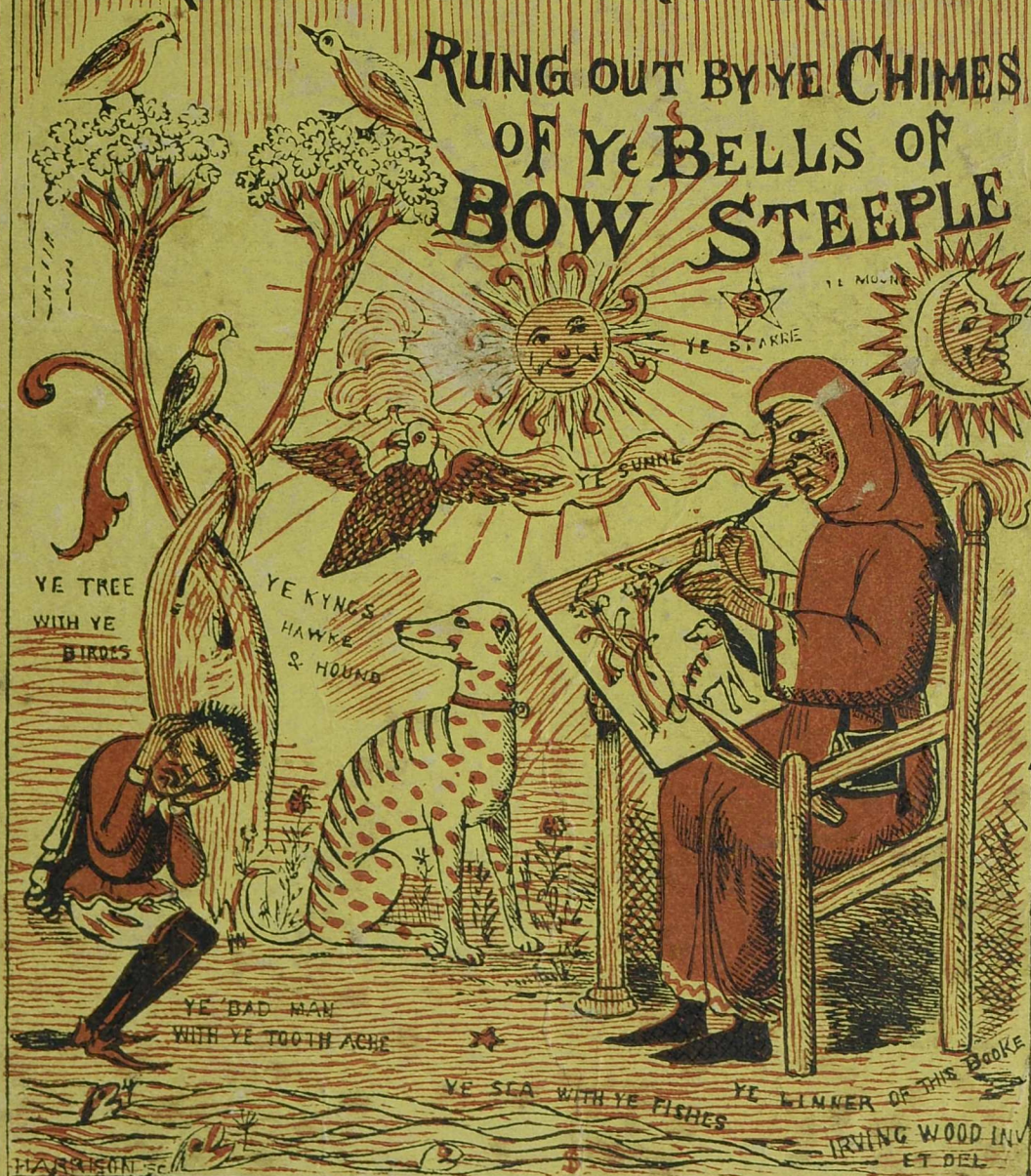


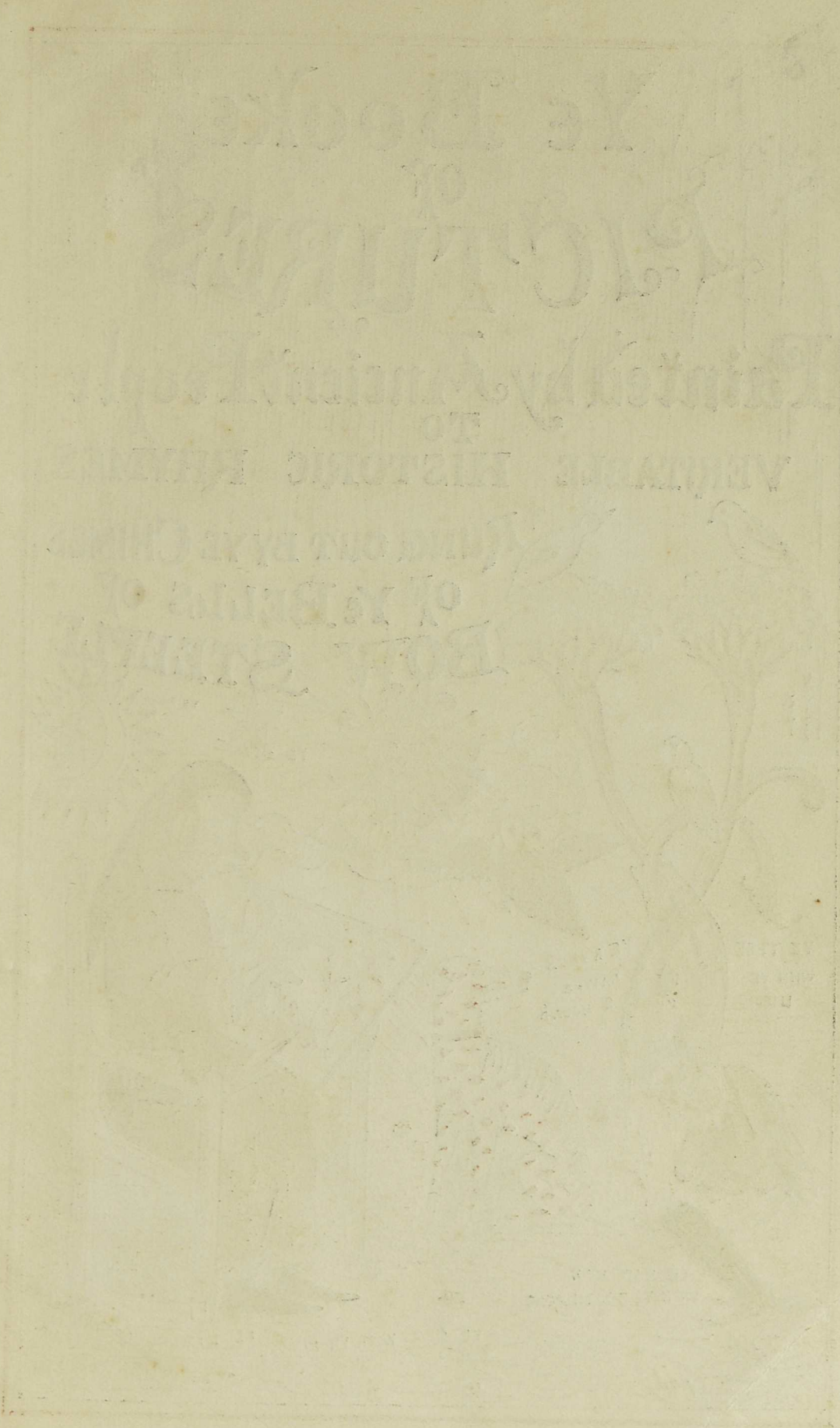
