

1677
PINNOCK'S CATECHISMS.

A
CATECHISM
OF
MODERN HISTORY;
GIVING A
DESCRIPTION
OF THE MOST
Remarkable Events
FROM THE
BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR TO THE PRESENT TIME.

CALCULATED FOR THE
USE OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

Ninth Edition.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following Catechism is intended to succeed that of "Ancient History."

The Author begs to observe, that he has here pursued the same plan as in the above-mentioned little Work, by which he has been enabled to compress in a small compass many of the most interesting and important Events, from the Birth of our Saviour to the present time; but for a further and more detailed account of the History of certain countries, he begs to refer to the separate Historical Catechisms, a list of which are printed at the end.

THE
CATECHISM
OF
MODERN HISTORY.

CHAP I.

Of the Beginning of Modern History.

Question. WHEN does Modern History begin?

Answer. At the birth of our Saviour.

Q. What were the principal empires at our Saviour's birth?

A. At our Saviour's birth there was only one empire; namely, the Roman, for at this time the influence of the Romans was so great, and their power so very high, that almost every other nation was under their control; and the history of that people, for a certain time, is considered as the history of the world.

Q. Who was the emperor of this great empire when Jesus Christ came into the world?

A. Octavius Augustus, the adopted son of Julius Caesar.

Q. What are the six principal events of modern history?

A. 1. The downfall of the Roman empire.

2. The life of Mahomet, and the origin of the eastern empire.

3. The history of Charlemagne.
4. The history of Otho the Great.
5. The Crusades.
6. The discovery of America.

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## CHAP. II.

### *History of Jesus Christ.*

Q. WHAT is the greatest event mentioned in the Scriptures?

A. The birth of Jesus Christ.

Q. Who is Jesus Christ?

A. The son of God and Saviour of mankind.

Jesus signifies a saviour, and Christ the anointed.

Q. Where was our Saviour born?

A. At Bethlehem, in a poor stable; as the prophet had foretold, that Jesus would be born there to teach us humility.

Q. By whom, to whom, and in what manner was the birth of our Saviour *announced*?

A. Our Saviour's birth was announced by angels, to some shepherds, by singing glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good-will towards men.

Q. Where and by whom was Jesus Christ *re-cognized* to be the Messiah?

A. At the *Temple*, (when Mary his mother

*Announced, part.* declared, made known.

*Re-cognized, part.* known, remembered.

*Temple, s.* a public building erected for religious worship.



complied with the law of *purification*) by the holy, aged, and *venerable* Simeon, a just man who feared God, and to whom the Holy Ghost had *revealed* that he should not die without seeing Christ the Lord.

Q. What did Sim'con when he first saw the child?

A. He took him into his arms, and cried out in a transport of joy, that he should now die in peace, not having any thing else to wish for upon earth.

### CHAP. III.

#### *History of our Saviour (continued.)*

Q. When did the public life of Jesus Christ commence, and how long did it continue?

A. The public life of Jesus Christ commenced at the thirtieth, and lasted only to his thirty-third year.

Q. What is meant by the Public Life of our Saviour?

A. His ministry or services in preaching the Gospel to save mankind.

Q. What was the first thing our Saviour did previous to entering on his public life?

A. Our Saviour first went to the banks of the

*Purification*, s. the act of making pure or clean, a rite or ceremony of the Jews, generally performed by bathing.

*Venerable*, a. worthy of regard.

*Revealed*, part. made known.

river Jordan,\* that John, who was preaching repentance there, might baptise† him, in order to fulfil the law.

Q. What remarkable event followed the baptism of our Saviour?

A. Immediately after, the heavens were opened; and a voice, the voice of God the Father, was heard to say, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." John several times bore *testimony* to it.

Q. What was the next thing our Saviour did?

A. Jesus was then conducted by the *Holy Ghost* into the Desert,‡ where he remained forty days without taking any nourishment.

Q. What were the acts of Jesus Christ during the days of his public life?

A. He first fixed upon twelve poor fishermen, to be his disciples,§ who, at his command, gave

\* Q. Where was the river Jordan?

A. In Canaan.

† Q. What is baptism?

A. Baptism is the ceremony of applying water to a person, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, by which he is initiated into the Christian Church. It is practised by all professions of the Christian Religion, except Quakers.

‡ Q. Where was the Desert in which our Saviour remained forty days without nourishment?

A. Near Jerusalem.

§ In a Scripture sense *disciple* signifies a follower, but in the general sense, a learner, a scholar.

*Testimony*, s. evidence or proof.

*Holy Ghost*, s. the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Trinity.

up every thing to follow him, that they might be instructed, and *associate* in his labours.

Q. Relate the next acts of our Saviour.

A. Accompanied by his twelve disciples, or apostles, he then travelled throughout all Jude'a, doing the office that was to be done by the Messiah, preaching the *Gospel* in all parts, doing good to all, and proving, by his great and numerous *miracles*, that the *doctrine* which he taught was divine.

Q. What did Jesus Christ teach?

A. He taught the truths which are contained in the Books of the *Evangelists*, which were written by the *inspiration* of God.

#### CHAP. IV.

##### *Of the Death of our Saviour.*

Q. How did Jesus Christ close his public life?

A. By *incontestable* marks of his admirable

Asso'ciate, *s.* a companion, one who is joined to another as assistant.

Gos'pel, *s.* God's word, the doctrines or precepts contained in the New Testament.

Mir'acle, *s.* some act that is above the power of man.

Doct'rine, *s.* the principles or maxims delivered in a discourse.

Evan'gelist, *s.* a writer or preacher of the Gospel. The word is from the Greek, and signifies one who publishes glad tidings, or is the messenger of good news.

Inspira'tion, *s.* (in divinity), the infusion of ideas into the mind. (The drawing of breath).

Incontes'table, *s.* not to be disputed.

love towards men, by the *ignominies* he experienced, the torments he endured, and the death to which he voluntarily submitted.

Q. In what manner did Our Saviour suffer death?

A. He was first condemned to death at the Jewish *tribunal*, then flogged, and crowned with thorns in the judgment-hall, and crucified on Mount Calvary.\*

Q. What happened after his death?

A. His body was put into a stone *sepulchre*, well sealed, and carefully watched by his enemies, the Jews; but he rose again on the third day as he had foretold.

Q. How long did our Saviour stay on earth after his *resurrection*?

A. Forty days, during which time he instructed his apostles in what manner they were to spread his religion in the world.

Q. What did our Saviour on the fortieth day after his resurrection?

A. He ascended into heaven, in the presence of about 500 of his disciples; where he is now sitting on the right hand of God, making *intercession* for us.

\* Q. Where was Mount Calvary?

A. On Mount Mori'ah, near Jerusalem.

*Ig'nominy*, s. disgrace.

*Tribu'nal*, s. seat of government.

*Sep'ulchre*, s. a tomb, a grave.

*Resurrec'tion*, the act of rising again after death.

*Interces'sion*, s. the act of pleading in behalf of another.

Q. What did the apostles after our Saviour's ascension?

A. They dispersed themselves to preach the Gospel, and through them the Christian religion was soon spread into all parts of the world.

Q. Do these few chapters contain the whole history of our Saviour's life?

A. No; these chapters comprehend a very small proportion of the principal events with which that inestimable and divine work, the Bible, abounds, and which is the true and only source of all religious knowledge; and are inserted here, rather to *excite* than *allay* a curiosity, which should go at once to the fountain head.\*



## CHAP. V.

### *Of the Roman Empire.*

Q. At what state was the Roman empire at the time of our Saviour's birth?

A. At its highest degree of splendour, *exhibiting* such a *spectacle* that had never been witnessed before, the whole civilized world being united into one *political* system.

Q. What was the extent of the city of Rome

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\* Fountain head, (figuratively) the origin, the source.

Exc'ite, *v.* to rouse, to awaken.

Allay', *v.* to abate or lessen any quality.

Exhib'iting, *part.* shewing.

Spectacle, *s.* any thing that attracts the sight by its being remarkable.

Polit'ical, *a.* relating to politics, the art of governing and well regulating of states.

and the number of its inhabitants in the time of Augustus ?

A. Rome, at this time, measured fifty of our miles in circumference, and its inhabitants exceeded four millions.

Q. What were the principal countries that were thus united ?

A. Gaul (now called France), Italy, Spain, Portugal, Swit'zerland, Greece, Egypt, and all the northern parts of Africa.

Q. What progress did the Christian religion make at this time ?

A. It now spread itself throughout the Roman empire, which was then nearly all the world.

Q. In what places were *convents* made and churches built ?

A. Convents were made and churches were built at An'tioch,\* Damas'cus,† Philip'pi,‡ Cor'inth,§

\* Q. Where was the city of An'tioch ?

A. In Syria, in Asia. It was founded about 303 years after Christ. St. Peter is said to have been bishop of this city seven years ; and it was here that St. Luke wrote his Gospel.

† Q. Where was Damas'cus ?

A. In Syria. This city is the same as Da'mas, mentioned in the Catechism of Ancient History.

‡ Q. Where was Philip'pi ?

A. In Macedo'nia, in Greece ; which has been much celebrated for two battles fought between Augus'tus and An'thony, and the republican forces of Bru'tus and Cas'sius, in which the former obtained the victory.

§ Q. Where was Cor'inth situated !

A. In the More'a, in Greece.

Con'vent, s. a religious house, nunnery, a house inhabited by the religious of either sex.



A'thens,\* Alexan'dria,† Eph'esus,‡ Thessa-  
lonica,§ nay, even in Rome itself, A. D. 30  
(13).

Q. Who was emperor of Rome when Christ  
suffered death?

A. Tibe'rius, famed for his dissolute way of life.

Q. What Roman emperors *persecuted* the  
Christians?

A. Ne'ro, Domi'tian, Tra'jan, A'drian, Seve'rus,  
Max'imus, De'cius, Vale'rian, Aure'lian, Diocle'-  
sian, and Ju'lian the Apostate.

