

Continuation of Lecture 17.
Abu-beker, with the aid of his
general Kaled, obtained an im-
portant victory over the empe-
ror Heraclius, and enlarged the
Saracen Dominion. He died in
the 3^d. year of his reign bequea-
thing the Sceptre to Omar.

Omar commenced his reign in 633.
In one campaign he wrested from
the Greek Empire, Syria, Phœnicia,
Mesopotamia, and Chaldaea. In
the next, the whole empire of Per-
sia, was brought under the Ma-
hometan yoke. Egypt, Lybia,
and Numidia, were at the same
time conquered by the generals
of Omar. Amson, one of his generals,
by his order, destroyed the famous
library at Alexandria, consisting
of 700,000 volumes. Omar was fi-
nally assassinated.

Othman succeeded Omar 645. He added Bactriana, and a part of Tartary, to the Saracen Empire upon the death of Othman, Ali, the son in law of Mahomet, was elected to the Caliphate. After a short but glorious reign of five years, he was assassinated by a Mahometan enthusiast or reformer. He had removed the seat of the Caliphate from Mecca to Cufa, on the Euphrates. Within less than half a century the Saracens reared a powerful Empire, & were formidable to all the nations around them; in 100 years, their dominion extended from India to the Atlantic, comprehending Persia, Syria, Asia Minor, Arabia, and other regions in the East, as also Egypt,

North Africa, and Spain.

Of the race of Omar, there were 19 Caliphs, who reigned in succession after which began the dynasty of the Abbassidae, descended from Abbas, the uncle of Mahomet. Almansor, second caliph of this race, built Bagdad, and made it the seat of the Saracen Dominion, in 762. A. C.

Haroun al Raschid, ascended the throne in 785; was contemporary with Charlemagne; a famous prince & celebrated patron of letters. His reign is regarded as the Augustan Age of Saracen literature. Many of our proverbs and romances are to be referred to this period. Al Raschid died in about 809 A. C.

Eastern or Greek Empire.

During the conquests of the Saracens several emperors successively filled the throne of Constantinople, after Heraclius. It was in the reign of Constantine 3^d Pagonatus, that the Saracens, 672 A. C. besieged Constantinople for five months, but were obliged to retire. They returned for 7 years in succession, but were every time defeated by Callinicus, who invented an inextinguishable fire, by which he destroyed their ships.

The Greek or liquid fire, was made principally of naphtha, or liquid bitumen, mixed with some sulphur and pitch, extracted from green fir. Water, instead of extinguishing quickened this powerful agent of destruction.

It could be damped only by sand wine or vinegar. It was four hundred years, before the secret of its composition was obtained from the Greeks. The Mahometans at length discovered and stole it. It continued to be used in war, down to the middle of 14th century, when gun powder was introduced.

Justinian 2^d succeeded Constantine in 685 - was a second Nero or Caligula; He ordered, at one time, a general slaughter of the inhabitants of Constantinople, but he was dethroned the same day, & sent into exile with mutilated features. He recovered his throne by the assistance of the Bulgarians and was at last beheaded. Some of the emperors who followed during the remainder of this period

were Leo 3^d. Constantine 4th Leo 4th
and Constantine 5th.

Kingdom of Italy.

The kingdom of Italy continued until nearly the close of the present period 774 A. C. It had been 50 years under the sway of the Lombard kings. During the remainder of its existence (150 years) 17 kings reigned over the country. The principal of these were Cuniberto, Luitprand, Ratchisius, Astolghus, and Desiderius or Didier. Luitprand possessed the greatest talents of all the Lombard kings. Under Didier the kingdom of Italy came to an end. He was defeated by Charlemagne, his father-in-law, and Italy was afterwards incorporated into the new Empire of the West. Didier, meditated the conquest of Ra-

vena, which was then governed by exarchs, who were favoured by the Pope; he sought the protection of the French king, by marrying one of his daughters to Charlemagne and the other to his brother Carloman. A difference arising between Charlemagne, and his father-in-law, the French monarch divorced his wife. Didier highly resented this act. He applied to the Pope to favour his projects, but failed in the attempt: he then attacked the Papal Territory, and endeavoured to seize on the person of the Roman pontiff. Charlemagne, came to his assistance, met the Lombard king in battle, took possession of his sovereignty, and sent the royal family to be confined in monasteries in France. He thus put an end to the Lombard dominion in

Italy; he was himself declared by the Pope, King of Italy, and Patri-
-arch of Rome.