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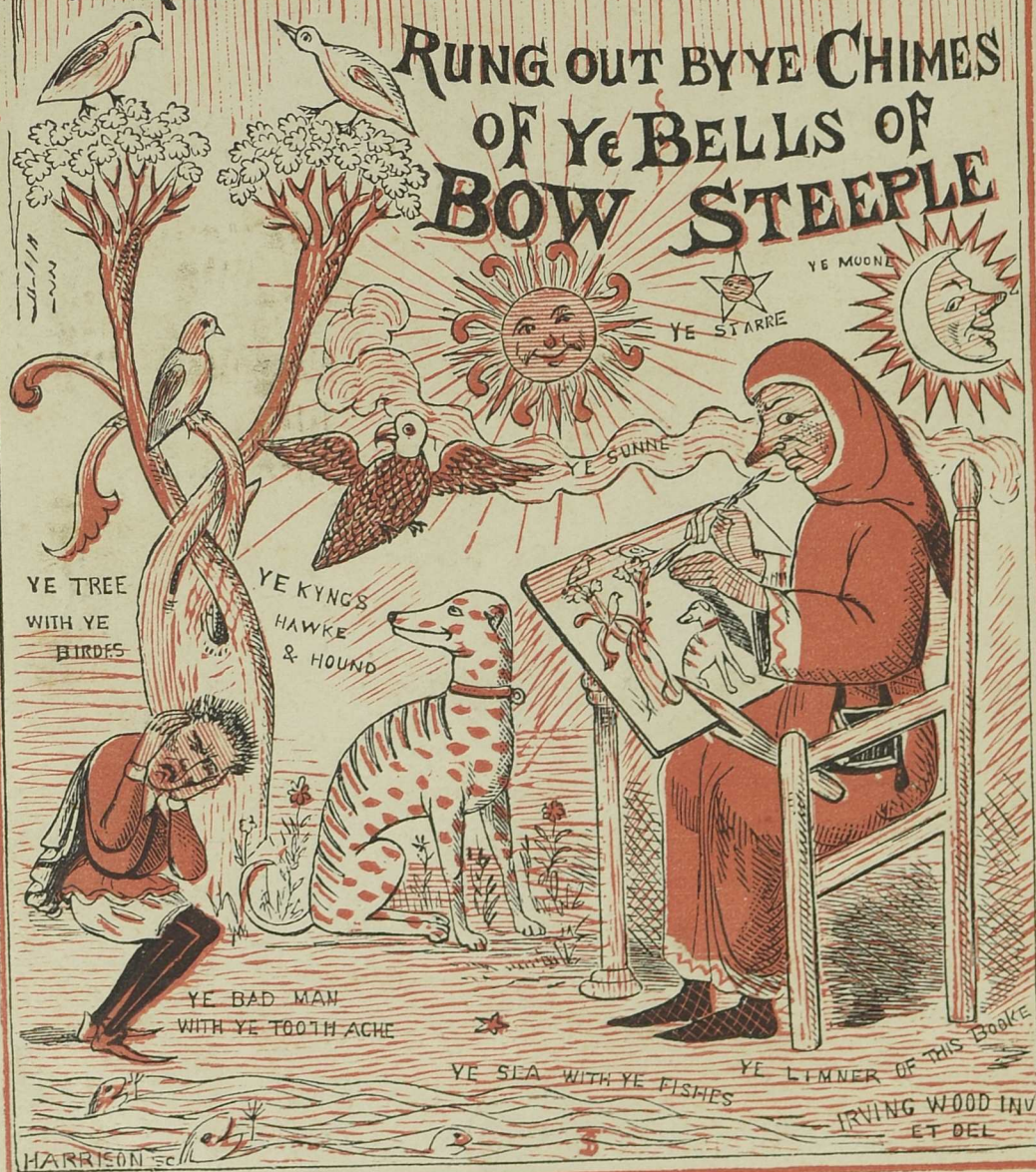


