

THE CROWN OF ENGLAND.

It may be of interest to some of our readers to know of what Her Most Gracious Majesty's crown is composed, and also its actual value. There are twenty diamonds round the circle, worth \$7,500 each, making \$150,000; two large centre diamonds at \$10,000 each, making \$20,000; fifty-four smaller diamonds placed at the angle of the former, each \$500; four crosses, each composed of twenty-five diamonds, \$60,000; four large diamonds on the top of the crosses, \$20,000; twelve diamonds contained in the Fleur-de-lis, \$50,000; eighteen smaller diamonds contained in the same, \$10,000; pearls, diamonds, etc., upon the arches and crosses, \$50,000; also 141 small diamonds, \$25,000; twenty-six diamonds in the upper cross, \$15,500; two circles of pearls about the rim, \$15,000. The cost of the stones in the crown, exclusive of the metal, is therefore nearly half a million dollars.

THE FLAG OF ENGLAND.

On the 12th of April, 1606, the Union Jack—that famous ensign—first made its appearance. From Rymer's *Fœdera* and the Scottish annals of Sir James Balfour we learn that some differences having arisen between ships of the two countries at sea, the King ordained that a new flag be adopted, with the crosses of St. Andrew and St. George interlaced by placing the latter fimbriated on the blue flag of Scotland, as the ground thereof. This flag all ships were to carry at the main-top. But English ships were to display St. George's red cross at their stern, and the Scottish the white saltire of St. Andrew.

"I see a buttonless shirt advertised here John," said a wife looking up from a paper. "What kind of a shirt is that?" "Just like mine," was the reply. And the wife resumed her reading.

Difference Between the English Poets.

Chaucer describes men and things as they are.
Shakespeare as they would be under the circumstances supposed.
Spencer as we would wish them to be.
Milton as they ought to be.
Byron as they ought not to be.
Shelley as they never can be.

Loose Paragraphs.

Jack Blunt once loved a maid-whose hair
With terra cotta might compare.
"My heart beats but for you," he said;
"No matter if your hair is red,
With me the colour has no heft"—
And he got left.

George Smoothly later came to woo,
Said he, with passion tender, true,
"I love you and all that is you;
Those locks of dainty, golden hair
The sunlight kissed and lingered there—
I'd give my all for one wee curl."
He got the girl.

—[Washington Critic.

Her love he was a baker's lad,
And in his parting cry,
Mixed shop and sorrow; ah, 'twas sad;
"Good pie, sweet tart, good pie!"

"The last link is broken," the fellow said, when he kissed his girl good-bye forever, at her request, because her parents wished a dissolution. A few days after he received a note, saying, "Dear George, there are plenty more links, come and break them."

Captain: "A brave soldier will always be found in battle where the bullets are the thickest. You understand me, Meyer?" Recruit: "Yes, to command, captain." Captain: "Then where will you be found in a battle?" Recruit: "In the ammunition waggon, captain; that's where the bullets are the thickest."—*Der Floh*.

A lease of 999 years, made in the days of King Alfred, has just expired in England. The land was leased by the Church to the Crown, and reverts now to the Church of England after a millenium year—a striking illustration of the stability of the law in that little isle.

—= FOR =—

JOB : PRINTING

: PATRONISE :

MASON & REYNOLDS

: 45 : ELGIN : STREET :

OTTAWA.