

Palatinate near Kaub.

Palatinate Count stone.

Konrad of Staufen, Emperor Friedrich's 1st half brother, was possessor of the Palatinate Count stone, that beautiful, firm castle known by the name of the Palatinate, built on a rocky island, below Kaub, seems to meet surprisingly the view.

In possession of all riches Konrad only wanted one thing, a son, that could continue his race, and inherit his estates. All the descendants of the knight was a daughter, Agnes, just as gentle as she was charming and sensible, who was beloved by her parents with the greatest tenderness. Powerful Princes solicited her hand, among whom were the Dukes of Bavaria and Brunswick, and even the King of France. But Agnes had already chosen. Henry of Brunswick alone, distinguished by chivalry and a handsome person, had found favour with Agnes, and both resolved to confirm their bond of love by the favor of Agnes' mother. The Count, ignorant of this, had at the same time received news of Henry's exertions for the beautiful Agnes, and knowing the Emperor's, his brother's intention, to keep the Palatinate in the family and to marry the maiden to one of their relatives, so he reflected how he could, the best, guard her from the snares of the Brunswicker. For the purpose of effecting this object, to properly finish and

strengthen the Rhine-palatinate, so that it could serve the mother and daughter, as a not very accessible, and yet well guarded dwelling. This plan he carried out. But love found in what was intended as an obstacle, exactly a welcome assistance. Henry succeeded in entering, disguised as a Pilgrim, and Agnes' clever mother, who had favoured his entrance, took care, that the band of love was sanctified by priestly blessing. The united then enjoyed the whole bliss of their first, fiery love.

However the consequences of the, in quietude, effected connexion began to show themselves, and as it would be impossible, ever to conceal them from the Count, Agnes' mother undertook to disclose it to the father. It is true on being made acquainted with the circumstances that Agnes' father fell into a terrible rage, however he reflected, what had occurred could not be changed, and he therefore resolved to go to the Imperial residence, which then was at Worms and inform the Emperor of all that had happened. Friedrich 1st reflected that a marriage, between a scion of the Welf and a daughter of the Hohenstaufen, concluded, could reconcile the traditional hatred of these races, gave his consent, and the Palatine saw a grand festival that in splendour and magnificence was never equalled.

The Palatinate Count who had made the experience, how necessary it was, to guard daughters,