

God Save the King.

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BY

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George the Fifth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

The British Constitution, of which ours is a copy, has been of very gradual growth—it was not made in a day or a year and is not the production of one man or of one generation of men.

Like most, if not all, institutions which have come down from ancient times, it bears traces of the past, and much still remains of antiquity, though much may have disappeared in the course of evolution. But the course of evolution has been continuous, and there are things new as well as things old to be found in it. I am not sure that something of this evolution is not to be learned from the name of the Sovereign.

The Supreme Executive of the United Kingdom is vested in a single individual, the King. And in like manner, in the Dominion of Canada and in the province of Ontario, the King is the Supreme Executive and he is the Sovereign Lord.

It is my purpose to take up, in their order, the names and titles by which our King is officially known and to consider briefly what is meant by them, and whence they come.

The name "George" was not used by any British Sovereign until the Hanoverian dynasty came in with George I., the Elector of Hanover, who succeeded to the throne in 1714 on the death without issue of Queen Anne. "George" is itself of Greek origin and