

For which with one small box o'th'ear
He kill'd him in that place:
In honour of our Saviour etc.

The King is thereupon cast into a dungeon, where a lion is to be let in to him. But the daughter of that duke is moved with gentle pity and enamoured of the prisoner, and comes to his aid.

A rich embroider'd scarf of silk
She secretly convey'd
Into the dungeon where the king
For execution staid;
The which, to save his gentle life,
An instrument was made,
In honour of our Saviour etc.

When the lion approaches, Richard nimbly takes the same, thrusts his arm down the beast's throat, and in sight of the duke and all his lords pulls out its heart. After the performance of this feat Richard is, according to the law of arms, a free man, and returns to England; leaving however, his „dearest love“ behind him. Englishmen then muster, and a valiant army is ready to pass the seas to Acon walls. Thus „consuming fire and sword“ come into „that country“ (apparently the land of the duke of Austria), and cities and towns are laid waste,

Till those the wrongs King Richard had
Were righted by the same.

But the noble King Richard meets with death in the prime of life, by a poisoned shaft. All his „warlike train“ make moan for his death; but more than all, „his lady fair“ the daughter of the duke, who assigns rich rewards for the discovery of the murderer.

Upon the murtherer (being found)
Much cruelty was shewn;
By her command his skin alive
Was flead from flesh and bone: