of James's army, a division of Highlanders were so insufferably annoyed by the volleys of the English arrows, that they broke their ranks, rushed tumultuously down hill, and being attacked at once in flank and rear by Sir Edward Stanley, with the men of Cheshire and Lancashire, were routed with great slaughter.

The only Scottish division which remains to be
mentioned was commanded by James in person, and consisted of the choicest of his nobles and gentry, whose armour was so good, that the arrows made but slight impression upon them. They were all on foot—the King himself had parted with his horse. They engaged the Earl of Surrey, who opposed to them the division which he personally commanded. The Scots attacked with the greatest fury, and, for a time, had the better. Surrey's squadrons were disordered, his standard in great danger, Bothwell and the Scottish reserve were advancing, and the English seemed in some risk of losing the battle. But Stanley, who had defeated the Highlanders, came up on one flank of the King's division; the Admiral, who had conquered Crawford and Montrose, assailed them on the other. The Scots showed the most undaunted courage.Uniting themselves with the reserve under Bothwell, they formed into a circle, with their spears extended on every side, and fought obstinately. Bows being now useless, the English advanced on all sides with their bills, a huge weapon which made ghastly wounds. But they could not force the Scots either to break or retire, although the carnage among them was dreadful. James himself died amid his warlike peers and loyal gentry. He was twice wounded with arrows, and at length despatched with a bill. Night fell without the battle being absolutely decided, for the Scottish centre kept their ground, and Home and Dacre held each other at bay. But during the night, the
remainder of the Scottish army drew off in silent despair from the bloody field, on which they left their King, and the flower of his nobility.

This great and decisive victory was gained by the Earl of Surrey on 9th September, 1513. The victors had about five thousand men slain, the Scots twice that number at least. But the loss lay not so much in the number of the slain, as in their rank and quality. The English lost very few men of distinction. The Scots left on the field the King, two bishops, two mitred abbots, twelve earls, thirteen lords, and five eldest sons of peers. The number of gentlemen slain was beyond calculation;—there is scarcely a family of name in Scottish history who did not lose a relative there.

The Scots were much disposed to dispute the fact that James IV. had fallen on Flodden Field. Some said he had retired from the kingdom, and made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. There was, however, no truth in this. The absence of the belt of iron led some to believe that the body of James could not have fallen into the hands of the English, since they either had not that token to show, or did not produce it. They contended, therefore, that the body over which the enemy triumphed was not that of James himself, but of one of his attendants, several of whom, they said, were dressed in his armour.

It seems true, that the King usually wore the belt of iron in token of his repentance for his father's death, and the share he had in it. But it
is not unlikely that he would lay aside such a cumbersome article of penance in a day of battle; or the English, when they despoiled his person, may have thrown it aside as of no value. The body which the English affirm to have been that of James was found on the field by Lord Dacre, and carried by him to Berwick, and presented to Surrey. Both of these lords knew James's person too well to be mistaken. The body was also acknowledged by his two favourite attendants, Sir William Scott and Sir William Forman, who wept at beholding it.

Such was the end of that King once so proud and powerful. The fatal battle of Flodden, in which he was slain, and his army destroyed, is justly considered as one of the most calamitous events in Scottish history.
CHAPTER IX.
1513-1542.

THE ROUT OF SOLWAY MOSS.

The minority of James V. was one long scene of strife between the great nobles, but after he took the government into his own hands he proved himself an able and energetic ruler, and there seemed to be a prospect of prosperity and tranquillity for Scotland. The great changes that accompanied the Reformation, however, involved James in a fate as unhappy as that of any of his house.

Henry VIII. of England had by this time thrown off the authority of the Pope, and he was anxious to induce his nephew to ally himself with England, and make a similar change in the religion of Scotland. The doctrines of the Reformation were gradually spreading in Scotland, and James was at one time somewhat inclined to favour them, but he found in the clergy his principal assistants in administering public business, and the only counterpoise to the overwhelming power of the nobility. The influence of his chief minister, Cardinal Beaton, and of his queen, Mary of Guise, served to increase his disinclination to any changes in the Church.

20 Whatever were the sentiments of the sovereign of Scotland, those of the subjects were gradually tending more and more towards a reformation of religion. Scotland at this time possessed several men of learning who had studied abroad, and had
there learned and embraced the doctrines of the great reformer Calvin. They brought with them, on their return, copies of the Holy Scripture, and could give a full account of the controversy between the Protestants, as they are now called, and the Roman Catholic Church. Many among the Scots, both of higher and lower rank, became converts to the new faith.

The Popish ministers and counsellors of the King ventured to have recourse to violence, in order to counteract these results. Several persons were seized upon, tried before the spiritual courts of the Bishop of St. Andrews, and condemned to the flames. The modesty and decency with which these men behaved on their trials, and the patience with which they underwent the tortures of a cruel death, protesting at the same time their belief in the doctrines for which they had been condemned to the stake, made the strongest impression on the beholders, and increased the confidence of those who had embraced the tenets of the Reformers.

Henry continued to press the King of Scotland, by letters and negotiations, to enter into common measures with him against the Catholic clergy.

The King of Scotland was brought to a puzzling alternative, being either obliged to comply with his uncle's wishes, break off his alliance with France, and introduce the Reformed religion into his dominions, or, by adhering to France and to the Catholic faith, to run all the hazards of a war with England. The churchmen exercised their full
authority over the mind of James at this crisis, and the gold of France was not spared to determine his resolution; and Henry was, as might have been expected, mortally offended, and prepared for war.

A fierce and ruinous war immediately commenced. Henry sent numerous forces to ravage the Scottish Border. James assembled the array of his kingdom, and marched from Edinburgh as far as Fala, on his way to the Border, when tidings arrived, 1st November 1542, that the English general had withdrawn his forces within the English frontier. On this news, the Scottish nobles intimated to their sovereign that, though they had taken up arms to save the country from invasion, yet they considered the war with England as an impolitic measure, and only undertaken to gratify the clergy; and that, therefore, the English having retired, they were determined not to advance one foot into the enemy's country.

James, finding himself thus generally thwarted and deserted by the nobility, returned to Edinburgh, dishonoured before his people, and in the deepest dejection of mind.

To wipe out the memory of Fala Moss the King then sent a larger army to the Border, but unfortunately chose a leader obnoxious to the nobility, and as many of them refused to serve under him the army fell into extreme confusion. The Scots were charged by a small force of English Borderers, and fled without even attempting to fight.

The unfortunate James had lately been assaulted
by various calamities. The recent death of his two sons, and the disgrace of the defection at Fala, had made a deep impression on his mind, and haunted him even in the visions of the night.

The disgraceful news of the battle, or rather the rout of Solway, filled up the measure of the King's despair and desolation. He shut himself up in the palace of Falkland, and refused to listen to any consolation. A burning fever, the consequence of his grief and shame, seized on the unfortunate monarch. They brought him tidings that his wife had given birth to a daughter; but he only replied, "Is it so?" reflecting on the alliance which had placed the Stewart family on the throne; "then God's will be done. It came with a lass, and it will go with a lass." With these words, presaging the extinction of his house, he made a signal of adieu to his courtiers, spoke little more, but turned his face to the wall, and died of the most melancholy of all diseases, a broken heart. He was scarcely thirty-one years old; in the very prime, therefore, of life. If he had not suffered the counsels of the Catholic priests to hurry him into a war with England, James V. might have been as fortunate a prince as his many good qualities and talents deserved.
CHAPTER X.
1542-1561.

REGENCY OF MARY OF GUISE.

Two parties struggled for the supreme power during the minority of the infant Queen Mary. The Queen Mother, Mary of Guise, and Cardinal Beaton were at the head of the Catholic party that favoured an alliance with France; the principal nobles, who inclined to the Reformers, advocated an alliance with England.

