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VERY QUEER PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN QUEER TIMES.



THE NORMAN BARON.

Is seated with dignity,
But as to reading or writing;
Not the slightest idea has he.
His lawyer his signature's wanting—
How to write, he's quite at a loss,
For "his mark" is all he can manage,
And that's in the shape of a "X."

For red ink his lawyer hands him
A dish with boar's blood filled,
As the Baron had been out hunting,
When a large white boar he'd killed.
Like a pen, his finger he uses—
For his name the "X" does stand;
And the Baron's crest ever after
Was known as a "Bloody hand,"

THE FIRST MAN WHO FIRED A GUN.

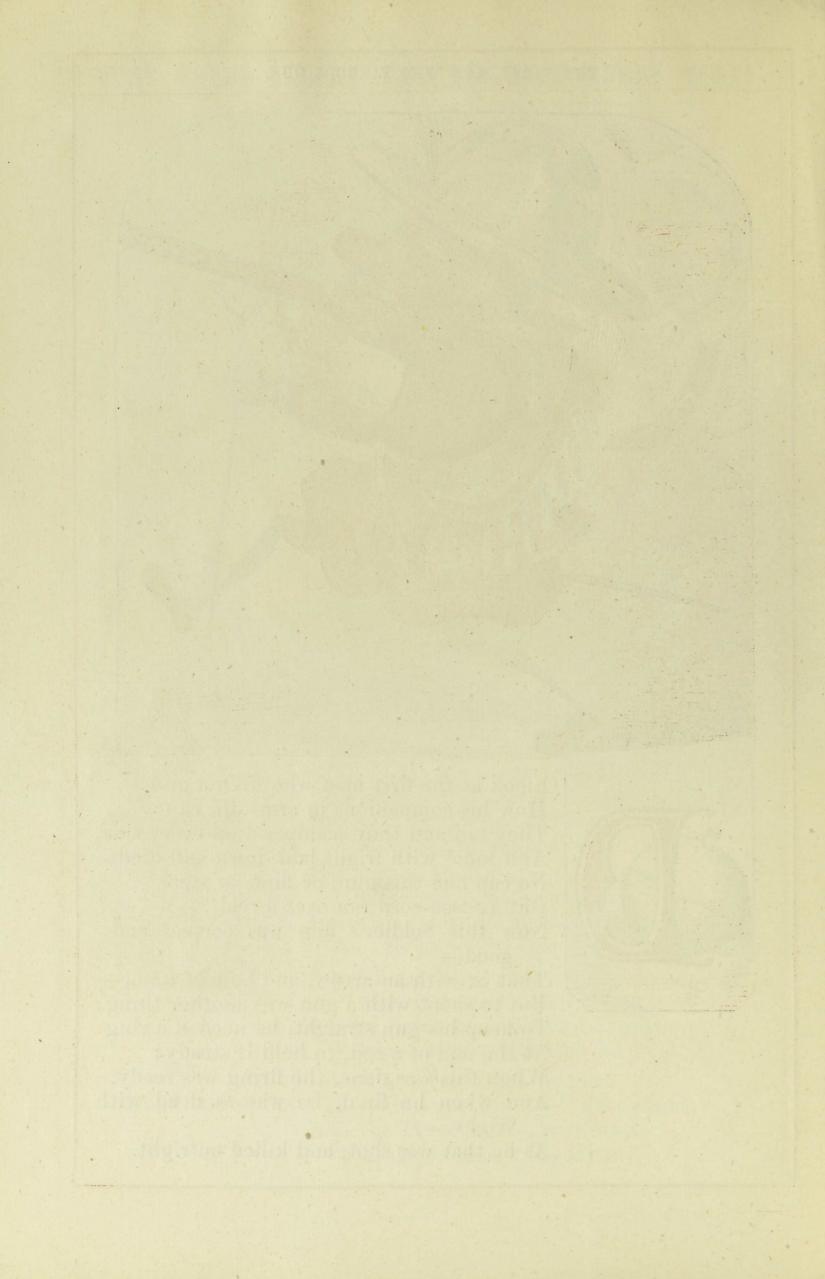


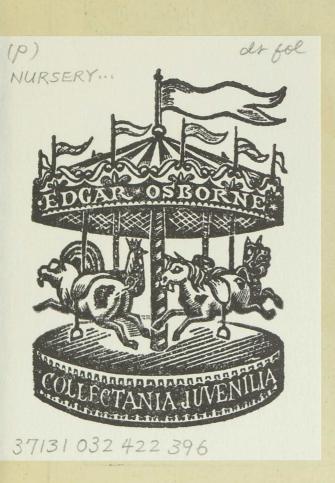
O look at the first man who fired a gun!
How his companions in arms did run;
They ran and they scamper'd on every side,
And some with fright laid down and died.
No cap had this gun, or flint, or steel,
But a fusee-cord ran over a reel.
New this Soldier's aim was correct and

Now this Soldier's aim was correct and good--

That is, with an arrow, and bow of wood—But to shoot with a gun was another thing; To keep his gun straight, he needed a ring At the end of a rod, to hold it steady; When this was done, the firing was ready. And when he fired, he was as dead with fright

As he that was shot, and killed outright.





THE GAY CAVALIER. Time of Charles I. and II.



HIS is a rollicking Cavalier,
Of King Charles' body-guard,
Whose greatest pleasure, day and night,
Is drinking very hard.

The feather that's waving in his hat Is fastened with a jewel;

The long rapier, hung at his side, He used in many a duel.

With many a ruby glass of wine He has painted red his nose;

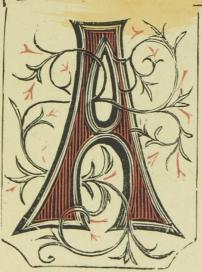
He's always drinking "King Charles' health, And down with all his foes."

This sort of life must one day end, As things get worse and worse,

When he feels in his pocket, with rueful face, And pulls out an empty purse.

THE PURITAN. Time of Oliver Cromwell.

