

like books. He says: "As for the books that were Sir James's (the Priest's), if it like you that I may have them, I am not able to buy them, but somewhat would I give, and the remainder, with a good devout heart, by my troth, I will pray for his soul. . . . If any of them are claimed hereafter, in faith, I will restore it." The custom of borrowing books, and not returning them, is as old as the days of the Red and White Roses. John Paston left an inventory of his books, eleven in number. One of the items in this catalogue is "A Book of Troilus, which William B—— hath had near ten years, and lent to Dame Wingfield, and there I saw it."

XXXI.

EDWARD V. IN LUDLOW CASTLE.

Edward, the eldest son of Edward IV, was born in the sanctuary at Westminster, in 1470. At the death of his father he was twelve years old, keeping a mimic court at Ludlow Castle, with a council. Ordinances for the regulation of the prince's daily conduct were drawn up by his father shortly before his death, which prescribe his morning attendance at mass, his occupation "at school," his meals, and his sports. No man is to sit at his board but such as Earl Rivers shall allow: and at this hour of meat it is ordered "that there be read before him noble stories, as behoveth a prince to understand; and that the communication at all-times, in his presence, be of virtue, honour, cunning (knowledge), wisdom, and deeds of worship, and nothing that shall move him to vice."—(*MS. in British Museum.*) The Bishop of Worcester, John Alcock, the president of the council, was the prince's preceptor. On the death of his father, in 1483, Edward was called to the throne; but after a mere nominal possession of less than three months, he and his brother, Richard Duke of York, both disappeared, and nothing is known as to their fate; but the prophetic words of the dying Edward IV. were fulfilled: "If you among yourselves in a child's reign fall at debate, many a good man shall perish, and haply he too, and ye too, ere this laud shall find peace again." (1)

XXXII.

INTRODUCTION OF PRINTING.

The reign of Edward IV. is illustrious as being that in which Printing was introduced into England. From the wealth of Kent came William Caxton to London to be apprenticed to a mercer or merchant. By skill and industry he rose to be appointed agent for the Mercers' Company in the Low Countries. Leaving, however, his mercantile employment, he was absent for two years in Germany, when the art of Printing from moveable types was the wonder of the country. By this art books could be produced at a tenth of the price of manuscripts. Caxton learned the mystery, and brought Printing into England, and thus rendered Bibles and other books alike the property of the great and the mean. In the Almonry of the abbey church at Westminster, Caxton set up the first printing-press ever known in England; the first book printed here being *The Game and Play of the Chesse*, 1474, folio; and the very house in which this great work was done remained until the year 1845, or 371 years from the date of the first book printed in England. This book was intended by Caxton for the diffusion of knowledge amongst all ranks of people: it contains authorities, sayings, and stories, "applied unto the morality of the public weal, as well as of the nobles and of the common people, after the Game and Play of Chess;" and Caxton trusts that "other, of what estate or degree he or they stand in, may see in this little book that they may govern themselves as they ought to do."

XXXIII.

EARLY PRINTED BOOKS.

The greater part of the works which were issued from the press during the first century of printing, both in England and on the continent of Europe, were such as had been written in the previous ages, and had long existed in manuscript. The first printers were always booksellers, and sold their own impressions. The two occupations were not divided till early in the sixteenth century.

Ames and Herbert have recorded the titles of nearly 10,000 distinct works, published in Great-Britain between 1471 and 1600,

(1) It is generally believed that the sons of Edward IV. were murdered in the tower, by order of the Duke of Gloucester (1483). Casimir de Lavigne has written a beautiful tragedy on that subject: "*Les enfans d'Edouard.*" Horace Walpole strived to disprove or at all events to render doubtful that which had been the common opinion. Mr. Timbs sides with him.—*Ed. L. C. Journal of Education.*

equalling, on an average, seventy-six works each year. Many of these works, however, were single sheets; but, on the other hand, there were, doubtless, many which have not been recorded. The number of readers in Great-Britain during this period was comparatively small; and the average number of each book printed is not supposed to have been more than 200.

We believe that the books which have been written in the languages of western Europe, during the last two hundred and fifty years,—translations from the ancient languages, of course, included,—are of greater value than all the books which at the beginning of that period were extant in the world.

XXXIV.

CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION OF RICHARD THE THIRD.

All that remains of the town of Fotheringhay, one of the famous historic sites of Northamptonshire, is a small village, with a noble collegiate church of the fifteenth century. Here, amidst the ancient gilding of a shield of arms, has been traced "a boar, for the honour of Windsor," possessed by Richard III.:

The bristled boar, in infant gore,
Wallows beneath the thorny shade.—*Gray.*

The device reminds one that in the castle of Fotheringhay, which was the principal seat of the Plantagenets, was born in 1452, Richard Plantagenet, usually designated as Richard the Third, the youngest son of Richard Duke of York, who fell at the battle of Wakefield. His duchess Cecily, "the Rose of Raby," chose for the instruction of her numerous family, a lady governess of rank, from whom, in the absence of their natural parents, the young Plantagenets received an education very superior to that which was then ordinarily bestowed even upon high born youth. In the household of the Duchess, religious and moral sentiments were strictly inculcated; even at "dynner tyme," she had "a lecture of holy matter, either 'Hifon, of Contemplative and Active Life,' or other spiritual and instructive works;" and "in the tyme of supper," she "recyted the lecture that was had at dynner to those that were in her presence."

As Sir George Buck states that the King, when he called home his two brothers, entered them into the practice of arms, it is most probable that Gloucester passed the next seven years in the abode of some powerful baron, there to be well tutored in chivalrous accomplishments; and an exchequer-roll records that money was "paid to Edward Earl of Warwick ('the Kingmaker') for costs and expenses incurred by him on behalf of the Duke of Gloucester, the King's brother." Thus was founded the military fame of Richard's after years—highly extolled even by his enemies. He is thought to have passed his youth at the castle of Middleham, in Yorkshire, associated with the flower of English chivalry, practising manly exercises, bold and athletic, or sportive, with "hawk and hound, seasoned with lady's smiles," and forming early friendships which lasted through life. At the early age of fourteen, Richard was created a Knight of the Garter, which is sufficient evidence of the progress he must then have made in military accomplishments and princely and gallant deportment. Richard's public career may be said to date from this period: his first act being, by appointment of the King, to transport the remains of his father for interment in the church at Fotheringhay; and Richard is thought to have finished the building of this church, from the carved boar, his crest, being on each side of the supporters of the royal arms, already mentioned.

XXXV.

TROUBLED BOYHOOD OF HENRY VII.

Henry VII., the son of Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond, and Margaret Beaufort, his countess, was born in the castle of Pembroke, in 1456. The small apartment in which Henry was born is represented to be near the chapel in the castle; but Leland, who lived near that time, states that the monarch first saw the light in one of the handsome rooms of the great gateway: "In the latter ward I saw the chambre where King Henry the Seventh was borne, in knowledge whereof a chymmeney is now made with the armes and badges of King Henry VII." His father dying in the following year, left his infant son Henry to the care of his brother, Jasper Earl of Pembroke. His mother was twice re-married: she was rich, pious, charitable, and generous; and to her bounty Christ's College, Cambridge, and St. John's College, Cambridge, owe their existence. The Countess also established a Professorship of Divinity in each university, the holders of which are called Lady Margaret's