

marriage between him and the princess Isabella. When the English embassy arrived at Paris, they were lodged near the Croix du Tiroir, and their attendants and horses, to the number of five hundred, in the adjoining streets. The king of France resided at the Louvre, and the queen and her children at the hôtel de St. Pol, on the banks of the Seine; and to please the English lords, their request was granted to visit the queen and her family, and especially the little princess, whom they were soliciting to be bestowed as the wife of their king, as they were impatient to behold her. This had been at first refused, for the French council excused themselves by observing, 'That she was as yet but eight years; how could any one know how a young child would conduct herself at such an interview?'" She had, however, been carefully educated, as she proved when the English nobles waited upon her; for "when the earl-marshal dropped upon his knee, saying, 'Madam, if it please God, you shall be our lady and queen;' she replied instantly, and without any one prompting her, 'Sir, if it please God, and my lord and father, that I be queen of England, I shall be well pleased thereat, for I have been told I shall then be a great lady.' She made the earl-marshal rise, and, taking him by the hand, led him to queen Isabeau her mother, who was much pleased at her answer, as were all who heard it. The appearance and manners of this young princess were very agreeable to the English ambassadors, and they thought among themselves she would be a lady of high honour and worth."¹

and bound in crimson velvet, with ten silver gilt studs, and roses of the same in the middle, with two large clasps of silver gilt, richly worked with roses in the centre. The king asked me, 'Of what the book treated?' I replied, 'Of love.' He was pleased with the answer, and dipped into several places, reading parts aloud remarkably well, for he read and spoke French in perfection. He then gave it to one of his knights, sir Richard Credon, to carry it to his oratory, and made me many acknowledgments for it." This knight was probably the author of Creton's Metrical Chronicle. The king did not confine his gratitude to empty thanks, for we find he afterwards presented the minstrel-historian with a fine chased silver goblet, containing one hundred nobles, a benefaction which, as Froissart adds, was of infinite use to him. The whole of this scene is a precious relic of the domestic history of English royalty, and carries the reader back four centuries as if it were but yesterday.

¹ Froissart.

Just before
duke of Lan
Katherine R
and was alrea
in English h
this mis-allia
marriage of
ladies of roy
Gloucester an
of the line of
'The duke h
light character
the kingdom,
accompanied
her to do the
enter any plac
disgraced if t
had been mis
marriage with
them, and the
happen.' The
most outrageou
of Gloucester.
state of ferme
house of Plant
to assemble fo
While these la
the princess Is
as proxy for hi
says Froissart,
the time told
practising how
About this t
count St. Pol,
Holland, surnam
brother-in-law
interview with