Henry VIII. formed a plan for uniting the kingdoms by the marriage of the infant Queen of Scots to his only son, but his demands raised the suspicion that he intended to renew the old claim of the English supremacy, and the negotiations failed.

The English policy was unchanged by the death of Henry VIII., and the total defeat of a Scottish army at Pinkie in 1547 led only to a hasty treaty with France. Mary was sent to be brought up at the French court, and when old enough, was married to the Dauphin, afterwards Francis II.

Mary of Guise now became Queen Regent, and at first behaved with tolerance to the Protestants, but after the accession of Elizabeth to the throne of England a change came over her policy. The Catholics of France and Scotland regarded Mary as the lawful heir to the English throne, and the Court of France assumed, on Mary's behalf, the arms of England as well as Scotland.

It thus became the natural policy of Elizabeth to espouse the cause of the Scottish Protestants, and the Queen Regent
making an attempt to silence the Protestant preachers, whom she regarded as disloyal subjects, both parties prepared for hostilities.

The Protestants had made Perth their headquarters, where they had already commenced the public exercise of their religion. John Knox, whose eloquence gave him great influence with the people, had pronounced a vehement sermon against the sin of idolatry, in which he did not spare those reproaches which the Queen Regent deserved for her late breach of faith. When his discourse was finished, and while the minds of the hearers were still agitated by its effects, a friar produced a little glass case, or tabernacle, containing the images of saints, which he required the bystanders to worship. A boy who was present exclaimed, "That was gross and sinful idolatry!" The priest, as incautious in his passion as ill-timed in his devotion, struck the boy a blow; and the lad, in revenge, threw a stone, which broke one of the images. Immediately all the people began to cast stones, not only at the images, but at the fine painted windows, and, finally, pulled down the altars, defaced the ornaments of the church, and nearly destroyed the whole building.

The example of the Reformers in Perth was followed in St. Andrews and other places; and we have to regret that many beautiful buildings fell a sacrifice to the fury of the lower orders, and were either totally destroyed or reduced to piles of shape- less ruins.
The demolition of the churches and sacred buildings augmented the Queen Regent's displeasure against the Lords of the Congregation, and at length both parties took the field. The Protestant nobles were at the head of their numerous followers; the Queen chiefly relied upon a small but select body of French troops. The war was not very violently carried on, for the side of the Reformers became every day stronger. At the same time, although the Lords found it easy to bring together large bodies of men, yet they had not the money or means necessary to keep them together for a long time, while the French veteran soldiers were always ready to take advantage when the Reformed leaders were obliged to diminish their forces. Their difficulties became greater when the Queen Regent showed her design to fortify strongly the town of Leith and the adjacent island of Inchkeith, and place her French soldiers in garrison there; so that, being in possession of that seaport, she might at all times, when she saw occasion, introduce an additional number of foreigners.

Unskilled in the art of conducting sieges, and totally without money, the Lords of the Congregation had recourse to the assistance of England; and for the first time an English fleet and army approached the territories of Scotland by sea and land, not with the purpose of invasion, but to assist the nation in its resistance to the arms of France, and the religion of Rome.

The English army was soon joined by the Scottish
Lords of the Congregation, and advancing to Leith, laid siege to the town, which was most valorously defended by the French soldiers. They were, however, blockaded by the English fleet, so that no provisions could be received by sea; and on land being surrounded by a considerable army, provisions became so scarce that they were obliged to feed upon horse-flesh.

In the meantime their mistress, the Queen Regent, had retired into the castle of Edinburgh, where grief, fatigue, and disappointed expectations, threw her into an illness, of which she died on 10th of June 1560. The French troops in Leith being now reduced to extremity, Francis and Mary determined upon making peace in Scotland at the expense of most important concessions to the Reformed party. They agreed that, instead of naming a new Regent, the administration of affairs should be conferred upon a council of government chosen by Parliament; and they left the subject of religion to be disposed of as the Parliament should determine. All foreign troops, on both sides, were to be withdrawn accordingly.

Queen Elizabeth gained a great point by this treaty, for it recognised, in express terms, the title of that princess to the throne of England; and Francis and Mary bound themselves to lay aside all claim to that kingdom, together with the arms and emblems of English sovereignty which they had assumed and borne.

The Parliament of Scotland being assembled, it
was soon seen that the Reformers possessed the power and inclination to direct all its resolutions upon the subject of religion. They condemned unanimously the whole fabric of Popery, and adopted, instead of the doctrines of the Church of Rome, the tenets contained in a confession, or avowal of Faith, drawn up by the most popular of the Protestant divines. Thus the whole religious constitution of the Church was at once altered.

During her husband's life, Mary had exercised a great authority in France, but after his death in 1560, and the accession of Charles his brother, that authority ceased. She retired, therefore, from the court of France, and determined to return to her native kingdom of Scotland; a resolution most natural in itself, but which became the introduction to a long and melancholy tale of misfortunes.
CHAPTER XI.

1561-1566.

MARY AND DARNLEY.

Mary Stewart, the Queen Dowager of France, and the hereditary Queen of Scotland, was accounted the most beautiful and accomplished woman of her time. Her countenance was lovely; she was tall, well-formed, elegant in all her motions, skilled in the exercises of riding and dancing, and possessed of all the female accomplishments which were in fashion at that period. Her education in France had been carefully attended to, and she had profited by the opportunities of instruction she enjoyed. She was mistress of several languages, and understood state affairs, in which her husband had often followed her advice. The beauty of Mary was enhanced by her great condescension, and by the good-humour and gaiety which she sometimes carried to the verge of excess. Her youth, for she was only eighteen when she returned to Scotland, increased the liveliness of her disposition. The Catholic religion, in which she had been strictly educated, was a great blemish in the eyes of her people; but on the whole the nation expected her return with more hope and joy than Mary herself entertained at the thought of
exchanging the fine climate of France, and the
gaieties of its court, for the rough tempests and
turbulent politics of her native country.

Mary set sail from France 15th August 1561.
The English fleet was at sea, and there is great
reason to believe that it had a purpose of intercepting
the Queen of Scots, as a neighbour whose
return was dreaded by Elizabeth. Occupied with
anxious forebodings, the Queen remained on the
deck of her galley, gazing on the coasts of France.
Morning found her in the same occupation; and
when they vanished from her eyes, she exclaimed in
sorrow, “Farewell, farewell, happy France; I shall
never see thee more!”

She passed the English fleet under cover of a
mist, and arrived at Leith on the 19th August,
where little or no preparation had been made for
her honourable reception. Such of the nobles as
were in the capital hastened, however, to wait upon
their young Queen, and convey her to Holyrood,
the palace of her ancestors. Horses were provided
to bring her and her train to Edinburgh; but they
were wretched ponies, and had such tattered furni-
ture and accoutrements that poor Mary, when she
thought of the splendid palfreys and rich appoint-
ments at the court of France, could not forbear
shedding tears. The people were, however, in their
way, rejoiced to see her; and about two hundred
citizens of Edinburgh, each doing his best upon a
three-stringed fiddle, played under her window all
night, by way of welcome, a noisy serenade, which
deprived her of sleep after her fatigue. She took it as it was meant, nevertheless, and expressed her thanks to the perpetrators of this mistuned and mistimed concert. Mary had immediately after her arrival a specimen of the religious zeal of her Reformed subjects. She had ordered mass to be performed by a Popish ecclesiastic in her own chapel, but the popular indignation was so much excited, that but for the interference of her half-brother, the Prior of St. Andrews, the priest would have been murdered on his own altar.

Mary behaved with admirable prudence at this early period of her reign. She enchanted the common people by her grace and condescension, and she gained credit for her wisdom among the statesmen whom she consulted. She was cautious of attempting anything contrary to the religion of her subjects, though different from her own; and she made rapid progress in the affections of her people.

