



Chatham Daily Planet.



VOL. XI

CHATHAM, ONT., SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1902.

NO. 204

"GOD AND HIS ANGELS GUARD YOUR SACRED THRONE."

—SHAKESPEARE, KING HENRY V.

KING EDWARD VII And HIS CORONATION



King Edward VII

KING OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND AND OF ALL THE
BRITISH DOMINIONS BEYOND THE SEAS, DEFENDER
OF THE FAITH AND EMPEROR OF INDIA.

AN IMPRESSIVE SCENE

Special to The Planet.
London, August 9.—Edward VII.
was crowned king of England at 12.39
p. m.

The news of the crowning was
announced by an official outside
Westminster Abbey. It was repeated
throughout London, and was received
with cheers which spread throughout
the streets and crowds far up the
hills.

As the hour appointed for the de-
parture of the royal procession for
Westminster Abbey, approached the
excitement about Buckingham Palace
was most marked.

Punctual to time, the advance guard
of the royal cavalcade issued from
the archway, the horses of the troop-
ers curvetting nervously as they
faced the wall of humanity that
cheered their coming. Shortly after-
wards came the Prince and Princess
of Wales' procession, and finally, with-
in a few minutes their Majesties state
coach appeared at the gateway, and
the King and Queen smiled and bowed
in response to the mighty roar of
cheers.

On the roof of the palace were
perched a number of fashionably
dressed ladies, members of the house-
hold, and their cheeks, with the flut-
tering of their handkerchiefs as the
King and Queen entered the royal
coach gave the signal for the deafen-
ing plaudits of the populace which
greeted their majesties, as they
emerged from the gates. The ovation
was taken up by the crowds which
thronged the Mall, and was repeatedly
acknowledged by the occupants of the
state coach.

KING LOOKED PALE.

The King looked pale and rather
fine-drawn, and was by no means as
brown and robust as previous reports
had led one to expect, and while punc-
tually bowing from side to side, he
did so with a gravity very unusual to
him. He seemed to sit rather far back
in the carriage, and moved his body
very little. His curious crimson robes
and cap, the maintenance of which,
simply a band of ermine with a crim-
son velvet top, doubtless gave him
the unusual appearance.
The Queen beside him was radiant.
She never looked better. The cheers

which greeted the pair were loud and
unmistakably genuine and very dif-
ferent from the perfunctory applause
which usually greets the appearance
of members of the royal family.
The three processions that Abbey
were carried out according to pro-
gram, and the only striking features
of the first two were the gorgeous
state carriages and the beautiful
trappings and horses.

PRINCE HENRY ON A BACK SEAT.

The crowd paid but little attention
to the occupants of the vehicles. In
the last carriage of the first proces-
sion sat Prince Henry of Prussia on
the back seat, but he was so occupied
with talking to the Duke of Sparta
that he seemed not to notice the
crowd. The Prince of Wales also
seemed very indifferent and stolid,
but the Princess of Wales bowed and
smiled constantly.

Lord Kitchener, Admiral Seymour
and Gen. Gaselee came in for much
attention, but they all seemed to look
straight ahead and pay little atten-
tion to the people. Kitchener in the
resplendent full dress uniform of a
general also looked unfamiliar, and
many persons did not recognize him.

INDIANS PICTURESQUE.

The Indians were undoubtedly the
most picturesque pictures of the pro-
cession, while the state coach of the
King, drawn by the fat Hanoverian
horses which figured in all of the late
Queen Victoria's processions, seemed
much more like fairyland than usual.
The progress of the royal cortege
was marked by no special incident,
with the exception of a slight acci-
dent to Lord Edward Pelham Clinton,
one of the grooms in waiting, whose
carriage was run into. It was a con-
tinued triumph, and reached its cli-
max on the arrival at the Abbey,
where there was a scene of unparal-
leled enthusiasm which did not cease
until their majesties appeared in the
annex.

CEREMONY IN THE ABBEY.

London, Aug. 9. — In Westminster
Abbey the doors of that edifice were
scarcely opened and the gold sticks
and ushers had barely found their sta-
tions before the seats began to fill.
Peers and peeresses swept up the nave,
their scarlet and ermine making vivid
contrasts with the deep blue of the

carpet. As they arrived before the
throne they separated, the peers go-
ing to the right and the peeresses to
the left.

The various chairs to be used by
the King and Queen in the service at-
tracted special attention, but what in-
evitably caught the eye was the glit-
tering array of gold plate brought
from various royal depositories, ranged
along the chancel and behind the
altar. Amidst these surroundings the
earl marshal, the Duke of Norfolk,
resplendent in white knee breeches
and heavily embroidered coat, hurried
to and fro directing the final touches.

By 10 o'clock the interior of the
Abbey presented a blaze of color.
Along the nave, which was lined by
grenadiers, every chair was taken up
by high officers of the army and navy
and others in equally handsome equip-
ment.

On top of the arch separating the
nave from the chancel sat the sur-
plined orchestra. In stalls within,
with the other ambassadors, were the
United States ambassador, Joseph H.
Choate, and Mrs. Choate, and many
officials.

During the long wait, Edwin A.
Abbey, the American artist who was
commissioned to paint the coronation
scene in the Abbey and who wore
court uniform, took careful notes of
the surroundings for the historic pic-
ture ordered by the King.

The peeresses took advantage of the
long interval to stroll up and down,
but the peers sat stolidly awaiting the
arrival of the Sovereign, their crimi-
son caps presenting a solid mass of white.
After 10 o'clock the organ and band
played, while the spectators, many of
whom showed signs of sleepiness,
swept with their glasses about the
various of the Abbey they could see from
their seats.