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TO
VENTURE HISTORIC REMAINS
FROM ONE BYE CHINESE
OF 18 BIRMS OF
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YE BOOKE
OF
PICTURES
Painted by Ancient People
TO
VERITABLE HISTORIC RHYMES
RUNG OUT BY YE CHIMES
OF YE BELLS OF
BOW STEEPLE



ADDRESS

TO THE DISCREET AND WELL-AFFECTED READER.

SOME Pictures and Rhymes of such very old Times,
Culled with care from the British Museum,
The Compiler engages you'll find in these Pages,
Without going further to see 'em.

From Alfred the Great, and Canute too in State—
Whom the Waters so rudely did dash on—
With a great many more, (as Pat says) to the fore,
Who were all of them Persons of Fashion.

Their Dresses so queer are with truth Pictured here,
(The long Gown and the Hat like a Steeple)
Kings, Queens, and Crusaders, and stout City Traders,
I vow seem a strange-looking People.

As some People may Prize the short notes by the Wise,
The Revered and the Learn'd Old Sages—
Who wrote in the Times of these Singular Rhymes—
Some are seen at the Feet of these Pages.

For 'twas fancied Discreet, in every way Meet,
That the Lights of those very Dark Days,
As Stowit and Larkin, should each Throw a Spark in,
The Folks of this Age to Amaze.

So assuredly we, in the Time that shall be,
Will be look'd on as we look on those,
And People will say, without Doubt, "Lack-a-day!
Dear me! what Absurd-looking Clothes."

ALFRED AND THE BURNT CAKES.

A.D. 878.



“OH Dear! thee’st **B**urnt the **D**ough,
Thou shiftless, idle **L**out,
While **W**hittling* of thy **B**ow;
I’d like thy **H**ead to **C**lout.”

“Ah! **D**ame, be less **I**rate,
Nor think of such a thing
As **C**louting of ye **P**ate
Of thy unhappy **K**ing.”

* As Alfred was so employed without the permission of his Hostess, it is evident that he was not then a “*Licensed Whittler*,” although it is certain that numbers of Danes afterwards had their *Bier* on his premises.

ALFRED IN THE DANISH CAMP.

A.D. 878.



WHEN the Danes (Savage People) his Kingdom took,
To their Camp as a Minstrel he came ;
And the Danes could not Tell—I ween—by his Look,
What on Earth was the King's "Little Game."

His Music so Sweet did the Danish beguile,
And though he Looked Harmlessly Tame,
He Learnt all he Wished, and he Showed them Awhile
How to Play such a nice* "Little Game."

* The Danes declared that they found it much too Hot for them to call it an Ice Game.

YE SAPIENT KYNG.—CANUTE AND YE FISHES.

A.D. 1025.

YE LAY OF YE LITTLE FISHES.



AS Once on a Time Canute ye Great
Sat by the Shore in his Chair of State,
His Flattering Courtiers said to him,
That where he Sat we dared not Swim.

Yet on we came in a Rolling Wave,
Which his Royal Toes in Brine did Lave.
As he rose, "In future, I trow," quoth he,
"No Courtier or Water shall come over
me."

NOTE.—It was the O'Mulligrub who, having suffered from the encroachment of the waves himself, exclaimed piteously, "Och hone! och hone! ye fish big and tiny, and water so briny, why didn't ye LAVE him alone."