With similar prudence, the Queen maintained all the usual intercourse of civility with Elizabeth; and while she refused to abandon her title to the crown of England, in the case of Elizabeth dying without heirs of her body, she expressed her readiness to relinquish, during the life of the English Queen, any right of inheritance to the English crown which she might possess to her prejudice.

But there was one important class of persons to whom Mary's form of religion was so obnoxious that they could not be gained to any favourable thoughts of her. These were the preachers of the Reformed
faith, who, recollecting Mary's descent from the family of Guise, always hostile to the Protestant cause, exclaimed against the Queen, even in the pulpit, with an indecent violence unfitting that place, and never spoke of her but as one hardened in resistance to the voice of true Christian instruction. John Knox himself introduced such severe expressions into his sermons, that Queen Mary condescended to expostulate with him personally, and to exhort him to use more mild language in the discharge of his duty. Nevertheless, though the language of these rough Reformers was too vehement, and though their harshness was impolitic, as tending unnecessarily to increase the Queen's dislike of them and their form of religion, it must be owned that their suspicions of Mary's sincerity were natural, and in all probability well founded. The Queen uniformly declined to ratify the religious system adopted by the Parliament in 1560, or the confiscation of the Church lands. She always seemed to consider the present state of things as a temporary arrangement, to which she was indeed willing to submit for the time, but with the reservation that it should be subjected to alterations when there was a fitting opportunity.

The first few years of Mary's reign were eminently prosperous, but a fatal crisis approached, which was eventually to plunge her into the utmost misery. Her subjects were desirous that she should marry a second husband, and with the prospect of inheriting the English crown it
seemed politic to consult Queen Elizabeth on the matter.

Queen Elizabeth recommended one match after another to her kinswoman, but threw in obstacles whenever any of them seemed likely to take place. If Mary had accepted the hand of a foreign prince she would in so doing have resigned her chance of succeeding to the English crown; nay, considering the jealousy of her Protestant subjects, she might have endangered her possession of that of Scotland. 10

Her views turned towards a young nobleman of high birth, nearly connected both with her own family and that of Elizabeth. This was Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley, son of the Earl of Lennox and Lady Margaret Douglas. His mother was the daughter of Margaret, widow of James IV., who had married Douglas, Earl of Angus, after the death of King James.

Mary imagined that in marrying Darnley she would gratify the wishes of Elizabeth, who seemed to point out, though ambiguously, a native of Britain, and one not of royal rank, as her safest choice, and as that which would be most agreeable to herself.

Elizabeth seemed to receive the proposal favourably, and suffered the young man, and his father Lennox, to visit the court of Scotland, in the hope that their presence might embroil matters further; and thinking that, in case the match should be likely to take place, she might easily break it off by recalling them as her subjects.
Young Darnley was remarkably tall and handsome, perfect in all external and showy accomplishments, but unhappily destitute of sagacity, prudence, steadiness of character, and exhibiting only doubtful courage, though extremely violent in his passions. Had this young man possessed a very moderate portion of sense, or even of gratitude, we might have had a different story to tell of Mary's reign—as it was, you will hear a very melancholy one.

Mary had the misfortune to look upon this young nobleman with partiality, and with the approbation of far the greater part of her subjects, they were married at Edinburgh on the 29th July 1565.

When Elizabeth received news that this union was determined upon, she remonstrated against the match, and recalled Lennox and his son Darnley from Scotland,—a mandate which they refused, or delayed, to obey. She also endeavoured to disturb the peace of the country by stirring up to insurrection those among the Scottish nobility to whom the marriage with Darnley was distasteful.

Queen Mary's half-brother, whom she had by this time made Earl of Murray, was a personal enemy of Darnley, and besides was the leader of the Lords of the Congregation, who saw danger to the Protestant religion in Mary's choice.

After the marriage Murray and his confederates took up arms, but Mary assembled her subjects round her, and they came in such numbers that the Lords of the Congregation disbanded their forces, and the leaders fled into England.
Mary had thus overcome her refractory subjects, but she soon found that she had a more formidable enemy in the foolish and passionate husband whom she had chosen. This headstrong young man behaved to his wife with great disrespect, both as a woman and as a queen, and gave himself up to intoxication, and other disgraceful vices. Although already possessed of more power than fitted his capacity or age, for he was but nineteen, he was importunate in his demands for obtaining what was called in Scotland the Crown Matrimonial; that is, the full equality of royal right in the crown with his consort. Until he obtained this eminence he was not held to be King, though called so in courtesy. He was only the husband of the Queen.

The childish impatience of Darnley made him regard with mortal hatred whatever interfered with the instant execution of his wishes; and his animosity on this occasion turned against the Queen’s favourite Italian secretary, once his friend, but whom he now esteemed his deadly foe, because he supposed that Rizzio encouraged the Queen in resisting his hasty ambition. His resentment against the unhappy stranger arose to such a height, that he threatened to poniard him with his own hand; and as Rizzio had many enemies, and no friends save his mistress, Darnley easily procured instruments, and those of no mean rank, to take the execution of his revenge on themselves.

The chief of Darnley’s accomplices, on this unhappy occasion, was James Douglas, Earl of Morton,
chancellor of the kingdom. He was a nobleman of high military talent and great political wisdom; but although a pretender to sanctity of life, his actions show him to have been a wicked and unscrupulous man. Notwithstanding he was chancellor of the kingdom, and therefore bound peculiarly to respect the laws, he did not hesitate to enter into the young King's cruel and unlawful purpose. Lord Ruthven, a man whose frame was exhausted by illness, nevertheless undertook to buckle on his armour for the enterprise; and they had no difficulty in finding other agents.

Queen Mary, like her father, James V., was fond of laying aside the state of a sovereign, and indulging in small private parties, quiet, as she termed them, and merry. On these occasions, she admitted her favourite domestics to her table, and Rizzio seems frequently to have had that honour. On the 9th of March 1566, six persons had partaken of supper in a small cabinet adjoining to the Queen's bedchamber, and having no entrance save through it. Rizzio was of the number. About seven in the evening, the gates of the palace were occupied by Morton, with a party of two hundred men; and a select band of the conspirators, headed by Darnley himself, came into the Queen's apartment by a secret staircase. Darnley first entered the cabinet, and stood for an instant in silence, gloomily eyeing his victim. Lord Ruthven followed in complete armour, looking pale and ghastly, as one scarcely recovered from long sickness. Others
crowded in after them, till the little closet was full of armed men. While the Queen demanded the purpose of their coming, Rizzio, who saw that his life was aimed at, got behind her, and clasped the folds of her gown, that the respect due to her person might protect him. The assassins threw down the table, and seized on the unfortunate object of their vengeance, while Darnley himself took hold of the Queen, and forced Rizzio and her asunder. It was their intention, doubtless, to have dragged Rizzio out of Mary's presence, and to have killed him elsewhere; but their fierce impatience hurried them into instant murder. George Douglas set the example, by snatching Darnley's dagger from his belt, and striking Rizzio with it. He received many other blows. They dragged him through the bedroom and antechamber, and despatched him at the head of the staircase, with no less than fifty-six wounds. Ruthven, after all was over, fatigued with his exertions, sat down in the Queen's presence, and, begging her pardon for the liberty, called for a drink to refresh him, as if he had been doing the most harmless thing in the world.

The witnesses, the actors, and the scene of this cruel tragedy, render it one of the most extraordinary which history records. The cabinet and the bedroom still remain in the same condition in which they were at the time; and the floor near the head of the stair bears visible marks of the blood of the unhappy Rizzio. The Queen continued to beg his life with prayers and tears; but when
she learned that he was dead, she dried her tears—
"I will now," she said, "study revenge."

