



PHOTOGRAPHED BY WILLIAM E. GRAY FROM THE PAINTING BY STEPHEN POINTZ DENNING IN THE DULWICH GALLERY.

ENGRAVED BY PETER AITKEN.

PRINCESS VICTORIA, AT THE AGE OF FOUR.

# THE CENTURY MAGAZINE

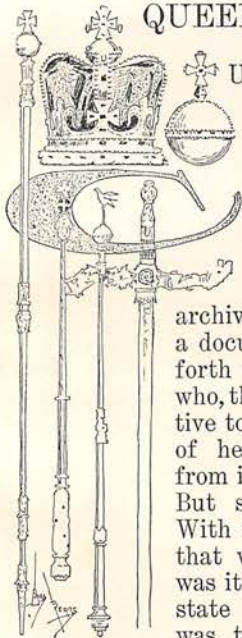
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## QUEEN VICTORIA'S "CORONATION ROLL."



URIIOUSLY enough, neither the birth, baptism, nor confirmation of Queen Victoria is a matter of official public record. One might suppose that, filed away in its appointed place among the state archives, there could be found a document formally setting forth the birth of the child who, though not heir presumptive to the throne at the time of her birth, was removed from it by only three degrees. But such is not the case. With regard to her birth, all that was deemed necessary was its announcement by the state officials whose duty it was to be personally cognizant of the fact.

In the huge Public Records Building in Chancery Lane, wherein are jealously guarded the muniments of ancient landed titles and the records of royal treaties, one may see the marvelously well-preserved Domesday Book, which is the beginning of all things to the English conveyancer; the solemn compacts of cardinals, envoys, ambassadors, and ministers; the priceless records of royal prerogatives side by side with the grants wrung from unwilling monarchs to the growing power of the people. There, also, are preserved, and

with equal care, a multitude of writings which have no other interest, despite their antiquity, than that which comes from the fact that they have to do with the trivial details of the most common incidents in the lives of the kings and queens of England. But among them all there can be found no official or other record of the coming into existence of a certain child, one Alexandrina Victoria, who was destined to become the first empress that ever sat upon an English throne, to rule over a wider extent of country than ever before comprised the dominion of a sovereign, to count among her willing subjects a greater number of people and a wider diversity of races than has ever acknowledged a common scepter, and who has, finally, in the closing decade of the nineteenth century, completed a longer term of continuous reign than has been allotted to a queen in the world's history.

Among these records there is guarded, as if it had a special pious virtue, a discolored parchment which, in Elizabeth's time, was the patent by the authority of which a certain dean was made the instructor of the queen in the rites and ceremonials of the church. But there is no note, formal or informal, among these records of how or where or when Queen Victoria, this first empress, and the most illustrious of English sovereigns, was received into that church of which she is now the temporal head. Even the circumstance that, since the time of Charles II, every English sovereign, upon his accession to the throne,

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FROM A PAINTING BY THOMAS SULLY.

ENGRAVED BY T. JOHNSON.

QUEEN VICTORIA, 1838.

has been required by law to make a declaration which precludes the possibility of its occupant being of any faith save that of the Established Church, is hardly sufficient to account for the omission from the records of the baptism and confirmation of the present head of the church. But this being the case, and the birth of the Queen being accepted as a matter of officially demonstrable proof, and her baptism as a matter of inference, her coronation becomes, in point of time and of importance, the first event with which the public records concern themselves.

Fortunately this one record, which is called the «Coronation Roll,» is wonderfully and curiously complete. It sets down every detail with minuteness and elaboration. The «Coronation Roll» of Queen Victoria is like the rolls of all her predecessors since the time of Richard II—a huge, bulky roll of parchment. It is what the lawyers would call a deed poll as distinguished from an indenture. It has its preambles and recitals and its obligation, all of which are quaintly set out in stilted phrases on a series of pieces of sheepskin, each fifteen inches wide, fastened together by loose stitches, until the whole attain the length of nearly one hundred lineal feet. It can be perused only by unrolling from one end or the other, and is so unwieldy that the seeker for any information of which the precise location is unknown must invoke the aid of no end of manual assistance to attain it. The script is in the highest style of the scrivener's art, and is an excellent example of the engrossment that is still considered necessary in England for wills and deeds, which, as there is no general system of publicly recording such instruments, are kept in «strong boxes» under lock and key. Speaking generally, the result, as a whole, is over a hundred square feet of solid reading in one breath and in a language that is a mixture of legal, medieval, and court phrases; but each line gives one a glimpse not to be had otherwise of the intricacy, dignity, and significance of the coronation ceremony.

Modestly enough, the title on the documents is «A Roll containing certain Proceedings relating to the Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria,» and it begins by the announcement of the Queen's intention to be crowned. But one need not suppose that this announcement was a simple thing. Kings and queens may be anything else, but they may never know what simplicity is. They may hear of it, and wish to know it, and even be acquainted with it by tradition, but to

have a speaking acquaintance with it is obviously impossible. Keeping that in mind, it is not surprising, then, to read that «Whereas We have resolved by the Favour and Blessing of Almighty God to celebrate the Solemnity of Our Royal Coronation and forasmuch as by Ancient Customs and Usages of this Realm as also in regard of sundry Manors Lands and other Hereditaments many of Our loving subjects do claim and are bound to do and perform divers services on the same day . . . We Therefore out of Our princely care for the preservation of the lawful rights of Our loving subjects whom it may concern do hereby give notice of and publish the same accordingly.» The day originally fixed upon was Tuesday, June 26, 1838, the second year of her reign; this date was changed by a second royal proclamation to Thursday, the 28th, and yet another proclamation is recorded in the roll which states that, «inasmuch as it is the wish of Her Majesty to make the arrangements as much abridged and as economical as might be compatible with a strict regard to the solemnity and importance of the Occasion it is decided to omit that part of the Coronation that usually takes place in Westminster Hall and that part which consists of the Procession leaving only that part which is solemnized in Westminster Abbey. But that such omission shall not interfere with the Rights and Privileges of those persons whose attendances and services are hereby dispensed with.»

