HENRY THE SECOND.

FIRST OF THE HOUSE OF PLANTAGENET.

Grandson of Henry the First.

BORN 1133.

MARRIED to Eleanor of France, May Day, 1152. CROWNED December 10th, 1154, in London.

Unhappy in his priest, his sons, his bride,
Henry the first Plantagenet appears;
A noble nature, free from greed and pride,
A sad life, closed in gloom and wrongs and tears.

He loved a lady more than all his power,

Called by the English "Rosamond the Fair,"

And builded for her pleasure Woodstock Tower,

With covered passages and winding stair.

To hide this "Rose of all the world" 'twas built,
And of his love for her a gift and token;
But the tale closed in murder and in guilt,
And ere King Henry died his heart was broken.