YE OMEN OF GOOD LUCK TO YE CONQUEROR* "WHO
PUTTETH HIS FOOT IN IT," *ERGO* YE ENGLISH SOIL.

A.D. 1066.



WHEN Norman Will his Boots first put
Upon Old England's shore,
"Woe! woe!" cried they who saw him Stick
In the Sand two feet or more.
"Gee up," cried Will; "not Woe," say I;
It proves, this Omen kind—
How fixed my Stand upon this Land,
Then—lend me a Lift behind."

* William the Conk-erer was not so called because his Nose was more prominent than "any other Man's."

YE CURFEW BELL.—YE LAY OF YE NORMAN
WATCHMAN.

A.D. 1067.



OVER ye **F**ire!
Cover ye **F**ire!!
Tis **E**ight of ye **C**lock,
All sound as a **R**ock,
Asleep and in **B**ed,
Be each **F**ellow's **H**ead.
No late **S**uppers nice,
But leave all for ye **M**ice.
For **I** say 'tis ye **K**ing's desire
That you put out that **F**ire.

NOTE.—So prejudiced were they in that time, that it appears the Watchmen would not allow any *Fire* escape in their respective Neighbourhoods.

GOING TO YE CRUSADES.

A.D. 1096.



WHEN Palestine, with its Holy Shrines,
Was in ye Infidels power,
To Rescue then that Sacred Place
Went forth all Chivalry's flower.

Some went for Glory,
And some went for Prayer,
And many more for Pretty Girls,
The Fairest of the Fair.*

* And many came not back again, but left their Bodies there.



With a view to the future

and the present

to the future

and the present

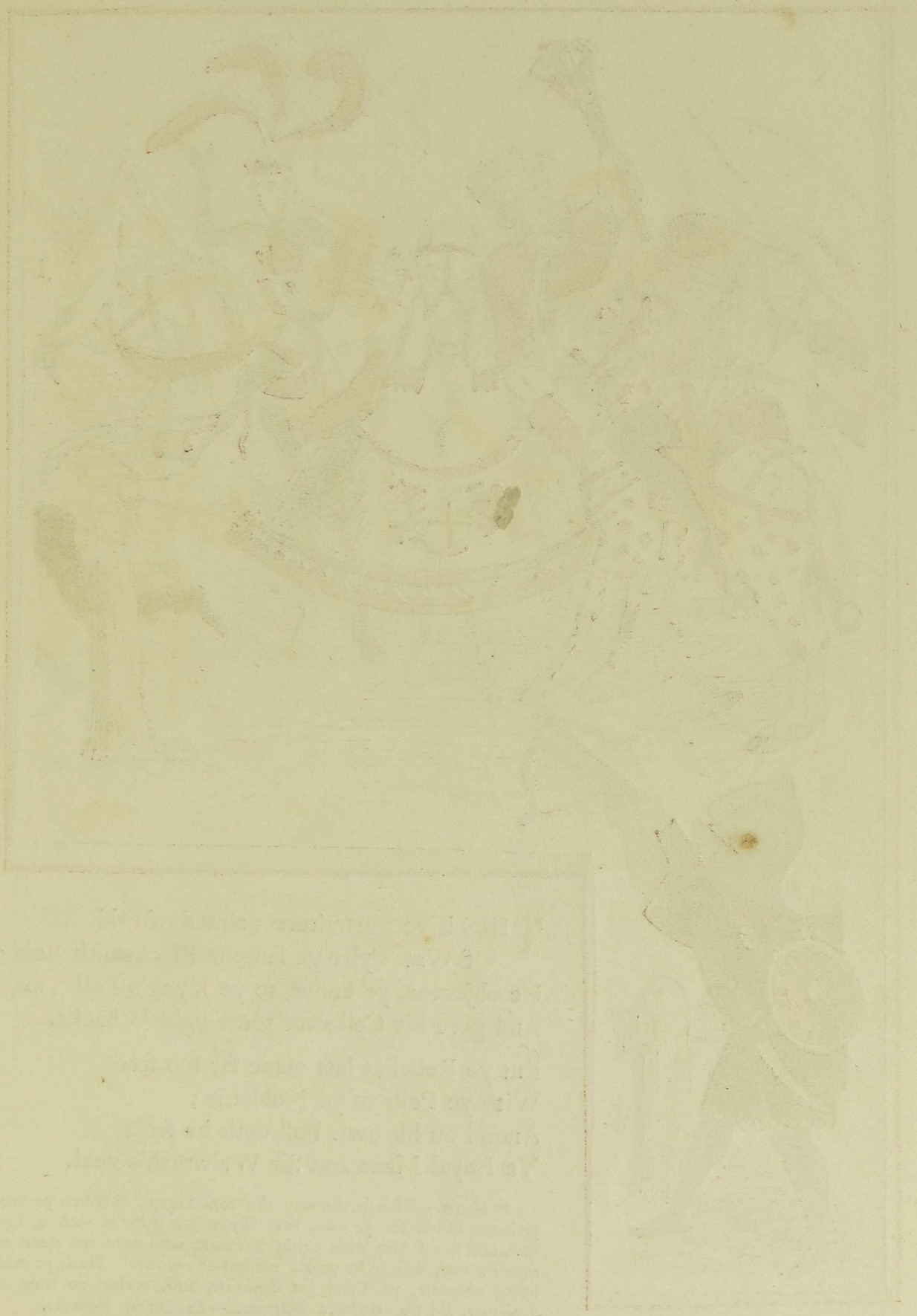
to the future

and the present

to the future

and the present

to the future



WAT TYLER YE REBEL.