This last announcement was not merely a matter of form; for the rendering of the services connected with the whole ceremony was not only a privilege legally belonging to the heads of certain families, but upon the due performance of those services depended, in some cases, the actual tenure of land and houses. If, therefore, the opportunity of rendering these services was taken from sundry persons by omitting the part of the ceremony in which they would have occurred, it became a legal necessity to state that their non-performance came, not from any neglect on their part, but because their services had been dispensed with by royal command and for this particular occasion.

And thereby hang many tales, which the roll proceeds to unfold with its inevitable deliberation and capital letters. After telling how the Privy Council was formed into a commission «to hear the petitions of the Lords, Great Men, Nobles, Knights, and others with regard to services duties attendances Offices Fees and Rights connected with the Ceremony of Coronation,» the roll states what



FROM THE ENGRAVING BY H. T. RYALL, AFTER THE PAINTING BY SIR WILLIAM CHARLES ROSS.

BY PERMISSION OF PAUL AND DOMINIC COLNAGHI.

QUEEN VICTORIA, 1840.

these petitions were, or at least such of them as were granted.

One was that of the Duke of Norfolk, who claimed «the right to find for the Queen on her day of Coronation a glove for Her Majesty's right hand and to support the Queen's Right Arm on the same day as long as Her Majesty shall hold in her hand the Royal Sceptre the petitioner holding the Manor of Worksop by the aforesaid services.» In other words, if the Duke of Norfolk had failed to provide the glove or to support her Majesty's arm at that particular time, his ownership of Worksop Manor would have been invalidated, and the property have reverted to the crown.

Another petition was that of Barbara, Baroness Grey de Ruthyn, who, as the head of her family, claimed the right to carry the great spurs before her Majesty on the day of her coronation, and asked that George, Lord Byron, be appointed her deputy for the performance of that duty.

Yet another was that of Francis, twelfth Earl of Huntingdon. The earldom of Huntingdon had remained suspended for many years, owing to the tenth earl dying without issue. When, however, this twelfth in the line of succession succeeded in establishing, as a descendant of the second earl, his right to the peerage, he also claimed the right to carry one of the four swords of state in the coronation procession; this, as well as other duties and services connected with the ceremony, being the condition of his tenure of lands. Small wonder, then, that in announcing the omission of the procession it was important to set forth also that the non-performance of duties connected with it should entail no forfeitures.

Some of the coronation services were, as the roll puts it, connected with certain «Offices Fees and Rights» which, naturally enough, the claimants were not slow to set forth. The most interesting of these to one not versed in either religious or court ceremonial is the petition presented by the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter. In it they claim the right to be admitted to the coronation for three reasons: First, because «The Abbots of the late Monastery of St. Peter in Westminster have been beyond the memory of man the instructors of the Kings and Queens of England in all the forms, rites and ceremonies used in their Coronation. Second, because the Abbots have for all the time aforesaid usually assisted the Archbishop to perform Divine Service at the Coronation, and, Third, because by virtue of letters patent from our

late illustrious Sovereign Queen Elizabeth the Dean ought to be the instructor of the Queen in her Coronation.» Surely a convincing plea, when one considers all that it embodies of law, precedent, and implied duty.

Being evidently quite convinced that this much of their petition will be granted, the dean and chapter go on to enumerate the «Fees and Allowances for their services in the Coronation.» The list is too quaint, too interestingly minute, not to give it in full. It comprises:

Two yards of Scarlett	} For the Dean's Robes.
Six ells of dark coloured Cloth	
Six yards of Sarcenet	
Two pieces of double Worsted	

Four ells of black Cloth and a piece of double worsted for each of the Dean's Chaplains for their Robes.

Robes for six Ministers of the said Church, of the Queen's gift.

The Queen's Upper Vestment in which she comes to the Church at her Coronation.

Also The Oblation and Offering at the time of her Coronation. (The oblation being one pound—in weight—of Gold, and the offering a Purse of Gold.)

Also The Stage Throne Royal Seats Tapestry Chairs Cushions Carpet Cloths and all the ornaments with which the Stage and the Church shall be embellished at the time of the Coronation.

Also The four Poles or Staves which support the Canopy and the four little bells that hang at each corner of the Canopy.

Also The blue Cloth upon which the Queen walks from the West door of the Church to the Stage.

Also The Great Chantor to have an ounce of Gold by the hands of the Treasurer of the Queen's Chamber.

Also An hundred Manchets of Wine and Fish according to the bounty of her said Royal Majesty for the said Dean and Chapter's repast on her Coronation day.

Six ells of cloth was considered enough for a dean's robe, but the Lord Great Chamberlain was not to be satisfied with any such modest amount for his appareling; for «in consideration of bringing to Her Majesty, by proxy, such of Her Majesty's apparel as is usually brought to her by him on her Coronation day he claims forty ells of crimson velvet for his Robe and the furniture in the Chamber occupied by Her Majesty the night previous to her Coronation.» Truly a large fee for a small service, especially when that service is rendered by proxy!

But the petition concerning the largest number of people was that presented by the baronets, who discovered, evidently to their



PAINTED BY F. M. BELL SMITH.

SEE "OPEN LETTERS."

QUEEN VICTORIA, 1895.

consternation, that they were not included in the «Lords, Great Men, Nobles, Knights, and others» who were to be present at the coronation. Not only were there no services for them to render, nor fees for them to claim, but their bodily presences were to be dispensed with. Promptly they presented a petition setting forth their claims. The commission, after deliberation, «did not see its way clear to granting it.» The baronets then set about the matter in a more businesslike and, as might be expected, a more successful way: they organized themselves into an association for the time being, and through their representative presented a second petition, in which it was suggested that if all of them might not be admitted, four—one each from England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales—should be permitted to attend as representatives. More deliberations on the part of the commission only resulted in their still being so undecided that they finally referred the petition to the Queen herself, who granted it in a way that showed her Majesty to be as gracious in fact as in name.

