

O GOD, the Crown of the faithful : Bless we beseech thee and sanctify this thy servant EDWARD our King ; and as thou dost this day set a Crown of pure Gold upon his Head, so enrich his Royal Heart with thine abundant grace, and crown him with all princely virtues, through the King Eternal Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the King sitting down in King Edward's Chair, the Archbishop, assisted with other Bishops, comes from the Altar ; the Dean of Westminster brings the Crown, and the Archbishop taking it of him reverently putteth it upon the King's Head. At the sight whereof the People, with loud and repeated shouts, cry, God save the King ; the Peers and the Kings of Arms put on their Coronets ; and the Trumpets sound, and by a signal given, the great Guns at the Tower are shot off.

The Acclamation ceasing, the Archbishop goeth on, and saith :

BE strong and of a good courage : Observe the Commandments of God and walk in his holy ways : Fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life : that in this world you may be crowned with success and honour, and when you have finished your course, receive a Crown of Righteousness, which God the righteous Judge shall give you in that day.

Then the Choir singeth :

Be strong and play the man : Keep the Commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is the first to do homage to the King, for the Coronation Service is essentially a religious ceremony. Then the Prince of Wales kneels with the other Princes, promising allegiance.

Then follows the same ceremony on the part of the Peers, the first only of each order touching the Crown, kissing the King's Cheek and promising support. After that comes the Coronation of the Queen, which is ordered as follows :

THE QUEEN'S CORONATION, BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

The Queen ariseth and goeth to the steps of the Altar, supported by two Bishops, and there kneeleth down, whilst the Archbishop of York saith the following Prayer :

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all goodness : Give ear, we beseech thee, to our prayers, and multiply thy blessings upon this thy servant, whom in thy Name, with all humble devotion, we consecrate our Queen ; Defend her evermore from dangers, ghostly and bodily ; Make her a great example of virtue and piety, and a blessing to this king-

dom, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, O Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

This Prayer being ended, the Queen ariseth, and cometh to the place of her Anointing ; Which is to be at a Faldstool set for that purpose before the Altar, between the steps and King Edward's Chair. She kneeleth down, and four Peeresses appointed for that service, and summoned by Garter King of Arms, holding a rich Pall of Cloth of Gold over her, the Archbishop of York poureth the Holy Oil upon the Crown of her Head, saying these words :

IN the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost : Let the anointing with this Oil increase your honour, and the grace of God's Holy Spirit establish you, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Then the Archbishop of York receiveth from the Officer of the Jewel Office the Queen's Ring, and putteth it upon the Fourth Finger of her Right Hand, saying :

RECEIVE this Ring, the seal of a sincere Faith ; and God, to whom belongeth all power and dignity, prosper you in this your honour, and grant you therein long to continue, fearing him always, and always doing such things as shall please him, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Archbishop of York taketh the Crown from off the Altar into his hands, and reverently setteth it upon the Queen's Head, saying :

RECEIVE the Crown of glory, honour, and joy : And God the Crown of the faithful who by our Episcopal hands (though unworthy) doth this day set a Crown of pure Gold upon your Head, enrich your Royal Heart with his abundant grace, and crown you with all princely virtues in this life, and with an everlasting Crown of glory in the life which is to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Queen being crowned all the Peeresses put on their Coronets.

Then the Archbishop of York putteth the Sceptre into the Queen's Right Hand, and the Ivory Rod with the Dove into her Left Hand ; and sayeth this Prayer :

O LORD, the giver of all perfection : Grant unto this thy servant ALEXANDRA our Queen, that by the powerful and mild influence of her piety and virtue, she may adorn the high dignity which she hath obtained, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Queen being thus Anointed, and crowned, and having received all her Ornaments, ariseth and goeth from the Altar, supported by her two Bishops, and so up to the Theatre. And as she passeth by the King on his Throne, she boweth herself reverently to His Majesty, and then is conducted to her own Throne, and without any further Ceremony taketh her place in it.