A.D. 1381.

WAT RECEIVETH ONE FOR HIS POLL.



THIS is ye Portraiture Painted of Old
Of Wat Tyler ye famous Blacksmith Bold;
He objected, ye know, to ye Kyng's Poll Tax,
And gave his Collector some ugly Whacks.

But ye Rebel at last made far too free
With ye Polls of ye Nobleitie;
Anon! on his own Poll doth he feele
Ye Loyal Mace and Sir Walworth's zeal.

* NOTE.—This is the way the row began: "When ye tax-gatherer called for ye rate, Wat Tyler got irate at such a *high rate*, and tax'd him with being a *Pirate*, who need not stand to expect a rate, which he would not get at any rate. Now, ye man being *obdurate*, ye Tyler got *desperate*, and, taking no time to deliberate, did his existence obliterate."—*Larkins bys Recordes*.

WHITTINGTON.



BEHOLD ye famous **C**at of **R**ichard
Whittington,
Every **M**ouse and **R**at doth quickly **P**ounce
upon.

Ye **C**aptayne stands in front with **B**ag that held ye **P**uss,
While ye **T**ar with manners blunt turns hys manly back on us.
Ye **K**ying he sits in **S**tate (a **M**an of goodly mould),
And (ye **C**hronicles relate) doth fill that **S**hippe with **G**old,
As ye price of **R**ichard's **C**at, to run about hys **H**ouse
And **C**apture every **R**at, and likewise every **M**ouse.

NOTE.—“When ye Pussy did eat ye Rats and Mice for her Evening Meal, ye Kying did jestingly say that it was only fayre to have ye cat-sup on ye table.”—From ye Captayne hys Logge.

MARGARET OF ANJOU AND YE ROBBER.*

A.D. 1462.



THOUGH Thieves are not over **P**olite
As a rule, we've an **I**nstance before us
Where one proved, if needs be, he might,
On occasion, behave quite **D**ecorous.

Queen **M**argaret said "**H**ere's the **S**on
Of your **K**ing, to your charge **I** commit him."
When the **R**obber at once said that none
(**I**f he knew it) should **S**cold him or **H**it him.

NOTE.—"As ye other Robbers had taken *everything* away from them already, perhaps there was not so much merit in this Varlet's not robbing them of nothing after all."—*H. Walker's Chronicles.*

GOING TO YE ROYAL WEDDING OF HENRY YE 7TH.

A.D. 1485.



HIGHTY, flighty, highty, ho .
Whither doth my little **G**ent go ?
To see my **L**ord **M**ayor,
His "**F**east," or "**S**how ?"

No, not to ye "**F**east,"
Nor yet to ye "**S**how,"
Have **I** donned my best **B**eaver
And fair bridal **B**ow ;
But to see our **K**ing's **N**uptials
I'm wending **I** trow.

NOTE.—"And ye little Gent added that he also 'did don hys Bridal Bow in honour of ye Bridal Belle,' whereat ye Noble and hys Ladye did smyle right pleasantly."—*Stow's Chronicles*.

YE WARRES OF YE ROSES.

A.D. 1464.



EARL Warwick ye "**K**ing-maker"
Was a mighty **E**arl and strong;
Though in one mind he never kept,
At least for very long.

At first he loved ye **R**oses **W**hite,
Anon ye **R**oses **R**ed;
And many **N**obles for such things
Were shorter by a **H**ead.

Now **K**ing **H**enry's **R**ose was **W**hite
When **W**arwick's **R**ose was **R**ed,
And thus upon the hard **S**tones
Went his poor **R**oyal **H**ead.

JEAN DE ARC, YE HEROIC DAIRYMAID.

A.D. 1429.



IN ages dark, one **J**oan of **A**rc
Did valiantly **A**dvance,
And **P**ledged her **W**ord by **L**ance and **S**word
To save the **T**hrone of **F**rance.

The **F**oes **W**ithdrew, **J**oan did **P**ursue ;
In **T**riumph she **R**eturned.
At last, **O**h ! shame ! on **E**ngland's **N**ame,
Poor **J**oan of **A**rc they **B**urned.

YE CLOTH OF GOLD.

A.D. 1520.



A RARE and Royal Meeting
When Bluff Hal was our King,
And Francis was the Lord of France;
No Braver e'er hath been.