\* Q. What was A'thens?

A. A celebrated city of Greece. It was founded about  
the year of the world 2375. It is remarkable for the great  
number of learned men it has produced.

† Q. Where was Alexan'dria?

A. In Egypt, on the borders of the Mediterranean Sea.  
This city has been much celebrated for its library, public  
schools, and men of learning.

‡ Q. What was Eph'esus? (Pro. *Ef-e-sus*).

A. A famous city of Io'nia, in Asiatic Turkey. It is much  
celebrated for the Temple of Diana, which was reckoned one  
of the seven wonders of the world. It was to the inhabitants  
of this city that St. Paul addressed one of his Epistles; and  
here it was that St. John died. This city was at one period  
the metropolis of all Asia.

§ Q. Where was Thessaloni'ca?

A. Thessaloni'ca was an ancient town of Macedo'nia, in  
Greece. It was first called Ther'ma and Thessaloni'ca,  
after Thessaloni'ca the wife of Cassan'der, who was the  
daughter of Philip, King of Macedo'nia; and sister to Alex-  
ander the Great. Cassander's father, Antip'ater, was one of  
Alexander's generals.

Per'secuted, *part.* pursued with enmity, or punished on  
account of religion; harassed.

Q. What is the meaning of the word persecute?

A. To harass or punish any one on account of his religion or opinion.

Q. What is the meaning of the word apostate?

A. An apostate signifies one who has forsaken and renounced the religion or principles he formerly professed.

Q. What Roman emperor ordered himself to be worshipped as a god?

A. Calig'ula; but the Jews refused to obey the *mandate*. This is the *tyrant* who wished his people had but one neck, that he might destroy them at a blow.

Q. What Roman emperor set fire to his capital, and afterwards laughed at the calamity he had caused?

A. Ne'ro, the son of Domi'tius and of Agrippi'na, daughter of German'icus. Nero put an end to his life, A. D. 68.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of the Roman War, and Siege of Jerusalem.*

Q. In what year did the Romans make war against the Jews?

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Man'date, *s.* a command.

Ty'rant, *s.* an unjust and cruel prince, an oppressor.

A. In the year 66, under Nero, which terminated in the destruction of Jeru'salem, and the *subversion* of the Jewish nation.

Q. What event happened in the year 68?

A. Vespasian, a Roman general, entered Galilee\* with a powerful army, and reducing one city after another, he either put the inhabitants to the sword, or carried them into captivity.

Q. What celebrated character was among the captives?

A. Josephus†, the Jewish historian, who afterwards, being in favour with the Romans, accompanied Titus, the son of Vespasian, at the siege of Jerusalem, and recorded their wars.

Q. What event happened in the year 69?

A. In the year 69, Vespasian was created emperor, who rose to this eminence solely by his merit. He died A. D. 79, aged 71.

Q. In what year did the Romans begin their march towards Jerusalem, the capital of Jude'a?

A. In the year 72, when they laid waste all the country through which they passed, and put the inhabitants to the sword.

Q. In what situation was the Roman army in the year 73?

A. In the year 73, the Romans were before

\* Q. What was Gal'ilee?

A. Gal'ilee was a province of Pal'estine.

† Jose'phus was a native of Jerusalem.

Subver'sion, s. destruction, ruin.

the walls of Jerusalem ; when they began a regular *siege*, erected *battering-rams*, with every other engine of destruction, that could be brought against it, and in the following year it was levelled with the ground.

Q. Why did God permit the destruction of Jerusalem, his favourite city ?

A. On account of the great wickedness and repeated acts of *impiety*, shown by the Jews, without the slightest *symptoms* of repentance.

Q. How many Jews are computed to have perished during this war ?

A. One million four hundred thousand, besides vast numbers, who perished in caves, woods, &c. of whom no account could be taken.

Q. What was the number of prisoners ?

A. About one hundred thousand.

Q. What became of the Jews after this destructive war ?

A. They were dispersed over the whole face of the earth, and at different periods have been persecuted and enslaved by all nations ; they still remain a distinct race of people, without any country or government, a wonderful example of

*Siege*, *s.* the art of besetting a fortified place with the view of gaining possession. *To raise a siege*, is a military term, signifying to withdraw an army from a siege.

*Bat'tering-ram*, *s.* an instrument with an iron head, used by the ancients in beating down walls.

*Impi'ety*, *s.* wickedness, ungodliness.

*Symp'tom*, *s.* a sign, mark, or token.

divine chastisement for their impiety and unbelief.

Q. Who was the last king of the Jews?

A. Agrip'pa the Second; being *dethroned* by the Roman emperor Clau'dius, he served in the army of Ti'tus, against the very people over whom he had once reigned.

## CHAP. VII.

### *Of the Romans.*

Q. How long did Ti'tus sway the *sovereign* power of Rome? (13.)

A. Thirty-two years, when he was succeeded by his brother, the cruel Domi'tian, who reigned fifteen years, in whose time the Roman power was rather on the decline, but was revived again by Trajan, a prince possessed of every talent and virtue that can adorn a sovereign.

Q. Who was the successor of Tra'jan?

A. His kinsman, A'drian, under whom the empire flourished in peace and prosperity.

Q. For what is the reign of A'drian remarkable?

A. For the famous wall which was built by

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*Dethro'ne*, v. to depose, or deprive a king of royalty.

*Sovereign*, a. supreme, kingly, (s. a king.)



him from Carlisle\* to Newcastle†, to prevent the incursions of the Picts‡ from Scotland§ into England.

Q. By whom was A'drian succeeded?

A. By Antonius, an amiable and good man, who left the crown to Mar'cus Aure'lius Anto'nus, his son-in-law; but after him came the wicked Com'modus, the son of Mar'cus, a wretch, in whose mind every sentiment of virtue and humanity were *extinct*.

Q. Who succeeded Com'modus?

A. Pertinax, an ancient *senator*, whose merits and virtues alone raised him to the first honours of the state.

Q. What followed the death of Per'tinax?

A. The *Prætorian guards*|| now took upon

\* Carlisle (pro. *Carlile*) the capital of Cum'berland. This city is of great antiquity.

† New'castle, the capital of Northum'berland, is situated upon the river Tyne, and is much celebrated for its great trade in coals.

‡ The Picts are supposed to have originally come from Scyth'ia.

§ Scot'land, the northern part of Great Britain, was anciently a distinct kingdom, but is now united with England, and in effect these countries are become as one nation.

|| Q. Who were the *Prætorian guards*?

A. The *Præto'rian guards* were those belonging to the *Præ'tor*, who was a great officer among the Romans.

Humanity, *a.* tenderness, kindness, the nature of man.

Extinct', *a.* extinguished, abolished.

Sen'ator, *s.* a public counsellor, being one of those men who meet together to enact laws, and debate on matters which respect the state.



themselves to expose the empire to sale, and it was purchased by Did'ius Julia'nus, under whom the provinces soon *revolted*, when it was purchased by Seve'rus, who was the highest bidder.

Q. Is there any thing remarkable in the reign of Seve'rus?

A. Yes; in the year 208 he directed an expedition into Britain: marched against the *Caledonians*; built the wall from the *Forth*\* to the *Clyde*;\* and expired at York, A. D. 211.

## CHAP. VIII.

### *Of the Decline of the Roman Empire.*

Q. WHAT followed the death of Seve'rus?

A. From this period we behold a train of em-

\* Q. What is the Forth?

A. The Forth is one of the finest rivers in Scotland: it rises near the bottom of the Lomond Hills, passes by Stirling and Alloa, and falls into the Frith of Forth at Leith, the port of Edinburgh.

† What is the Clyde?

A. The Clyde is a celebrated river of Scotland, which rises in Annandale in Dumfriesshire, and passes by Lanark, Hamilton, and Glasgow. This river affords many beautiful and romantic views, and exhibits in its course many stupendous cataracts.

Mr. Buchanan's "Falls of Clyde," gives a pleasing and good description of the river, and well worth the attention of travellers who visit this part of Scotland.

Revolt'ed, v. rebelled, departed from their duty.

Caledonians, s. inhabitants of Scotland.

perors, vicious or *impotent*; either wilfully guilty, or unable to assert the dignity of their station; and the empire gradually falling to decay.

Q. Was not the Roman power enfeebled and disgraced before the time of Seve'rus?

A. Yes; the power of the Romans began to decline with Com'modus, and so it continued about a *century*, till the accession of Diocle'sian, whose superior merit procured him his elevation.

Q. What was the first considerable act of his reign?

A. His first act was to divide the wide extent of his imperial dominions into four governments, over which presided two emperors, Diocle'sian and Maximia'nus; and the two Cæ'sars, Gale'rius and Con'stantine.

Q. At what time was Diocle'sian elected emperor, and how long did he reign?

A. Diocle'sian was elected emperor A.D. 284, and after a successful reign of twenty years, he resigned the sovereignty, as also did his *colleague* Maximia'nus: they were succeeded by the two Cæ'sars, Gale'rius and Constan'tius.

Q. Who succeeded the two Cæ'sars?

A. Con'stantine the Great, who was born at York, in Britain.\* He removed the seat of

\* Q. What is Great Britain?

A. The title given to England and Scotland since the union of the two kingdoms.

Im'potent, *a.* weak, feeble.

Cent'ury, *s.* (in chronology) 'a period of one hundred years.

Col'league, *s.* a partner in the same office.

empire from Rome to Byzantium, which he enlarged and beautified, and gave it the name of Constantino'ple.\*

Q. What was the final division of the Roman empire?

A. In the year 395 the Roman empire was divided into two great parts, the Eastern and the Western, which took place on the death of Theodosius, whose son Arcadius reigned in the East, and his son Honorius in the West.

