

The Prince of Wales.

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Stone, sometimes "The Stone of Destiny," and is said to be the one on which Jacob rested his head at Bethel, and to have been carried by his sons to Egypt. This however is only one legend out of several. Geologists say the Coronation Stone is a very ordinary boulder, which might come from near Scone, or anywhere in Scotland. It is certain that on it the Scottish kings were crowned, and that in 1296 Edward I. brought it to the Abbey, whence it has only once been removedfor the inauguration of Cromwell in Westminster Hall.

About the sacred oil used in the anointing and ampulla or vase of gold to contain it, there is a fifteenth century legend that the Virgin Mary appeared to Sir Thomas a Becket, with a golden eagle and a stone phial in her hands, and that she gave these to him, saying that the oil was to be used for anointing the King, and that the eagle would bring him certain victory over his enemies. Now the ampulla is shaped like an eagle, and the head of it screws the peer who first received it when the

ception of the King as half priest, half soldier, head of the church and of the army. The first vestment, the colobium sindonis, is of fine linen, a sleeveless garment, edged with lace; then comes the dalmatic or super-tunica, a long jacket of cloth-of-gold, now woven with pink roses, green shamrocks and purple thistles, and fastening with a girdle. Formerly the Lord Great Chamberlain buckled the golden spurs on to the King's heels, but now the King's heels are only touched with the spurs, while a Queen regnant merely places her hand on them, The Lord Great Chamberlain still girds on the King's sword, though Queen Victoria simply held the sword in. her hand. Before the Sword of Justice is handed to the King, the Archbishop lays it on the altar and prays that the Sovereign may not use it in vain. When this sword is ungirt the King presents it as an offering on the altarthe oblation of the sword.

Then follows a quaint ceremony.

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