Windsor the 28th of November
1792.

Edward the v th.

Edward the 4th Died in the Year 1483. He left His Brother Richard Duke of Gloucester Regent during His Sons Minority, & recommended Unanimity of the two Parties Namely that of the Queens, & their opponents.

Earl Rivers Brother to the Queen & the Marquis of Dorset Her Son. headed Her party. &

The Duke of Buckingham the Queens brother in Law, & Lord Hastings the Kgs Chamberlain headed the other.

Edward the v th was at Ludlow Castle at His Fathers Death. under the Care of His Uncle

Rivers. The Queen orders Rivers to levy a body of Troops & to Escort Her Son to London in safety. Ld Hastings opposes that Measure & threatens to leave the Kingdom upon it. The Queen revokes Her orders of levying Troops.

The Duke of Glocester accompanied by Buckingham goes to Northampton to meet the Kg.

Rivers carrys the Kg to Stony Stratford, & goes Himself to Northampton where He is well received by the Duke of Glocester. Next Morning all set out together for Stony Stratford, & upon entering the Town. Earl Rivers. Sr Richard Grey another Son of the Queens. Sir Thomas

Vaughan, are arrested by order of the Regent & Conducted to Pomfret. The Kg shews great displeasure at this Step.

The Queen upon receiving this intelligence retired with the Duke of York, the Kgs Brother & His five Sisters, & the Marquis of Dorset into the Sanctuary of Westminster for safty.

The two Archbishops, Cardinal Bouchier the Primate, & Rotheram Archbishop of York persuade the Queen to deliver up the Duke of York into their Hands.

The Duke of Gloucester was installed Protector by the Council without Consent of Parliament.

The Duke of Buckingham, & Hastings Consent to the Death of the Prisoners detained at

at Pomfret without Tryal. & Sr Richard Ratcliff was the Person who executed the deed.

The Duke of Glocester gains Buckingham to assist Him in getting the Crown, but does not Succeed with Hastings, who is much attached to the Young Pd. which He resents, & determines His destruction.

The Protector summons a Council at the Tower, the very Day of the execution of the Prisoners at Pomfret. ~~Hastings was there.~~ The Pd pays some Compliments to Morton Bishop of Ely about His Gardening before the business began. He then left the room, & returned in a short time at which Hastings was present. The Protector left the Council room, & then returned with

great Anger accusing the Dowager Queen, & Jane Shore the late K.ys Mistress of plotting against His life, & asking Hastings what Punishment was due to them for so doing? He hesitated to give an answer being Confident of their innocence. ~~but the K.~~ upon which the K. accused him of being a party Concerned with Jane Shore, & told him His Head should answer for it. He was seized & executed immediately. & a proclamation read at the Tower enumerating Hastings offences.

Lord Stanley, the Archbishop of York Bishop of Ely & other Counsellors were Carry'd Prisoners to the Tower.

Jane Shore was tryed but Nothing proved

against Her, She was acquitted & ended Her Life in great Indigence.

After Hastings death. He made ~~it~~ His intentions of getting Possession of the Crown no more a Secret. & He used the following means to obtain it. He proved the late Kgs Marriage with the Ldy Elyzabeth null & void, by asserting that He was before privately Married to Ldy Eleanor Talbot Daughter to the Earl of Shrewsbury & that the Ceremony was performed by Stillington Bishop of Bath. He maintained that the act of attainder passed against the Duke of Clarence incapacitated His Children to Succeed. ~~& Lastly that the late Kg Edward the IV th~~ & the Duke of ~~Kg~~ Clarence His

~~Two Brothers were Bastards, that His~~ He declared His Own Mother the Duchess of York guilty of Adultery, & that both the late Kg, & Duke of Clarence were bastards & that He himself was the only Legitimate Son of the D. of York, which He proved by His likeness to His Father. He got Dr Shaw to introduce this in a Sermon at St Pauls, but without any Effect upon the People, Then the Duke of Buckingham went into the City where Shaw, the Ld Mayor called an Assembly of the Citizens. & the Duke ~~after~~ with great difficulty persuaded the People to chose the Protector for their Kg. The Duke & Ld Mayor went to Baynards where the Protector was to Carry Him

this News. He accepted & acted as Legitimate Sovereign.