Spain.

Spain continued under the domi-
-nion of the Visigoths till the year
712. It was then conquered by
the Saracens, who invaded the coun-
-try from Mauritania; whence they
were called Moors. A small part
of the north of Spain, never became
subject to them. Pelagius, the
successor of the Gothic Sovereigns,
founded there the little kingdom
of Asturias 718. and Garcias
Ximenes, that of Navarre, in 750.
The Saracens had founded, in A-
-frica, the kingdom of Morocco,
which was governed by Musa,
viceroy of the Caliph Waleed Al-
mansor. Musa, sent his gene-
-ral Tarick into Spain, who attack-

ed, Roderic, the Gothic King, overcame
and slew him. The conquerors suc-
-ceeded to the sovereignty; Abdallah
son of Musa, married the widow
of Roderic, and thus the two
nations formed a perfect union.
Spain, was after allotted to gover-
-nors dependent on the viceroy
of Africa, till Abd alrahman,
the last heir of the family of the
Omeyyades, formed it into an in-
-dependent kingdom, and fixed
his residence at Cordova. 756.
All that part of the kingdom,
which was under the dominion
of the Moors, embraced the reli-
-gion of their conquerors; but
the two northern provinces, remain-
-ing true to the Christian faith.

Abd alrahman, at Cordova, laid
the foundation of a flourishing
empire, which lasted for a con-

siderable period. He greatly encouraged learning, and thus vied with Haroun al Raschid at Bagdad, as a patron of letters. Cordova became renowned as one of the most enlightened spots in Europe.

France.

In France, the weak race of the Merovingian kings, continued to hold the sovereignty till the year 751. Sigobert 2^d left two infant sons; the government during their minority was assumed by their chief officers, termed Mayors of the palace. Under the management of these ambitious men, the kings of France enjoyed little more than the name.

In the time of Thierry, grandson of Sigobert 2^d. the celebrated

Pepin, d'Heristal was Mayor of the palace. He restricted Thierry to a small domain, and ruled France during 30 years with great wisdom.

The son of Pepin, Charles Martel, was still more celebrated than his father. Under three kings, he governed France, with signal ability, having succeeded to the office of Mayor of the palace. He made war several times on the Philistines, his first nominal sovereign, and finally secured him as a prisoner.

The most signal service which he rendered to France, to Europe, & to mankind at large, was his victory over the Saracens 732. The Saracens penetrated into France from Spain; they were led by Ab-

derame, a consummate general, who commanded in the name of the Caliph. Charles brought them to a general action between Poitiers & Tours, and defeated them with immense slaughter, and they were driven out of the French territory.

By this event, the terror with which the Saracens had inspired Europe, was greatly diminished and Charles obtained for himself, the surname of Martel, or Hammer.

After the death of Thierry 4th Charles, without placing another king on the Throne, continued to govern, with the title of duke of France. He bequeathed his government to his two sons, Pepin le Bref, and Carloman.

As Mayors of the palace, the one governed Austrasia, and the other Neustria and Burgundy. The nominal sovereign was Childeric 3^d, a weak and insignificant prince. The sole administration devolved at length on Pepin, as Carloman renounced the world and became a monk. Pepin had powerful talents, and governed with great efficiency. In 751 he assembled a parliament at Soissons, where he was proclaimed king of France, having obtained the sanction of Pope Zachary. Childeric was confined in a convent, and thus ended the Merovingian race of kings. The Carolingian succeeded.

Pepin marched against the Lombards, who had invaded the prin-

episcopality of Ravenna, and threatened Rome itself. The Lombards were spared only by the surrender of Ravenna, which Pepin bestowed on the Holy See. Thus commenced the temporal authority of the popes. He died 768.

His dominions were divided between his two sons, Charles & Carloman. In two years, Carloman died, and Charles came into possession of the whole kingdom. He excelled all the sovereigns of his age, as a warrior & statesman; he was deficient however in several moral qualities, particularly in humanity. He exercised great cruelty towards the Saxons, with whom he was engaged in war 30 years. He put an end to the kingdom of the

Lombards in Italy; successfully encountered the Saracens; and extended his empire beyond the Danube.

