

rough and vnknowne, his enemies were on horsebacke, and all his souldiours on foote, neither could there be any battaile fought, but on foote. whereupon, when his enemies were aighted from their horses: Zisca commaunded the women which customably followed the host, to cast their kerchieffes vpon the ground, wherein the horsemen being entangled by their spurrees, were slaine before they could vntoile their feete.

After this, he went vnto Aulsa, a towne situate vpon the Riuer Lusinius, out of which towne Brocopius and Uricius, two brethren Papists, had cast out many Protestants. This towne Zisca toke by force of armes the first night of Lent, caled it, and set it on fire. He also toke the Castle of Litius, which was a mile off, whether as Uricius was fled; and put Uricius and all his familie to the sword, sauing one only.

Then, forsomuch as he had no walled or fenced towne to inhabite, he chose out a certaine place vpon the same riuer, which was fenced by nature, about eight miles from the Citie of Aulsa. This place he compassed in with walles, and commaunded euery man to build them houses, where they had pitched their tents, and named this City Thabor, and the inhabitants his companions Thaborites; because their Citie, by all like, was builded vpon the top of some hill or mount. This Citie, albeit that it was fenced with high rockes and cleaues, yet was it compassed with a wall and vauurce, and the riuer Lusinius scuteth a great part of the towne, the rest is compassed in wyth a great brooke; the which running straight into the riuer Lusinius, is stopped by a great rocke, and diuened backe towards the right hand, all the length of the Citie, and at the further end it ioincth with the great riuer. The way vnto it by land is scarce thirtie foote broad; for it is almost an Island. In this place there was a deepe ditch cast, and a triple wall made, of such thickness, y it could not be broken with any engine. The wall was full of towres & forts set in their conuenient & meete places. Zisca was the firste that builded the Castle, and those that came after him, fortified it, euery man according to his owne deuise. At that time the Thaborites had no horsemen amongst them, vntill such time as Nicholas, maister of y mint (whom the Emperour had sent into Bohemia with a B. horsemen to set things in order, & to withstand the Thaborites lodging all night in a village named Bogisz) was surprised by Zisca comming vpon him suddenly in y night, taking away all his horse and armour, & setting fire vpon the village. When Zisca taught his souldiours to mount on horseback, to runne, to turne, to cast in a ring, so that after this he neuer led army without his wings of horsemen.

In this meane time Sigismundus the Emperour gathering together y nobles of Slesia, entered into Boheme, and went vnto Brecium, and fro thence with a great army vnto Cathna; alluring Cenchu with many great and large promises, to render vp y Castle of Prague vnto him, and there placed himselfe to annoy the towne. Thus Cenchu infamed with double treason, returned home. The Citizens of Prague sent for Zisca, who spending himselfe thither with the Thaborites, received the citie vnder his gouernance. In the Bohemian host there was but only two Barons, Hilco Cruffina of Liuburg, and Hilco of Waldesne, with a few other nobles. All the residue were of y common people. They went about first to subdue the Castle, which was by nature very strongly fenced, and could not be won by no other meanes then with famine: whereupon all y passages were stopped, that no vittailles should be carried in. But the Emperour opened the passages by dint of word; & when he had geuen vnto them which were besieged, all things necessary, hanning sent for ayde out of the Empire, he determined shortly after to besiege the Citie. There was in the Emperours campe the Dukes of Saxon, the Marqueses of Brandenburg, and hys sonne in law Albert of Austria. The Citie was assaulted by the space of vij. weekes. The Emperour Sigismund was crowned in the Metropolitan house in the Castle, Conradus the Archbishop solemnizing the ceremonies of the coronation. The citie was straightly besieged. In the meane time the Captaines Rosenfes & Chragery, which had take the tentes of the Thaborites, being overcome in battaile by Nicholas Hulle, whome Zisca had sent with parte of hys power for that purpose, were diuened out of their tentes, and Brecium the Queenes Citie was also taken.

There is also aboue the towne of Prague a high hill, which is called Widchou. On this hill had Zisca strongly planted a garrison, that his enemies should not possesse it; with whome the Marqueses of Misnia skirmishing, lost a great part of his souldiours. For when as the Misnians had gotten the top of the hill, being diuened back into a cor-

ner, which was broken & strepe, and fierly set vpon, wher as they could no longer withstand the violent force of their enemies, some of them were slaine, and some falling headlong from the hill, were destroyed. whereupon the Emperour Sigismund raising his sege, departed vnto Cathna and Zisca with his company departed vnto Thabor, and subdued many places; amongst which he subuerted a towne pertaining to the capitaine of Wisgrade. During this tyme the Castle of Wisgrade was strongly besieged, whereas, when other vittailles wated, they were compelled to eate horse flesh. Last of all, except the Emperour did aide them by a certaine daye, they promised to yeld it vp; but vnder this condition, that if the Emperour did come, they with in the Castle should be no more molested.