The conspirators, who had committed the cruel action entirely or chiefly to gratify Darnley, reckoned themselves, of course, secure of his protection. They united themselves with Murray and his associates, who were just returned from England, and agreed upon a course of joint measures. The Queen, it was agreed, should be put under restraint in Edin-
burgh Castle, or elsewhere; and Murray and Morton were to rule the state under the name of Darnley, who was to obtain the crown matrimonial, which he had so anxiously desired. But all this scheme was ruined by the defection of Darnley himself. As fickle as he was vehement, and as timorous as he had shown himself cruel, Rizzio was no sooner slain than Darnley became terrified at what had been done, and seemed much disposed to deny having given any authority for the crime.

Mary easily persuaded her weak-minded husband to take part against the very persons whom he had instigated to the late atrocious crime. They escaped together from Holyrood, and fled to Dunbar, where the Queen issued a proclamation which soon drew many faithful followers around her. She pardoned the Earl of Murray, and received him into favour, while Morton, Ruthven, and his comrades fled in their turn to England.

Queen Mary was once more in possession of authority, but much disturbed and vexed by the silly conduct of her husband; so that the royal pair
continued to be on the worst terms with each other, though disguised under a species of reconciliation.

On the 19th of June 1566 Mary gave birth to a son, afterwards James VI.

After a splendid solemnity at christening the heir of Scotland, Queen Mary seems to have turned her mind towards settling the disorders of the nobility, and, sacrificing her own justifiable resentment, she yielded so far as to grant pardon to those concerned in the murder of Rizzio. Two men of low rank, and no more, had been executed for the crime. Lord Ruthven, the principal actor, had died in England, talking and writing as composedly of "the slaughter of David," as if it had been the most indifferent, if not meritorious, action possible. George Douglas, who struck the first blow, and Ker of Faldonside, who offered his pistol at the Queen's bosom in the fray, were exempted from the general pardon. Morton and all the others were permitted to return, to plan new treasons and murders.
CHAPTER XII.
1566-1567.

BOTHWELL.

It has been warmly disputed, and probably will long continue to be so, how far Queen Mary is to be considered a voluntary party or actor in the tragical and criminal events of which I am about to tell you, or how far she was an innocent victim of the villainy of others.

James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, a man in middle age, had for several years played a conspicuous part in these troubled times. He was head of a family of great influence in East Lothian and Berwickshire, where excellent soldiers could always be obtained. In his morals Bothwell was wild and licentious, irregular and daring in his ambition. As he displayed great zeal for Mary's cause, she was naturally led to advance him at court, until many persons, particularly the preachers of the Reformed religion, thought that she admitted to too great intimacy a man of so fierce and profligate a character.

In the meantime, the dissensions between Darnley and the Queen continued to increase; and while he must have been disliked by Mary from their
numerous quarrels, and the affronts he put upon her, as well as from his share in the murder of Rizzio, those who had been concerned with him in that last crime, considered him as a poor mean-spirited wretch, who, having engaged his associates in so daring an act, had afterwards betrayed and deserted them. His latter conduct showed no improvement in either sense or spirit. He pretended he would leave the kingdom, and by this and other capricious resolutions, hastily adopted and abandoned, he so far alienated the affections of the Queen, that many of the unscrupulous and plotting nobles, by whom she was surrounded, formed the idea, that it would be very agreeable to Mary if she could be freed from her union with this unreasonable and ill-tempered young man.

The first proposal made to her was, that she should be separated from Darnley by a divorce. Bothwell, Maitland, Morton, and Murray, are said to have joined in pressing such a proposal upon the Queen, who was then residing at Craigmillar Castle, near Edinburgh; but she rejected it steadily. A conspiracy of a darker kind was then agitated, for the murder of the unhappy Darnley; and Bothwell seems to have entertained little doubt that Mary, thus rid of an unacceptable husband, would choose himself for his successor. He spoke with the Earl of Morton on the subject of despatching Darnley, and represented it as an enterprise which had the approbation of the Queen. Morton refused to stir in a matter of so great consequence, unless he re
ceived a mandate under the Queen's hand. Bothwell undertook to procure him such a warrant, but he never kept his word. This was confessed by Morton at his death.

While these schemes were in agitation against his life, Darnley fell ill at Glasgow, and his indisposition proved to be the smallpox. The Queen sent her physician, and after an interval went herself to wait upon him, and an apparent reconciliation was effected between them. They came together to Edinburgh on the 31st January 1566-67. The King was lodged in a religious house called the Kirk-of-Field, just without the walls of the city. The Queen and the infant Prince were accommodated in the palace of Holyrood. The reason assigned for their living separate was the danger of the child catching the smallpox. But the Queen showed much attention to her husband, visiting him frequently; and they never seemed to have been on better terms than when the conspiracy against Darnley's life was on the eve of being executed. Meanwhile Darnley and his groom of the chamber were alone during the night time, and separated from any other persons, when measures were taken for his destruction in the following horrible manner:

On the evening of the 9th February, several persons, kinsmen, retainers, and servants of the Earl of Bothwell, came in secret to the Kirk-of-Field. They had with them a great quantity of gunpowder; and by means of false keys they ob-
tain'd entrance into the cellars of the building, where they disposed the powder in the vaults under Darnley's apartment, and especially beneath the spot where his bed was placed. About two hours after midnight upon the ensuing morning, Bothwell himself came disguised in a riding cloak, to see the execution of the cruel project. Two of his ruffians went in and took means of firing the powder, by lighting a piece of slow-burning match at one end, and placing the other amongst the gunpowder. They remained for some time watching the event, and Bothwell became so impatient, that it was with difficulty he was prevented from entering the house, to see whether the light had not been extinguished by some accident. One of his accomplices, by looking through a window, ascertained that it was still burning. The explosion presently took place, blew up the Kirk-of-Field, and alarmed the whole city. The body of Darnley was found in the adjoining orchard. The bed in which he lay had preserved him from all action of the fire, which occasioned a general belief that he and his chamber-groom, who was found in the same situation, had been strangled and removed before the house was blown up. But this was a mistake. It is clearly proved, by the evidence of those who were present at the event, that there were no means employed but gunpowder—a mode of destruction sufficiently powerful to have rendered any other unnecessary.

The horrible murder of the unhappy Darnley excited the strongest suspicions, and the greatest...
discontent, in the city of Edinburgh, and through the whole kingdom. Bothwell was pointed out by the general voice as the author of the murder; and as he still continued to enjoy the favour of Mary, her reputation was not spared. To have brought this powerful criminal to an open and impartial trial, would have been the only way for the Queen to recover her popularity; and Mary made a show of doing this public justice, but under circumstances which favoured the criminal.

Lennox, father of the murdered Darnley, had, as was his natural duty, accused Bothwell of the murder of his son. But he received little countenance in prosecuting the accused.

It was a usual thing in Scotland for persons accused of crimes to come to the bar of justice attended by all their friends, retainers, and dependents. Bothwell accordingly appeared in Edinburgh with full five thousand attendants. Two hundred musketeers kept close by his side, and guarded the doors of the court as soon as the criminal had entered. This made a fair trial impossible, and a jury of nobles and gentlemen of the first rank acquitted Bothwell of a crime of which all the world believed him to be guilty.

Bothwell then convened a number of the principal nobility at a feast given in a tavern, and prevailed on them to sign a bond, in which they not only declared him innocent of the King's death, but recommended him as the fittest person whom Her Majesty could choose for a husband,
Bothwell's next step was to seize Mary at Cramond Bridge, on her return from Stirling to Edinburgh, and, with an appearance of force, he led her to the strong castle of Dunbar, of which he was governor. He had meanwhile obtained a divorce from his wife, and on the 15th of May 1567, did Mary, with unpardonable indiscretion, commit the great folly of marrying this ambitious and profligate man, stained as he was with the blood of her husband.

