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The Coronation of King Edward

THE coronation of King Edward II. which takes place on Thursday of this week, though making him no more king than he is at the present time, will mark an important period in the history of the British Empire. There will be gathered in London representatives from all the civilized nations of the earth and distinguished colonists from His Majesty's world-wide dominions will gather to do homage to King Edward and his noble Queen. The ceremonies connected with the coronation will be conducted on a most elaborate scale and a pageantry has been devised that will revive many of the customs of the middle ages. Because of these elaborate and **showy preparations** many thousands of the nobility and of the wealthy from all lands will gather in the world's metropolis to witness the splendor and magnificence of the occasion. It will be an event long to be remembered by every citizen of the British Empire. May King Edward and his goodly Queen live long to **enjoy the good will and loyalty** of their subjects which will be greatly strengthened by the events of this week.

King Edward became King on the memorable evening of January 22nd, 1901, when the good and great Queen breathed her last. The King entered upon his heritage with a long record of personal service to his country behind him. He was born on November 9th, 1842 at Buckingham Palace. His coming into the world was the crowning joy of the happy marriage of Queen Victoria with Prince Albert of Saxe-Cobourg, and the christening was celebrated at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on January 25th, with great state and splendor. The infant prince received the name of Albert, after his father, and Edward, after his maternal grandfather, the Duke of Kent. His upbringing was of that simple kind so characteristic of the natural home life with which Victoria surrounded her children. The advice of the late Queen on the upbringing

of her children is worthy of being followed by every home in the land. "They," she said, "should be brought up as simply as possible, and in as domestic a way as possible; that, not interfering with their lessons, they should be as much as possible with their parents, and learn to place their greatest confidence in them in all things; and religious training is best given to a child at its mother's knee."

1875 the King visited India where he was welcomed in a royal and enthusiastic manner by all classes. Thus has the training of the King been such as would fit him to rule over the world's greatest empire.

Coronation Curios.

Now that London, that greatest city in the world, is full of people, many of them Canadians who are attending the coronation of the greatest monarch of the earth it may be appropriate to recall some curious customs and incidents connected with coronations of the past.

When the crown had been placed upon the head of Richard the Lion Hearted it is recorded that great alarm was caused by the appearance of a bat which came out from its hiding place under the church rafters and circled around the throne.

At the coronation of that most unfortunate sovereign, Charles 1st, it was discovered that in all London not sufficient purple velvet could be procured for the royal robes and the furniture of the throne room. The nearest city in which the material could be procured was Genoa but this would have caused a delay of nearly three months at that time so it was decided that the King should be robed in white velvet. When too late it was remembered that this was the color in which criminals under death penalty were arrayed; thus the King's Council establish a prophesy of evil borne out later by the unhappy Charles' execution.

Coronation Postponed.

Just as we go to press we learn that the Coronation ceremonies have been postponed indefinitely, owing to the serious illness of King Edward, who was operated upon on Tuesday for appendicitis. Late reports show that the King is resting quietly after the operation, but it will be sometime before he will be able to be crowned.

God Save the King.



King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra in Coronation Robes.

The events in the life of the King are too numerous to receive more than a passing glance at this time. At the age of eighteen he became of age and a few months later made his memorable journey to Canada and the United States, landing at St. John's, Newfoundland, on July 24, 1860. In December 1861 the death of the Prince Consort cast a deep gloom over the royal household. King Edward was married on March 10, 1863, to the Princess Alexandra, the eldest daughter of Prince Christian, then Crown Prince of Denmark. This event was celebrated with great splendor and rejoicing throughout Great Britain. In the June of 1865 George, now Prince of Wales, was born. In

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