

7. Henry, on learning of the new movement against him, proceeded by forced marches to outstrip Hotspur, who was aiming to effect a junction with Glendower. He met the brave Percy at Hatley Bridge, near Shrewsbury. Aided by his intrepid son, Prince Henry, the future conqueror of France, the King was completely victorious. Hotspur fell in the thick of the fight, pierced to the brain by a well-aimed arrow. His father was kept from the battle by illness, and pretended to the King that the rebellion was a personal matter of Hotspur's. Pardoned for the time, Northumberland engaged in subsequent conspiracies, and was defeated and killed near Bramham Moor in 1408.

Battle of Hatley Bridge.

8. During the later years of his life Henry IV. suffered much from ill-health. This soured his temper, and led him to indulge in groundless suspicions of those about him. It is said that his conscience pricked him for dethroning Richard, and that he desired to purchase peace of mind by leading a new crusade. Death prevented the accomplishment of this desire. Henry was seized with an epileptic fit in Westminster Abbey. He was taken to a room called the "Jerusalem Chamber," and there died, on the 20th of March 1413.

Death of Henry IV.

9. Henry's reign was marked by vigorous action against the Lollards, or disciples of Wyclif. A statute was passed by which all persons convicted of heresy before the ecclesiastical courts should be handed over to the civil power for punishment. Under this statute a clergyman named William Sawtré, who had been rector of Lynn, was burned to death. The exact theological opinions of Sawtré are not known. Those who took active measures against him claimed that his doctrines were subversive of the rights of property, and therefore dangerous to the State.

CHAPTER XXIV.

PLANTAGENET LINE: HOUSE OF LANCASTER.—HENRY V. 1413 to 1422. A.D.

1. The late King's eldest son succeeded peacefully to the throne, under the title of Henry V. Immediately after his father's seizure of the throne, he had been created Prince of Wales; and his accession was so much taken as a matter of course, that no one thought of reviving the claim of the rightful heir, the Earl of March. Henry was crowned at Westminster in April 1413.

2. The new King commenced to reign at the ripe age of twenty-five.