Q. What soon followed this division?

A. The downfall of the Roman power?

Q. By what was it occasioned?

A. Like the downfall of every other great nation, it was occasioned by its crimes, particularly its pride, *luxury*, and indolence.

Q. What people first laid the Roman power low?

A. The Goths, being numerous tribes of barbarians from the dark forests of Germany,† who rushed in upon the Roman empire in such torrents, that they swept every thing before them.

Q. Who was the king of the Goths at this time, and when did it happen?

A. Alaric was the king of the Goths who invaded the Roman empire, about 410 years after Christ.

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\* Q. What is Constantino'ple?

A. One of the largest and most celebrated cities of Europe. It is situate on the eastern extremity of Europe'an Turkey, and is the capital of the empire.

† Anciently called Germania.

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Luxury, s. excess in eating, dress or pleasure.

Q. What prince was called the "Scourge of God," the destroyer of nations?

A. At'tila, king of the Huns, because of his cruelty; it was he who ravaged and completely destroyed the Roman empire in the west, in the reign of Augus'tus, A.D. 476.

Q. Who were the Huns?

A. A people of Hungary.

Q. What became now of Rome, and of the Roman name?

A. Rome, which, from a set of *banditti*, had arisen to the highest pitch of greatness, and was gorged with the blood and spoils of so many nations, became in turn a prey to a set of barbarians; which put an end to all her boasting of valorous chieftains and mighty emperors.

Q. Do you say that the Roman name was totally extinct?

A. No: I am speaking now of the western empire, which comprehended Africa, Gaul, Spain, Britain, and Italy: in the last mentioned place stood Rome, which was the origin of the Roman name.

Q. How long after this did the eastern empire continue?

A. The eastern empire continued till the year 1453, but much enfeebled: when Constantino'ple

*Bandit'ti*, s. pl. (from the Italian, sin. *banditto*,) robbers, a set of out-lawed thieves, who generally herd together in woods, and live on the plunder of passengers.  
Gorged, p. filled, glutted.

was taken by Ma'homet the Second, the *sultan* of Turkey, and the Roman empire and people became extinct.

Q. What countries *constituted* the eastern empire?

A. The two Turkeys, Egypt, and the whole country from the Lower Dan'ube\* to the confines of Persia,† and Ethio'pia.



## CHAP. IX.

*Of the Nations which arose from the Down-fall of the Western Empire.*

Q. WHAT countries did ancient Germany comprehend?

A. Modern Germany, the southern part of Denmark, west part of Prussia, and part of Poland, the inhabitants of which first resisted, then

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\* The Dan'ube is one of the largest rivers in Europe: it takes its rise in Germany, and empties itself, by several channels, into the Black Sea.

† Per'sia is a very large country of A'sia.

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Sul'tan, *s.* the emperor of the Turks.

Sulta'na, *s.* the wife of the sultan.

Con'stituted, *v.* made.



invaded, and at length over-ran the western *monarchy* of Rome.

Q. When the Roman empire was *annihilated* in the west, what nations rose up in *lieu* thereof?

A. The principal were those of Germany and France; but to enumerate all the changes that took place at this time is impossible, being now amidst *dark ages* and *hordes* of barbarians, of which history records only ignorance and crimes.

Q. How were the spoils of the Roman empire divided, and by whom?

A. Africa was a prey to the Van'dals, a people from Prus'sia; Spain to the Vis'igoths, a people from Jut'land; Great Britain to the Picts, the inhabitants of Scotland; and Ger'many and Gaul were conquered by the Franks.

Q. Who were the Franks?

A. The Franks originally were the inhabitants of a small district in Germany. It was they who gave Gaul the name of Fran'cia or France, in which country they reigned about 300 years.

Q. What is the origin of the Gauls, the ancient inhabitants of France?

Mon'archy, *s.* the government of a single person, a kingdom.

Anni'hilated, *p.* destroyed.

Lieu, *s.* (pro. *lu*), stead, place, room.

*Dark ages*, obscure, ignorant ages, not enlightened with knowledge or revelation.

Horde, *s.* a clan or company of people generally changing their situation.



A. The Gauls are said to have sprang from Go'mer, the eldest son of Ja'phet. They were first called Gom'erites, then by the Greeks Galatæ, and then Gauls. From this race sprang the Britons or English.

Q. Whence originally came the Goths, the conquerors of the Romans?

A. This fierce and warlike people were originally a *colony* of Scyth'ians, who migrated from the banks of the Black sea and the Caspian\* into the Scandina'via,† whence they came down into Germany, &c.

Q. Who was the founder of the Gothic nations?

A. Sig'ga, a Scythian Prince, who is said to have undertaken a distant expedition; and after subduing several of the Sarma'tian tribes,‡ to have penetrated into the northern parts of Germany, and thence into Scandina'via.

\* Cas'pian Sea, a great lake or inland sea of Asia, situated to the north of Persia. It is very remarkable that several large rivers fall into the Cas'pian, yet it never seems to increase, though it has no communication with any other sea.

† Now constituting Nor'way and Swe'den.

‡ Q. Who were the Sarma'tian tribes?

A. The inhabitants of Sarma'tia, a very savage uncivilized people, who were naturally warlike, and famous for painting their bodies to appear more terrible in the field of battle.

Col'ony, s. a plantation or settlement of people from the mother or native country.

Q What honours did he assume ?

A. The honours of *divinity*, and the title of Odin, his national God.

Q. Did not the Gothic nation divide itself into two great branches ?

A. Yes ; into Os'trogoths and Vis'igoths ; the Os'trogoths remained in Panno'nia (in Hun'gary), and the Vis'igoths *migrated* thence and settled in the west of Eu'rope.

## CHAP. X.

### *Of the French Monarchy.*

Q. WHO were the founders of the French monarchy ?

A. The Franks, a division of the Gothic nation, who raised their chief, Phar'amond, to the kingly power ; but Clo'vis is generally considered to be the true founder.

Q. What was the ancient name of France ?

A. Gaul, generally called by the Romans

*Divin'ity*, s. the supreme Being, the Creator and preserver of all things. A false deity or idol, as *Odin*, the national god of the Scyth'ians.

*Migrate*, v. to change the place of one's abode.

Transal'pine Gaul, or Gaul beyond the Alps,\* to distinguish it from Cisal'pine Gaul on the Ital'ian side of the Alps, which country had been conquered by Ju'lius Cæ'sar, and continued in the possession of the Romans till A.D. 420.

Q. Who succeeded Phar'amond in the kingly power of France?

A. His son Clo'dion, in 428; who was continually at war with the Romans, and lost several battles; he was succeeded by Mero'veus, the first of the Merovin'gian line, A.D. 447.

Q. What families have swayed the *sceptre* of France?

A. Three; namely, 1. the Merovin'gian; 2. the Carlovin'gian; 3. the Cap'etine. From the last mentioned two collateral branches have issued, namely, the houses of Valois and Bourbon.

Q. Whence did they receive their names?

A. The Merovin'gian race, from Mero'veus; the Carlovin'gian, from Charlemagne; and the Cap'etine line, from Hugh Capet: the last mentioned family at present reigns in France.

\* Q. What are the Alps?

A. The highest and most celebrated mountains in Europe, which separate Italy from France and Germany. The famous Han'nibal, the Carthagin'ian general, attempting to pass the Alps on the side of Pied'mont, in the middle of winter, when he invaded Italy, lost the greater part of his elephants, but accomplished the task with much difficulty.

Scep'tre, (pro. *sep-ter*) a royal staff borne in the hands by kings, &c. as a mark of their sovereignty.

Q. How long did the Merovingian line sit on the throne of France?

A. 332 years; from the year of our Lord 420 till the reign of Pepin the Short, the father of Charlemagne.

Q. How long did the Carlovin'gian race support the royal power of France?

A. From Charlemagne, or rather from the time of Pe'pin his father, when he deposed Chil'deric the Third, in 752, till Hugh Capet, who began to reign A.D. 987, being 235 years.

Q. How long did the Cap'etine line sway the royal power of France?

A. From the time of Hugh Capet, A.D. 987, till the time of Charles the Fourth, in 1328. The regular line of the Capets being broken into two collateral branches, the house of Valois then succeeded, and continued to the reign of Henry the Third, in 1589.

Q. When did the house of Bourbon ascend the throne?

A. In 1589. Henry the Fourth (justly called *the Great*), was the first prince of the Bourbons, and his descendants continued in possession of the throne till Lewis the Sixteenth, in 1793, when this unfortunate prince lost his life on the scaffold, and monarchy was entirely abolished in France, and the nation assumed the form of a *republic*, which it retained till 1804, when Napo'leon Bu'naparte was declared emperor.

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Repub'lic, *s.* a state or government in which the supreme power is lodged in more than one; a commonwealth.

Q. How long did Buonaparte reign?

A. Till the year 1814, when he was dethroned by the combined powers of Europe, and the ancient line was restored to its former dignity.

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## CHAP. XI.

*Of the Invasion of France by the Normans, and some of the most remarkable events in the History of France.*

Q. WHO were the Normans?

A. The Normans were a race of Goths, who inhabited Scandinavia.

Q. What depredations did the Normans commit?

A. In A.D. 843, the Normans sailed up the river Seine, and plundered Rouen, while another fleet entered the Loire, and laid waste the country in its vicinity, carrying, together with its spoils, men, women, and children, into captivity.

Q. What coasts did the Normans attack in the following year?

A. The coasts of England, France, and Spain; but were repelled from the last by the good conduct and courage of its Mahometan rulers.