The first Use he made of His power was to send orders to Sr Robert Brackenbury Constable of the Tower, to put Edward the Vth & the Duke of York His brother to Death which He refused to do. He then sent Sr James Tirrel & ordered the Constable to give up the Keys to him for one Night. & Tirrel, Slater, & Dighton, & Forest, His three Associates. Suffocated these two Unhappy & innocent Princes in the Night & buried them at the foot of the Stairs deep in the ground under a heap of Stone.

Richard. 3d

The first acts of Richards Administration were to bestow rewards on those who had assisted Him in Usurping the Crown. Thomas Ld Howard was created Duke of Norfolk, His Son Sr Thomas Howard Earl of Surrey. Lord Lovel a Viscount, & Ld Stanley who had become obnoxious to Richard by opposing His views & also by Marrying the Countess Dowager of Richmond, was set at Liberty & made Ld Chamberlain.

The Duke of Buckingham was installed in the Office of Constable, & obtained a Grant of the Hereford Estate which he laid Claim to & had been seized by the Sovereigns of the House of York after the forfeiture of the House of Lancaster.

The Duke of Buckingham ~~suspected~~ Suspected

the K. ~~of~~ ill will towards him, & knowing himself that the Generality of People were but ill disposed to the K., He began forming a Conspiracy against him. He was encouraged by Morton Bishop of Ely, & the Young Earl of Richmond was the Person they look'd to to free the Nation from the Tyranny of the present Usurper.

Henry Earl of Richmond, was at this time detained in a kind of honorable Custody by the Duke of Brittany; & his descent, which seemed to give him some pretensions to the Crown had been a great object of ~~fealousy~~ jealousy both in the late & in the present reign. John the 1st Duke of Somerset who was Grand Son of John of Gaunt, by a Spurious branch, but legitimated by act of Parliament, had left only one Daughter, Margaret

& his Younger brother, Edmund, had succeeded him in his titles, & in a considerable part of his fortune. Margaret had Espoused, Edmund Earl of Richmond, half brother of Henry. 6th & son of Sr Owen Tudor & Catherine of France relict of Henry the 5th. & she bore him one Son only, who received the name of Henry, & who after his Fathers Death, inherited the honours & fortune of Richmond. His Mother being a Widow, had Espoused in 2d Marriage Sr Henry Stafford, Uncle to Buckingham, & after the Death of that Gentleman, had married the present Lord Stanley. but had no Children by ~~him~~ either of these Husbands & Her Son Henry was became thus the Sole heir of all Her Fortune. but the most Considerable advantage arising from this, was that

He would represent the Eldest branch of the house of Somerset: he would inherit all the title of that Family to the Crown, & the ibs Claim, while any legitimate branch subsist of the house of Lancaster had always been much disregarded, the Zeal of faction after the death of Henry 6th & the Murder of Prince Edward immediately conferred a weight & consideration upon it.

Morton Bishop of Ely suggested that the only means of overturning the present usurpation, was to unite the opposite factions by contracting a Marriage between the Earl of Richmont & the Princess Elyzabeth Eldest Daughter to Edward the 4th and thereby blending ~~the op~~ together the opposite ~~parties~~ pretensions of their Families, which had so long

been the Source of Public disorders & convulsions. He sent Reginald Bray Steward to the Countess of Richmond with this Proposal, ~~&c~~ & met with no opposition from her. Dr Lewis a Welsh Physician carried the Proposals to the Queen Dowager, ~~&c~~ Her Confinement & oppressions overcame all Her ~~anger~~ Prejudices to the House of Lancaster. She borrowed a Sum of Money, sent it to the Earl of Richmond & required his fullfilling the Marriage as soon as he should arrive in England. Meanwhile Buckingham ~~was~~ opened his Plan to the Principal ~~People~~ Persons of both Parties & found every body ready to forward his Success.

Richard was apprized of what was going forward, He put himself in a posture

of defence in the North. & Summoned the
Duke of Buckingham to appear at Court.
but he took up Arms in Wales & gave
a Signal for a general insurrection in
all Parts of England. but A Violent
Fall of Rain which made the Roads, &
Crossing the ~~the~~ River Severn impassable
frustrated the hopes of Buckingham &
His party. He was obliged to ~~[illegible]~~ Shelter
in the house of Banister an Old Servant
there He was detected & brought to the
Ld at Salisbury. where He was instantly
tried, Condemned, & executed. The Mar-
quis of Dorset & Bishop of Ely made their
Escape beyond Sea. & the Earl of Richmond
who came too Late owing to Contrary Winds
was obliged to return to the Court of Brittany.

