



# Orra. the Dream. the Siege. the Beacon

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1821 Excerpt: ...and see that he retain no concealed arms about him. Wov. I obey, my Lord: every thing shall be made secure. (exit Osterloo, guarded by Wovelreid and Soldiers and at the same time enter Benedict, by the opposite side, who stands looking after him piteously.) Prior, (sternly to Benedict.) What brings thee here? Dost thou repent having refused to concur with us in an act that preserves the community? Ben. Say rather, reverend Father, an act that revenges your brothers death, which the laws of the empire should revenge. Prior. A supernatural visitation of heaven hath commanded us to punish it. What! dost thou shake thy head? Thou art of a doubting and dangerous spirit and beware lest, sooner or later, the tempter do not lure thee into heresy. If reason cannot subdue thee, authority shall. Return again to thy cell let me hear of this no more. Ben. I will, reverend Father. But, for the love of our holy saint, bethink you, ere it be too late, that though we may be saved from the pestilence by this bloody sacrifice, what will rescue our throats from the swords of Osterloos soldiers when they shall return, as they have threatened, to demand from us their General? Prior. Give thyself no concern about this. My own bands are already called in, and a messenger has been dispatched to the Abbess Matilda her troops, in defence of the church, will face the best soldiers of the empire. But why lose we time in unprofitable contentions? Go, my sons, (speaking to other Monks.) the night advances fast, and we have much to do ere morning. (Knocking heard without.) Ha! who knocks at this untimely hour? Can the soldiers be indeed returned upon us?--Run to the gate, but open it to none. (exeunt several Monks in haste, and presently re-enter with a Lay-Brother.) Lay-B. Please ye...

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