Orlando Furioso - page Robbins. 96.

The Period of the New Western Empire from the crowning of Charlemagne 800. to the 1st Crusade 1095. A. C.

The New Western Empire included the dominions of Charlemagne in 800. The title of Emperor of the West was conferred upon him; he was crowned at Rome by Pope Leo 3^d. He was wont to pass annually, from the Pyrenees into Germany, & thence into Italy. In approaching Rome for the last time, the Pope sent a messenger to meet him with the keys of the Confession of St. Peter.

and the Standard of the city of Rome. On Christmas-day, being present at the service of the mass, and on his knees before the altar, the Pope came suddenly behind him, and placed on his head the crown of the Cesars.

Charlemagne lived nearly 14 years, after he became Emperor of the West. He died at Aix-la-Chapelle 814. A. C.

The Countries included under the title of the new Western Empire, were principally France, Burgundy, Germany, Italy & a part of Spain. The Empire, as such, continued but a short time. The country after another separated from it under the successor of Charlemagne; at last, Germany, became the sole seat, or representative of

the empire.

Charlemagne was succeeded in 814 by his son, Louis le Debonaire, or the Mild. All the imperial dominions came into his hands, except Italy, which the emperor had settled on Bernard, one of his grandsons.

The reign of Louis was highly calamitous. In 817 he associated his eldest son, Lothaire, in the Empire, and gave Aquitaine to Pepin, his second son, & Bavaria to Louis, his third.

A disagreement occurred between Louis & Bernard, King of Italy; Bernard was subdued, and had his eyes put out; he died in consequence three days after. The children of Louis greatly embittered and even shortened his life. First quarrelling among themselves, they

then attacked their father, and as he was alternately subdued and restored, his spirits were at length broken, and he died 840. Louis had a son by a second wife, Charles, who became king of France upon the death of his father. He made a second partition of the empire, in order to give a share to this younger son; at this the other brothers were highly dissatisfied. This was one cause of their contention.

Charles, surnamed the Bald, succeeded Louis in a part of his original dominions 840. Soon after his accession, followed the terrible battle of Fontenay, between the three brothers now left, (Nepin was dead) Lothaire Louis and Charles, in which

Charles & Louis were victorious. Lothaire, had wished to obtain possession of all his father's territories, and refused to allow the partition in favor of Charles. He was overcome in the battle of Fontenay, and obliged to relinquish his pretensions; he then acceded to such a division of the empire as his brothers now made among themselves.

Lothaire preserved the title of Emperor; to him were assigned, Italy, and several of the southern provinces of France.

Louis had the whole of Germany; France, including Friesland, and Aquitaine, fell to Charles. Thus the fine Empire of the West, founded by Charlemagne, was lost to the house of France, by the separation of Germany. Instead

of remaining hereditary, the crown became elective, after it had passed, as it did finally, into the hands of the Germans.

In the reign of Charles, France was plundered by the Normans, who had begun their depredations in the time of Charlemagne. In 843. they sailed up the Seine, and plundered Rouen; while another fleet entered the Loire, & Louis wasted the country in its vicinity; In 845, they entered the Seine again with a fleet, and advanced to Paris; its inhabitants fled and the city was burnt. With another fleet, they entered Bourdeaux, and pillaged it. Charles purchased their forbearance with money.

Lothaire, the emperor, died

855. He divided his dominions amongst his three sons.

Louis 2^d. succeeded him with the title of Emperor. He was a brave & virtuous sovereign, & died 875.

Louis, to whom Germany had been assigned, was a powerful monarch, and rendered himself formidable to his neighbors. He died 876. Upon this event Charles, marched with a large army to seize his dominions, but he was defeated by his nephew Carloman son of Louis 2^d, who had been crowned Emperor by the Pope. Charles, on the death of Louis 2^d, son of Lothaire, 875, assumed the empire, or, as is said, purchased it from Pope John 8th on condition of holding it, as a vassal

to the Holy See. He died of poison
877.

The Empire of the West was now
effectually dismembered, though
there were afterwards temporary
junctions of it in different parts.

