

# Oh! What a Blow to Our American Peeresses!

## King George's Ridiculous Plan to Destroy "American Frivolity" and "Sober Down" His Court by Reviving Ceremonies That Impose All Sorts of Barbarous and Indelicate Duties on the Nobility



Queen Mary May Even Weave Another Bayeux Tapestry. Here the Artist Gives a Hint of How the Picture of the King's Official "Crown" in Action Might Be Woven.

London, Aug. 3. THE King and Queen of England have embarked on a great campaign to restore medieval court ceremonies and to discourage frivolous modern social customs. King George attends to reviving ancient ceremonies, while Queen Mary sets her face against such modern innovations as hobble skirts and tango dancing.

The royal policy is directed more or less against American hostesses who are at the head of everything that is ultra-modern in English society. It is known that Queen Mary strongly disapproves of the giddy American social leaders. The re-establishment of some ancient court customs will, it is believed, entail duties which will make American hostesses shrink from marrying British noblemen, or from appearing at court if they have already married them.

Our lively, up-to-date American peeresses under this reactionary system may be required to perform all sorts of primitive barbarous duties and to stand about the court in "Anglo-Saxon attitudes" as "Alice in Wonderland" expressed it.

How could an American girl reared in the lap of luxury endure having to stand ready to hand the Queen her clothes when she gets up in the morning, to taste her food before it is sent to the table, to sit under the table with the crumbs and bones, perhaps, and to perform many offices which would be even more embarrassing to a sensitive person than any of these things?

The King has begun by restoring some of the ancient ceremonial connected with the installation of Knights of the Bath. The Order of the Bath ranks next in age and dignity to the Order of the Garter. The Garter is conferred solely on account of the rank of the recipient, while the Bath is given to distinguished members of the army, navy and civil service for services rendered. It was founded in 1390, and its earliest members were knights who had returned from the East, and there became familiar with the pleasant custom of bathing, which, before that, was hardly known in England.

The Knights of the Garter have a beautiful chapel at Windsor, where each has a stall, and where their installations take place. The Knights of the Bath have had no chapel and no adequate ceremonies for nearly a hundred years. King George has had restored to them for this purpose the beautiful Henry VII. chapel in Westminster Abbey, which they formerly used.

In the ancient ceremony of installation, as described by Froissart, each new knight was undressed and placed in a bath prepared by the King's barber, who received the candidate's clothes as a tip.

The knight was removed from the water with the words, "May this be an honorable bath to you," and placed, wet and naked, to dry on a bed without curtains. When he was dry he was arrayed in a monk's robe and conducted, barefoot, to the chapel by "two of the gravest knights about the court."

In the chapel he offered a wax taper to God and a penny in honor of the sovereign, and was left on his knees in prayer till the following morning, when, after being clothed in rich apparel, "long green coat, the sleeves whereof were cut straight and furred with miniver, with great hoods furred in the same manner, after the fashion used by prelates," he was led into the presence of the King, his spurs hanging to the hilt of his sword.

The King, after girding on the knight's sword, bade him kneel, and with his own sword struck him on

the right shoulder, saying, "Arise, Sir John," or whatever his name might be. When the knight had arisen the King embraced him, saying, "Be thou a good and true knight!"

The new knight was then taken back to the chapel, where he offered his sword at the altar. On leaving the chapel he was met by the King's cook with a chopper, who demanded his spurs. The knight had to redeem them with money. Every article of his clothing was claimed by some official of the court in similar fashion. Whenever the knight disgraced himself the King's cook was ordered to chop off his spurs.

A bath was last used at the installation of a knight in 1810. The ancient ceremony has been partly restored by King George.

Many existing court offices, such as "Mistress of the Robes," "Lady of the Bed Chamber," and so forth, now held by British Duchesses and Countesses, originally required their holders to perform the services indicated by the titles. Queen Mary would revive the ancient duties as far as possible.