Q. What outrage did the Normans commit in the year 845?

A. They entered the Elbe, plundered Ham-  
burgh, and penetrated a good way into Germany.

Q. By whom were the Normans commanded?

A. By Eric, king of Denmark, who sent them

once more up the Seine with a fleet, which advanced to Paris; when its inhabitants fled, and the city was burnt.

Q. Did the Normans ultimately make conquest of any part of France?

A. Yes; in the time of Rollo, in 912, who compelled the king of France to yield to him a large portion of its territory, and to give him his daughter in marriage.

Q. Did the king of France comply with Rollo's request?

A. Yes; he gave him his daughter, and ceded to him the province of Neus'tria, which kingdom was afterwards called Normandy. This is the race of warriors whose descendants were the conquerors of England.

Q. What great monarch is particularly celebrated in French history?

A. Charlemagne, the son of Pepin, who was one of the greatest princes that ever reigned in the western empire; he extended his dominions over the greatest part of Europe, and was crowned by the bishop of Rome, emperor of the west, on Christmas eve, 800. He reigned 46 years.

Q. What celebrated character was cotemporary with Charlemagne?

A. Ha'round-al-Ras'chid, caliph of the Saracens; equally renowned for his conquests, excellent policy, and the wisdom and humanity of his government.

Q. What English king laid claim to the crown of France?



A. Edward the Third, who afterwards gained the battle of Cressy.

Q. Was not this claim at some future time allowed?

A. Yes: Henry V. of England having gained the battle of Agincourt, in the year 1420, the French agreed to crown his son, Henry VI. king of France, which ceremony actually took place at Paris, but in the course of some years the French recovered all their possessions in that country.

Q. To whose aid were the French indebted for the recovery of their possessions?

A. They were in a great measure indebted to a maid called Joan of Arc, who pretended that she was inspired by Heaven, and begged to be put at the head of the French army, promising the most complete success.

Q. What followed?

A. The leaders of the French were anxious to take advantage of any circumstance, however absurd or romantic, that would induce the soldiers to believe they were guided by supernatural agency. Joan of Arc was, therefore, put at the head of the troops, and her undaunted courage and the confidence with which she inspired the men, led to complete success, except as to what regarded her own personal safety.

Q. What happened to her?

A. She was taken prisoner by the English, and inhumanly burnt as a witch.

Q. What dreadful massacre took place in France in the reign of Charles IX.

A. On St. Bartholomew's eve, in the year 1572, about 70,000 Protestants were murdered, in cold blood, by the orders of that execrable persecutor.

## CHAP. XII.

### *A Summary of important recent Events, relating to the History of France.*

Q. WHAT followed the decapitation of Louis the Sixteenth, mentioned in the tenth chapter?

A. A commonwealth was attempted to be established on the principles of liberty and equality, which, after undergoing various changes, and being at times disgraced by the *domination* of the vilest *miscreants*, gave place to a more regular form of government, at the head of which Napoleon Buonaparte, by birth a Corsican, presided as Chief Consul.

Q. Did the French people experience any benefit from this change?

A. For a time victory attended the French arms in almost every quarter; but at length the ambitious projects of their chief (who had caused himself to be elected emperor) were checked by those on whom he had before made war with such success.

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Domina'tion, *s.* government, power.

Mis'creants, *s.* wretches of abandoned character.

Q. To what circumstances may be ascribed his reverses?

A. Having the greater part of the continent under his controul, he advanced with an immense army into Russia, and penetrated as far as Moscow,\* which the inhabitants had previously set on fire, to prevent the French from finding shelter there. They were accordingly compelled to commence a retreat in the depth of winter, and it is computed that nearly 300,000 men perished on their side in this campaign.

Q. Did these disasters induce their leader to relinquish his ambitious views?

A. No; in the succeeding spring, he drained France and its dependencies, of another vast army, and threatened the Russians with the direst vengeance. Fortune, which he had long abused, now deserted him; his former allies coalesced with his enemies, and the memorable battle of Leipsic,† which soon followed, delivered Germany from the yoke of French despotism; defeat followed defeat, and at length France was invaded, on the one side by the Emperors of Russia and Austria, and the King of Prussia, and on the other by the Duke of Wellington, who had previously liberated Spain and Portugal.

Q. To what events did these transactions lead?

A. The restoration of the European nations to their ancient forms of government, and of Louis

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\* Moscow was the ancient capital of Muscovy or Russia.

† Leipsic, a town of Saxony, is celebrated for its large annual fair.

the Eighteenth to the throne of his ancestors, has been the result of their victories; and the dissensions of Europe were for a short time composed by a general peace, concluded at Paris on the 1st of April, 1814.

Q. What afterwards became of the Emperor Napoleon?

A. He was allowed to retire to the isle of Elba; but he soon seized an opportunity of invading France, where finding the army still devoted to his cause, he was again seated on the throne.

Q. Did he long remain there unmolested?

A. No; the allied armies were on the Belgian\* frontiers; and fearing that if he suffered them to collect in greater force, they would again invade France, he hastened to attack them. The memorable battle of Waterloo was fought; and, headed by the Duke of Wellington, the British and Prussian armies entered France, and once more established Louis on the throne of his ancestors.

Q. What then became of Buonaparte?

A. Having vainly endeavoured to effect his escape, he delivered himself up to the admiral of the British fleet, who having received instructions from the government, conveyed him to the island of St. Helena, where he is now detained a prisoner.

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\* The frontiers of Belgium, now a part of the kingdom of the Netherlands.

## CHAP. XIII.

*History of the Saracens.*

Q. WHENCE is the origin of the Saracens?

A. The origin of the Sar'acens was at Me-di'na, in Ara'bia; they were founded by Ma'ho-met, the Ara'bian *impostor* or false prophet, about the year of Christ 625.

Q. Why are they called Saracens?

A. They are so called from the word Sa'ra, which signifies a desert, as the greatest part of Ara'bia is; and this being the country of Ma'ho-met, his disciples or followers were called Sa-racens.

Q. When did the Saracens begin to extend their empire?

A. In the eighth century, when they *subverted* the monarchy of the Vis'igoths in Spain, and easily over-ran the country.

Q. When the empire of the Saracens was at its greatest extent, what countries did it comprehend?

A. The dominions of the Saracens at this time comprehended all the Southern parts of Asia, the Bar'bary States,\* and E'gypt, from the

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\* Q. What are the Bar'bary States?

A. The Bar'bary States comprise Moroc'co, Algi'ers, Tu'nis, Trip'oli, and Bar'ca, which are situated in the northern part of Africa.

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Impos'tor, s. one who assumes a false character, a cheat.  
Subver'ted, *part.* overturned, destroyed.



Gan'ges\* to the Atlantic,† and also Spain and Portugal.

Q. Who was Ma'homet, and in what manner came he to be the founder of the Saracen empire?

A. Ma'homet was a native of Mec'ca, in Ara'bia, the founder of the religion which bears his name: he assumed the title and character of a prophet; and in consequence of his presumption, excited a faction against him, which obliged him to fly from Mec'ca to Medi'na; which retreat occasioned the foundation of his empire and his religion.

Q. What success did he meet with at Medi'na?

A. In Medi'na he gained many *converts*, and with them he resolutely set out to *propagate* his religion by the sword.

Q. What place was the object of his first attack?

A. Mec'ca, his native place, the capital of Ara'bia, which he took; and here he met with such success, that all the Ara'bian tribes very soon acknowledged his authority, and submitted

\* Q. What is the Ganges?

A. A large and celebrated river in India, on which is situated Calcut'ta, the British capital.

† Q. What is meant by the Atlantic?

A. The Atlantic is that immense ocean which lies between Europe and Africa on the one side, and America on the other.

Con'vert, *s.* a person prevailed on to change his religion.

Pro'pagate, *a.* to spread, to extend, to promote.



to whatever direction he thought proper to give them.

Q. By what name were the successors of Mahomet distinguished?

A. By the title of Ca'liph, a sovereign *dignity*, being one who is *vested* with absolute authority in all matters relating to both religion and *polity*.

Q. What countries did the Saracens threaten to subdue besides those already mentioned?

A. All Europe, but were opposed by the Franks; who checked their progress, and obtained several victories over them.

Q. Under whom was the Sa'racen empire at the summit of its greatness?

A. Under Ha'round-al-Ras'chid, an accomplished prince, but its splendour was tarnished by his Children.

Q. What was the occasion of the downfall of the Saracen empire?

A. By the Saracens multiplying the *imposts*, divisions were raised among the people; Syr'ia revolted, and the governors of Tu'nis, Algiers, and Trip'oli, followed their example: and the Ca'liphs, for their defence, invited the Turks to assist them; but the latter shortly after seized upon the government, and left the Ca'liphs the mere title of religious chiefs, and reduced all

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Dig'nity, *s.* rank, preferment, or post.

Ves'ted, *part.* intrusted with, put in possession.

Pol'ity, *s.* civil government.

Im'post, *s.* a toll, tax.

Asia under their dominion. Thus ended the empire of the Saracens.

## CHAP. XIV.

### *History of the Turks.*

Q. WHENCE is the origin of the Turks?

A. The Turks originally came from Tartary, and are said to be of Scythian or Tartarian extraction, their name signifying wanderers.

Q. To what country did the Turks migrate in the year 854?

A. In the year 854, the Turks came from Tartary, and settled in Armenia,\* hence called Turcomania, The Turks were formerly called Turcomans.

Q. What did the Turks in the year 1043, under their leader Tangrolo'pix?

A. In the year 1013, the Turks made war against the Persians, defeated them, and slew their king, and Tangrolo'pix became sultan of Persia.

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• Q. Where is Armenia?

A. Armenia is a large and fertile country in Asia. It was formerly governed by its own kings, but it is now divided between the Turks and Persians.

