

what seemed the crowning success of his policy would bring about the downfall of the dynasty!

The Emperor's triumph frightened his enemies into fresh plots against him, but a rebellion of Henry the Lion was easily suppressed, and when Europe was stirred by the news of the capture of Jerusalem by Saladin in 1187, the Emperor was so far master of Germany and Italy that he was free to take his proper place as the leader of Christian Europe, and start on the Crusade. But he perished before ever reaching the Holy Land.¹ In after-times of confusion and disorder the Germans looked back with longing to the reign of this great ruler, and the legend sprang up that he was not dead, but sleeping in a mountain cave till the time when the ravens should cease to hover round the crags. Then the great Emperor and his crusading knights would descend to bring back the golden age.

FRED-
ERICK'S
DEATH
ON THIRD
CRUSADE

POPE
ALEXAN-
DER III.
1159-1181 The great Pope who had triumphed over Frederick, Alexander III., died eleven years before the Emperor. He had also triumphed over another great monarch, Henry II. of England, who had been forced to humble himself before the Papacy after the death of Becket. Alexander's last important work was the arrangement that no Papal election should be valid unless the Pope obtained the votes of two-thirds of the cardinals present. It was hoped that by this arrangement disputed elections would be avoided.

HENRY
VI.
1190-1197 Frederick Barbarossa was succeeded by his son Henry VI. Before his father's death, when he was acting as Regent, he had been troubled by the return of Henry the Lion, who attempted to recover his former position. He had also been compelled to fight for his

¹ See page 148.