How would that dashing American girl, the Duchess of Roxburghe, formerly Miss Golet, like to stand by the Queen's bedside early on a Winter's morning and hand Her Majesty her clothes as she required them?

The character of these personal services may be judged from the following passage from Stow, the famous old English chronicler, describing the coronation banquet of Katharine of Valois, Queen of King Henry V.

"The feast was great, with all princely services. The Queen sat at table, and at the right side of her chair knelt the Earl of March, holding a sceptre in his hand; the Earl Marshal, kneeling on the left side, held another, and the Countess of Kent sat under the table at her right foot."

Can you imagine that lovely little American peeress, Lady Decies, formerly Miss Vivien Gould, sitting under the royal table near the royal feet?

Down to the time of King Henry VIII. a "whipping boy" was kept for each of the younger boys in the royal family. When the Prince of Wales misbehaved himself the whipping to which his conduct entitled him was bestowed on this boy. It

would have been unthinkable to whip the King's son.

The office of whipping boy was considered a very desirable one for a young gentleman of good family. If it were revived perhaps our American Duchess of Marlborough would like one of her two sons to take the position!

On great public occasions a woman of rank performed the office of "Herbstrawer to the Queen." Her duty was to strew aromatic herbs to protect Her Majesty from the strong odor of the faithful commons.

Still more peculiar was the office of "King's Crower." This dignified functionary had to crow like a rooster by the King's bedside at every hour of the night during Lent. The custom was only discontinued in the reign of George II.

Another functionary, known as "the King's Head Holder," had the privilege of holding His Majesty's head when His Majesty was seasick. There were corresponding offices of a somewhat different character connected with the Queen's person.

Kissing was indulged in much more publicly and promiscuously at court in former days than at present. The King, instead of merely receiving the obeisances of debutantes, kissed them heartily on both cheeks. The chronicler Stow tells us how thoroughly King Henry VIII. observed this custom. Whether Queen Mary will permit the revival of this interesting fashion remains to be seen.

**Lady Decies, Formerly Miss Vivien Gould, Whose Sturdy Americanism Would Refuse to Accept Any of the Humiliating and Ridiculous Offices That King George and Queen**

**Mary Propose to Inflict Upon Their Courtiers.**



"When Queen Katharine of Valois, wife of Henry V., dined, the Earl of March knelt at the right side of her chair holding a sceptre, the Earl Marshal knelt at the left holding another and the Countess of Kent sat under the table at her right foot. Imagine that lovely American Peeress, Lady Decies, formerly Miss Vivien Gould, sitting under Queen Mary's Table!"—Another Bayeux Tapestry Suggestion.

Perhaps the most unpleasant of the many duties required of the earlier Kings of England by tradition was the practise of touching diseased persons to cure them. The King's touch was supposed to be a specific cure for scrofula, which was then called "the King's evil," and it was also requested by sufferers from many diseases. Consequently a benevolent King was called upon to lay his hands upon a swarm of filthy people suffering from every imaginable disease. Several Kings probably met their death through infection acquired in this way.

The chronicler Stow gives the following remarkable account of the laying of hands on a sufferer as practised by King Edward the Confessor: "A certain woman, married, but without children, had a disease about her jawes, and under her cheek, like unto kernels, which they termed akornes, and this disease so corrupted her face with stench, that she could scarce without shame speake to any man. This woman was admonished in her sleepe to goe to King Edward, and get him to washe her face with water, and shee should bee whole."

"To the Court shee came; and the King hearing of this matter, disdained not to doe it; having a basin of water brought unto him, hee dipped his hand therein, and washed the woman's face, and touched the diseased place; and this hee did often times, sometimes also signing it with the signe of the Crosse, which after hee hadde thus washed it, the hard crust or skinne was softened, and dissolved; and drawing his hand by divers of the holes, out of the ker-

nels came little wormes, whereof they were full with corrupt matter and blood, the King still pressed it with his handes to bring forth the corruption, and disdained not to suffer the stench of the disease, until hee hadde brought forth all the corruption with pressing; this done hee commanded her a sufficient allowance every day for all things necessary untill she hadde received perfect health, which was within a weeke after."