Whether by intention or not, no separate instructions were issued to these baronets as to how they should appear at the coronation. Dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts, and barons were minutely instructed as to how many rows of ermine and how deep the borderings of miniver were to be worn on their respective robes and mantles, and as to the material and precise patterns of their coronets. And no less definite were the instructions to each duchess, marchioness, countess, viscountess, and baroness. The higher the rank the deeper the fur and the longer the train, of course, beginning with a baroness's train, which was required to be three feet on the ground, and going by quarter-yard gradations to that of a duchess, who was entitled to one lying two yards upon the floor. Only as to baronets was the earl marshal silent: perhaps because there were to be but four of them, perhaps because they were by inference included among those described as «others than Peers and Peeresses.» These «others» received directions which prohibited the women from wearing court trains, feathers, or lappets, and directed the men to appear in either uniform or full dress.

The Abbey doors were opened at five o'clock in the morning; no one was admitted after half-past nine. Now let the roll tell this part of the story in its own fashion:

And be it Remembered that afterwards namely on Thursday the Twenty-eighth day of June about

Ten of the Clock in the morning the said Lady the Queen attended by her Royal Household accompanied by the Princes and Princesses of the Blood Royal attended by their respective households of Their Royal Highnesses proceeded from Buckingham Palace to the Great Western Tower of Saint Peter Westminster Her Majesty having been robed in the Royal Robes and her Regalia having been previously laid on the Table in the Jerusalem Chamber were delivered by the Lord Chamberlain to Arthur Duke of Wellington for this time Lord High Constable of England and by him to Lord Willoughby de Eresby as Lord Great Chamberlain and by His Lordship to the Noblemen by whom the same were to be carried videlicet Saint Edward's Staff to James Henry Robert Duke of Roxburghe The Golden Spurs to George Anson Lord Byron as deputy to the Baroness Grey de Ruthyn The Sceptre with the Cross to William Harry Duke of Cleveland The Third Sword unsheathed to Robert Marquess of Westminster The Second Sword unsheathed to George Granville Duke of Sutherland The Sword called Curtana to William Spencer Duke of Devonshire The Sword of State to be carried unsheathed before the Queen to William Viscount Melbourne The Sceptre with the Dove at the top to Charles Duke of Richmond The Orb with the Cross to Edward Adolphus Duke of Somerset The Great Crown called St. Edward's crown to Alexander Duke of Hamilton for this time High Steward of England The Patina to Christopher Archbishop of Bangor The Chalice to John Bishop of Lincoln The Holy Bible to Charles Richard Bishop of Winchester The Peers Dowager Peeresses and Peeresses in their Robes of Estate and others summoned by Her Majesty's commands to be present at the Solemnity of Her Coronation were conducted to the places assigned to them previously to the arrival of Her Majesty These things being done the Procession began and went up the Nave to the Choir with great magnificence and splendour while an Anthem was playing The Queen having come to the Area or Theatre erected between the four pillars the said Lady the Queen was according to Ancient Custom shown to the People and they unanimously consented to obey the said Lady the Queen as their Liege Lady And Her Majesty having previously videlicet on Monday the Twentieth day of November One Thousand eight hundred and thirty seven in the Presence of the Two Houses of Parliament made and subscribed the Declaration mentioned in the Thirtieth year of the Reign of King Charles the Second intituled «An Act for the more effectively preserving the King's Person and Government by disabling Papists from sitting in either House of Parliament» the Oaths by Law required were administered to and taken and subscribed by our said Lady the Queen as appears by the said Oath hereunto annexed And our said Lady the Queen being then Anointed and Crowned by the said Archbishop ascended the Throne where the said Archbishop for himself and the other Lords Spiritual then present and Kneeling around him did



# The OATH.

**ARCHBISHOP:** Madam, Is Your Majesty willing to take the Oath?

The **QUEEN:** I am willing.

**ARCHBISHOP:** Will You solemnly promise and swear to govern the People of this United Kingdom of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND and the Dominions thereto belonging according to the Statutes in Parliament agreed on, and the respective Laws and Customs of the same?

**QUEEN:** I solemnly promise so to do.

**ARCHBISHOP:** Will You to Your Power cause Law and Justice, in Mercy, to be executed in all Your Judgements?

**QUEEN:** I will.

**ARCHBISHOP:** Will You to the utmost of Your Power maintain the Laws of God, the true Profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by Law? And will You maintain and preserve inviolably the Settlement of the United Church of ENGLAND and IRELAND, and the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government thereof, as by Law established within ENGLAND and IRELAND and the Territories therunto belonging? And will You preserve unto the Bishops and Clergy of ENGLAND and IRELAND and to the Churches there committed to their Charge, all such Rights and Privileges, as by Law do, or shall appertain to them, or any of them?

**QUEEN:** All this I promise to do.

*The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep.*

*So help me God.*

*Victoria R.*

Homage Afterwards Augustus Frederick Duke of Sussex ascended the steps of the Throne and knelt before the Queen and for himself and for Adolphus Frederick Duke of Cambridge who also knelt with him did Homage in these words (the Duke of Cambridge repeating after him)

«I Augustus Frederick Duke of Sussex do become your Liege Man of Life and Limb and of Earthly Worship and Faith and Truth I will bear

unto you to live and die against all manner of Folks. So help me God.»

Then His Royal Highness in Testimony of his assent and readiness for the defence of the Crown touched the Crown upon Her Majesty's Head and kissed Her Majesty's left Cheek as also did the Duke of Cambridge.

