

CHARACTER OF ELIZABETH.

DAVID HUME, (1711-1776). One of the most remarkable men of the last century. He made himself famous in three departments of letters—philosophy, metaphysics and history.

Born and educated at Edinburgh, he tried in turn law and commerce, but finally devoted himself to literature. His first work was "A Treatise on Human Nature," followed by "Moral and Philosophical Essays." After travelling through Europe as private secretary, he wrote his "Political Discourses," and his "Inquiry into the Principles of Morals." His greatest work was the "History of England," a work noted for its easy and graphic style, but defective in authenticity, and too partial to the Stuarts and Tories to be accepted as authority. His mind had a leaning towards scepticism. He became Under-Secretary of State, 1768.

Personages—How does this differ from person? Trace it to its origin. What does the "personnel" of a play mean?

Length—from 1558-1603, 45 years. George III. reigned 60 years; Edward III. 50 years; Henry II. 56 years.

Prejudices—Owing to the religious contests throughout Europe at that time, it was an age of prejudices.

Address—This word means speech, manners and dexterity. Which does it mean here? What other meanings has it?

Singular talents—Why singular? What other meanings? Derive talents. What objection has been taken to "talented" as a word?

"Real" and "Pretended"—form an antithesis. Trace, also, the balance in the sentence.

Sovereigns—Derive and show that it is misspelled.

Prudence—Derive and define. What Latin period does it belong to? Give the fourth (or recent) Latin form of the word. What is the derivation of "prude?"

Enemies—i. e., The Holy League—the Pope, Spain and the Guises, for the extirpation of Protestantism. France, also, being a Catholic country, must be included.

Wise ministers and brave warriors—Name some of these and some of their deeds.

Ascendant—Now means superiority; here it means ascendancy or influence.

Mistress—i. e., held complete control. Note the omission of the conjunction here.

Tender passions—love, &c.

Faction and bigotry—Derive. What is the difference.

Softness of disposition—What figure?

Mistress—i. e., a lover; scarcely used now in this sense on account of its lower meaning of paramour.

What qualities of Elizabeth does he praise? What censure? How does he describe her as a woman? As a queen? What faults had Hume as a writer? What is a sceptic? What is meant by a Latinized style? Count over the nouns and verbs of the first paragraph, and estimate what percentage are Latin. When was the greatest period of Latinized style? Had religion anything to do with it? What effect had this extensive use of Latin words on our language? Pick out antithetical sentences in the extract. Derive character, caricature, controlled, beauty, real, none, secret, advance, cost, court.

THE BATTLE OF NASEBY.

Lord Thos. Fairfax—Made Commander-in-chief, A. D. 1645, instead of his father; refused to be a judge of Charles I.; sided with Monk; was one of those sent to ask Charles II. back.

Oxford—What noted for? What side did it take in the contest?

New model—i. e., the new system of foot soldiers of Cromwell. Godliness was the test.

Daventry—literally, the town by the two Avens. *Tre*, A. S. means town.

Intelligence—Give the derivation. Give another Latin synonym, and also a Saxon one. What other meaning has it?

Considerable—Trace the meaning of this word to the root. From what old science do we get it? Give other examples.

Condition—i. e. as an army well prepared for the fray.

Harborough—Trace this and other places mentioned in this extract, on the map.

Might—could, the old meaning. It is still often thus used in poetry.

Ironsides—the name given to Cromwell's celebrated infantry who struck terror among the soldiers of Catholic Europe.

Host—How? What other words of the same form as this have we? Derive each.

Onward—Note the effect of the coupé or