Upon a Field of Cloth of Gold
The mighty Monarchs met,
And with Champayne* of choicest kind
Their Royal Thirst did wet.

* The which did play Old Gooseberrye with them afterwards, and many of ye Courtiers likewise.

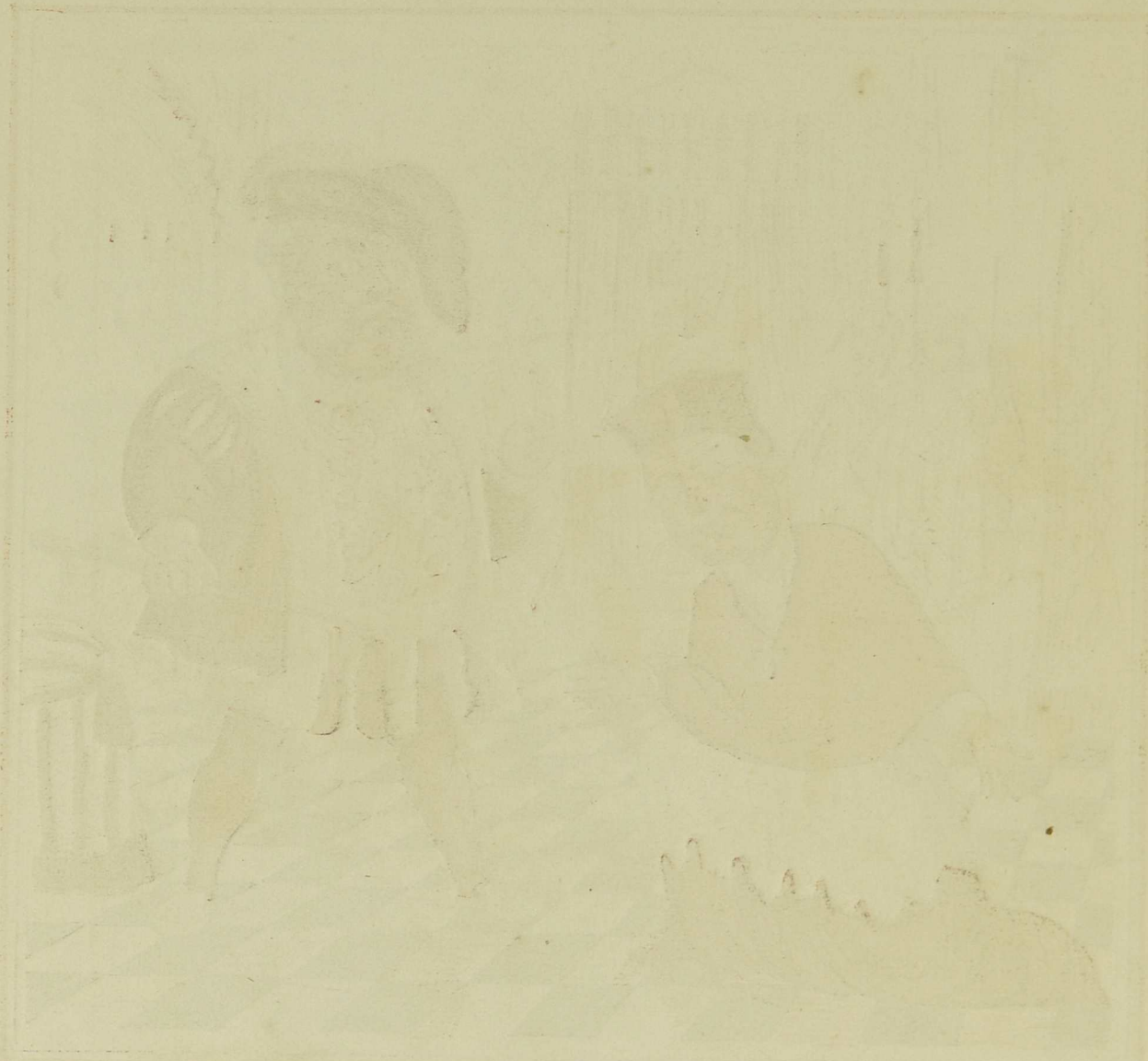
HENRY YE 8TH AND CARDINAL WOLSEY AT HAMPTON
COURT.
A.D. 1527.



“O CARDINAL! O Cardinal !!
Great is t'ie Royal ire,
That thou hast built unto thyself
A Palace all admire.”

Down on his Knees sly Wolsey fell
Before his Royal Master ;
“Behold, Sire, thy Slave's work is thine,
Would that he could Build faster.”*

* Ye Kyng did ever after consider this act one of ye chief Cardinal Virtues.”—*Lindsey Wolsey's Scraps.*



O CAROLINE, O CAROLINE
Great is the joy to me
That thou hast built mine life
A Palace all within.

Remember to know thy Worthy
Hither to Royal Master;
Remember, the Slave's work is thin,
Would that he could find faster.