A representative of each order of nobility

then «pronounced the Words of Homage in the same manner and in Testimony of their assent and readiness for the Defence of Her Majesty's Crown severally touched with their hands the said Crown on Her Majesty's Head and kissed Her Majesty's Hand.»

The remainder of the roll is given over to an enumeration of the persons who by thus doing homage through their representatives were officially present. The only approximate idea that one can give of their number is to say that this part of the roll is about ten feet long. Below the list, crowded into one corner, in an almost microscopic handwriting, is a memorandum of how the President of Her Majesty's Council and the Lord Chief Justice of England brought «this Roll of the Proceedings into the open Court of Chancery in the great Hall of Westminster and the said Marquess with his own hands in the presence of the said Lord Chief Justice delivered the same into the hands of the Right Honorable Charles Christopher Baron Cottenham Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, sitting in the Court, which said Lord High Chancellor then and there in like manner delivered the same into the hands of the Right Honorable Henry Baron Langsale Master or Keeper of the Rolls of the said Court of Chancery to remain afterwards among the records of the whole Court aforesaid.»

So much for the roll, interesting not only as a record, but as a description; not only as a bit of history, but as a piece of good literary work. With all its necessarily involved and pompous style, it is not pretentious; it has an arrogant simplicity characteristic, perhaps, of the person who wrote it, certainly of the personages of whom it was written. But interesting as the roll itself is, that interest is enhanced by a document that is attached to it—«the Oath hereunto annexed» spoken of in the text. «Annexed» is evidently the equivalent in court language for «stitched»; for, sewed by one edge to the side of the roll, with double thread and rather uneven, awkward stitches, is the coronation oath itself. It is a gold-bordered parchment on which are the questions put by the Archbishop to the Queen,—whom he addresses as «Madam,»—her Majesty's answers, her oath to keep the promises she has made, and in the lower corner, so far toward the right that it runs into the border, the signature «Victoria R.»—her first signature as queen *de jure* as well as queen *de facto*. Two things strike one on looking at this the crux of the coronation. The first is the equally balanced nervousness and force shown by the

signature itself—the nervousness begotten by the tremendousness of the situation, and counteracted by the force inherent in the character of the signatory. The other is the directness and simplicity of the language in which the Queen took upon herself the heaviest duties and responsibilities that can fall to any human being. This obligation is thus set out:

*Archbishop:* Madam, Is Your Majesty willing to take the Oath?

*The Queen:* I am willing.

*Archbishop:* Will You solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dominions thereto belonging according to the Statutes in Parliament agreed on and the respective Laws and Customs of the same?

*The Queen:* I solemnly promise so to do.

*Archbishop:* Will You to Your Power cause Law and Justice in Mercy to be executed in all Your Judgements?

*The Queen:* I will.

*Archbishop:* Will You to the utmost of your Power maintain the Laws of God, the true Profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by Law? And will You maintain and preserve inviolably the Settlement of the United Church of England and Ireland, and the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government thereof, as by Law established within England and Ireland and the Territories thereunto belonging? And will You preserve unto the Bishops and Clergy of England and Ireland and to the Churches there Committed to their charge all such Rights and Privileges as by Law do or shall appertain to them or any of them?

*The Queen:* All this I promise to do.

The things which I have here before promised I will perform and keep.

So help me God.

*Victoria R.*

Whether it is a peculiarity of this one official document, or is common to them all, one cannot say, but this much is certain of the roll—that it fails one at the critical moment. It omits a description of the most interesting parts of the ceremony. It tells with minuteness who carried each separate portion of the regalia, and what bishops carried the Bible and the chalice and the patina, all of which any one can very well imagine. But what one not thoroughly versed in royal ceremonies cannot very well imagine is the actual anointing and crowning of a queen, or the manner of her enthronization. They are details beyond anything in which either our recollection or our imagination is likely to be of reliable assistance; and being the climax of the entire ceremony, being indeed its *raison d'être*, it is but natural to feel some-

Afterwards Augustus Frederick Duke of Saxe  
 attended the steps of the Throne and knelt  
 before the Queen and for himself and for Adolphus  
 Frederick Duke of Cambridge who also knelt with  
 him did homage in these words (the Duke of  
 Cambridge repeating after him).

I Augustus Frederick Duke  
 of Saxe-Gotha do become your  
 Liege Man of Life and Limb  
 and of Certain Liberties and Rights  
 - and Truths I will bear unto a  
 you to live and die against all  
 manner of People.  
 "So Help me God"

PART OF THE «CORONATION ROLL» (REDUCED FACSIMILE).

what cheated when the coronation roll only refers to them instead of describing them. Fortunately for us, however, there is another record which to a great extent supplies the lack in the roll. It is a supplement to the «Official Gazette,» a chronicle of the court, which announces on its title-page that it is «published by Authority»—whose it is of course needless to say. Its account of the coronation gives even such particulars as who of those taking part in the ceremony had two pages to carry their coronets, who only one. These same pages seem a superfluous flourish until one finds by reading further that they, like all apparent superfluities, are a necessity to the luxury of the occasion; for at stated times the coronets of all present had to be put on and taken off, and one can imagine, when the latter was the case, how much they would have been in the way of their owners if they themselves had been obliged to hold them while assisting in some part of the ceremony. This putting on and off of the coronets had a significance—as indeed had every part of the solemnity—that explains itself. Long and elaborate as it was, the symbolism of every part of the ceremony is apparent even to one who only reads of it. Perhaps the best place to begin is at what the chronicle calls the «Recognition,» and is in these words:

The Archbishop of Canterbury facing to the Eastern side of the Theatre asked for the people's acceptance of the Queen:

«Sirs, I here present to you Queen Victoria, the undoubted Queen of the Realm; wherefore all you

who are come this day to do your homage, are you willing to do the same?»

This he repeated to the East, West, North and South, from the raised platform between the four great pillars, during which time the Queen stood up by Her Chair and turned toward the side at which the Recognition was made, the People replying with loud acclamations of «God save Queen Victoria.» At the last Recognition the trumpets sounded and the drums beat.