Public discontent soon rose high, and Morton, Maitland, and others placed themselves at the head of a numerous party of the nobility, resolved to remove Bothwell from his usurped power.

The confederate lords assembled a large force, and entirely defeated the Queen's forces at Carberry Hill on the 15th of June 1567. Bothwell escaped, and fled the country, but Mary surrendered herself into the hands of the nobles, and was conveyed to the capital surrounded by their troops.

As the unhappy Queen approached Edinburgh, led as it were in triumph by the victors, the most coarse and insulting behaviour was used towards her by the lower classes. There was a banner prepared for this insurrection, displaying on the one side a portrait of Darnley, as he lay murdered under a tree in the fatal orchard, with these words embroidered, "Judge and avenge my cause, O Lord!" and on the other side, the little Prince on his knees, holding up his hands, as if praying to Heaven to punish his father's murderers. As the
Queen rode through the streets, with her hair loose, her garments disordered, covered with dust, and overpowered with grief, shame, and fatigue, this fatal flag was displayed before her eyes, while the voices of the rude multitude upbraided her with having been an accomplice in Darnley's murder. The same cries were repeated, and the same insulting banner displayed, before the windows of the Lord Provost's house, to which she was for a few 10 hours committed as if a prisoner. The better class of craftsmen and citizens were at length moved by her sorrows, and showed such a desire to take her part, that the lords determined to remove her from the city, where respect to her birth and misfortunes seemed likely to create partisans, in spite of her own indiscretions, and the resentment of her enemies. Accordingly, on the next evening, being 16th June 1567, Mary, in disguised apparel, and escorted by a strong armed force, was conveyed from Holyrood to 20 the castle of Lochleven, which stands on a little island, surrounded by the lake of the same name, and was there detained a prisoner.

Here poor Mary reaped the full consequences of Bothwell's guilt, and of her own infatuated attachment to him. She was imprisoned in a rude and inconvenient tower, on a small islet, where there was scarce room to walk fifty yards; and not even the intercession of Queen Elizabeth, who seems for the time to have been alarmed at the successful 30 insurrection of subjects against their sovereign, could procure any mitigation of her captivity. There was
a proposal to proceed against the Queen as an accomplice in Darnley's murder, and to take her life under that pretence. But the lords resolved to adopt somewhat of a gentler course, by compelling Mary to surrender her crown to her son, then an infant, and to make the Earl of Murray regent during the child's minority. Deeds to this purpose were drawn up, and sent to the castle of Lochleven, to be signed by the Queen. Lord Lindsay, the rudest, most bigoted, and fiercest of the confederated lords, was deputed to enforce Mary's compliance with the commands of the Council. He behaved with such peremptory brutality as had perhaps been expected, and was so unmanly as to pinch with his iron glove the arm of the poor Queen, to compel her to subscribe the deeds.

Murray accepted of the regency, and in doing so broke all remaining ties of tenderness betwixt himself and his sister. He was now at the head of the ruling faction, consisting of what were called the King's Lords; while such of the nobility as desired that Mary, being now freed from the society of Bothwell, should be placed at liberty, and restored to the administration of the kingdom, were termed the Queen's Party. The strict and sagacious government of Murray imposed silence and submission for a time upon this last-named faction; but a singular incident changed the face of things for a moment, and gave a gleam of hope to the unfortunate captive.

Sir William Douglas, the laird of Lochleven, owner of the castle where Mary was imprisoned,
was a half-brother by the mother's side of the Regent Murray. This baron discharged with severe fidelity the task of Mary's jailor; but his youngest brother, George Douglas, became more sensible to the Queen's distress, and perhaps to her beauty, than to the interests of the Regent, or of his own family. A plot laid by him for the Queen's deliverance was discovered, and he was expelled from the island in consequence. But he kept up a correspondence with a kinsman of his own, called Little Douglas, a boy of fifteen or sixteen, who had remained in the castle. On Sunday, the 2d May 1568, this Little William Douglas, contrived to steal the keys of the castle while the family were at supper. He let Mary and her attendant out of the tower when all had gone to rest—locked the gates of the castle to prevent pursuit—placed the Queen and her waiting-woman in a little skiff, and rowed them to the shore, throwing the keys of the castle into the lake in the course of their passage. Just when they were about to set out on this adventurous voyage, the youthful pilot had made a signal, by a light in a particular window visible at the upper end of the lake, to intimate that all was safe. Lord Seaton and a party of the Hamiltons were waiting at the landing-place. The Queen instantly mounted, and hurried off to Niddry Castle, in West Lothian; she proceeded next day to Hamilton. The news flew like lightning throughout the country, and spread enthusiasm everywhere. The people remembered Mary's gentleness, grace,
and beauty,—they remembered her misfortunes also—and if they reflected on her errors, they thought they had been punished with sufficient severity. On Sunday, Mary was a sad and helpless captive in a lonely tower. On the Saturday following she was at the head of a powerful confederacy, by which nine earls, nine bishops, eighteen lords, and many gentlemen of high rank, engaged to defend her person and restore her power. But this gleam of success was only temporary.

On 13th May 1568 Murray's troops completely routed the Queen's army near Langside. Mary beheld this final and fatal defeat from the castle of Crookstane, and escorted by a few faithful followers she rode sixty miles before she stopped at Dundrennan in Galloway. She had the means of retreating from there either to France or England, and the latter afforded a nearer, and, as she thought, an equally safe, place of refuge.

Forgetting, therefore, the various causes of emulation which existed betwixt Elizabeth and herself, and remembering only the smooth and flattering words which she had received from her sister sovereign, it did not occur to the Scottish Queen that she should incur any risk by throwing herself upon the hospitality of England. It may also be supposed, that poor Mary, amongst whose faults want of generosity could not be reckoned, judged of Elizabeth according to the manner in which she would herself have treated the Queen of England in the same situation. She therefore resolved to
TALES OF A GRANDFATHER.

take refuge in Elizabeth’s kingdom, in spite of the opposition of her wiser attendants. They kneeled and entreated in vain. She entered the fatal boat, crossed the Solway, and delivered herself up to a gentleman named Lowther, the English deputy-warden. Much surprised, doubtless, at the incident, he sent express to inform Queen Elizabeth; and receiving the Scottish Queen with as much respect as he had the means of showing, lodged her in Carlisle Castle.
CHAPTER XIII.
1568-1587.

FOTHERINGAY.

Elizabeth refused to admit her fugitive kinswoman to her presence, until she stood clear, in the eyes of the world, of the scandalous accusations of her Scottish subjects.

Commissioners were accordingly appointed to consider the question, and the Regent Murray appeared in person before them in the odious character of the accuser of his sister, benefactress, and sovereign.

At the end of five months' investigation the Queen of England informed both parties that she had, on the one side, seen nothing which induced her to doubt the worth and honour of the Earl of Murray, while on the other hand, he had, in her opinion, proved nothing of the criminal charges which he had brought against his sovereign. She was therefore, she said, determined to leave the affairs of Scotland as she had found them.

To have treated both parties impartially, as her sentence seemed to imply her desire to do, the Queen ought to have restored Mary to liberty. But while Murray was sent down with the loan of
a large sum of money, Mary was retained in that captivity which was only to end with her life.

