ordinary traitors in the fifteenth century. But for this circumstance the results would assuredly have been far severer for both the conspirators.

Pevensey Castle must have been a very desolate spot; part of the donjon of the castle was in ruins, the haven was choked with mud and sand "by the stroke of the sea," and the whole of the flats as far as Beachy Head or Beachiff, as it was then called, were constantly under water. His warder, one Thomas Pleistede, to whom in his will he left £20 "en memoire pour la naturesse qu'il me monstra quant je foy a Pevensay en garde," must have treated him with kindness, and no doubt tried to soften the rigours of the prison. After seventeen weeks spent there he petitioned to be released on account of his "disease and heaviness," but it did not lead to any immediate result, for it was only on October 7 that the King sent an order to bring the Duke from Pevensey unto the royal presence, probably at Kenilworth, where Lady le Despenser was still detained. Soon afterwards he seems to have regained not only his liberty, but also was reinstated in royal favour, and his sequestered estates re-granted to him. On December 22, 1405, we find him again at his place as Privy Councillor, with a salary of £200 per annum, and on the death of Sir Th. Rempston he became for the third time Constable of the Tower. (Rym. viii. 457, Doyle, iii. 744.)

It is quite possible, nay probable, as already pointed out, that the Duke of York used his leisure at Pevensey Castle to translate "Gaston Phoebus" and to write the original chapters of the "Master of Game," for from what we know of his career before and after his stay at Pevensey, it would appear to have been a singularly varied and busy one, entailing much travelling by sea and land, during which he would have found it difficult to engage in literary labours. Though commenced, and probably to a considerable extent completed, during his imprisonment, the work was not dedicated to the Prince of Wales for some months, for it was in 1406 that he was made the King's Master of Game, to which title he particularly lays claim, as we already know, in his Prologue. Up to his complicity in Lady le Despenser's plot he drew the salary of "Master of our running dogs called hert houndes," which post, though he was much abroad, he had held in 1398 under Richard II. and from 1400–1405, at a salary of 12 pence per day. But, as a consequence of his treason, he was on March 11, 1405, deprived of this post, and the same was given on March 12 to Sir Robert Waterton (Pat. 6 Henry IV. 1), a knight greatly trusted by Henry IV., and of whom also Shakespeare speaks. He was reinstated in 1406, the same year in which he was made Master of Game, which evidently was a superior post. (See Appendix: Hunt Officials.)

Not long afterwards he received orders to retire to his estates in the Welsh Marches and repress the rebels. Of his doings during the next three years we know little, and if he did not complete his literary labours during his imprisonment in 1405, it does not seem improbable that he wrote his "Master of Game" during his exile in the Welsh Marches. For had not Prince Hal earnestly vindicated his loyalty in Parliament and thereby, we can well conceive, gained his gratitude? To this feeling he probably tried to give expression by dedicating his "Master of Game" to him, submitting it to his correction, a form of flattery which, as it was voiced by an experienced sportsman, must have pleased the youthful nephew and helped to mollify the latter's perhaps suspicious father. In the beginning of 1409 the Duke of York was back in London, for on January 21 of that year we find him at Greenwich Manor House as one of the witnesses to King Henry's will. In the latter the King declares himself "a synnefull deedly wretche," asserting that he had misspent his life. His malady, which had often threatened a sudden end, must have, however, moderated soon afterwards, for a Privy Seal entry shows that from May 1 to May 8, 1409, the King was at Sutton, near Chiswick, on his way to Windsor to hunt with the hart hounds, hayters and otter hounds, one William Melbourne being "valet of our otter hounds," the name of the "yeman tenterer de Buckhoundis" being unfortunately not mentioned.2