The Queen then made the first of her offerings: an altar-cloth of gold placed upon the altar, and an ingot of gold weighing a pound placed in the oblation dish. This done, the regalia were placed upon the altar, where they remained during the litany, the communion service, and the sermon—all being preliminary to the taking and signing of the coronation oath. After signing the oath the Queen was anointed; and the mental picture one has of her at this moment is one of the most vivid. But little more than a child either in years or in stature, «she sat in St. Edward's Chair which was covered with a cloth of Gold, with a fald-stool in front of her placed in front of the Altar. Four Knights of the Garter held a Pall of Gold over her head, and the Sub-Dean of Westminster took from the Altar the Ampulla, containing the consecrated oil, and pouring some of it into the Anointing Spoon anointed the Queen on the Head and Hands in the Form of a Cross.» The great spurs, having, like every other part of the regalia, their own symbolism in the ceremonial, were then delivered to the Queen, who returned them to be laid upon the altar. Indeed, if

one may translate the meaning of the whole ceremonial, it was briefly this: that there was an intimate connection between the church as typified by the altar, and the power of government as typified by the regalia. But the symbolism of what next followed is too involved for laymen: «The Sword of State was now delivered to the Lord Chancellor who gave Viscount Melbourne another in exchange for it the which Lord Melbourne delivered to the Archbishop. This the Archbishop after placing it on the Altar delivered to the Queen saying (*Receive this kingly Sword*) etc. Whereupon the Queen placed the Sword on the Altar and it was then redeemed by Viscount Melbourne for an hundred shillings and carried by him for the rest of the ceremony.»

The mantle which the Queen had worn was now replaced by the imperial or Dalmatian mantle of cloth of gold, and after the ring had been placed on the fourth finger of her right hand, the subdean brought from the altar the two scepters. Meantime the Duke of Norfolk presented her Majesty with a glove for her right hand, embroidered with the Howard arms,—the glove that figured in the petition,—which the Queen put on; and then «the Archbishop placed the sceptre with the cross in her right hand saying (*Receive the Royal Sceptre*) and the Sceptre with the Dove in Her left hand saying (*Receive the Rod of Equity*),» and the Duke of Norfolk supported Her Majesty's right arm and held the Sceptre as occasion required.»

And now came the actual moment of coronation:

«The Archbishop, standing before the Altar and having St. Edward's Crown, consecrated and blessed it, and attended by the Bishops, and assisted by the Archbishops and Sub Deans of Westminster Put the Crown on Her Majesty's Head. Then the people with loud shouts cried (*God Save the Queen.*) And immediately the Peers and Peeresses put on their coronets, the Bishops their caps, the Deputy Garter King of Arms his crown, the trumpeters sounding, the drums beating, and the Town and Park Guns firing by signal.» Is not that fine! And must not the benediction and the *Te Deum* which immediately followed have voiced in a way that could not have been otherwise expressed the emotions of that splendid moment!

But though crowned, the Queen was not yet enthroned; and the manner of this, as well as of the crowning, cannot fail to impress one as symbolical of the inherent difference between the constitutional mon-

archy that England has come to be, and the autocratic government that Russia still remains. At the coronation of the Czar he placed the crown on his own head; when the Queen was crowned, it was not by her own hands. Where one assumed it, the other received it. So, also, with her enthronement: the ceremony was evidently symbolical of the means by which she came to occupy her exalted position.

The Queen ascended the Theatre, and was lifted into her Throne by the Archbishops, Bishops and Peers around Her Majesty, and being so enthroned all the Great Officers of State, the Noblemen bearing the Swords and the Noblemen who had borne the other Regalia stood about the Steps of the Throne to hear the Exhortation.

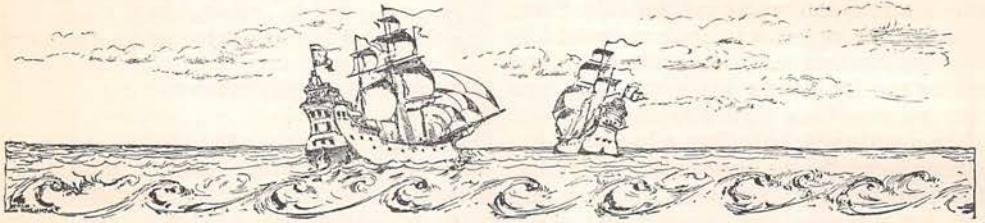
During the homage the Duke of Richmond stood on her Majesty's left, and the Duke of Norfolk on her right,—he seems to have been, in both senses of the word, next to the most prominent personage present at the coronation,—and each peer, as he knelt, put off his coronet. And the Queen, as well, put off her crown when, in partaking of the sacrament, she paid her homage to the Power yet higher than her own. But she wore it for the rest of the service, at the end of which, «having been disrobed of the Royal Imperial Mantle and arrayed in a Royal Robe of Purple Velvet and still wearing Her Crown, with the Sceptre in Her Right Hand, the Orb in Her Left Hand, and followed by the Peers and Peeresses all with their Coronets upon their heads she returned in State and order of Procession herebefore mentioned to Buckingham Palace.»

We close the record, and sit fingering the roll, already yellowed by the passage of sixty years, the measure of the reign the formal beginning of which it chronicled. From it is reflected as in a vision the masses of life astir upon the streets of London from the three-o'clock dawn of that June day; the lines of soldiers making a living wall down all the way that the royal cortège is to pass; the arches, the flags, the decorations of the house-fronts; the windows and housetops packed with impatiently patient spectators; the equipages of state, containing perhaps those of the blood royal, perhaps representatives of foreign powers—Esterhazy, «all diamonds—diamonds to his very boot heels»; Soult, grim, weather-beaten, military in every gesture or lack of gesture, and greeted with cheers as ringing as those accorded to Wellington, as each passes along on his way to perform his allotted part in the ceremonial.