Always demanding her liberty, and always having her demand evaded or refused, she was transported from castle to castle, and placed under the charge of various keepers, who incurred Elizabeth's most severe resentment when they manifested any of that attention to soften the rigours of the poor Queen's captivity, which mere courtesy, and compassion for fallen greatness, sometimes prompted. The very furniture and accommodations of her apartments were miserably neglected, and the expenses of her household were supplied as grudgingly as if she had been an unwelcome guest, who could depart at pleasure, and whom, therefore, the entertainer endeavours to get rid of by the coldness and discomfort of the reception afforded. It was, upon one occasion, with difficulty that the Queen Dowager of France, and actual Queen of Scotland, obtained the accommodation of a down bed, which a complaint in her limbs, the consequence of damp and confinement, rendered a matter of needful accommodation rather than of luxury. When she was permitted to take exercise, she was always strongly guarded, as if she had been a criminal; and if any one offered her a compliment, or token of respect, or any word of comfort, Queen Elizabeth, who had her spies everywhere, was sure to reproach those who were Mary's guardians for the time, with great neglect of their duty, in permitting such intercourse.
During this severe captivity on the one part, and the greatest anxiety, doubt, and jealousy on the other, the two Queens still kept up a sort of correspondence. In the commencement of this intercourse, Mary endeavoured, by the force of argument, by the seductions of flattery, and by appeals to the feelings of humanity, to soften towards her the heart of Elizabeth. She tried also to bribe her rival into a more humane conduct towards her, by offering to surrender her crown and reside abroad if she could but be restored to her personal freedom. But Elizabeth had injured the Queen of Scotland too deeply to venture the consequences of her resentment, and thought herself, perhaps, compelled to continue the course she had commenced, from the fear that, once at liberty, Mary might have pursued measures of revenge, and that she herself would find it impossible to devise any mode of binding the Scottish Queen to perform, when at large, such articles as she might consent to when in bondage.

Elizabeth had reasonable cause to regard the Queen of Scots with fear, for the Catholic party in England were still very strong, and they considered the claim of Mary to the throne of England to be preferable to that of Elizabeth, who was, in their judgment, illegitimate, as being the heir of an illegal marriage between Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn. The Popes also, by whom Elizabeth was justly regarded as the great prop of the Reformed religion, endeavoured to excite her Catholic subjects against
her. In 1570 Pius V. went so far as to publish a sentence of excommunication on Queen Elizabeth, and the zeal of the English Catholics was kindled by this warrant from the Head of their Church.

From this time plot after plot was entered into among the Papists for dethroning Elizabeth, and transferring the kingdom to Mary, and as the Catholics were promised powerful assistance from the King of Spain, the danger appeared every day more and more imminent.

These constantly recurring conspiracies produced one of the most extraordinary laws that was ever passed in England. It was enacted that if any rebellion should be meditated by or for any person pretending a right to the throne, the Queen should appoint twenty-five Commissioners to examine into, and pass sentence upon, such offences; and the person on whose behalf such rebellion had been meditated might be prosecuted to the death. The hardship of this enactment consisted in its rendering Mary responsible for the deeds of others, and only great zeal for the Reformed religion, and for the personal safety of Elizabeth, could have induced the English Government to consent to a law so unjust and so oppressive.

This act was passed in 1585, and in the following year a pretext was found for making it the ground of proceedings against Mary. Anthony Babington, a young gentleman of fortune and of talents, but a zealous Catholic, and a fanatical enthusiast for the cause of the Scottish Queen, had associated with
himself five resolute friends and adherents, all men of condition, in the desperate enterprise of assassinating Queen Elizabeth, and setting Mary at liberty. But their schemes were secretly betrayed to Walsingham, the celebrated minister of the Queen of England. They were suffered to proceed as far as was thought safe, then seized, tried, and executed.

It was next resolved upon, that Mary should be brought to trial for her life, under pretence of her having encouraged Babington and his companions in their desperate purpose. She was removed to the castle of Fotheringay, and placed under two keepers, Sir Amias Paulet and Sir Drew Drury, whose well-known hatred of the Catholic religion was supposed to render them inclined to treat their unfortunate captive with the utmost rigour. Her private cabinet was broken open and stripped of its contents, her most secret papers were seized upon and examined, her principal domestics were removed from her person, her money and her jewels were taken from her. Queen Elizabeth then proceeded to name Commissioners, in terms of the Act of Parliament which I have told you of. They were forty in number, of the most distinguished of her statesmen and nobility, and were directed to proceed to the trial of Mary for her alleged accession to Babington's conspiracy.

On the 14th October 1586 these Commissioners held their court in the great hall of Fotheringay Castle. Mary, left to herself, and having counsel of no friend, advocate, or lawyer, made, nevertheless,
a defence becoming her high birth and distinguished talents. She refused to plead before a court composed of persons who were of a degree inferior to her own; and when at length she agreed to hear and answer the accusation brought against her, she made her protest that she did so, not as owning the authority of the Court, but purely in vindication of her own character.

The attorney and solicitor for Queen Elizabeth stated the conspiracy of Babington, as it unquestionably existed, and produced copies of letters which Mary was alleged to have written, approving the insurrection, and even the assassination of Elizabeth. The declarations of Naue and Curle, two of Mary's secretaries, went to confirm the fact of her having had correspondence with Babington, by intervention of a priest called Ballard. The confessions of Babington and his associates were then read, avowing Mary's share in their criminal undertaking.

To these charges Mary answered, by denying that she ever had any correspondence with Ballard, or that she had ever written such letters as those produced against her. She insisted that she could only be affected by such writings as bore her own hand and seal, and not by copies. She urged that the declarations of her secretaries were given in private, and probably under the influence of fear of torture, or hope of reward. Lastly, she pleaded that the confessions of the conspirators could not affect her, since they were infamous persons, dying for an infamous crime. If their evidence was designed to
be used, they ought to have been pardoned, and brought forward in person, to bear witness against her. Mary admitted that, having for many years despaired of relief or favour from Queen Elizabeth, she had, in her distress, applied to other sovereigns, and that she had also endeavoured to procure some favour for the persecuted Catholics of England; but she denied that she had endeavoured to purchase liberty for herself, or advantage for the Catholics, at the expense of shedding the blood of any one; and declared, that if she had given consent in word, or even in thought, to the murder of Elizabeth, she was willing, not only to submit to the doom of men, but even to renounce the mercy of God.

The Commissioners pronounced Mary guilty of having been accessory to Babington’s conspiracy, and the sentence was ratified by Parliament.

With all the prejudices of her subjects in her own favour, Elizabeth would fain have had Mary’s death take place in such a way as that she herself should not appear to have any hand in it. Her ministers were employed to write letters to Mary’s keepers, insinuating what a good service they would do to Elizabeth and the Protestant religion, if Mary could be privately assassinated. But these stern guardians, though strict and severe in their conduct towards the Queen, would not listen to such persuasions; and well was it for them that they did not, for Elizabeth would certainly have thrown the whole blame of the deed upon their shoulders, and left them to answer it with their lives and
fortunes. She was angry with them, nevertheless, for their refusal, and called Paulet a precise fellow, loud in boasting of his fidelity, but slack in giving proof of it.

Finding it necessary to proceed in all form, Elizabeth signed the warrant for the execution of the sentence passed upon Mary. It was laid before the Privy Council, and next day the great seal was placed upon it.

10 The Earls of Kent and Shrewsbury, with the High Sheriff of the county, were empowered and commanded to see the fatal mandate carried into effect without delay.

Mary received the melancholy intelligence with the utmost firmness. "The soul," she said, "was undeserving of the joys of Heaven, which would shrink from the blow of an executioner. She had not;" she added, "expected that her kinswoman would have consented to her death, but submitted not the less willingly to her fate." She earnestly requested the assistance of a priest; but this favour, which is granted to the worst criminals, and upon which Catholics lay particular weight, was cruelly refused. The Queen then wrote her last will, and short and affectionate letters of farewell to her relations in France. She distributed among her attendants such valuables as had been left her, and desired them to keep them for her sake. This occupied the evening before the day appointed for

30 the fatal execution.

