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On Coronations of Kings & Queens of England

No information is to be obtained in the Privy Council Office respecting Coronations prior to the reign of R. Ja^s. 1st; therefore such of the following particulars as relate to an earlier ^{period} have been collected from the 'Genealogical History of the Kings of England' by Francis Sandford, Lancaster Herald, in the time of R. Cha^s. 2nd, as being a book of some reputation for accuracy in dates.

Edward 3rd. Crowned 1st Feby 1327 (then single). - Married in the same year to Philippa of Henault, who was Crowned the first Sunday in Lent of the same year.

Richard 2nd. Crowned 16. July 1377 (then single). - Married in 1382 to Anne, daughter of the Emperor Cha^s. 4th, who was Crowned with much pomp.

Henry 4th. Crowned 13. Dec^r. 1399, then a widower, & no subsequent marriage dated.

Henry 5th. Crowned 9th April 1413 (then single). - Married 3. June 1420 to Katherine of Valois, who was Crowned 14. Feby 1420/1.

Henry 6th. Crowned in 1429 (then single). - Married 22nd April 1445 to Margaret of Anjou, who was Crowned 30th May following.

Edward 4th. Crowned 29. June 1461 (then single). - Married 1st May 1464 to Lady Elizabeth Gray, who was Crowned 26. May 1465.

Edward 5th. - Never Crowned: - died in the Tower shortly after his accession.

Richard 3rd. Crowned, with his Queen, 7th July 1483.

Henry 7th. Crowned 30th Dec^r. 1485 (then single). - Married 10th Janry 1486/7 to Elizabeth, daughter of Edu^{ard}. 4th, who was Crowned 25th Nov^r. 1487.

Henry 8th. Married to Katherine of Spain 3rd June 1509, (soon after his accession), and Crowned, with his Queen, 24th of the same month.

Secondly married 25. Janry 1532/3 to Anne Bullen, who was Crowned on Whitunday following.

No Coronation mentioned of his four succeeding Queens.

Edward 6th. Crowned 25. Feby 1546/7 (then single), and died in his 16th year.

Mary - Crowned 30th Nov^r. 1553 (then single). - Married 25th July 1554 to Philip of Spain, who was not Crowned.

Elizabeth - Crowned 15. Janry 1558/9, and never married.

Hawes

Having thus far stated from Sandford's History the dates of Coronations, both of Kings & Queens, in regular succession, the information in that respect collected at the Council Office will be found in the following particulars.

James 1.st Crowned, with his Queen, some time between the 11.th & 29.th July 1603, as appears by different Proclamations before & after the Ceremony, which might have been kept suspended on account of a contagion then prevailing in London. Sandford dates the Coronation on 25. July 1603.

Charles 1.st Married 1.st May 1625 to Henrietta Maria of France, a few weeks after his Accession; and on 17.th January 1625/6 the Royal Proclamation was issued appointing the 2.^d February following for the Coronation of the King and the Queen.

Charles 2.^d Restored 1.st May 1660. - On 5.th Sept. following His Majesty in Council appointed the 7.th February ensuing for his Coronation, and there are two subsequent Orders reciting the former one; but the usual Proclamation is not preserved, and Sandford's History reports the King's Coronation to have been full two months later, namely on 23.^d April 1661. In either case this Ceremony was previous to His Majesty's marriage, 21.st May 1662, with Catherine of Portugal, who does not ^{appear} to have been Crowned.

James 2.^d Married before his Accession in February 1684/5. - On the 6.th March following the Proclamation was issued, appointing 23.^d April 1685 for the Coronation of the King and the Queen.

William & Mary } On 12.th March 1688/9; being about one month after the Accession, a Proclamation was issued, in the names of the King and Queen, for the Coronation of their Majesties on 11.th April following.

Anne - Was married to George Prince of Denmark before her Accession in March 1701/2, on the 29.th of which month Her Majesty's Proclamation was issued appointing 23.^d April following for her Coronation (alone). This Ceremony was not applicable to the Prince her husband.

George 1.st Was married in 1682 to Sophia Dorothy, daughter of the Duke of Zell. This Princess was living at the time of His Majesty's Accession in August 1714, and long after, her decease not happening till the year 1726; but she never appeared in England, a separation

separation, as is said, having taken place in 1694. - The King (alone) was Crowned 20.th October 1714; and the previous Proclamation for that Solemnity, dated 4.th of the same month, speaks only of His Majesty's Coronation.

George 2.nd Had been married several years before his Accession in June 1727, and the Proclamation, dated 12.th August following, was for the Coronation of the King and the Queen.

George 3.rd His present Majesty, after his Accession in October 1760, remained unmarried till 8.th Sept.^r 1761; but his intention of Marriage was declared in Council 8.th July 1761, on which same day the Proclamation was issued for His Majesty's Coronation to be celebrated on 22.nd Sept.^r following. In the intermediate time, namely on 26. July 1761, there was an Order in Council directing the Earl Marshal to prepare for the Coronation of a Queen also.

From the foregoing particulars it appears, that, in early times, when the King had been Crowned before Marriage, the like ceremony of Coronation was afterwards observed with respect to the Queen Consort, as in the time of Edw. 3.rd, - Rich. 2.nd, - Henry 5.th, - Henry 6.th, - Edw. 4.th, - Henry 7.th, and on the second Marriage of Henry 8.th: but this practice seems to have been discontinued on the later Marriages of Hen: 8.th, and was not revived in the time of Cha. 2.nd, the only subsequent occasion that offered.

It also appears that when the King was married before his Accession, or shortly afterwards, the King and Queen were Crowned together, as in the time of Rich. 3.rd, - Henry 8.th (on his first marriage), - James 1.st, - Charles 1.st, James 2.nd, - George 2.nd, - and his present Majesty; and that the only exception to this course occurred in the time of George 1.st.

As to the form of Proceeding on this Ceremony, the Council Books shew, that, when the King has resolved to celebrate the Solemnity of his Coronation, or the Coronation of Himself and his Queen, the same is made known by a Proclamation specifying the day appointed. Orders are also issued by the King in Council to different Officers of State, that the usual forms may be ascertained, and the necessary preparations made; but the full detail thereof can only be learnt by reference to the Departments where a Registry of these forms is preserved, and which may probably be found in the Herald's College, or in the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

Mr Gray

On Coronation

25th Nov. 1819.