All this the imagination sees with a brilliancy that for once is not greater than the reality. But more vivid than any other part of the splendid picture stands out, as it should, the central figure—the figure of one woman amidst all the throng of men about her. Tiny of stature, pathetically young, patheti-

cally isolated, although so surrounded, this child-woman, with her silvery voice, her grave yet sweet demeanor, her evident realization of all that she is promising «to do and to perform,» her graciousness—this figure stands clear in outline, unmistakable in pose—the Queen, Victoria.

*Florence Hayward.*



## THE LAST FIGHT.

THAT night I think that no one slept;  
 No bells were struck, no whistle blew,  
 And when the watch was changed I crept  
 From man to man of all the crew  
 With whispered orders. Though we swept  
 Through roaring seas, we hushed the  
 clock,  
 And muffled every clanking block.

So when one fool, unheeding, cried  
 Some petty order, straight I ran,  
 And threw him sprawling o'er the side.  
 All life is but a narrow span:  
 It little matters that one bide  
 A moment longer here, for all  
 Fare the same road, whate'er befall.

But vain my care; for when the day  
 Broke gray and wet, we saw the foe  
 But half a stormy league away.  
 By noon we saw his black bows throw  
 Five fathoms high a wall of spray;  
 A little more, we heard the drum,  
 And knew that our last hour had come.

All day our crew had lined the side  
 With grim, set faces, muttering;  
 And once a boy (the first that died)  
 One of our wild songs tried to sing:  
 But when their first shot missed us wide,  
 A dozen sprang above our rail,  
 Shook fists, and roared a cursing hail.

Thereon, all hot for war, they bound  
 Their heads with cool, wet bands, and drew  
 Their belts close, and their keen blades  
 ground;  
 Then, at the next gun's puff of blue,  
 We set the grog-cup on its round,  
 And pledged for life or pledged for death  
 Our last sigh of expiring breath.

Laughing, our brown young singer fell  
 As their next shot crashed through our rail;  
 Then 'twixt us flashed the fire of hell,  
 That shattered spar and riddled sail.  
 What ill we wrought we could not tell;  
 But blood-red all their scuppers dripped  
 When their black hull to starboard dipped.

Nine times I saw our helmsman fall,  
 And nine times sent new men, who took  
 The whirling wheel as at death's call;  
 But when I saw the last one look  
 From sky to deck, then, reeling, crawl  
 Under the shattered rail to die,  
 I knew where I should surely lie.

I could not send more men to stand  
 And turn in idleness the wheel  
 Until they took death's beckoning hand,  
 While others, meeting steel with steel,  
 Flamed out their lives—an eager band,  
 Cheers on their lips, and in their eyes  
 The goal-rapt look of high emprise.

builds up the different parts of the body, repairs its wastes, and supplies energy for work and thought. While, in one sense, these researches have a purely scientific object, which is the study of the application of the laws of the conservation of matter and the conservation of energy to the human organism, from another point of view they are intensely practical, as representing an effort to gain new knowledge regarding the food of man, and his needs for nourishment, the better to fit his diet to the demands of health, strength, and purse.

The researches Professor Atwater describes are the first of their especial kind on this side of the Atlantic, although experiments more or less similar have been conducted at several German universities for more than a quarter of a century, and of late have been carried on elsewhere in Europe. Most of those in Europe have been made with domestic animals. The number with men has been small, and in no case, it is believed, have they—for lack of material resources—been so painstaking and laborious as those here described.

Several years ago the first steps were taken at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, toward the development of an apparatus for measuring the income and outgo of the animal body. The investigation was undertaken jointly by Professor Atwater and Professor E. B. Rosa. It was conducted under the patronage of the university, and in connection with the Storrs Experiment Station, of which Professor Atwater is director, and of which the more purely scientific researches are being prosecuted at the Wesleyan laboratories.

Fortunately for the enterprise, the resources, which were at first limited, were increased by appropriations from the public funds. In the year 1894 provision was made by an act of Congress for an inquiry into the food and nutrition of the people of the United States. The act places the investigation in the hands of the Secretary of Agriculture, and wisely allows him to distribute it among the experiment stations of the country, which are in close official relations with the Department of Agriculture. It is under the immediate charge of Professor Atwater as special agent of the department. While the larger part of the inquiry is given to the study of the kinds and nutritive values of foods and the economy of their purchase and use by people of different localities and classes, a portion is devoted to more abstract research, which would naturally include experiments of such fundamental importance as these.

In 1895 the legislature of Connecticut provided a special annual appropriation to be expended by the Storrs Experiment Station for food investigations. The resources of the station were thus increased, and with the supplement from the General Government, and the original private aid, it has been possible greatly to enlarge the scope of the inquiry. Indeed, this may be regarded as one of the class of cases in which the higher scientific research has been favored by a happy combination of public and private support in such way as not only to insure the greatest economy in the use of money and other resources, but also to promise a valuable outcome.

In order to control the conditions and measure the changes affecting the living organism under examination, the human subject is isolated in a copper box, a trifle higher and longer than the stature of an average man, and only twice the width of a broad pair of shoulders; and the process of «harmless vivisection,» as it might almost be called, is made tolerable by a glass window and a telephone, enabling the subject to see and converse with friends; by facilities for reading and writing; by provision for vigorous though rather cramped exercise; and by the maintenance of atmospheric conditions calculated to have a cheering effect on the spirits of a healthy man. That a person of active mind, though buoyed by scientific ardor, could lend himself for twelve days to the experimental mercies of the copper box, and emerge with grateful emotions, is a compliment to the foresight of the experimenters, and a promise of surprising results from this method of human analysis.