DEATH OF RUFUS BY AN OVERDOSE OF ARROWROOT,
ADMINISTERED BY YE ROYAL BILL STICKER.

A.D. 1100.



WILLIAM RUFUS had Red Hair,
He could not help it, he was Fair;
But yet, I ween, he might have been
A vastly fairer Man and King.
If he had taken good Advice,
Which was offered more than twice,
He might not on the Earth have laid,
Slain by a "Slight Mistake," 'twas said,
And not been subject to this Jest,
Which Naughty was, must be confess'd.

"A witty clerke of the day (who was deep read himself) did say, 'However red' ye before, he is done remarkably browne now, withouten doubt.'"—Stowit.

FAIR ROSAMOND AND QUEEN ELEANOR.

A.D. 1189.

YE BOWER AT WOODSTOCK



A BOWL of deadly Poison* and a
Dagger long and keen
Were offered to Fair Rosamond by Eleanor
ye Queen ;

Which Queen did drop a Curtsey as she came within ye Bower,
And look'd as though at once she'd make a meal of that faire flower.

This story told, though very old, I don't believe is true,
(Tho' perhaps ye Queen *did* find her out all by that Silken clue) ;
But some do say, long after that her Course of Life did run,
And that Rosamond at Godstow lived for Twenty Years a Nun.

* If Rosamond had taken *Some*, she could not have been Nun, that's clear enough.

YE COMBAT OF RICHARD AND YE INFIDEL, SARACENS

A.D. 1190.



WHEN “**L**ion**R**ichard” crossed ye **S**cas
 To fight ye **I**nfidel,
Believe me, they had little **E**ase
 Where’er his **F**alchion fell.

He smote them right from “chin to chine;”
 Their **H**eads flew every way,
And one stuck on a **C**ity **S**ign,*
 And sticks there to this **D**ay.

* Every fellow knows the “Saracen’s Head” on Snow Hill. But *what* the Saracen said on Snow Hill no fellow knows.

THE FAITHFUL BLONDEL DISCOVERETH HIS ROYAL
MASTER BY THE SINGING OF HIS PROVENÇAL BALLAD.

A.D. 1194.



BLONDEL travelled **E**urope o'er to find the **C**aptive **K**ing,
To **B**anjo that did loudly **T**wang his voice did loudly **S**ing:
When he at last began a **S**ong, his heart beat high and quick,
To hear the strain continued by his **M**aster—**R**oyal **D**ick.

Then **A**ustria's **D**uke declared his friends must come down pretty handsome,
And 150,000 **M**arks demanded for his **R**ansom;
So "**R**ichard of the **L**ion **H**ear**t**" once more trod his **D**omain,
And his loving folks of **E**ngland saw their **K**ing of **H**earts again.

RICHARD YE 1ST, HIS FIGHT WITH YE LION.

A D. 1192.



YEARS ago, when **E**nglish **R**ichard
 Did into a **L**ion pitch hard,
 And **H**ead and **S**ides at once would be on;
 Then, when he forced his **J**aws apart,
 And from the **B**rute at once “took **H**eat,”
 They called him “**R**ichard **C**œur-de-**L**ion.”

NOTE.—When Richard did ye Lion's *heart* seize, ye Princess had heart's ease directly.