Q. What was the next exploit of Tangro-lo'pix?

A. He reduced Bag'dad,\* and overthrew the empire of the caliphs, but still leaving them their spiritual authority, as supreme *pontiffs* of the Mahom'etan religion, 1055.

Q. What did the Turks after overthrowing the empire of the Caliphs?

A. They then made themselves masters of Palestine,† &c. and laid the Christian *pilgrims* who visited the sepulchre of our Saviour, under very heavy *contributions*, and treated them in other respects so harshly as gave rise to the *Crusades*.

Q. What celebrated character brought a powerful army against the Turks and Saracens, and overthrew their empire?

A. Zin'gis-Khan, the chief of the Mogul' Tar'tars,‡ who was one of the greatest conquerors

\* Q. Where is Bag'dad?

A. Bag'dad, a large and populous city, is situated in that part of Asiatic Turkey, anciently called Babylo'nia.

† Q. Where was Palestine?

A. In the south western part of Asiatic Turkey.

‡ Q. Whence came the Mogul' Tar'tars?

A. From Eastern Tartary, being that part now subjected to Chi'na.

Pon'tiff, *s.* a chief priest.

Pil'grim, *s.* one who travels on some religious account, a wanderer.

Contribu'tion, *s.* a tribute or kind of tax exacted by an enemy, (a gift.)

that ever lived. He over-ran Rus'sia, Tar'tary, a great part of China, Indos'tan, and in short almost all A'sia. He died at an advanced age, A.D. 1226.

Q. Who are the Ot'tomans?

A. The present Turks.

Q. Why is the Turkish empire sometimes called the Ot'toman empire, and the inhabitants Ot'tomans.

A. At the time when the Turks were invaded by the Tar'tars, a number of Turks who wished to save themselves from the yoke, took *refuge* in Bythin'ia, a province of Asia Minor in Asiatic Turkey; but sallied out from thence, under the command of Othman or Ot'toman, against the Tartars; and by his courage and address they made considerable conquests; whence the Turks received the name of Ottomans, and their empire the Ottoman empire, and sometimes the Ottoman Porte, being *appellations* given in honour of the above man, who was the first emperor of the present family.

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## CHAP. XV.

### *Of the Crusades.*

Q. WHAT were the Crusa'des?

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*Ref'uge*, *s.* shelter, protection, an expedient in distress.

*Appella'tion*, *s.* a name or title.

A. The Crusades were expeditions for the conquest of the *Holy Land*.\*

Q. What was the cause of the first Crusade?

A. Peter the Hermit, a native of A'miens, on his return from his *pilgrimage* from Pal'estine, complained in loud terms of the grievances which all the Christians suffered from the Turks; and Urban the Second pitched upon this *enthusiastic* as a fit person to commence the execution of a grand design which the popes had long entertained of arming all *Christendom*, and exterminating the *infidels* from the Holy Land.

Q. When and where was the first Crusade resolved on?

A. The first Crusade took place in the year 1095, and was resolved on in the council of Clermont, in France, when Pope Urban presided.

Q. Why was it termed a Crusade?

A. From the badge of the cross, by which those who joined it were distinguished.

Q. Did the Crusa'ders prove successful?

\* Pal'estine.

*Pil'grimage*, *s.* a journey on a religious account.

*Enthusias'tic*, *a.* very zealous or hot in any thing; strongly but vainly persuaded of receiving extraordinary communications from the Deity.

*Chris'tendom*, *s.* the collective body of Christians; those parts wherein Christianity is professed.

*In'fidel*, *s.* one who rejects or will not assent to the truth of revelation, or the great principle of religion.

*Coun'cil*, *s.* an assembly met for consultation.

A. The valour of the Crusaders, animated by enthusiasm, was at first irresistible. They took Jerusalem in the year 1099, and Godfrey of *Bouillon*\* was created king of Jude'a; but, in the end, the Christians were deprived of all their possessions, after having lost in several expeditions above a million of men.

Q. Was Jerusalem retaken by the infidels?

A. Yes: under Sal'adin, king of E'gypt and Syr'ia, in the year 1187. The Christians, however, remained in possession of some parts of Pal'es'tine for nearly 100 years after.

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## CHAP. XVI.

### *Of the German Empire under Otho the Great.*

Q. Who was O'tho the Great?

A. The eldest son of Henry the Fowler, whom Otho succeeded as emperor of Germany. Otho was crowned in 936.

Q. In what situation were the Sar'acen and French empires in the time of Otho?

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\* Pronounced *Bool-yon-g*.

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*Bouil'lon*, s. a town of Luxemburg, in the Netherlands.



A. The Saracen empire, so *triumphant* a century before, was now almost overthrown, and that of France was divided into a great number of petty sovereigns which *emanated* from its ruins.

Q. What is the character of Otho the Great?

A. He was a very virtuous and *magnanimous* prince. During his reign, he extended the Christian religion throughout the empire. He subdued, in various engagements, the French, the Hungarians, and the Bohemians,\* and performed several other gallant actions.

Q. How long did he reign?

A. Twenty-six years. He died A.D. 962, and was interred at Mag'deburg.†

Q. What country embraced Christianity about this time?

A. The Rus'sians, who in the year 924, were converted to Christianity by the Greeks of Con-

\* Q. Who are the Bohe'mians?

A. The inhabitants of Bohe'mia, a considerable country of Eu'rope, formerly a separate kingdom, but now subject to Aus'tria.

† Q. What is Magdeburg?

A. Magdeburg is a large well-built town of Lower Sax'ony, and capital of a duchy of the same name. It was taken by storm in the year 1631, by General Tilly, who burnt the town and massacred the inhabitants, of whom only 800 escaped out of 40,000.

Triumph'ant, *a.* victorious, having joy or pomp for success.  
Em'anated, *p.* sprang from.

Magnan'imous, *a.* great in mind, brave, heroic, noble.

stantinople. Poland, now emerged from obscurity, became also a Christian country.

Q. Did not Bohe'mia take its date at this time?

A. Yes; Bohe'mia was enriched with the spoils of Poland; and Wratisla'us was its first king. Hungary likewise began to show some interesting records about this time.

Q. Who succeeded Otho the Great?

A. His son, Otho the Second; he entered Italy to defend Cala'bria\* and Apu'lia† against the Greeks‡ and Sar'acens, who attempted to take possession of it; after defeating them, he died at Rome, A.D. 983, universally regretted by his people.

Q. By whom was Otho the Second succeeded?

A. By his son, Otho the Third, who dying without issue, was succeeded by Henry of Bavaria, surnamed the Lamè, A.D. 1002.

Q. To whom did the empire fall after the death of Henry the Lamè?

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\* Q. What is Cala'bria?

A. A country of Naples, in Italy. Cala'bria is a very rich and fertile country, but liable to earthquakes. One of the most terrible on record happened here and in Sicily in 1783. Besides the destruction of many towns and villages, 40,000 persons perished by this calamity.

† Q. What was Apu'lia?

A. Apu'lia was a considerable province of Naples; it is now called Puglia.

‡ Q. Who were the ancient Greeks?

A. The inhabitants of the southern parts of European Turkey.

A. To Con'rad, surnamed the Salic. In his time, Robert, son of Hugh Capet, reigned in France: and Fer'dinand the First, in Spain. Con'rad reigned fifteen years, and was succeeded by his son, Henry the Third, in 1039.

Q. Who succeeded Henry the Third?

A. His son, Henry the Fourth, in whose reign the bishops of Rome, availing themselves of the negligence of the emperor, and of the people's ignorance, began to erect themselves into *primates* and sovereigns of all Christendom.

Q. What popes then occupied the see of Rome?

A. The most celebrated was Gre'gory the Seventh, a man of violent temper, and so strongly attached to his *chimerical* pretensions, that he stopped at nothing to support them.

Q. What were his first decrees?

A. The *prohibition* of the marriage of priests, which his successor fully completed; who also took away the right of the emperor, of putting the priests in possession of their dignities, which Henry opposed; Greg'ory therefore *excommunicated* him, and *exhorted* all his subjects to *revolt*.

Pri'mate, *s.* the highest among the clergy, an archbishop.  
Chimer'ical, *a.* (pro. *kimerical*) imaginary, that which is the mere product of fancy.

Prohibi'tion, *s.* the act of forbidding or hindering.

Excommu'nicate, *v.* to exclude, or debar a person from partaking of the sacrament of the Lord's supper.

Exhort'ed, *s.* persuaded, excited.

Revolt, *v.* to desert, to rebel.

Q. What did Henry on this occasion ?

A. He made war against the Pope, besieged him in the castle of St. An'gelo,\* and obliged him to retire to *Saler'no*, where he died of *chagrin*.

Q. How did the reign of Henry the Fourth conclude ?

A. Pope Pas'cal the Second, in the year 1102, again excommunicated him, and *instigated* his son to declare war against his father, whom he *vanquished* and despoiled of the empire in 1106.

Q. Who succeeded Henry the Fourth ?

A. His son, Henry the Fifth, who married Maud or Matil'da, daughter of Henry the First, king of England, by whom he had no children ; so that the empire, after his death, was left without an heir : A.D. 1125.

Q. Who succeeded Henry the Fifth ?

A. The states conferred the imperial dignity on Lotha'rio, duke of Saxe Suplembourg, who was distinguished for his love of peace, and for an exact distribution of justice.

Q. What are the principal events relative to Germany, from the reign of Henry the Fifth to the present time ?

\* Q. Where is the castle of St. An'gelo ?

A. At Rome, to which the pope retires on apprehension of danger.

*Saler'no*, s. a city of Naples.

*Cha'grin*, s. (pron/*shagreen*) grief, trouble.

*In'stigated*, v. incited or urged to a crime, provoked.

*Van'quished*, v. conquered, subdued.