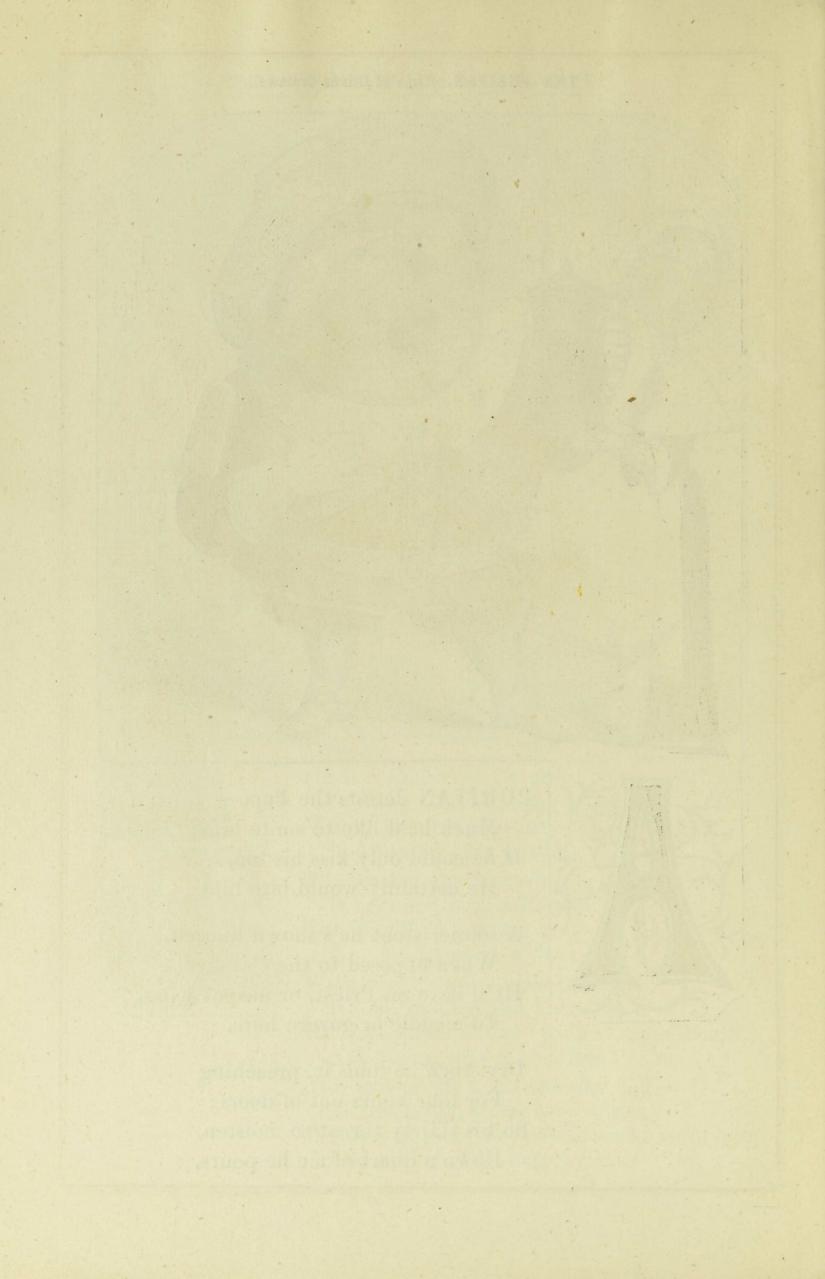




PURITAN detests the Pope—
Much he'd like to smite him;
If he could only kiss his toe,
He certainly would bite him.

A soldier stout he's shown himself,
When opposed to the Cavalier;
He'll have no Priest, or despot King,
To meddle or govern here.

Dry work he finds it, preaching
For four hours out of doors;
So his thirsty throat to moisten,
Down a quart of ale he pours.



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OUR GREAT GRANDFATHER.



HIS is an old Dandy, I do declare;
Why doesn't he wear his own grey hair,
Instead of that powdered perriwig—
Uncommonly ugly, and by far too big?
His scarlet coat is edged with gold,
Not proper colours for one so old;
The cocked hat, too, is decidedly small,
And on him it doesn't look well at all.
By his walk you'd think the ground was

And a bouquet bright in his breast he's got, With a bottle of perfume to sweeten the air; No other beau can with him compare. But one so old ought much better to know, Than like a dressed monkey in the streets to go.

OUR GREAT GRANDMOTHER.



EE your great Grandma, what a queer one, She was the first of female swells; Quadrilles she danced—walked a minuet— At Vauxhall or at Tunbridge Wells.

As regards the hoops she's caged in, You I think, no doubt will say, It scarcely equals in dimensions The ladies' hoops seen every day.

Her stockings in the present fashion, Circled round with stripes of red; And the ladies now as strangely Twist the hair about their head.

The heels she wears will hardly let her
Put her toes upon the ground;
Then "Tiny" add, and you must admit,
Small difference 'twixt you can be found,

. Sinirong gazan syan avo Martin William and an initial of

THE SAXON THRALL, OR "MIKE."



Building up the Abbey wall;
He worketh hard, and very well,
And his hire is vast to tell!
He toils away from Matin bell
Until the Vesper hymn doth swell.
One penny only is his dole,
A great sum indeed, poor soul;
It marvels me full much, my friend,
To think how he it all could spend!

THE FIRST WATCHMAN.



"Hallo, Mr. Watchman! Your lantern is old,

Your halberd is rusty, And your nose cold."

"Gramercy, my masters! Full well I trow, You much better manners Ought me to show."

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