## INTRODUCTION.

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genet, was so called from the switch with which he was scourged ! In atonement for the murder of his nephew, the Earl of Brittany, he was sent by his confessor to Jerusalem, attended only by two servants, one of whom was to lead him by a halter to the holy sepulchre, the other to strip and whip him there. The plantagenista, or broom-plant, being the only tough, pliant shrub in Palestine, was the instrument chosen for his chastisement.

The Conqueror not only knew himself by his sobriquet, but even used it in his public edicts: "Ego Willielmus cognomento Bastardus."

William, Prince of Orange, a contemporary of Charlemagne, was called Guillaume au Court-nez (*William Shortnose*); and, satisfied with the appellation, he bore a cornet upon his seal in allusion to it.

A Count of Holland was surnamed Florence the Fat; a Count of Lorraine, Godfrey the Hunchback.

Among the kings of France were a Bald, a Stutterer, a Simple, a Lazy, and a Headstrong.

A Count of Maurienne, afterwards Savoy, was called Humbert with the White-hands; his successor, Amadeus Longtail; and he was succeeded, in 1072, by Humbert II., the Very-strong (*Renforce*). Another Amadeus, in 1343, was styled the Green Count; and his successor, the Red Count.

Stephen, King of Hungary in 1114, was surnamed Thunder!

Ladislas, King of Poland in 1081, was called the Careless; and his successor was Boleslas III., surnamed Wry-mouth, or, as he would have been called in Gaelic, Cambeoil (vide "Campbell"). Baldwin, Count of Hainault in 1120, was surnamed the Builder.

When sovereigns received such surnames, their inferiors could hardly expect to be spared. Hence we find the names Harelip (de Bec-de-Lièvre), White-head (Blanchteste), Cruickshank (Crombeen), Short-neck (Korthals), Long-neck (Langhals), Squint-

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