Ten years ago THE CENTURY began a series of seven papers by Professor Atwater, which in a way broke the ground for these experiments with the man in the copper box. The initial paper, entitled «The Composition of our Bodies and our Food,» in May, 1887, was followed by others on «How Food Nourishes the Body» (June, 1887), «The Potential Energy of Food» (July, 1887), «The Digestibility of Food» (September, 1887), «The Pecuniary Economy of Food» (January, 1888), «Food and Beverages» (May, 1888) and «What we Should Eat» (June, 1888). It stands to reason that a scientific diet, varied to repair wasted energy, mental or physical, with the smallest tax on the assimilative powers, would confer health and a better chance for wealth on the workers of the world. In time it might also reduce the ranks of the minority who «live to eat,» by rendering more certain of attainment the benefits of «eating to live.»



## OPEN LETTERS

### Portraits of Queen Victoria.

PRINCESS VICTORIA AT THE AGE OF FOUR.

THE portrait of «The Little Princess Victoria,» an engraving of which, by Peter Aitken, is the frontispiece of the present number of THE CENTURY, is a small oil-painting now in the Dulwich Gallery. It is a panel,

eleven inches by eight and three quarters, acquired by the gallery in 1890. It is thus described in the catalogue:

(304) Her Majesty the Queen when Princess Victoria, aged 4 years. S. P. Denning. Full-length figure standing, large black hat with feathers, black velvet pelisse,

sable fur round the neck and crossed over the chest, gray gloves, one of which is held in the right hand, black shoes. Background landscape and blue sky, with clouds.

The catalogue states as follows:

Stephen Pointz Denning was a miniature-painter. He was also employed to make drawings for engravers. The drawing for the engraving of Sir David Wilkie's picture, "Chelsea Pensioners receiving the News of the Battle of Waterloo," was made by him, as also several of Mulready's most popular works. He was keeper of the pictures in the Dulwich Gallery from 1821 until his death, in the seventy-second year of his age, in 1864.

#### QUEEN VICTORIA, 1838.

THE engraving by T. Johnson of the portrait of Queen Victoria painted in 1838 by the young American artist Thomas Sully is reprinted from THE CENTURY for November, 1883, where it appeared by the kind permission of Mr. Francis T. Sully Darley. The picture is from the original oil-study made for the artist's full-length painting of the Queen for the St. George's Society of Philadelphia. Thomas Sully was one of the best-known of the earlier American portrait-painters. He lived to a ripe old age in Philadelphia, and his house and studio, preserved in the business quarter of the city, were most interesting survivals of the old days. He was born in England in 1783; died in Philadelphia in 1872. In "Hours at Home" for 1869 are some "Recollections of an Old Painter" dictated by him. In relation to the picture Mr. Sully says:

A painting-room was arranged for my accommodation in Buckingham Palace. . . .

In order to reach the painting-room I had to pass through a room called the King's closet, and I saw lying upon the Queen's desk books which showed that she did not read nonsense. Among these books were Channing's Discourses.

The Queen came to the sittings with her secretary, the Baroness Letzen. She was very affable, like a well-bred lady of Philadelphia or Boston, and used to talk about different things. I saw that she relished American freedom very much: she had not had such a treat for a long time. I told her I would get my daughter to sit with the regalia, if there would be no impropriety, in order to save her the trouble.

"Oh, no impropriety," replied Victoria; "but don't spare me; if I can be of service I will sit."

After that my daughter sat with the regalia, which weighed thirty or forty pounds. The earrings had to be tied with a loop, as I had not allowed her ears to be pierced.

One day the Queen sent word that she would come in if my daughter would remain where she was. But, of course, Blanche stepped down, and the two girls, who were almost the same age, chatted together quite familiarly.

The Queen wrote her name for me in this manner:  
For Mr. Sully,

Victoria Regina.

She also gave my daughter a medal and her signature.

#### QUEEN VICTORIA, 1840.

THE third portrait is, with some slight curtailment, a reproduction of one by Sir William Charles Ross, R. A., who was born in London, 1794, and died 1857. He painted, in miniature, many members of the royal household (the Queen, Prince Consort, and their family), King and Queen of the Belgians, King and Queen of Portugal, and Napoleon III. He was elected Royal Academician in 1839. In the same year he was knighted. The engraving from which our picture is

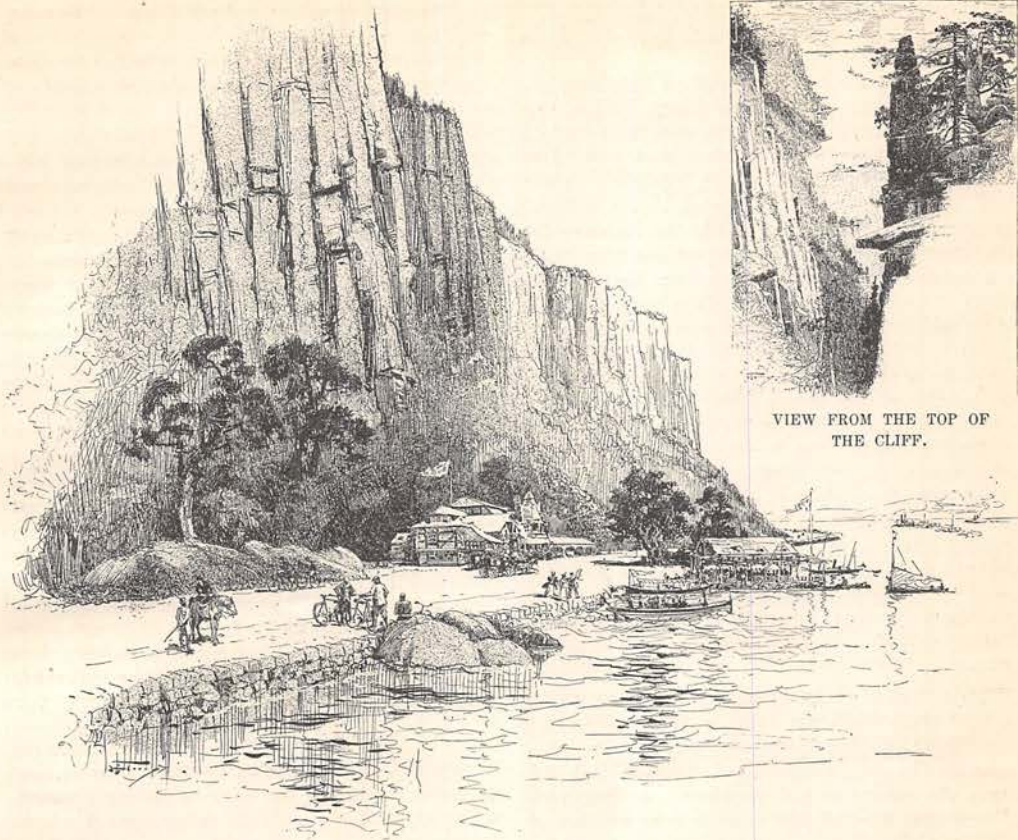
made is by Henry Thomas Ryall, a pupil of Sam Reynolds. He was an engraver, both on copper and steel, of considerable reputation. This portrait of the Queen is one of his best-known works. He died in 1867.