1444. On the 23d of January the K^g summoned a Parliament. It recognised his authority, & acknowledged his right to the Crown granted him the Duties of Tonnage & Poundage for life. & Created His only Son Edward 12 Years old Prince of Wales.

The K^g now grew Sensible of the Necessity to gain the Confidence of the Yorkists. He lost the Prince of Wales at this time. & as He had no other Children by His Queen who was Anne 2d Daughter to the Earl of Warwick & Widow of the Prince of Wales whom He had Murdered, He poisoned Her, & Courted the Dowager Queen by making Proposals of Marrying Her Daughter Elizabeth. The Queen left Her retirement, & Secured

not ~~begin it~~ to accept of His proposals if the Popes Leave could be obtained. She went further in ~~and~~ desiring Her Son the Marquis of Dorset & the rest of Her partizans to withdraw from the Earl of Richmont.

But the Crimes of Richard were so horrible, & shocking to humanity, that every person of ~~humanity~~ honor & probity was earnest to prevent the Sceptre from being further polluted by that bloody & treacherous hand which held it. The Exiles flocked to the Earl of Richmont & exorted him to prevent the Union between the Ld C & the Princess Elyzabeth.

The Earl succeeded in escaping from Britany ~~&c~~ He went ~~straight~~ straight to the French Court

where He asked & obtained assistance for His Enterprize from Charles 8th K. of France. He went to Harfleur in Normandy where He met the Earl of Oxford who had also Escaped his Prison in England. He ~~set~~ Sailed with a retinue of 2000. Persons, & after a Navigation of six days ~~arrived~~ landed at Milford Haven in Wales the 4th August 1484. He Marched immediately to Shrewsbury where He was joined by Sr Gilbert Talbot, Sr Thomas Bourchier, Sr Walter Hungerford & all their Friends.

The K. ignorant where to expect the invader took Post at Nottingham. & gave orders to Several People in the different Counties to oppose the Enemy's approach, whilst He himself would go to the Place the most exposed to Danger.

Sr Rice Ap Thomas, & Sr Walter Herbert were intrusted with the defence of Wales. the ~~latter~~ former deserted to Henry & the latter made but a feeble resistance, & all the Pretended Friends of Richard left him except the Duke of Norfolk. ~~[illegible]~~

The two Rivals at last approached each other at Bosworth near Leicester on the 22d of August 1485 Henry at the Head of 6000 Men & on Richard with double that Number. Richmond accompanied by the Earl of Pembroke placed Himself in the Main body & Richard did the Same. After the battle was begun Lord Stanley declared for the Earl of Richmond, which event dismayed Richard's Army, but He Himself sensible of his des-

precate Situation drove against his rival whom he perceived at no great Distance in order to come to a Single Combat, which his Antagonist did not decline but Sr William Stanley broke in with his Troops Surrounded Richard who Fighting bravely to the last Moment, was overwhelmed by the Number of his Enemies & perished.

On the Ngs Side the Duke of Norfolk the Lord Ferrars of Chartley. Sr Richard Ratcliff, Sr Robert Percy & Sr Robert Brakenbury were killed. The loss was incomparable on the Side of the Victors. Sr William Catesby great instrument of Richards Crimes was taken & beheaded at Leicester.

Henry the 7th 1483.

After the Success of Arms at Bosworth the joy of the Soldiers was so great that they immediately bestowed the Title of K^g Henry the 7th upon ~~him, Sr William Stanley put~~ the Earl of Richmond, & Sr William Stanley put the Crown of Ornament upon His Head which ~~was from~~ the late K^g wore & was found in the Field of battle.

Henry was ~~found~~ under great difficulty to prove His Title to the Crown. He was the only heir of the Somerset Family, but the the the Duke of Lancaster's Children had been legitimated by Parliament, ~~they were~~ the line of Somerset was excluded the Succession of the Kingdom. & As ~~the~~ Cambess

of Richmond, his Mother was still alive, She ~~had a Prior~~ preceded him in the Succession.