On the 8th February 1587 the Queen, still
maintaining the same calm and undisturbed appearance which she had displayed at her pretended trial, was brought down to the great hall of the castle, where a scaffold was erected, on which were placed a block and a chair, the whole being covered with black cloth. The Master of her Household, Sir Andrew Melville, was permitted to take a last leave of the mistress whom he had served long and faithfully. He burst into loud lamentations, bewailing her fate, and deploring his own in being destined to carry such news to Scotland. "Weep not, my good Melville," said the Queen, "but rather rejoice; for thou shalt this day see Mary Stewart relieved from all her sorrows." She obtained permission, with some difficulty, that her maids should be allowed to attend her on the scaffold. It was objected to, that the extravagance of their grief might disturb the proceedings; she engaged for them that they would be silent.

When the Queen was seated in the fatal chair, she heard the death warrant read by Beale, the Clerk to the Privy Council, with an appearance of indifference; nor did she seem more attentive to the devotional exercises of the Dean of Peterborough, in which, as a Catholic, she could not conscientiously join. She implored the mercy of Heaven, after the form prescribed by her own Church. She then prepared herself for execution, taking off such parts of her dress as might interfere with the deadly blow. The executioners offered their assistance, but she modestly refused it, saying,
she had neither been accustomed to undress before so many spectators, nor to be served by such grooms of the chamber. She quietly chid her maids, who were unable to withhold their cries of lamentation, and reminded them that she had engaged for their silence. Last of all Mary laid her head on the block, and the executioner severed it from her body with two strokes of his axe. The headsman held it up in his hand, and the Dean of Peterborough cried out, "So perish all Queen Elizabeth's enemies!" No voice, save that of the Earl of Kent, could answer *Amen!* the rest were choked with sobs and tears.

Thus died Queen Mary, aged a little above forty-four years. She was eminent for beauty, for talents, and accomplishments, nor is there reason to doubt her natural goodness of heart, and courageous manliness of disposition. Yet she was, in every sense, one of the most unhappy princesses that ever lived, from the moment when she came into the world, in an hour of defeat and danger, to that in which a bloody and violent death closed a weary captivity of eighteen years.
CHAPTER XIV.

1587-1603.

UNION OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

It was not perhaps to be expected that James VI. should have had much natural affection for his mother, from whom he had been parted in his infancy, and who had doubtless been represented to him as a bad woman, desirous of dispossessing him of the crown which he wore, and resuming it herself. But upon learning the proceedings against her life he sent an ambassador, the Master of Grey, with instructions to use both persuasions and threats to preserve the life of Mary.

The Master of Grey, as is now admitted, privately encouraged Elizabeth and her ministers to proceed in the path they had chosen, and gave them reason to believe that though, for the sake of decency, James found it necessary to interfere, yet in his secret mind he would not be very sorry that Mary, who by some of his subjects was still regarded as Sovereign of Scotland, should be quietly removed out of the way. By this treacherous ambassador Elizabeth was led to believe that James's resentment would not last long, and she relied on the zeal of the Scots for the Reformed religion to pre-
vent James making common cause against England with the King of Spain.

When news of Mary's execution was brought to Scotland James at first testified high indignation. But his hopes and fears were now fixed on the succession to the English crown, which would have been forfeited by his engaging in a war with Elizabeth. He therefore gradually softened towards Queen Elizabeth, and affected to believe the excuses she offered for what she termed "this unhappy accident," and in a short time they were on as friendly a footing as they had been before the death of the unfortunate Mary.

On this apparently friendly footing the two sovereigns remained, and as years passed on the English people began to turn their eyes towards James as the nearest heir of King Henry VIII, and the rightful successor, when Queen Elizabeth should fail. She was now old, her health broken, and her feelings painfully agitated by the death of Essex, her principal favourite. After his execution, she could scarcely be said ever to enjoy either health or reason. She sat on a pile of cushions, with her finger in her mouth, attending, as it seemed, to nothing, saving to the prayers which were from time to time read in her chamber.

While the Queen of England was thus struggling out the last moments of life, her subjects were making interest with her successor James, with whom even Cecil himself, the Prime Minister of England, had long kept up a secret correspondence.
The breath had no sooner left Elizabeth's body than the near relation and godson of the late Queen, Sir Robert Carey, got on horseback, and, travelling with a rapidity which almost equalled that of the modern mail-coach, carried to the Palace of Holyrood the news that James was King of England, France, and Ireland, as well as of his native dominions of Scotland.

James arrived in London on the 7th of May 1603, and took possession of his new realms without the slightest opposition; and thus the island of Great Britain, so long divided into the separate kingdoms of England and Scotland, became subject to the same prince. Here, therefore, must end the Tales of your Grandfather, so far as they relate to the History of Scotland, considered as a distinct and separate kingdom.
NOTES.

P. 1, l. 24. **Thomas the Rhymer**, also known as Thomas of Erceldoune, lived during the latter part of the thirteenth century. His name is associated with numerous fragments of verse of a prophetic character, and Scott credits him with the authorship of the romance of *Sir Tristrem*. The legend of his sojourn in Fairyland may be read in the ballad of *Thomas the Rhymer*, to which Scott added a Second and Third Part.

P. 3, l. 7. According to Dr. Hume Brown there is "no evidence that the Scots as a nation invited Edward’s interference."

P. 4, l. 26. **The Stone of Destiny**, on which the Scottish Kings were crowned at Scone, was by tradition the stone of which Jacob made his pillow at Bethel. It seems fairly certain that it was brought to Scotland from Ireland. By the treaty of Northampton it was to be restored to Scotland, but it remained at Westminster, and still forms part of the Coronation Chair.

P. 15, l. 23. **Minorites**, Franciscan monks.

P. 17, l. 22; p. 36, l. 17. **Saracens**, the general name given by Europeans to the Mohammedan invaders in the Middle Ages. The Crusades were undertaken to free the Holy Land from their sway.

P. 18, l. 6. **Galloway**, a district of somewhat indefinite extent in the south west of Scotland, including the counties of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright.

P. 23, l. 16. A late tradition, and very likely not historical.

P. 27, l. 19. **Shrovetide**, the time immediately before Lent, observed as a feast in prospect of the long period of fasting.

P. 37, l. 15. **Grenada or Granada**, the most southerly kingdom of Old Spain, held by the Moors until 1492.

P. 37, l. 17. **Castile**, the most important kingdom of Old Spain. The greatness of the Spanish monarchy may be dated from the union of Castile and Aragon in 1469.
NOTES.

P. 38, l. 21. Bruce’s tomb was discovered in 1818, but was not examined until the following year. The remains were replaced, and their position is now marked by a slab of brass, under the pulpit of the Abbey Church.

P. 41, l. 10. Inch of Perth. Inch is the Gaelic for island, and occurs frequently as part of the names of islands, e.g. Inchkeith. It is also applied locally to low-lying land by a river, as here.

P. 45, l. 11. The circumstances of the Duke of Rothesay’s death at Falkland are as obscure as those of the death of Richard II. in the Tower of London a few years earlier. A parliament held at Holyrood cleared Albany of having had any hand in it, though it was acknowledged that he had arrested Rothesay by the king’s permission. The details given by Scott are found in the History of Hector Boece, who was made principal of King’s College, Aberdeen, about 1500.

P. 45, l. 29. According to modern authorities it is doubtful whether the two countries were at peace at the time.

P. 50, l. 29. Pluto, or Hades, the god of the nether-world.

P. 51, l. 24. According to Mr. Andrew Lang the Scots were well provisioned at Flodden.

P. 56, l. 11. Mitred abbots had episcopal authority within the jurisdiction of their abbeys, and were privileged to wear the mitre, or tall head-dress, that indicated the rank of bishop.

P. 58, l. 18. Mary of Guise, sister of the Duke of Guise, and of the Cardinal of Lorraine, belonged to the most powerful family of the French nobility, the head of the opposition to the Huguenots.

