

actual events in Richard's life, but the writer has at the same time given free scope to his imagination.

Sir Thomas de Multon and Sir Fulk D'Oyley appear as the companions of Richard, and the whole story of their imprisonment in Almain, as given here, though the most fabulous of the incidents are omitted, unmistakeably shows an acquaintance on the part of the author with the metrical romance. Richard and his companions are betrayed by a gipsy minstrel. The king's son is called Armour, and, as in the romance, exchanges buffets with Richard, the latter here also employing wax to harden his hand. The king's daughter (here called Priscilla, is enamored of Richard, to rescue whom she even kills the guard, enters the prison, unlocks Richard's fetters, and furnishes him with a dagger. Thus armed, Richard kills the lion in the sight of the king of Almain and his knights. Enraged at the result of the contest, the king is about to have Richard summarily put to death when the duke Leopold of Austria arrives, to whom the prisoner is handed over. Sir Thomas and Sir Fulk are liberated and carry the news over to England, with the result that Richard is at length ransomed and restored to his people.

Both before and after the imprisonment the story follows history more closely. Blondel appears throughout as the attached and faithful follower of Richard, and many songs are introduced as having been sung by the minstrel.

Many features of this story, such as an archery contest in which Locksley appears, remind us of *Ivanhoe*, and show the whole to be largely an imitation of Scott. The style is not uninteresting, but too many of the incidents related are so fabulous in their nature as to make it impossible for the reader of modern times to take any serious interest in the heroes of them. The edition is richly illustrated with wood-cuts and engravings.