A. The ever complicated state of the German empire renders it difficult to give a detail of the events which occurred, and, in general, they are not of that import as render it necessary to mention them in a work like the present, which is intended solely for the events of the highest importance relative to every people.

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## CHAP. XVII.

### *History of Sicily.*

Q. WHO are said to have been the first inhabitants of Sic'ily?

A. The Cy'clops, a gigantic race of people. It was afterwards peopled from different nations, chiefly from Greece.

Q. What people attempted to *subjugate* this island?

A. The Carthagin'ians,\* who, having formed an alliance with Xerx'es, king of Per'sia, invaded it with a great army under Hamil'car, but were defeated by Ge'lon, tyrant of Syr'acuse.† B.C. 481.

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\* Q. Who were the Carthagin'ians?

A. The inhabitants of the Carthagin'ian empire, which, at one period, comprised nearly all the northern part of Africa, also Sicily, Sardin'ia, and the greater part of Spain. Its chief town, Carthage, was situated near the present Tu'nis, and contained no less than 700,000 inhabitants.

† Syr'acuse, a famous city of Sicily.

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Sub'jugate, *v.* to subdue, to enslave.



Q. By whom was Si'cily finally reduced?

A. By the Romans.

Q. What since has been the fate of Si'cily?

A. In general the same as that of the kingdom of Naples,\* but latterly it is freed from the invasion of foreign powers by the alliance of the English. Si'cily and Naples are again united into one kingdom as formerly, whose sovereign is Ferdinand the Fourth, of the Spanish line.

## CHAP. XVIII.

### *History of Spain.*

Q. DESCRIBE Spain.

A. Spain is a very large country situated in the south of Europe. It formerly included Portugal, and was known to the ancients by the name of Ibe'ria and Hesp'e'ria, as well as Hispa'nia.

Q. Who were the original inhabitants of Spain?

A. The original inhabitants of Spain consisted of Celts from Gaul, and of Moors† from Africa; but the latter, a more warlike race, expelled the former, and even passed into France.

Q. Who were the next people that sent colonies into Spain?

A. The German Gauls, who seized the regions to the north-east.

Q. What events soon followed in the east of Spain?

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\* Na'ples, southern part of Italy.

† Moors, the inhabitants of Maurita'nia, in Africa.



A. Towards the east were sent several large colonies from Carthage, and afterwards, numerous colonies were sent from Rome, which subdued all the others, and made them subject to their power.

Q. How long was Spain under the Roman power?

A. About 600 years; from 200 years before Christ till the beginning of the fifth century, when they were subdued by the Vandals, a people from Prussia, &c. who originally came from Scythia: but these people being afterwards weakened by their settlements in Africa, were soon driven out by the Visigoths from Jutland,\* &c.

Q. From whom may the modern Spaniards be considered to have been descended?

A. From the Celtiberians or German Gauls, the Romans, and the Visigoths.

Q. Were not the contests between the Christians and Moors very numerous?

A. Yes; it is said by the Spanish historians, that they fought 3,700 battles, being a continued scene of warfare for eight centuries.

Q. In what state was Spain during this period?

A. During this period, Spain was divided into a number of independent states. Almost every great town of the Moors, or Saracens, had its separate sovereign: Toledo, Valencia, Seville,

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\* Denmark proper.

&c. which disunion rendered them more easy to be conquered.

Q. What were the chief kingdoms of the Christians during this period ?

A. Le'on, Astu'rias, Navar're, Casti'le, Ar'ragon, and Por'tugal.

Q. By whom were these kingdoms united ?

A. By Fer'dinand, king of Ar'ragon, by his marriage with Isabel'la, queen of Casti'le ; he took Grana'da in 1492, the last city which the Moors\* retained in Spain, and expelled them from the kingdom, to the number of 170,000 families, on which account Fer'dinand obtained from the pope the title of catholic.

Q. What memorable event happened at this time ?

A. The discovery of America, by Colum'bus, a Genoe'se. See Geno'a, in Italy.

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## CHAP. XIX.

### *History of Spain, continued.*

Q. Who succeeded Ferdinand and Isabella in the royal power of Spain ?

A. Charles the Fifth of Germany, or First of Spain, of the house of Austria, grandson to Ferdinand and Isabella, by their daughter Johanna.

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\* These people are called Moors from their entering Europe from Maurita'nia, in Africa, the country of the Moors.

Q. What was the state of Spain at this time?

A. Spain at this time was one of the greatest powers of Europe; comprehending Spain, the best part of Italy, the Netherlands, some provinces in Africa, and the new acquisitions in America.

Q. Had Charles the Fifth no dignity besides king of Spain?

A. Yes; that of emperor of Germany, to which he succeeded upon the death of his grandfather, Maximilian, 1519.

Q. By whom was Charles the Fifth succeeded?

A. By his son Philip, whose tyranny in the Netherlands, and cruel *bigotry* in the cause of *popery*, occasioned the revolt and loss of those provinces.

Q. In what king did the line of Austria fail?

A. In the person of Charles the Second, who died without issue, 1700, when a long and bloody war was carried on between the powers of Europe about the succession.

Q. In whose favour was it determined?

A. In favour of Philip, duke of Anjou,\* (grandson of Louis the Fourteenth of France) by the *treaty* of Utrecht,† 1713.

Q. What is the character of the Spaniards?

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\* An'jou, a province of France.

† Utre'cht, a large and celebrated city of Holland.

Big'otry, *s.* unreasonable attachment to any party or opinion; zeal without reason.

Po'pery, *s.* the Popish religion.

Trea'ty, *s.* a negotiation, a contract.

A. The Spaniards, are in general, grave and *stately* in their *deportment*, but honourable, generous, and humane.

Q. What is their religion?

A. The Roman Catholic, in which they are very zealous.

Q. What dreadful calamity has befallen the late and present king of Spain?

A. The late king, Charles the Fourth, and his son, Ferdinand the Seventh, the present king, were entrapped, and made prisoners by Buonaparte, for the purpose of raising his brother Joseph to the throne, but in consequence of the French being expelled from Spain, by the Duke of Wellington in 1813, they were liberated, and Ferdinand the Seventh was restored to the throne.

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## CHAP. XX.

### *History of Portugal.*

Q. WHAT is Portugal?

A. A small kingdom, situated on the west of Spain, whose name is but of recent origin. It was anciently a province of Spain, and underwent the same *revolutions* with it.\*

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\* The original possessors of Portugal were the Phœnicians and Carthaginians; then the Romans, who were conquered by the Goths, and in the eighth century it was overrun by the Moors.

Revolu'tion, s. a change of government, (a returning motion.)

Sta'tely, a. pompous, proud, elevated.

Deport'ment, s. conduct, behaviour.

Q. What was the ancient name of Por'tugal?

A. Lusita'nia, but its boundaries did not exactly correspond with the present Portugal.

Q. By whom was the kingdom of Portugal founded?

A. By Henry of Bur'gundy\*, who married one of the daughters of Alphon'so, king of Castile, by whom he had been created *count* of Portugal, in 1088.

Q. What event happened in Portugal in the year 1640?

A. A revolution which placed the house of Bragan'za† on the throne. Several ineffectual attempts were made by the Spaniards to re-establish their authority in Portugal, but by the treaty of Lisbon 1688, the Portuguese were declared a free and independent nation.

Q. Has any thing of importance occurred to the present king of Portugal worthy of our notice?

A. Yes; at the close of the year 1807, in consequence of the French invasion of Portugal, the whole of the royal family sailed for Brazil, in South America; but, by the great exertions of the British army under the command of the

\* A province of France.

† Q. What is Bragan'za?

A. A city of Portugal, and capital of the province of the same name. The first king of this house, was *John, duke of Bragan'za*.

Count, *s.* a foreign title, in rank between a duke and baron.

Duke of Wellington, the French have been expelled and the royal family have been reinstated in all their rights as heretofore.

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## CHAP. XXI.

### *History of Austria.*

Q. WHAT is Austria?

A. Austria Proper, is one of the nine circles of Germany, but the empire of Austria is of great extent, comprehending Austria, Bohe'mia, Hun'gary, and part of Po'land, Mora'via, Transylva'nia, Slavo'nia, Croa'tia, the Tyr'ol, part of Dalma'tia, Lom'bardy, and Ven'ice.

Q. Who were the original inhabitants of Austria?

A. The original inhabitants of the Austrian dominions were very various, but they were principally Goth'ic and Slavon'ic.

Q. From whom arose the power of Austria?

A. From the humble counts of Hapsburg, who possessed a small territory in Switzerland, in the northern corner of the canton of Berne. All that remains now of Hapsburgh is nothing more than a ruinous castle, on a lofty eminence, inhabited by the family of a peasant. It is rendered famous for being the cradle, as it were, of the House of Austria, whose ancestors may be traced back to the beginning of the 13th century, when they were no more than simple gentlemen of Switzerland, and afterwards for many years



counts of Hapsburg, till Rodol'ph the First raised himself to the empire of Germany and archduchy of Austria.

## CHAP. XXII.

### *History of Switzerland.*

Q. WHAT is Switzerland?

A. A small *romantic* country lying upon the Alps, between Germany, Italy, and France.

Q. By what name were the ancient inhabitants known?

A. By the name of Helve'tii,\* and are supposed to have been a Gothic race from Germany.

Q. In what state was Swit'zerland in the time of the Romans?

A. It was then under their control, but considered to be a part of Gaul.

Q. To whom were the Swiss subject after the fall of the Roman empire?

A. To the house of Austria (who originally were Swiss,) but being cruelly oppressed by its governors, the Swiss revolted, A.D. 1308, and in 1648, at the treaty of Westpha'lia,† they were declared a free and independent nation.

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\* Pronounced *Hel-ve-she'-i*.

† Q. What is Westpha'lia?