We know little of the Duke of York's doings during the following three years. In 1412 he accompanied his nephew, Thomas of Lancaster, Duke of Clarence, on his expedition to France, for on account of the King's quickly approaching end—he suffered, it is generally supposed, from on account of the King's quickly approaching end—he suffered, it is generally supposed, from on account of the King's quickly approaching end—he suffered, it is generally supposed, from on account of the King's quickly approaching end—he suffered, it is generally supposed, from on account of the King's quickly approaching end—he suffered, it is generally supposed, from one leprosy—the next heir to the throne could not absent himself. The Duke of York brought 260 mender at-arms into the field. Constant warring had raised the price of men, the pay the men demanded at-arms into the field. Constant warring had raised the price of men, the pay the men demanded at-arms into the field. Constant warring had raised the price of men, the pay the men demanded having gone up something like 50 per cent. in eight years.¹ Later on in the year, peace was at last having gone up something like 50 per cent. in eight years.¹ Later on in the year, peace was at last having gone up something like 50 per cent. in eight years.¹ Later on in the year, peace was at last having gone up something like 50 per cent. in eight years.¹ Later on in the year, peace was at last having gone up something like 50 per cent. in eight years.¹ Later on in the pay the men demanded having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England having gone up something like 50 per cent. In England, became stripped of the ha

The Duke of York did not return with the troops to England, but remained in Aquitaine to push his claims to the throne of Arragon as the son of Isabelle of Castile. On his return to England in 1414, the new King, Henry v., appointed him Justice of South Wales and Warden of the East Marches, districts he knew well from his former campaigns against the rebellious Welsh. The King also caused the Parliamentary declaration of 1401 in Edward's favour to be renewed, though the Rutland estates remained lost to him, his right to them having lapsed at his father's death

In 1415 another conspiracy came to a head, and among those connected with it was Edward's only brother, Richard. And as Henry v. was a less forgiving ruler than his father had been, it ended in Richard's execution some months later on the eve of the King's departure with his army for France in the summer of 1415.

This year witnessed one of, if not the most extraordinary victory ever vouchsafed to English arms; for at Agincourt the English forces, after as daring a raid into the heart of the enemy's country as military history knows, coped against odds computed by various historians to have been from three to ten times as great. Again did the arch-plotter and arch-fighter, Edward Duke of York, come to the fore, but this time his actions evinced extreme loyalty to his King and country, for when money ran short he followed his King's example and pawned his plate and jewels for the pay of his troops.² His indenture, dated April 29, 1415, shows that his force consisted of one banneret, four knights, ninety-four squires, and three hundred archers. It is very ancient history that the battle was principally won by the English bowmen, but it is less well-known that an invention of the Duke of York's had much to do in gaining this world-famous victory. This was the cavalry-resisting stake. Each archer was provided with one of these six-foot beams of wood, pointed at both ends, which he planted into the ground slanting towards the enemy, and thus they were able to resist the onrush of the heavily armoured French knights. According to the Gesta Henrici Quinti, it was the Duke of York who first advised the use of these stakes.

Of the many dramatic incidents that occurred on that memorable St. Crispin's day, we can refer here only to those connected with Edward of York's death. Though to follow the events of a mediæval battle from contemporary accounts is usually a difficult, if not impossible, task, both French and English accounts agree in certain details. The main body of the English army,

¹ Sir Robert Waterton had been Henry Iv.'s "Master of the Horse" when he was still Earl of Derby, and as such undertook his two expeditions to Prussia and to the Holy Land (1390–91, 1392–93). He also was the trusted guardian of Richard II.'s person when after his dethronement he was sent to Pontefract Castle.

² The Exchequer Accounts, Pipe Rolls, and other public documents of the period, contain but few references to the Duke of York's connection with venery or to other officers in King Henry's hunting establishment. Personal search in

the Record Office, and that of other more competent searchers, brought to light but two new documents giving details connected with venery other than those already known. They will be found in the Appendix under "Hunt Officials."

1 Squires were receiving 1s. 6d. and archers 9d. per day in 1412.

² King Henry gave one of his crowns in pawn to Edward, while the latter pledged his personal jewels and church plate to London moneylenders. Amongst these treasures was an "almes dish called the Tygre made in the fashion of a ship standing on a bear garnished with diamonds and pearls and weighing 22 lbs. 1½ ounz." This treasure was redeemed only in 9 Henry vi.