MAGNA CHARTA.*

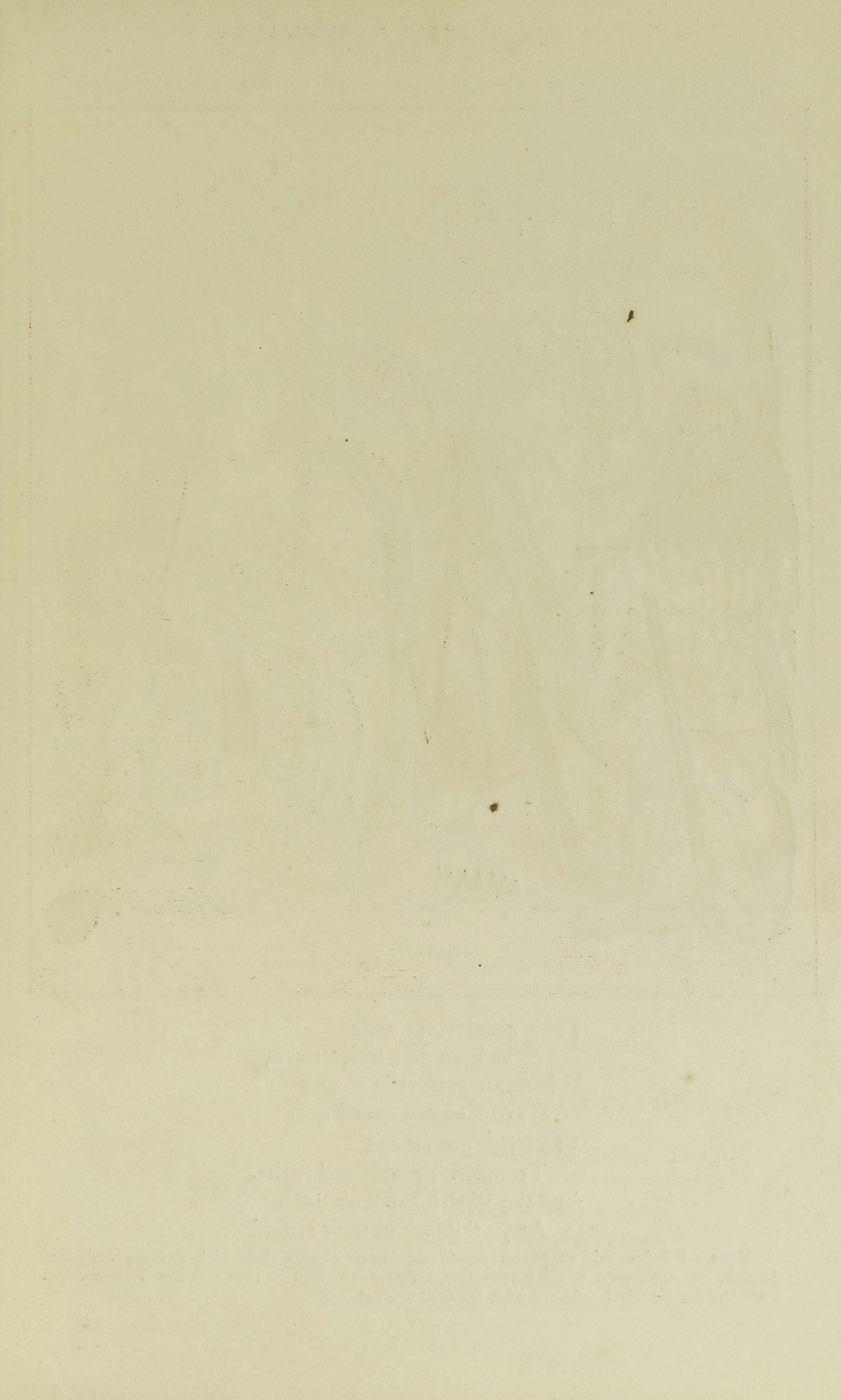
A.D. 1215.



IN each of ye **B**arons **K**ing **J**ohn found a **T**artar,
Who forced him at famed **R**unnymede
To use ye **G**reat **S**eal, and to sign **M**agna **C**harta,
Which upset his **K**ingship indeed.

When **J**ohn, in high dudgeon, had **S**ealed it and **S**igned it,
They carefully put it away;
And although many **A**ges have passed, we yet find it
A glorious thing to this **D**ay.

* Though he *Sealed* the Charter, he could not *conceal* his Chagrin; and while he *Signed* it he *consigned* (in his own mind) the Barons to divers distant places.



THE FIRST PRINCE OF WALES.

A.D. 1284.

THE WELSH GREET YE ROYAL BABE WITH YE NATIONAL "LEEK."



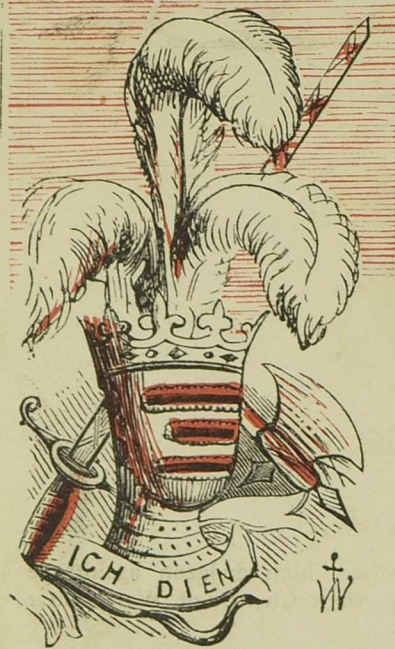
IN Caernarvon Castle
Was born ye Black Prince,
Whose Successors in Wales
Have Reigned ever since.
The Birth put an end
To much Trouble and Strife,
And the Welsh hail'd ye Babe
As ye "Peace of their Life."

NOTE.—"Before this ye Welsh people did always cherish their high dudgeon against ye English, but now, when it did happen that a Prince was born in their Country of Wales, their exceeding joy did 'Leek' out."—Linkum Duddy's 'Chronicles.

EDWARD YE BLACK PRINCE AND YE CAPTIVE KING OF FRANCE.

A.D. 1356.

MOTTO OF YE PRINCE OF WALES, "ICH DIEN" (*I Serve*).*



"**E**DWARD ye Black Prince,
Edward ye Brave,
Oh why dost thou Act
Like a Servitor knave?"

"I act up to my **M**otto,
To show I've some nerve;
So ye Beans and ye Bacon
Quite humbly I serve."

* Some people it appears suggested that the Prince's Motto should have been extended (from his known Fighting qualities) to "I Serve-'em-out."

(p)

dr fol

YE BOOKE...

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