

Savage Tales 10 England (St Albans) 1513

Death at the Castle

Whilst the Savage Steel Company is recruiting at the Castle Inn at St Albans a messenger arrives from Wessex asking if the Company is for hire. Whilst negotiating what the terms might be, another Messenger arrives asking if the Savage steel company are for hire in Wessex. The messengers have a disagreement they fall to arguing then insulting and then fighting. A duel is demanded with the one still alive at the end gaining the chance to employ the company. The duel to be fought in the morning. The company returns to carousing though some members of the company are rather more subdued. Captain Savage reveals he was exiled from Wessex many years ago. Others talk with the messengers and continue the discussions of pay and duties. In the morning only one of the messengers still lives. Some of those who bet on the outcome of the duel are upset to discover that dying in the night is not part of a duel. The messenger of Duke Edmund claims victory nevertheless. There are further complaints about the outcome. It is agreed that someone else should stand in the stead of the Messenger from The Duchess Anne. There are numerous volunteers. The duel is fought and the Messenger from the Duke is wounded and yields. No one is sure whether he should have been allowed to return to Duke Edmund and there is much argument about whether he should have been released. The company sets off for Wessex with mixed feelings.