GUZMAN THE GOOD, A TRAGEDY: THE SECRETARY, A PLAY AND MISCELLANEOUS POEMS

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Guzman the Good, a Tragedy: The Secretary, a Play and Miscellaneous Poems by R. J. Gilman

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R. J. GILMAN

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will the authors Compliments

• GUZMAN THE GOOD:

A TRAGEDY.

THE SECRETARY:

A PLAY.

AND

MISCELLANEOUS POEMS.

BY

R. J. GILMAN.

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GUZMAN THE GOOD.

A TRAGEDY
IN FIVE ACTS.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

.

SANCHO, King of Castile.

Alonzo DE Guzman (called the Good), Governor of the Fortress.

PEDRO DE GCZWAN, his son.

Vasquez, a faithful follower of Guzman.

CARRARES, a Spanish noble.

Juan, bastard brother of the King, in league with the Moors.

ABEN JACOB, King of Fez.

THE LADY CORONELA, wife to Guzman.

INEZ, a noble maiden, ward to Guzman.

Zora, sister to Aben Jacob.

PHILIPPA, Juan's mistress.

NOBLES, PRIESTS, PHYSICIAN, ATTENDANTS, &c., &c.

SCENE. The Fortress of Tarifa, and the Moorish camp without.

Time, 1294.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.

THE leading incidents of this tragedy, and its chief characters are historical. The fortress of Tarifa was besieged by Aben-Jacob, King of Fez and Morocco, with his ally, the turbulent and licentious Prince Juan, brother of Sancho, King of Castile, and the defence of the place was voluntarily assumed by Don Alonzo Perez de Guzman, surnamed "The Good." Juan had some time previously undertaken to conduct Guzman's son to the court of Portugal, but instead of fulfilling the trust, carried him to Tangier, and there invited the invasion of the Moors. Unsuccessful in their attack on the fortress, the confederates formed the diabolical scheme of extorting its surrender by threatening the life of the youth, and Guzman remaining faithful to his trust, his son was slaughtered under the castle walls. Quintana* thus describes the scene of Guzman's temptation, and its issue:-"Dragging their manacled victim from his tent, they exhibited him to his parent, declaring that if the place were not immediately surrendered, his son should be slain before his eyes. At sight of his boy in such a situation, upon hearing his piercing cries. and the fierce threats of the assassins, tears of the "Lives of Celebrated Spaniards."