God Save the King

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King;
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us;
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign;
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

VIVA ALEXANDRA

The service commenced with the
reconsecration of the regalia. The
procession clergy, with the regalia,
then proceeded from the altar to the
annex, all present standing up and
the choir singing, "Oh, God, our help
in ages past." Preceding the regalia
came the boys of Westminster Abbey,
followed by the children of the Chapel
Royal and the choir in royal uni-
forms.

The Duke of Connaught took his
place beside the Prince of Wales in
the Abbey, as the procession entered,
bowing as he passed the prince.

The Archbishop of Canterbury took
his seat in front of the coronation
chair and the Earl of Halsbury, the
lord high chamberlain, seated himself by
his side. Several minutes elapsed,
however, before the King and Queen

QUEEN ALEXANDRA And HER CROWNING

came in sight of those gathered about
the throne. Suddenly "Viva Alex-
andra" was shouted by the boys of
Westminster and the Queen, walking
slowly to the left of the throne, gained
her chair and knelt at the altar prie-
dieu, her magnificent train of cloth of
gold being lifted out of her way by
six scarlet-coated pages.

Two or three minutes later came the
hoarse cry from the Westminster boys
of "Viva Rex Edwardus," with blasts
from trumpets. Yet there was another
wait. "What has become of the King?"
was asked by people who were shut
off from sight of the nave.

The Queen waited patiently, the
organ ceased and then resumed, there
was another fanfare of trumpets,
another chorus of "Vivats" and King
Edward appeared and walked to his
chair in front of the throne, bowing
to the Queen as he passed, and then
knelt down in prayer. After remov-
ing his somewhat unbecoming cap his
Majesty stood up and the Arch-
bishop of Canterbury, in a trembling
voice read the recognition, beginning:

"Sirs, I present unto you King
Edward, the undoubted king of this
realm," etc. Then there was a hoarse
shout and the blending of the choir
and the people, women and men, in
the cry, "God Save King Edward."

Several times this was repeated and
the Abbey rang with loud fanfares.
Again the King and Queen knelt and
the Archbishop of Canterbury walked
to the altar and commenced the com-



Queen Alexandra

QUEEN CONSORT OF HIS MAJESTY EDWARD VII. IN WEST-
MINSTER ABBEY, WHERE KINGS AND QUEENS HAVE
BEEN ENTHRONED FOR CENTURIES.

AN EMPIRE'S LOYALTY

munion. While the gospel was be-
ing read the King stood erect, sup-
ported on each side by the bishops
in their heavily embroidered cope.
During the singing of the creed all
the members of the royal family
turned eastward. Both King Edward
and Queen Alexandra followed the
service carefully, frequently looking
at the copies of the service which
they held in their hands.

KING TOOK THE OATH.

The administration of the oath fol-
lowed. Standing before the King's
chair, the archbishop asked:
"Sir, is your majesty willing to take
the oath?"

King—I am willing.
Arch.—Will you solemnly promise
and swear to govern the people of
this United Kingdom of Great Brit-
ain and Ireland, and the dominions
thereof belonging, according to the
statutes in parliament agreed on,
and the respective laws and customs
of the same?

King—I solemnly promise so to do.
Arch.—Will you to your power
cause law and justice, in mercy, to
be executed in all your judgments?

King—I will.
Arch.—Will you to the utmost of
your power maintain the laws of God,
the true profession of the gospel, and
the Protestant reformed religion es-
tablished by law? And will you
maintain and preserve inviolably the
settlement of the Church of England,
and the doctrine, worship, discipline
and government thereof, as by law
established in England? And will
you preserve unto the bishops and
clergy of England, and to the church
therein committed to their charge,
all such rights and privileges, as by
law do or shall appertain to them
or any of them?

King—All this I promise to do.
The King, assisted by the lord
Chamberlain, then went to the altar,
where, uncovered in the sight of all
the people, he placed his hand on the
Bible, held by the archbishop, who
knelt on the steps in front of him,
saying these words:

The things which I have here be-
fore promised, I will perform and
keep.
His majesty then kissed the book
and signed the oath.
When the King held on his hand

for the ring, the archbishop of Can-
terbury had difficulty in finding it,
but finally, with trembling hands, he
placed it on the tip of his majesty's
finger, reading the prayer simultane-
ously, the King himself completing
the process of putting on the ring as
he withdrew his hand. Later the
archbishop had similar difficulty,
owing to near-sightedness, in plac-
ing the crown on the King's head.
In fact, the archbishop started "God Save
the King," while the archbishop of
Canterbury was still striving to place
the crown on the ruler's head and a
great shout went up and the elec-
tric lights were turned on.

As the acclamations died away, the
clanging of the joybells, the noise
of guns and the shouting of the peo-
ple outside penetrated into the Abbey
where the King still sat motionless,
his dazzling crown on his head and
his scepter held firmly in his hand.

After singing "Be strong and play
the man" and the Bible having been
presented, the King advanced and
knelt while he received the benedic-
tion. He then walked to the great
throne, where he stood on the dais
for the first time, surrounded by
nobles. The Archbishop of Can-
terbury followed the King being obliged
to stand while awaiting the arrival
of the Archbishop.

KING KISSED PRINCE.

Having placed the King into his
new throne, the Archbishop knelt and
paid homage, the aged prelate scarce-
ly being able to rise until the King
assisted him and himself raised the
Archbishop's hand from the steps of
the throne. The Archbishop, who
seemed to be in a faint, had to prac-
tically be carried to the altar. The
incident created considerable excite-
ment and several prelates rushed for-
ward to help the prelate.

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PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AND PRINCE EDWARD,
HEIR PRESUMPTIVE.