The People in general were much attached to the House of York & by Henrys Concluding a Match with the Princess Elizabeth all Obstacles would have been removed, but His Personal hatred to that line, & His Ambition of having no obligation to that party made him part of the alliance for the moment. & the rights of Conquest He did not dare to make for fear of giving Umbrage to the Nation. ~~There remained Nothing else for Him~~ The last Claim was that of Present Possession & that He availed himself of. in which He was not to be blamed, had not His prejudice against the House of York directed

all his Measures & Councils, His wish was to exalt His party, & to depress the Yorkists, ~~[illegible]~~ by which means He rendered them His Enemies & brought them to discover that right to the Crown which He so carefully kept Separate, and to perceive its Weakness and invalidity.

the battle of Bosworth

Two Days after He sent Sr Robert Willoughby to Sheriff Hutton where Edward Plantagenet Earl of Warwick Son to the Unfortunate Duke of Clarence was detained, & brought him up to London to Confine Him in the Tower. which gave great Offence to the People.

He was however well received upon His arrival in London, with great acclamations of joy by the People, The Mayor & Companies received Him at His approach to London, He was

went first to St Pauls Church to offer up the Standards taken in Battle, & from thence to the bishop of London, & also renewed His promise of Marrying the Princess Elizabeth.

He was Crowned on the 30th of October by Boucher Archbishop of Canterbury, & upon this Occasion. He Created His Uncle Lord Pembroke Duke of Bedford. His Father in Law Lord Stanley Earl of Derby, & Edward Courtney Earl of Devonshire. & instituted a band of 50 Archers who were denominated Yeomen of the guard.

On the 27th of November the Parliament Assembled at Westminster. All the Lancaster Party were Successfull in their Elections & upon a question arising whether they could take their Seats being mostly under the

act of attainder, the judges to whom it was referred determined that the Members should forbear taking their Seat till an act were passed for the reversal of their attainder which was easily obtained. The next question arising was ~~whether the Pr. who himself had been~~ whether ~~or not~~, the Prs Succession to the Crown was not exposed to some doubt as he himself had been attainted. The Judges extricated themselves from this difficulty by declaring. That the Crown takes away all defects & stops in blood & that from the time the Pr assumed Royal authority the fountain was cleared. After all these difficulties being got over, the Pr obtained without troublesome whatever act of Settlement he pleased to require. The Entail of the Crown

was drawn according to the Sense of the Ld. it was Voted. That the inheritance of the Crown, should rest, remain, and abide in the Kg. & the Succession secured to the heirs of his body. ~~in~~ The attainders which had passed against the Partizans of the house of Lancaster were reversed. but on the Contrary the Parliament at His instigation passed an act of attainder against the late Kg & all the York Party. The Parliament granted him during life the Duties of Tonnage & Poundage. The Kg offered on his Sol. Pardon to all who had taken Arms against or conspired against him. excepting the Earl of Surrey who was sent prisoner to the Tower.

Edward Stafford Eldest Son to the Duke of Buckingham was restored to all the honors of

his family, Chandos of Britany Created Earl of Bath, Sr Giles Daubeny L.d Daubeny, & Sr Robert Willoughby L.d Broke.

The K.g made John Morton, & Richard Fox two Clergymen his Chief Ministers Morton was first made Bishop of Ely & after the Death of Bouchier Archbishop of Canterbury & Fox made Privy Seal & Successively Bishop of Bath & Wells Durham & Winchester. & on the 18th January 1486. The K.g Married the Princess Elizabeth to the great joy of the People at which the K.g was much displeased, as it proved the general favor to the House of York.

The K.g went a Tour in the North where he was threatened with an invasion of from L.d Lovel, & Sr Henry Stafford, &

His brother Thomas, which by the intercession of the Duke of Bedford was wisely got the better of without mischief. The ~~two leaders~~ Lord Lovel escaped to Flanders under the Protection of the Dutchess of Burgundy Sr Henry Stafford was executed at Tyburn & His Brother was pardoned.

Birth of Prince Arthur.

The next Unpleasant affair or Business the Kg had to meet, was a Pretender to the Crown in the Person of Lambert Simnel Son to a Baker who by the instigation of Richard Simon a Priest at Oxford Personated the Unfortunate Warwick who it was believed had Escaped from the Tower. He went over to Ireland where He was received by the Earl of Kildare, & by

the mutual Consent of the People Crowned
K.d under the Appellation of Edward the
6th.