France.

Louis 2^d the Stammerer, suc-
ceeded Charles, as king of France,
877. He reigned only 19 months.
His two sons, Louis 3^d and Car-
loman, became joint possessors
of the throne upon his death. Their
reign was short, but it was charac-
terized by union, vigor, and a de-
gree of success against their ene-
mies the Normans. They died, the
one in 882, the other in 884.

Charles, surnamed the Fat, was
chosen by the peers of France to
fill the vacant throne 885.

He was brother and successor to Louis
2^d, the German, and son of the Louis
to whom Germany was originally
assigned. For a short time France
and Germany were again under
the same sway. At the expiration
of two years, however, Charles was
deposed on account of his coward-
ice, and the imperial dignity
was transferred to Germany.

The nobility then elected Eudes,
count of Paris, to fill the throne,
887, till Charles, a younger brother
of Louis 3^d and Carloman 2^d,
attain to the age of manhood.
Upon the death of Eudes, Charles,
surnamed the Simple, was introduced
to the sovereignty, 898; during his
reign the Normans invaded Flen-
dria, which was ceded to them 911.
He gave his daughter, Giselle, in

marriage to Rollo, their chief; from this people, the country was called Normandy, and it is from this race of warriors, we trace the future conquerors of England.

Charles the Simple was deposed by Robert, the brother of Eudes, 922. Robert was succeeded by Rodolph, duke of Burgundy, the year after.

Louis 4th son of Charles the Simple was called to the throne 936. He was surnamed Outremer, or Trans-marine, on account of having been brought up in England. During his reign, and that of his successor Lothaire, Hugh the Great, the most powerful lord of France, directed for the most part the government. The same situation was held by his son, Hugh Capet, under Louis 5th successor of

Lothaire. When Louis died Hugh, like another Pepin, placed himself on the throne.

Hugh Capet, the head of the 3^d dynasty of kings in France, called the Capetian, began to reign 907. He established his residence in Paris, which had been deserted by his predecessors more than 200 years.

Robert his son, succeeded him 996. He married his 4th cousin Bertha, daughter of the king of Burgundy; his marriage was annulled, himself excommunicated, and his kingdom put under an interdict by the Pope. The distress and confusion that ensued, obliged Robert, to dismiss Bertha, and expiate his offence by a solemn penance.

He soon after married Constan-
tia of Foulonse, who proved to
be a vexatious partner & cruel
queen. He is said to have been
the first French king, who cured
the king's evil.

On the death of the king, his two
sons, Henry & Robert, both aspired
to the throne. After some bloodshed
Henry was invested with the sove-
reign authority, 1031.

Henry left the crown to his son
Philip 1st then 7 years old 1060.
Under the regency of Baldwin
count of Flanders. Philip was
rather a spectator than an ac-
tor in the political events of his
reign. He lived beyond the com-
mencement of the 1st crusade, ha-
ving swayed the sceptre 40 years.
His principal war was with

William of Normandy who was
then king of England.

Italy.

In the divisions of the western Em-
pire, among the sons of Louis le
Debonnaire, Italy had been as-
signed to Lothaire, with the title
of Emperor. His successor, as we
have seen, was Louis 2^d his son,
who died 875. The succeeding year
Charles the Bald, king of France,
was proclaimed king of Italy, by
a diet at Pavia; he retained
the sovereignty only 2 years; he died
877.

Italy was afterwards ravaged by con-
tending tyrants; in 964, Otto the Great,
reunited it to the German Empire. A
series of wars continued during 2 centuries,
occasioned by the invasions of the
Normans, and the claims of the empe-
rors, till Italy was divided into

several independent States. Her independent sovereignties were formed at different times; as Naples, the Estates of the Church, Tuscany, Parma, Lombardy, the Genoaese, and the Venetian Territories.

It was during the present period, the foundation of the temporal power of the Popes was laid. In 1000, Matilda, countess of Tuscany, bequeathed a large portion of her dominions to Pope Gregory 7th. From that time the popes possessed great power in the States of Europe, altho' the Emperors (German) asserted their sovereignty over Italy and the popes, and claimed the absolute right of electing the pope; yet it was with a constant resistance on the part of the Romans, and a general repugnance of the popes, when once established.