#### QUEEN VICTORIA, 1895.

THE following account of the portrait on page 168 is furnished by the Canadian artist Mr. F. M. Bell Smith: "At three o'clock on the afternoon of July 5, 1895, I was in the white drawing-room of Windsor Castle, awaiting the arrival of the Queen, who had appointed that hour for the first sitting for her portrait, which was to be included in the historical painting representing her Majesty in the act of placing a wreath upon the coffin of her dead statesman, the Right Hon. Sir John S. D. Thompson, K. C. M. G., M. P., P. C., Q. C., etc., whose sudden death on December 12, 1894, just after leaving the presence of his sovereign, was one of the most tragic events in the history of the venerable pile in which it occurred.

"In a few moments an aged gentleman who for over seventy years has filled the position of usher to the sovereign entered the room, and announced that the Queen would be detained for a short time, owing to the arrival of the Duchess of Coburg. The delay was not of long duration, however; and soon the door was thrown open, and the usher said, 'The Queen is coming!' From my position in the room I could see down a corridor for some little distance; but before the royal party came into view I heard a voice, strong, clear, ringing, speaking in such a loud tone that I wondered who could presume to so speak in such near proximity to her Majesty's private apartments. Then it struck me that it must be the Queen, and so it proved to be; and the wonderful, bell-like purity of tone, and strong, vigorous manner of her speech, impressed and surprised me. As the Queen entered the room she said, as she acknowledged my low bow, 'I am sorry to have kept you waiting'; and I could not help the recollection that some persons of less degree than England's queen had not thought it worth while to show similar politeness when failing in their appointments. The fact that I had been positively assured by some very high officials connected with the Queen's household that there was no chance whatever of her Majesty's giving me a sitting, together with the assurance from the Munshi that I need not expect more than five minutes, had led me to expect very different treatment from that which I actually received. The Queen, being seated, turned to me and said, 'You will place me in the position you desire'; and so I arranged the pose of the head and direction of the eyes, which being done, my illustrious and royal sitter sat as still as any model in the ateliers of Paris, and retained the position with a rigidity I have never known surpassed. The Queen, seeing that I could obtain a better view sitting than standing, directed the Princess Louise to hand me a chair; and during the whole of the sitting her Royal Highness stood at my shoulder, and watched with keen interest the progress of my work, which she was good enough to comment upon from time to time.

"In speaking to the Queen, I noticed that the princess always said, 'mama dear,' but never used any other form than 'the Queen' when speaking to others. The conversation between her Majesty and her daughter was



VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE CLIFF.

SUGGESTED DRIVEWAY AT THE FOOT OF THE PALISADES OF THE HUDSON.

for the most part conducted in German, which is, I am told, the language in which the royal family usually converse. I noticed several times that the expression on the Queen's face relaxed into a very pleasant smile when reference was made to some of the little princes or princesses, great-grandchildren of the Queen; and it was then that the singular beauty of the form of her mouth was seen. My general impression was that the photographs of the Queen did not do her justice, as there was a refinement and delicacy in the features that I had never observed in her pictures.»

#### FACSIMILES.

THE facsimiles from the Queen's «coronation roll» have never before appeared. It was found that as they pertained to a living personage, it was necessary to obtain authorization for their publication. The royal permission was graciously accorded for their reproduction in THE CENTURY MAGAZINE.

*The Editor.*

#### A Way to Save the Palisades.

It is well known that the impressive scenery of the Palisades of the Hudson is gradually being destroyed by quarrymen. The sphere of action to devise or enforce some protective measure which may save them from further injury is confined to the two States whose territory includes this remarkable dike of rock. Though the

whole nation is deeply interested in the preservation of the unique and familiar landmark, on the citizens of New York and New Jersey rests the responsibility, both legal and moral, to protect it from further defacement. In spite of the care which private interests have taken to exclude them, quarries are being worked at four different points along the base of the cliffs, where, by lease or purchase, a foothold has been gained. The lack of permanence in all defensive measures against the quarrymen, based on the interest or sentiment of the individual resident or owner, renders it important that the States of New York and New Jersey, for the public good, should condemn and take possession of the eastern slope of the Palisades by right of eminent domain.

The menace of the future is more alarming than the damage of to-day. What with steam-drills and high-grade explosives, and an increasing demand for broken stone, there is danger of the ultimate destruction of the pristine wildness and beauty of this region; and when we consider that in the quarrying gravity here largely takes the place of manual labor, and that it is but a short haul to a good market, the doom of the cliffs appears inevitable.

On the 19th of February New Jersey passed an act requiring the riparian commissioners, in all leases or sales of water privileges of the State, to insert a restrictive clause forbidding quarrying of the Palisades;