~~The Queen Dowager~~ The Measures the
K.d took against this revolt. was first
arresting the Queen Dowager. in the Nunery
of Bermondsey. & the next was that of exposing
Warwick to the Eyes of the Public at St
Pauls. but ~~this the~~ the People were so
~~displeased with the Kings behaviour to the~~
~~Yorkist Party~~ as a proof of the Imposition
which did avail him Nothing. for He was becom
so unpopular by the Constant persecution of the
Yorkist's, that that Party by way of revenge
gave every possible Assistance to Simnel. The
Dutchess of Burgundy who was Sister to Edward
the 4th. & Elizabeth Dutchess of Suffolk. sent Her

Nephew the Earl of Lincoln & Ld Lovel with two 2000 German Troops Commanded by Swart to join Simnel in order to invade England. which He did & landed at Foudrey in Lancashire.

The Kg was prepared for His arrival. The Duke of Bedford & Earl of Oxford were at the Head of His ~~Army~~. Troops. The two Armies met at Stoke in the County of Nottingham on the 7th of June 1487. & fought a very bloody Battle which ended in a decisive Victory on the Kgs Side. Lincoln, Lovel & Swart were killed Simnel & Simon taken Prisoners, the latter being a Priest only Committed into close Custody the former pardoned & made Scullion in the Kgs Kitchen & afterwards advanced to the rank of Falconer.

Queens Coronation on the 25th Novbr 1487.

After this the Kg was obliged to give some

attention to the Political State of Europe which was as Follows.

The Kingdom of Scotland was in a tranquil State, Governed by James the 3d. a Prince of no great Capacity. Henry concluded ~~made~~ a Truce with the Country for 7 Years

Spain Grew every Day more Formidable by the Union of Arragon & Castile, in the Persons of Ferdinand & Isabella.

The Low Countries were in a state of division on account of Maximilian 2d of the Romans Son to Emperor Frederic Claiming the ~~Regency~~ ~~[illegible]~~ the Government as tutor to his Son Philip, in right of His Marriage with the ~~Heiress of the Lo~~ the house of Burgundy. which some Provinces

acknowledged & others refused, to do, ~~[illegible]~~

France encreased daily in Power by by ~~Uniting~~ having ~~to~~ most of the great fiefs to the Crown, & by endeavoring to augment it still by the Subjection of Brittany, which ~~the Ly~~ the Ly Ann of Beaujeu ~~Daughter~~ Daughter to Louis the 11th, whom He had entrusted with the Government during the Minority of Her Brother Charles the 8th, was determined to effect.

This Duchy was torn to peaces by internal Faction Owing to the Duke of Brittany Francis the 2d being entirely governed by Favorites. This encreated dissaffection in the Subjects & they Nobles seized the Lordship the Present Minion, Tried & executed him

& then went to France for Protection. He however was soon replaced by the Duke of Orleans whose claim as 1st Prince of the Blood and presumptive Heir to the Crown to the Administration in France with the Ldy Beaujeu, had been rejected by the States. He retired from France to Britty & ~~governed~~ acquired great ascendance over the Duke. The Nobles invited the French to make an invasion into their Country which they readily granted, but the Dukes soon discovered that their Subjection & not their Liberty stimulated their pretended Friends to Act. they therefore withdrew themselves gradually from the French Army Made Peace with their Sovereign & applied

to England for assistance ~~against Fr.~~ whose interest it was to support their independency & to ~~prevent France of becoming too Power~~ check the encreasing Grandor of France. But Henry was to Avaricious to enter into a War & to Secure ~~that~~ that the Conquest of that Dutchy would be attended with to much difficulty for the French to pursue the Attempt, that He was by the Art of that very Court prevsuaded to refuse them ~~Troops~~ Military Assistance & to offer Himself as Mediator between them. France accepted the Offer, & The Duke of Brittany ~~[illegible]~~ rejected it. The Consequence of which was that France carried on a Successfull War against the

