

I marked Duncraggan's widowed dame,<sup>1</sup>  
 Behind an oak I saw her stand,  
 A naked dirk gleamed in her hand:—  
 It darkened,—but amid the moan 200  
 Of waves I heard a dying groan;—  
 Another flash!—the spearman floats  
 A weltering corse beside the boats,  
 And the stern matron o'er him stood,  
 Her hand and dagger streaming blood. 205

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

### KING ROBERT OP SICILY

Robert of Sicily, brother of Pope Urbane  
 And Valmond, Emperor of Allemaine,<sup>2</sup>  
 Apparelled in magnificent attire,  
 With retinue of many a knight and squire,  
 On St. John's eve, at vespers, proudly sat 5  
 And heard the priests chant the Magnificat.<sup>3</sup>  
 And as he listened, o'er and o'er again  
 Repeated, like a burden or refrain,  
 He caught the words, "*Deposuit potentes*  
*De sede, et exaltavit humiles;*" 10  
 And slowly lifting up his kingly head  
 He to a learned clerk beside him said,  
 "What mean these words?" The clerk made answer meet,  
 "He has put down the mighty from their seat,  
 And has exalted them of low degree." 15

<sup>1</sup> **Duncraggan's widowed dame**—In Canto III., the lady of Duncraggan is mourning with her son the death of her husband when the bearer of the Fiery Cross arrives. She urges her son to proceed with the Cross, encourages the warriors, and with the other women and the children seeks shelter at the Island in Loch Katrine.

<sup>2</sup> **Allemaine**—Germany.

<sup>3</sup> **Magnificat**—The song of rejoicing sung by the Virgin Mary when receiving Elizabeth. Luke I, 46-55.