The Emperour was present before the day; but beeyng ignorant of the truce taken, entering into a straight vnderneath the Castle, was suddenly set vpon by the souldiours of Prague, where he had a great ouerthrow, and so leauing his purpose vpperformed, returned backe againe. There were slaine in that conflict xiiij. noble men of the Morauians, and of the Hungarians, & other a great number. The Castle was deliuered vp vnto them. Whylest these things were in doing, Zisca toke Wollas a capitaine, which was surname Sigeus, by force, in a very strong towne of his, and brought him vnto his religion, who a few yeares after, leading the protestants host in Austria, was wounded before Bherium, and died. Ther were in the territorie of Pelina many monasteries, of y which Zisca subuerted and burned fiue. And forsomuch as y monastery of Saint Clare was the strongest, there he pitched himselfe.

Whether also came the Emperour with his army: but when Zisca brought forth his power against him, he most cowardly fled, and not long after, he departed and left Boheme. When Zisca went with his army vnto Pelina; but forsomuch as hee sawe the Citie so fenced, that hee was in doubt of winning the same, he went from thence to Comitaunia a famous Citie, the which he toke by force, burning all the houses therein.

Afterward, when as he lay before the towne of Raby, and strongly besieged the same, he was stricken with a shaft in the eye, hauing but that one before to see withall. From thence, hee was carried to Prague to physicians, whereas he being cured of his wound, and his life saued, yet hee lost his sight, and for all that, he would not forsake his army, but still toke the charge of them.

After this, the garrisons of Prague went vnto Warona, where as there was a great garison of the Emperours, & toke it by force, many being slaine of eyther parte. They also toke the towne of Broda in Bermany, and sine the garison, and afterward toke Luthna and many other cities by composition. Further, when as they ledde their army vnto a towne called Bous, which is inhabited by the Misnians; the Saxons meeting the by the way, because they durst not ioine battaile, they returned backe. After all this, y Emperour appointed the Princes electours a day, that at Barrilmwilde, they should with their armie invade the west part of Boheme, and he with an host of Hungarians would enter on the East part. There came vnto his ayde the Archbishop of Mentz, the countie Palatine of Rheim, the Dukes of Saxon, the Marqueses of Brandenburg, & many other Bishops out of Almane: all the rest sente their aydes. They encamped before the towne of Sozius, a strong & well fenced place, which they could by no meanes subdue. The countrey was spoiled & wasted round about, and the siege continued vntill y feast of S. Walle. Then it was broken vp because the Emperour was not come at his day appointed; but he hauyng gathered together a great army of the Hungarians, and well Morauians, about Chyrtinas entered into Boheme, and toke certaine townes by force, and Cathna was yelded vnto him. But when Zisca (although he was blinde) came towards him, and let vpon him; he being afeard, & many of his nobles slaine, fled. But first he burned Luthna, which the Thaborites, by meanes of the siluer mines, called the towne of Antichrist. Zisca pursuing the Emperour a dayes iourney, got great a rich spoyle, and taking the towne of Broda by force, set it on fire: the which afterward almost by the space of xiiij. yeares, remained desinhabited. The Emperour passed by a bridge ouer the riuer of Sglaria. And Iulio a florentine, which had brought xv. B. horsemen out of Hungary to these warres, passed ouer the fle; the which by the multitude & number of his horsemen being broke, deuoured & destroyed a great number. Zisca hauyng obtained this victory, would not suffer any image or idoll to be in the Churches, neither thought it to be borne withall, that priests should minister wyth copes or vestiments; for the which cause he was much the

Sigismund the Emperour rayseth his siege.

The Emperour fighting against Zisca, had the ouerthrow.

The Abbeis of Pelina subuerted.

Zisca putteth the Emperour to flight.

Zisca loseth hys other eye in battel

Zisca, albeit hee lost his eyes, yet would not forsake his army.

Zisca taketh diuers townes.

The Saxons retire.

The Emperour with his power entreth againe into Boheme.

The Emperour afrayde of Zisca, flieth.

The powch of Antichrist.

A noble victory of Zisca.

Zisca destroyeth images and idols in Churches.

The policie of Zisca.

The citie of Thabor builded.

Sigismund getteth the castle of Prague.

Zisca getteth the citie of Prague.

Prague besieged of Sigismund.

The Marques of Misnia overcome in the skirmish.