



HEART OF THE SELKIRKS. (See p. 219.)

he was concerned, were over, and that the struggle for the mastery between archbishop and king was to be resumed.

Henry III. began to see his mistake in welcoming foreign ecclesiastics to England, but his realization of this came too late. The mischief had been done. Boniface kept near the pope, and for four years absented himself from his diocese, in order to carry on political intrigues abroad. The feeling against this at length became so strong in England that he was obliged to return for fear that the revenues of the diocese would be taken from him. But his return to

England was soon regretted by the bishops and clergy. His rule there was a rigorous one, and all felt that the hand laid upon them was one of iron. His constant demand was money, and for this the hardest exactions were made. Loud were the laments over the death of St. Edmund and bitter the regrets that a pompous young foreigner had been elected to rule over them. He had with him a small regiment of foreign soldiers, and with these he intimidated all that offered opposition to him. He assumed the power of visitation outside his own diocese. This was resented and, in the case of bishop and clergy of London resisted. St. Paul's Cathedral was entered by force against the protest of the dean, but the warlike archbishop found only an empty church to receive him. At another church, though service was held, no reception was given him, and Boniface, dressed in his robes, threw himself in anger upon the sub-prior and felled him to the ground. A row at once ensued in the midst of divine service, and blows right and left were given. In the mêlée the archbishop's robes were torn off and he was found to be encased in full armor. Great indignation was felt at this, inasmuch that the archbishop, although supported against the clergy and people by the king, felt himself in danger. He was wise enough to know that he had gone too far and, therefore, went himself to the pope and gave his version of the disturbance, wisely acknowledging the points in which he had been wrong, and promising to hold no more visitations outside his own diocese except by request. On his return to England he completely changed his policy and proclaimed himself a friend of the English clergy and people. He began his patriotic career by visiting Oxford, the great seat of education in England. Cambridge was then a place of comparative obscurity. But little was

known of it. Oxford, however, was a place of note. Students from all parts of the world were there and, on the present occasion, vied with one another in giving a worthy and hearty reception to the archbishop. He came in peace: no war was in his heart, and consequently there was no armor underneath his episcopal robes.

In the same spirit he attended a parliament which the king had called together because he was in need of money. The grant he required was made him, but only on condition that he should take a solemn oath to uphold the rights of the English people. The archbishop here