Men and women of high rank waited upon the King and Queen at table. At some periods they stood behind the royal chairs, while at other times the King even required them to serve him kneeling. We read this curious account of how the food was served at the coronation banquet of Queen Anne:

"The Lord the Server, with the Lord his assistant, went to the dresser of the kitchen, where the Master of the Horse to Her Majesty, as Sergeant of the Silver Scullery, called for a dish of meat, wiped the bottom of a dish and likewise the cover within and without, took assay of that dish, and covered it, then delivered that dish and the rest of the hot meat to the Gentlemen Pensioners, who carried it to the Queen's table and placed thereon it was by the Lord Carver, with the help of the Lord the Server and his assistant."

These menial services had their compensations, for after a royal banquet one noble lord would claim all the silver, another all the furniture, another all the wine left, and a gallant knight would not disdain to ask for all the meat not consumed.



"As the starting point of his campaign to take England back to the Middle Ages, King George has restored much of the quaint ceremonial connected with the installation of Knights of the Order of the Bath."—Bayeux Tapestry Style.

## My Secrets of Beauty

By MME. LINA CAVALIERI, the Most Famous Living Beauty, Saving the Beauty of Your Mouth.

Did you know that an artist can make a woman's portrait look ten years younger by the simple expedient of lifting the corners of her mouth, or make her as much older (which, of course, he never does) by drooping them ever so little? That indicates in a way how important the mouth is.

Oh, the sins of omission and commission are perpetrated in our childhood against the mouth mostly through neglect or stupid care of the teeth. The lips and cheeks can only be beautiful when they are shaped and sustained by a full and even set of teeth.

If there are gaps in the row or if some press forward and others back, like soldiers out of line, then you cannot possibly be the possessor of a pretty mouth, and therefore, no matter what flatterers tell you, you are not a pretty woman.

Of course, regulation of the teeth should be done in childhood. It is unpleasant for the child, a source of irritation to its nerves and an outrageous strain on the pocketbook of the parents, but it must be done. For some reason regulation of children's teeth costs beyond all excuse or reason. It is a little specialty of its own, but it requires less knowledge and intelligence and skill than any other branch of dentistry.

The neglect of the past can be remedied to a great extent by a careful, conscientious dentist. Bridge-work will span gaps and fill out sunken cheeks and the lines and wrinkles which they induce. Teeth can be made to meet-opposing teeth as nature intended, instead of poking each other out of their natural places, as is so frequently the case.

Be sure your dentist is a good one, and don't be unduly impressed by the speed at which he works or

the price he charges. Some of the worst work I have known has been done by a very workmanlike high-priced man who prides himself on being the fastest worker in all New York.

Dr. Murphy, the great Chicago surgeon, hearing a younger physician boasting of the speed with which he performed major operations, remarked: "An operation is done quickly enough when it is done right!" This is equally true of dentistry. Your dentist should be not merely a "tooth carpenter," but an architect of the "jaws," which involves considerable deliberation.

All lips should be red, more or less red, never too red nor too pale. The art of the attractive woman consists in ascertaining and realizing just that exact note of rosiest which agrees best with the general coloring of the face, and which completes it, dominates it, without exaggerating it.

Many use a "rose pomade" to make their lips red. But the pomades usually sold are by no means safe. For this reason it is well to know how to make one for yourself, and then you are certain that it contains nothing caustic or injurious. Here is the formula for one which is easy to prepare and which I use: Oil of sweet almonds... 125 grammes White wax ..... 60 grammes Powdered alkanet .... 12 grammes Oil of roses..... 12 drops

To avoid chapped lips, never go out in Winter before you have powdered the lips with glycerated starch. The rosy pomades also preserve the lips from chapping. Here is a white pomade very easy to make at home:

Oil of sweet almonds... 60 grammes White spermaceti ..... 50 grammes Virgin wax ..... 50 grammes Candy sugar ..... 60 grammes