A. One of the circles of Germany. The treaty of Westpha'lia was signed at Os'naburg and Mun'ster.

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*Roman'tic*, a. wild and irregular, having lofty mountains, which produce grand scenery; fanciful.

Q. Has no change of government taken place in Swit'zerland since that time?

A. Yes; it has been since annexed to France, and the people have been under the control of Buonaparte. They recovered their independence, however, by the consent of Europe, on the restoration of the Bourbon family to the crown of France.

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## CHAP. XXIII.

### *History of Prussia.*

Q. Is Prussia an ancient or a modern kingdom?

A. Quite modern; it commenced about the year 1700, and by gradual accessions of power became one of the principal kingdoms of Europe. It suffered greatly from its long and unfortunate wars with Buonaparte, but, since the dethronement of that monarch, it has been making rapid advances to its former importance.

Q. Who was the first king of Prussia?

A. Frederic-William the Great, who placed the crown with his own hands upon his head, 1701.

Q. Who were the original inhabitants of Prussia?

A. The ancient history of this country being so little known, it is difficult to ascertain it, with any degree of certainty; but according to the ac-

count given of this people, by the celebrated Roman historians, Tacitus and Pliny,\* they were descendants of the Goths from Scythia.

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## CHAP. XXIV.

### *History of the Netherlands, or Low Countries.*

Q. WHAT comprise the kingdom of the Netherlands?†

A. The Netherlands comprise Holland and Belgium; the former is sometimes called Batavia, and the latter the Catholic Netherlands or Flanders.

Q. Who were the ancient inhabitants of the Netherlands?

A. The Celts, but these were supplanted by the Belgæ, from Germany, who were conquered by Julius Cæsar 56 years before Christ; and continued in the possession of the Romans till the decline of their empire.

Q. Who held sovereign power of the Netherlands after the decline of the Roman empire?

A. It afterwards underwent several revolutions, but for a considerable period it was governed by counts from France, appointed by the family of

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\* Pronounced *Tas-e-tus*, *Plin-e*.

† The word Netherlands signifies Low Lands. It was formerly applied to Belgium and Holland, but when the latter became an independent state, this name was given to Belgium or Flanders only.

Charlemagne;\* but upon the extinction of this race, it became, for a time, independent; after which the sovereign power was *usurped* by the Spaniards.

Q. What occasioned the separation of Holland from Flanders or Belgium?

A. The tyranny of its sovereign,† which caused an *insurrection* of the inhabitants in 1609, when the Spaniards were compelled to declare the Hollanders a free people.

Q. How long did Holland continue an independent state?

A. From the year 1609 till the French revolution in 1793, when it was conquered by the French. It was now formed into a *republic*, called the Batavian Republic; and the other part of the Netherlands, namely, Flanders underwent the same fate, which was called the Belgic Republic.

Q. How long was the kingdom of the Netherlands subject to, or under the control, of France?

A. From 1793 till the overthrow of Buonaparte, in 1814, when Holland and Flanders were united into one government; and the Prince of Orange is raised to its sovereignty, under the

\* Charles the Great, a celebrated king of France.

† Philip, king of Spain.

Usurp' *v.* to seize and hold without right.

Insurrection, *s.* a rebellion, a sedition.

Republic, *s.* a commonwealth, or form of government in which the supreme power is lodged in the hands of the people.

title of William the First, sovereign prince of the Netherlands.

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## CHAP. XXV.

### *Of Denmark.*

Q. WHAT is Denmark ?

A. Denmark is a small kingdom to the north of Germany, consisting of the *peninsula* of Jutland, Holstein, and the islands of Zealand, Funen, Iceland, and some others of less note.

Q. Who were its original inhabitants ?

A. The Cimbri and Teuto'nes ; the former occupied Jutland, and the latter the several islands in the Baltic sea.

Q. Whence did the inhabitants of Denmark receive the name of Danes ?

A. From the *Dani*, a distinguished people from Norway, who conquered Denmark in the seventh century.

Q. What was the condition of the Danes in the early part of their history ?

A. The Danes, in the early part of their history, were a race of bold adventurers, and in the eighth century they became very *formidable* to their neighbours by their *piratical depredations* on the coasts of England, Flanders, Normandy,

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Penin'sula, *s.* land almost surrounded with water.

For'midable, *a.* terrible, great.

Piratical, *a.* robbing on the sea.

Depredation, *s.* the acts of robbing, a spoiling.

and Germany; which *desultory* warfare was maintained for more than two centuries; till at length their savage manners being somewhat *meliorated*, they became *cultivators* of their native soil instead of adventurers at sea.

Q. When was this country at the *zenith* of its glory?

A. In the beginning of the 11th century under Canute the Great, who died in England in the year 1036.

Q. Is there any other Danish sovereign particularly worthy of notice?

A. Yes; Semir'amis, who mounted the throne in the year 1387, who united Denmark, Norway, and Sweden into one kingdom; and on account of her great firmness and courage, she was frequently styled the *Semir'amis*\* of the north.—Her successors have lost Norway and Sweden, which now are united and become a separate kingdom, whose sovereign is Bernadotte, formerly one of Buonaparte's celebrated generals.

\* Semira'mis, a celebrated queen of Assy'ria, wife of Ni'nus, by whom she had a son called Nir'yas. Semir'amis was a woman of great address, talents, and courage, and by her conquests she raised the Assy'rian empire to a great degree of eminence.

Des'ultory, *a.* unsettled, removing from one thing or idea to another.

Me'liorat<sup>ed</sup>, *v.* to make better, to improve.

Cultiva'tor, *s.* one who tills or improves land, &c.

Zen'ith, *s.* the greatest height (a point in the heavens directly over head.)



## CHAP. XXVI.

*History of Sweden.*

Q. WHAT is Sweden ?

A. A very large country in the north of Europe, anciently called Scandinavia. Its chief city is Stockholm.

Q. What comprises the empire of Sweden ?

A. The empire of Sweden comprises Sweden, Norway, and the greater part of Lapland, to which formerly were added Finland and part of Swedish Lapland, but these countries are now subject to Russia.

Q. What is the character of the Norwegians ?

A. The Norwegians in general are a simple and clownish people, but industrious, honest, strong, brave, and civil to strangers.

Q. Who is the present king of Sweden ?

A. The French general Bernadotte, prince of Ponte Corvo, who was raised to this honour through the intrigues of Buonaparte; but in the war against France, in the year 1813, carried on by the Russians, Prussians, Germans, and Austrians, Bernadotte turned his arms against his great patron, and vigorously assisted the allies in the reduction of France; and at the peace of Paris, in 1814, Norway was wrested from Denmark, and ceded to Bernadotte for the reward of his services.

Q. Who were the ancient inhabitants of Sweden ?

A. The Goths or Scyth'ians, who have had the reputation of subduing the Roman empire, and all the southern nations of Europe.

Q. What is the general character of the Swedes?

A. The Swedes in general are healthy, cheerful, and courageous, and are celebrated for enduring hunger, cold, and poverty.

Q. What is the employ of the women in this country?

A. The women here go to plough, thresh out the corn, row on the water, serve the bricklayers, and carry burdens.

Q. Who was the most celebrated king that sat on the throne of Sweden?

A. Charles the Twelfth, who was crowned in the year 1697.

Q. What were his principal exploits?

A. He first humbled Denmark; then attacked the Russians, in 1700, and obtained an astonishing victory over them at Narva;\* his force consisting only of 8,000 men, when he attacked the Russians in their *intrenchments*, slew 30,000, and took 20,000 prisoners.

Q. What followed the famous battle of Narva?

A. Charles next turned his forces against Po-

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\* Q. Where is Nar'va?

A. In Russia, in the government of Re'vel, eight miles from the Gulf of Fin'land.

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Intrench'ment, *s.* a trench or work which defends a post from the attacks of an enemy.

land, and after several battles dethroned Augustus, and placed Stan'islaus upon the throne.

Q. What was the end of Charles the Twelfth?

A. He invaded Norway in the year 1718, and at the siege of Frederickshall was shot by a cannon ball, Dec. 11th, after reigning 21 years?

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## CHAP. XXVII.

### *History of Russia.*

Q. WHAT is Russia?

A. A very large empire, comprehending all the northern parts of Asia, also a great part of the north of Europe, containing more extent of land than any country in the world.

Q. What is its capital city?

A. Pe'tersburgh, built by Peter the Great in 1703; it contains 130,000 inhabitants.

Q. In what state were the Russians before the days of Peter the Great?

A. In a wild and barbarous state, totally uninstructed.

Q. For what was Peter celebrated?

A. For his travels into foreign countries for information. In 1698, he made a journey to England, and worked at *Deptford* as a common car-

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*Dept'ford*, anciently called West Greenwich, is much celebrated for its noble Dock Yard. It is three miles and a half from London.

penter, in order to acquire the art of ship-building.

Q. Who succeeded Peter in the sovereignty of Russia?

A. His empress Catherine, a native of Livo'nia,\* whom he had raised to that dignity from being the wife of a Swedish *corporal* and a captive.

Q. Who succeeded Catherine the First?

A. Peter the Second, in 1727, after whom came Peter the Third, the son of Ann Petro'wna, daughter of Peter the Great.

Q. By whom was Peter the Third succeeded?

A. By Catherine the Second, daughter of the Prince of An'hault Zerbs,† who was succeeded by her son Paul Petrow'itz, who died in the year 1801, and was succeeded by his eldest son Alexander, the present emperor.

Q. Who were the original inhabitants of Russia?

A. The Scyth'ians who were supposed to have descended from one of the tribes of Nimrod,‡ from whom sprang the Parthians,§ Huns, Vandals, Goths, Cimbri, Danes, Franks, &c.

\* A province of Russia.

† A province of Upper Sax'ony.

‡ Q. Who was Nimrod?