P. 59, l. 2. John Calvin was born in France in 1509. He entered the priesthood, but soon joined the Reforming party, of which he became the leader. Obliged to leave France on account of his religion he settled at Geneva, where he spent the rest of his life as a teacher of theology. He taught a more extreme Protestantism than Luther, and had great influence over the Scottish Reformers.

P. 64, l. 3. Lords of the Congregation was name given to the nobles who supported the cause of the Reformation, and advocated an alliance with England.

P. 75, l. 30. Some years ago the blood was still visible to the eye of faith in a dark corner at the head of the staircase. The removal of a wooden partition has now restored the room to its original size, and the place of the bloodstains is marked by a brass plate.

P. 80, l. 13. Kirk of Field, a dwelling in connection with St. Mary in the Fields, a collegiate church outside the old wall of the city, near the site of the present University buildings.
TALES OF A GRANDFATHER.

P. 81, l. 24. It is now considered more probable that the victim was strangled before the explosion.

P. 84, l. 9. Lord Provost, the chief magistrate of a city, the Scottish equivalent of Lord Mayor.

P. 89, l. 8. Master of Grey, son of Patrick, Lord Grey. Master is the Scottish courtesy title of the eldest son of a viscount or baron. Mr. Andrew Lang assigns the Master of Grey's treacherous communications to Elizabeth to a somewhat earlier date, and declares him to have acted in good faith on this final embassy.
GLOSSARY.

The vocabulary of these Tales is studiously simple, and the words given in the glossary are chiefly those used by Scott in an unusual, or semi-obsolete, sense. The first numeral refers to the page, the second to the line in the page.

accession (50. 1, 93. 26), complicity in, being accessory to.
address (30. 17), skill.
ambiguously (71, 21), with doubtful meaning.
bill (55. 22), a long-handled weapon, with a broad, hooked blade, often with a spike at the back.
blockade (29. 18, 65. 4), to surround with troops or ships, and so prevent the entrance of provisions to a town or fortress.
churl (52. 15), a low-born man, a worthless fellow.
condition (93. 2), rank.
devolve (2. 20), to fall to as inheritance.
dilemma (3. 6), difficulty, confusion.
ecclesiastic (69. 7), priest.
envied (12. 15), grudged.
embalmed (37. 5), preserved from decay with spices.
express (2. 5), a special messenger.
furniture (68. 23), ornamental covers, or housings, worn by horses on state occasions.
galley (68. 10), a long, low-built vessel, propelled by oars.
gillies (34. 26), Highland serfs; men-servants.
hazarder (52, 10), gambler.
insolences (7. 5), insults, acts of insolence.
lay (9. 19), slept.
lie (22. 25), to remain, abide.
mass (69. 6), the celebration of the Sacrament in Roman Catholic Churches.
mechanics (52. 17), artisans, men who work with their hands.
obliging (48. 9), binding, pledging.
offered (77. 17), aimed, presented.
palfrey (68. 25), a saddle horse.
parcel (52. 17), a lot, a crowd.
party (78. 3), one taking part.
pennon (32. 1), a small ensign, pointed or swallow-tailed, borne below the lance head.
precise (96. 2), over-scrupulous, Puritanical.
religious (house) (80. 12), once used for religious purposes.
rose-noble (52. 10), a gold coin bearing a rose as part of its device.
sharper (52. 10), cheat, swindler.
standard (32. 1, 55. 10), a large flag set before the tent of a king or general in time of war.
stout (22. 14), strong, resolute.
subscribe (85. 16), to sign.
swarthy (29. 4), dark-complexioned.
target (41. 27), a small, round shield.
virtually (48. 27), in effect, if not in words.
warden (88. 6), a guardian or governor of a castle.

QUESTIONS.

1. At what time was the King of England undoubtedly suzerain of Scotland? What brought about that state of affairs, and how was it ended? Can you give any instance of an independent monarch, who was at the same time also a vassal, doing homage to a suzerain?

2. Why were the greater barons of Scotland so ready to admit the claims of Edward I.? Show that they were still lukewarm in the cause of their country when actual war had broken out.

3. For what crime was Wallace condemned to death, and what defence did he make? Could Bruce have made the same defence if he had fallen into the hands of Edward?

4. Give an account of the taking of Roxburgh Castle.

5. What events led immediately to the Battle of Bannockburn? How far do you think the character of the new King of England affected the issue of the war?

6. Describe the tactics of Bruce at Bannockburn. Where has this battle been described in verse?

7. What difference was there between the people of the Highlands and of the Lowlands of Scotland? Is it possible to
QUESTIONS.

distinguish them now, and can you point to anything of the same kind in the southern part of our island?

8. What were the Crusades, and what references to them occur in the Tales of a Grandfather?

9. Show that the marriage of James IV. and Margaret Tudor led eventually to the union of England and Scotland.

10. Why did James V. say that the crown came to his family "with a lass"? Did it "go with a lass," and if so, with whom, and when?

11. On what pretext did Mary Queen of Scots assume the arms of England? What two parties were there in Scotland during her minority, and on what foreign help did each rely?

12. Name the chief provisions of the treaty made after the blockade of Leith. What important change was made by the Parliament that was held immediately after it?

13. Scotland was almost continuously in alliance with France from the beginning of the War of Independence until after the Reformation. Was this alliance an advantage or the reverse to the Scotch? Are there any traces in modern Scotland of the frequent intercourse with France?

14. Sir Robert Carey's journey from London to Edinburgh occupied three days and two nights. How long do you think Scott's "modern mail coach" took for the same journey? How would important tidings be sent to-day?

15. Where are the following places, and what events in Scottish history are connected with them?—Dumfries, Scone, Roxburgh, Perth, Falkland, Leith, Lochleven, Falkirk, Dunfermline.

SUBJECTS FOR ESSAYS.

1. Was it a good or a bad thing in the long run for the United Kingdom that Edward I. did not succeed in conquering Scotland? Give reasons for your opinion.

2. Describe the character of Bruce, and try to account for the apparent change in it after the murder of Comyn.

3. Bannockburn has been called "one of the decisive battles of the world." Discuss this estimate of its importance, and show that the same cannot be said of Flodden.

4. Read the stanzas in the last Canto of Marmion that describe the Battle of Flodden, and compare Scott's description of it there with that in the Tales of a Grandfather.
5. Write a brief essay on the Reformation in Scotland, comparing it with the same movement in England. Do you think that a foreigner visiting both countries now, without previous knowledge of their history, would see anything to lead him to conclude that they had been separate at the time of the Reformation?

6. Compare the characters of Queen Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots.

7. Read the story of Mary's escape from Lochleven Castle as told in the Abbot, and write an account of it from memory.

8. Discuss the justice of Elizabeth's dealings with Mary.

9. Sir Walter Scott speaks of Edinburgh as "mine own romantic town." Write a brief essay to show that the adjective is a fitting one; or,—describe any town or building of historical interest that is known to you.

HELP TO FURTHER STUDY.

1. Lockhart's Life of Sir Walter Scott, Scott's Journal, and his Letters.


3. Books on Scottish History are numerous. Among the most recent are Mr. Andrew Lang's History of Scotland, and Dr. Hume Brown's book, bearing the same title. In his History of England Froude treats in detail the relations between Mary and Elizabeth, and J. R. Green's Short History has a brilliant chapter on the character of the two Queens.

4. It will be found interesting and profitable for young readers to compare Scott's treatment of historical personages and incidents in his imaginative works, with his treatment of them in the Tales of a Grandfather. Thus the Lord of the Isles may be read along with the chapters on Bruce, the Fair Maid of Perth with that on Robert III., Marmion with the story of Flodden, and the Monastery and the Abbot with the account of the changes of the Reformation and the tragic life and death of Mary.
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