Bretons & gained a Decisive Battle against them at St Aubin on the 28th of July 1488. in which the Duke of Orleans & the Prince of Orange were made Prisoners. This Event was Succeeded by the Death of the Duke ~~at~~ on the 9th Decr which threw the Country into still greater Confusion. The Princess Anne His Daughter became Sole Heiress to the Dutchy after The Dukes demise, & She was to great a Prize not to meet with many Suitors. ~~The Emperor~~ Maximilian Ye of the Romans had a strong Party in that Country & by the activity of the Chancellor Montauban His party prevailed & the Marriage between him & the Dutchess was Celebrated by proxy in the Year 1490. This Alliance

France ~~looked~~ saw with a Jealous Eye, ~~as~~ ~~by it Happened destructive to the French Monarchy~~ for Maximilian by this Marriage came in Possession of Brittany on one Side, & actually was in that of Flanders, & ~~therefore right~~ & thus from both Quarters could enter into France, which might become destructive to the Grandeur & Security of France which Charles the 8th was determined to prevent. He gained the Duke of Orleans & the Prince of Orange by releasing them from Prison. & sent them to Brittany ~~they gained~~ by this means Dubois, Rieux, & Montauban, ~~were~~ all People of Power & Condition were secured to this party, & whilst Charles was investing Genoa with a powerfull

Army they persuaded the Young Duchess to ~~end~~ Put an end to the Misery of Her Country by opening the Gates of the City & Espousing the King. ~~which to which~~ She was Married 1490. at Langey in Touraine & thus the Dutchy of Brittany anexed to the Crown of France.

~~Maximilian's hopes blasted~~

Maximilian had the Mortification of seeing all His hopes frustrated in loosing His bride, & met with a Severe affront by having His Daughter Margaret sent back to Him after having been brought up in France with the hopes of Marrying the K^g Herself.

Henry was Sensible of His misconduct in this business, & therefore determined to revenge

revenge himself upon or on the French. On the 27th 1491 He summoned a Parliament acquainted them with His intentions & asked their assistance which they readily granted, & on the 6th Octr the Year following 1492. He ~~Set Sail with His~~ Crossed the Sea with His Troops the Duke of Bedford & Earl of Oxford & landed at Calais, & marched immediately into the Country & besieged Boulogne but Maximilian broke His promise of joyning him, & Spain made peace with France, & His own Troops beginning to suffer by the Severeness of the Season it was thought advisable to treat with France, The Bishop of Exeter & Lord Faulkeny were charged with this Comission, they went to Estaples with Marshal de Cordes

& they signed the Peace with France on the 3d of Novr 1492. Henry's demands were ~~[illegible]~~ wholly Pecuniary, & as they were granted He returned back to England without proving formidable to His Neighbours. Maximilian ~~made a Separate Peace~~ obtained the restitution of Artois Franche Comté & Charolois, which had been given as a Dowry to his Daughter when She was affianced to the King of France.

1493 At the Kings return He met with a new pretender to the Crown in the Person of Perkin Warbec a Son to a Jew broker & God Son to K. Edward the 4. after whose Death He lived at Tournay. The Dutchess of Burgundy ever ready to shew Her resentment to the King on account of His ill will to Her Family, paid

this Boys Education to Enable him of ~~appre~~ ~~ration~~ of personating with a degree of dignity Richard Plantagenet Duke of York who it was believed had Escaped Richards Hands. He shewed himself first at Cork & gained many Partizans from thence He was by invitation to France where the K. of France received him with all the honor due to his supposed rank. The Admiration he met with in France diffused itself into England. Sr George Nevil, Sr John Taylor & above a 100 Gentlemen went over to Paris to offer their Services to him. Henry demanded the Impostor to be delivered into his Hands by the K. of France but without effect, He was however dismissed from the Court, & went for Protection to the Dutchess of Burgundy who acknowledged him for her Nephew, called him the White Rose of England & made the Flemings readily adopt the fiction of Perkins royal descent.

Lord Fitzwater, Sr Simon Mountfort, Sr Thomas Thwaytes, Sr William Stanley the Lord Chamberlain, Sr Robert Clifford, & William Barley, all were inclined towards him, & the two last went over to Flanders & offered their Services to Perkin.

Henry ascertained the Death of the Duke of York

by Sr James Tirrel & Dighton, Who ~~committ~~
were two of the executioners. He next revenge
himself upon the Flemings by cutting of all
Commerce with the low Countries & by bani-
shing the Flemings from England. He sent spies
all over.