A. The sixth son of Cush, who was the eldest son of Ham. Nimrod was the founder of Bab'ylon and Nin'evah.

§ Q. Who were the Par'thians?

A. The Persians, known in Scripture by the name of El'amites, until near the time of Cy'rus.

*Cor'poral, s.* the lowest non-commissioned officer in the army.

## CHAP. XXVIII.

*History of China.*

Q. WHAT is China?

A. An extensive country situated on the east of Thibet and Indos'tan; it is said to contain 333 millions of inhabitants.

Q. By whom was the Chine'se empire founded?

A. By Fo'hi, who is generally thought to have been the Noah of Scripture. The early history of this country is very *fabulous*, but its original form of government is known to have been *monarchical*, in which opinion, all historians perfectly agree.

Q. What are the principal events in the history of the Chinese?

A. The most interesting events are such as relate to the incursions of their neighbours the Tartars, who were continually incroaching on the Chinese until they were driven far beyond the boundaries, and an immense wall, fifteen hundred miles in length, was built between China and Tartary to keep them off for the future.

Q. Did this precaution secure them from future invasions?

A. Yes, for many centuries; but in the year 1211, the Tartars broke in, defeated the Chinese, and made themselves masters of great part of the empire.

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*Fab'ulous*, *a.* relating to fable, fiction, or falsehood.

*Monarch'ial*, *a.* (*monark'ikal*) relating to the government of a single person.

Q. By whom is China now governed?

A. The present emperor of China is of Tartarian extraction, and the whole empire has for many centuries been under the same dynasty.

Q. How many walled cities is China said to contain?

A. 4,400, the chief of which are Pe'kin, Nan'-kin, and Can'ton.

Q. Which is the capital of China?

A. Pekin, which is 4,999 miles from London.

Q. What is worthy of imitation in the Chinese?

A. The great respect which children have for their parents, and the attention which the young invariably pay to their superiors in age.

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## CHAP. XXIX.

### *History of India.*

Q. WHAT is India?

A. An immense empire of Asia, bounded on the north by Tar'tary, on the east by China, on the west by Persia, on the south by the ocean.

Q. What kind of country is India, and whence does it receive its name?

A. It is the richest country of all Asia, and takes its name from the river In'dus.

Q. How is India divided?

A. Into three parts; namely, the empire of



the Mogul, generally called Hisdos'tan;—the Western Penin'sula on this side the bay of Bengal;—and the Eastern Penin'sula on the east side of the bay of Ben'gal.

Q. What is the chief city?

A. Calcut'ta, 4929 miles from London. This city is the grand *emporium* of all British India.

Q. Who were the original inhabitants of India?

A. On this we are not informed, as the history of India is very obscure. It contains various tribes; from the situation of the country, it is natural to conclude, that they are descendants of the Assyr'ians.

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## CHAP. XXX.

### *History of Tartary.*

Q. WHAT is Tartary?

A. A very large country, divided into four great parts: namely,—Russian Tartary,—Chinese Tartary,—Independent Tartary,—and Thibet.

Q. Who were the ancient inhabitants of Tartary?

A. The Seythians, a very powerful nation, supposed to have been descendants of the Babylo'nians.

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Empo'rium, *s.* a seat of merchandize, market.

Q. Who was the first sovereign of Tartary?

A. Jengis Khan, in the year 1206.

Q. What is the character of the Tartars?

A. The Tartars are a fierce and warlike people, leading in general a wandering life, and are said to be the greatest *idolaters* in the world.

## CHAP. XXXI.

### *History of America.*

Q. WHAT is America?

A. One of the five divisions of the world, distinguished into north and south.

Q. By whom was America discovered?

A. By Christopher Colum'bus, a *Genoese* from Geno'a.

Q. What was his first discovery?

A. San Salva'dor, and soon after the islands of Cu'ba, and Hispan'iola or St. Domin'go, whence he returned to Spain, accompanied with some of the natives, some presents of gold, and some of the curiosities of the country.

Q. What were the discoveries of his second voyage?

A. The Caribees and Jamai'ca.

Q. What did Colum'bus discover in his third voyage?

A. The greater part of the eastern coast of South America.

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*Idol'ater*, s. a worshipper of idols, or false gods.

Q. How did Colum'bus describe the inhabitants?

A. As a race of men quite different from the Europeans, of a copper colour, and no beard.

Q. What were the principal discoveries made by the Spaniards?

A. Mex'ico, Peru, Chili, Paragu'ay, and the above-mentioned islands.

Q. In what state was Mex'ico when discovered by the Spaniards?

A. In a very flourishing state, and the inhabitants polished, refined, and *luxurious*.

Q. Is this the description also of Peru, Chili, and Paragu'ay?

A. No; here, in general, man was found a naked wandering savage, whose sole occupation was hunting or war.

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## CHAP. XXXII.

### *History of America, continued.*

Q. DID not the example of the Spaniards excite a desire in the other nations of Europe to participate with them in the riches of the new world?

A. Yes; the French, the Portuguese, English, and Dutch, have all at different times formed settlements in America.

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*Lux'urious*, *a.* living in great plenty, in extravagance.

Q. What are the French settlements in America?

A. At this time they have not a foot of territory in that *continent*, but once had Can'ada, St. Domin'go, Guadalou'pe, and Domini'que, all of which they have lost.

Q. What settlements have the Portugue'se in America?

A. The Brazils, which is one of the richest countries in the new world, both from the produce of its soil, and its mines of gold and precious stones.

Q. What are the Dutch settlements in America?

A. Those, like the French, have been wrested from them.

Q. What are the British dominions in America?

A. New Britain, Can'ada, and new Scotland, besides many valuable islands in the West Indies. The English once possessed the United States, which were formerly known by the name of the British colonies; but after a long and destructive war, they were declared free and independent, in the year 1783.

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## CHAP. XXXIII.

### *History of England.*

Q. WHAT are the principal events in the history of England?

A. The Roman invasion; the establishment of

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Con'tinent, *s.* is a large tract of land containing many nations, as America, Europe, &c.

the Saxons; the introduction of Christianity; the Norman conquest; the Reformation; and the Revolution.

Q. What was the ancient name of England?

A. Albion, so called from the white rocks on its coasts.

Q. Who were the first people upon record that traded with England?

A. The Phœnicians, who are said to have traded with the inhabitants of Cornwall for tin.

Q. Who are supposed to be the original inhabitants of Britain?

A. The Celts, from the nearest shores of France, who were driven out from thence by the Goths, from Germany.

Q. Whence is this island called Britain?

A. It is so called from Brit, an old word signifying, at that time, painting the skin, which was much used by the first people.

Q. What does Britain include?

A. England, Wales, Scotland, and Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Q. Whence is the southern division called England?

A. It is so called from the Angles, a people who came from Denmark, and settled in this island about the year 449.

Q. When does the authentic history of England commence?

A. With the invasion of this country by Julius Cæsar, 55 years before Christ.

Q. Where did Julius Cæsar first land his troops?

A. At Dover, where he built a castle.

Q. In what state was Britain at the time of its invasion by Julius Cæsar?

A. Till the time of Cæsar, it was divided into a great number of small independent states, each of which was governed by a king or chief magistrate.

Q. How long was England subject to the power of the Romans.

A. Till the year 448, when they finally bid this country adieu.

Q. When was Christianity first introduced into this country?

A. About 63 years after the death of Christ, by his apostles.

Q. What event followed the Romans quitting this country?

A. England soon after was ravaged and desolated by the Picts and Caledonians, who came down from Scotland merely for the supply of their *temporary* wants.

Q. What followed the invasion of England by the Picts and Caledonians?

A. The establishment of the Saxons, who were invited over to this country by the Britons to assist them against the Picts, &c. but who in a short time divided England among themselves, and founded the seven kingdoms called the Anglo-Saxon *heptarchy*.

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Tem'porary, *a.* continuing only for a time.

Hep'tarchy, *s.* (*heptarky*,) a government in which seven persons rule independent of each other.



Q. Did these seven kingdoms long continue amicably together?

A. No; for, in a short time, they quarrelled among themselves, and after a series of wars the whole of the heptarchy fell, when it came under the power of Egbert, king of Wessex, who caused himself to be crowned at Winchester\* by the title of king of all England.

Q. What event happened in the beginning of the eleventh century?

A. The invasion of England by the Danes, who conquered the Saxons, but their reign was very short, and the Saxon line was soon restored, but in the middle of the same century, England was completely subdued by William of Normandy, surnamed the Conqueror, 1066.

Q. What was the Reformation?

A. A change from the Catholic to the *Protestant* opinions, set on foot in the reign of Henry the Eighth.

Q. What was the Restoration?

A. The restoration of the kingly power, in the person of Charles the Second, after the death of Oliver Cromwell?

Q. Who was Oliver Cromwell?

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\* Winchester, during the time of the Saxons, was the capital of England; but after the Norman conquest, it gradually declined in importance.

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Prot'estant, *s.* one who protests against popery, the Roman catholic religion.

A. A *usurper* of the crown; he was valiant, crafty, *hypocritical*, and *despotic*.

Q. What was the revolution?

A. A change in the *constitution*, which took place on the *accession* of William the Third.

Q. What is meant by the constitution of England?

A. Its laws and government.

Q. What advantage did England gain by the Revolution?

A. The establishment of the present constitution, and the passing of the famous Bill of Rights.

Q. What is the Bill of Rights?

A bill passed in the reign of William the Third to confirm and secure the liberties of the people

Usurp'er, *s.* one who possesses another's right.

Hypocritical, *a.* insincere, false, wicked.

Despot'ic, *a.* absolute, having uncontrollable power.

Constitution, *s.* form of government. (The frame of body or mind.)

Accession, *s.* coming to, as the coming of the King to the crown. (Addition or increase.)

THE END.

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