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## CHAPTER 1X.

Board & Horks

William de Wyvil and Stephen de Martival, the marshals of the field, were the first to offer their congratulations to the victor, praying him, at the same, to suffer his helmet to be unlaced, or, at least, that he would arise his visor ere they conducted him to receive the prize of the day's tourney from the hands of Prince John. The Disinherited Knight, with all knightly courtesy, declined their request, alleging, that he could not at this time suffer his face to be seen, for reasons which he had assigned in the heralds when he entered the lists. The narshals were perfectly satisfied by this reply; for amidst the frequent and capricious vows by which knights were accustomed In this second encounter, the to bind them elves in the days of

Templar aimed at the center of his chivalry, there were none more antagonist's shield, and struck it so common than those by which they fair and forcibly, that his spear engaged to remain incognito for a

business in this city have stood by him On the other hand, the champion marshals, therefore, pressed no farhad, in the beginning of his career, ther into the mystery of the Disindirected the point of his lance to- herited Knight, but announcing to ward Bois-Guilbert's shield, but, King John the conqueror's desire changing his aim almost in the mo- to remain unknown, they requested ment of encounter, he addressed it permission to bring him before his to the helmet, a mark more difficult Grace, in order that he might

fortune the people of Frederi ton and to hit, but which, it attained, ren- receive the reward of his valor. John's curiosity was excited by their appreciation of every endeavor Fair and true he hit the Norman the mystery observed by the stranon the vizor, where his lance's ger; and, being already displeased ing to recognize the merits of good. point kept hold of the bars. Yet, with the issue of the tournament, honest workmanship. plar sustained his high reputation ; tavored had been successively de-

burst, he might not have been un-horsed. As it chanced, however, light of Our Lady's brow, this same saddle, horse, and man, rolled on knight hath been disinherited as the ground under a cloud of dust. well of his courtesy as of his lands, To extricate himself from the since he desires to appear before us stirrups and faller steed, was to without uncovering his face. Wot the Templar scarce the work of a ye, my lords," he said, turning moment; and, stung with madness, round to his train, "who this both at his disgrace and at the ac-clamation with which it was hailed true proudly?"

by the spectators, he drew his "I cannot guess," answered, De sword and waved it in defiance of Bracy, "nor did I think there had his conqueror. The Disinherited beer, within the four seas that King sprung from his steed, and Girth Britain a champion that also unsheathed his sword. The could bear down these five knights marshals of the field, however, in one day's jousting. By my spurred their horses between faith ,I shall never forget the force them, and reminded them, that the with which he shocked De Vipont. laws of the tournament did not, on The poor Hospitaller was hurled the present occassion, permit this from his saddle like a stone from a sling."

"Boast not of that," said a Knight said the Templar, casting a resent- of St. John, who was present; "your ful glance at his antagonist; "and Temple champion had no better where there are none to separate luck. I saw your brave lance, Bois Guilbert, roll thrice over, "If we do not," said the Disin- grasping his hands full of sand at

was prevented by Prince John. More and angrier words would "Silence, sirs!" he said; " what the marshals, crossing their lances "The " The victor," said De Wyvil, betwixt them, compelled them to "still waits the pleasure of your separate. The Disinherited Knight highness."

returned to his first station, and "It is our pleasure," answered Bois-Guilbert to his tent, where he John. "that he do so wait until we remained for the rest of the day in learn whether there is not some one who can at least guess at his name Without alighting from his horse, and quality. Should he remain the conqueror called for a bowl of there till night-fall, he has had work wine, and opening the beaver or enough to keep him warm."

lower part of his helmet, announced "Your Grace," said Waldemar that he quaffed it, "To all true Fitzurse, "will do less than due English hearts, and to the confusion honor to the victor, if you compel of foreign tyrants." He then com- him to wait till we tell your highmanded his trumpet to sound a de- ness that which we cannot know; fiance to the challengers, and at least I can form no guess-undesired a herald to announce to less he be one of the good lances them, that he should make no elec who accompanied King Richard to tion, but was willing to encounter Palestire, and who are now strag-THE subscriber offers for them in the order in which they gling homeward from the Holy pleased to advance against him. Land."

The gigantic Front-de-Bœuff, "It may be the Earl of Salisarmed in sable armor, was the first bury," said De Brac;; "he is about who took the field. He bore on a the same pitch."

white shield a black bull's head, half "Sir Thomas De Mulvon, the vilege by the house On it also are a defaced by the numerous encoun-barn and sheds, and it is in every re ters which he had undergone, and, Fitzurse; "Salisbury is bigger in bearing the arrogant motto, Cave the bones." A whisper once adsum. Over this champion the arose among the train, but by Disinherited Knight obtained a whom first suggested could not be slight but decisive advantage. Both ascertained: "It might be the King Knights broke their lances fairly, -it might be Richard Cour-de-Lion but Front-de-Boenf, who lost a stir- himself !"

"Over gods forbode !" said ed to have the disadvantage. Prince John, involuntarily turning In the stranger's third encound at the same time as pale as death, ter with Sir Philip Malvoisin, he and shrinking as if blighted by a was equally successful; striking flash of lightning; "Waldemar! De that baron so forcibly on the cas- Bracy! brave knights and gentleque, that the laces of the helmet men, remember your promises, and broke, and Malvoisin, only saved stand truly by me !"

"Here is no danger impending," was declared vanquished like his said Waldemar Fitzurse; "are you so little acquainted with the gigan-

In hi fourth encounter with De tic limbs of your father's son, as to Grantmesnil, the disinherited think they can be held within the Wanted at the Establish- Knight showed as much courtesy circumference of youder suit of as he had hitherto evinced courage armor ? De Wyval and Martival, and dexterity. De Grantmesnil's you will best serve the Prince by horse, which was young and vio- bringing forward the .ictim to the lent, reared and plunged in the throne, and ending the error that course of the career so as to dis- has conjured all the blood from his turb the rider's aim, and the stran- chooks, Look at him more closely," ger, declining to take the advan- he continued, " y ur highness will tage which this accident afforded see that he wants three inches of him, raised his lance and passing King Richard's height, and twice his antagonist without touching as much of his shoulder-breadth. him, wheeled his horse and rode The very horse re backs could not back again to his own end of the have corried the ponderous weight lists, offering his antagonist, by a of King Richard through a single herald the chance of a second en- course."

While he was yet speaking, the declined, avowing himselt vanquishmarshals brought forward the Dised as much by the courtesy as by inherited Knight to the foot of a the address of his opponent. weoden flight of steps, which formed Ralph de Vipont summed up the the ascent from the lists to Prince list of the stranger's triumphs, be- John's throne. Still discomposed ing hurled to the ground with such with the idea that his brother, so force, that the blood gushed from nuch injured and to whom he was his nose and mouth, and he was so much indebted, had suddenly arborne senseless from the lists. rived in the kingdom, even the The acclamation of thousands distinctions pointed out by Fitzurse applauded the award of the Prince did not altogether remove the Prinand marshals, announcing that day's ce's apprehensions; and while, with honors to the Disinherited Knight. a short and embarassed eulogy upon

