

songs about him and his warlike deeds. He reigned ten years, but only a few months of that time was he in England. All his early life he had spent in France, and he could not even speak the English language.

55. **Richard as a crusader.**—When King Henry II died, Philip, King of France, and Leopold, Duke of Austria, were planning to go on a crusade. Richard wished to go with them, and no sooner had he been crowned than he set to work to raise the necessary funds. He taxed his people severely, extorted money from the Jews, sold bishoprics and other offices to any one that would pay for them, and granted various privileges to the towns for large amounts of gold. This was to the advantage of the towns, as each new privilege bought of the king was described in writing, and the writing was signed by him, so that every bit of parchment that a town gained made it a little more free than it had been before.

The three young rulers set out on the third crusade with a great flourish of banners and long trains of followers; but they had not been many weeks in the Holy Land before Philip began to feel that Richard was gaining all the glory from the expedition. Moreover, now that Richard was king, he was not so yielding as he had been when Philip was helping him to conspire against his father. The result was that Philip went home and left Richard to get along as best he could. Then Richard quarrelled with Leopold, who abandoned the expedition in a rage. The English king had not men enough to conquer the Saracens, so he, too, had to turn back, filled with sorrow that he had not been able to accomplish his quest.

56. **Richard's return to England.**—In returning overland through Austria, Richard fell into the hands of his enemy, Duke Leopold. In those days it was a piece of rare good fortune to capture a king. Leopold turned his prisoner over to his superior lord, the German Emperor, who locked him up in a strong castle until his subjects in England should pay a heavy ransom for him.

During Richard's absence there had grown up serious trouble between the barons and Hubert Walter, whom he