NYE'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

A Royal Thumb Contributed to Progress.

JAMES I, CARD AND JOB PRINTER.

How He Gave His Mite For the Advancement of Knowledge—Buckingham Receives a Testimonial From His King. Got It Where the Chicken Did.

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CHAPTER XVI.

Henry VI left no royal record worth remembering save the establishment of Eton and King's colleges. Edward IV, who began his reign in 1461, was bold and active. Queen Margaret's army of 60,000 men, which attacked him, was defeated and half her forces slaughtered, no quarter being given.

His title was now confirmed, and Margaret fled to Scotland. Three years later she attempted again to secure the throne through the aid of Louis XI, but failed. Henry, who had been in concealment, was now confined in the Tower, as shown in the engraving.

Edward's marriage was not satisfactory, and, as he bestowed all the offices on his wife's relatives, Warwick deserted him and espoused the cause of Queen Margaret.

He had no trouble in raising an army and compelling Edward to flee. Henry was taken from the Tower and crowned, his rights having been recognized by Parliament. Warwick and his son-in-law, the Duke of Clarence, brother to Edward IV, were made regents, there-

HENRY VI IMPRISONED IN THE TOWER.

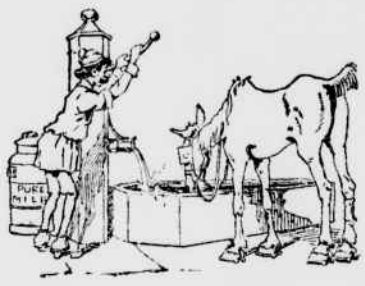
fore, in 1471. Before the year was out, however, the tables were again turned, and Henry found himself once more in his old quarters in the Tower. Warwick was soon defeated and slain, and on the same day Margaret and her son Edward landed in England. She and Edward were defeated and taken prisoners at Tewkesbury, and the young prince was coolly put to death by the Dukes of Clarence and Gloucester, brothers of Edward IV. Margaret was placed in the Tower, and a day or two after Henry died mysteriously. Here, it is presumed at the hands of Gloucester, who was so-ially an unpleasant man to meet after dark.

terest in plain and ornamental job printing, and while trying to pick a calling card out of the jaws of a crude job press in the early years of his reign contributed a royal thumb to this restless emblem of progress and civilization.

The War of the Roses having destroyed the nobility, times greatly improved, and industry was declared constitutional.

Edward V at 12 years of age became king, and his uncle Dick, Duke of Gloucester, became protector. As such he was a disgrace, for he protected nobody but himself. The young king and his brother, the Duke of York, were placed in the Tower, and their uncle, Lord Hastings, and several other offensive partisans, on the charge of treason, were executed in 1483. He then made arrangements that he should be urged to accept the throne, and, with a coy and reluctant grace peculiar to this gifted assassin, he caused himself to be proclaimed Richard III.

Richard then caused the young princes to be smothered in their beds in what is now called the Bloody Tower. The Duke of Buckingham was at first loaded with honors in return for his gory assistance, but even he became disgusted with the wicked usurper and headed a Welsh rebellion. He was not successful,



STONE COFFIN OF RICHARD III.

and in 1483 he received a slight testimonial from the king. The surprise and sorrow of the duke, together with his thrift and economy in keeping his cigar from being spattered and his determination that, although he might be put out, the cigar should not be, prove him to have been a man of great force of character for a duke.

Richard now espoused his niece, daughter of Edward IV, and in order to make the home nest perfectly free from social erosion he caused his consort, Anne, to be poisoned. Those who believed the climate around the throne to be bracing and healthful had a chance to change their views in a land where a pea soup fog can never enter. Anne was the widow of Edward, whom Richard slew at Tewkesbury.

Every one felt that Richard was a disgrace to the country, and Henry, earl of Richmond, succeeded in defeating and slaying the usurper on Bosworth field in 1485, when Henry was crowned on the battlefield.

Richard was buried at Leicester, but during the reign of Henry VIII, when the monasteries were destroyed, Richard's body was exhumed and his stone coffin used for many years in that town as a horse trough.

Shakespeare and the historians give an unpleasant impression regarding Richard's personality, but this was done in the interest of the Tudors, perhaps. He was highly intelligent, and if he had given less attention to usurpation would have been more popular.

Under the administrations of the houses of Lancaster and York serfdom was abolished, as the slaves who were armed during the War of the Roses would not submit again to slavery after they had fought for their country.

Agriculture suffered, and some of the poor had to subsist upon acorns and wild roots. During those days Whittington was thrice lord mayor of London, though at first only a poor boy. Even in the land of lineage this poor lad, with a cat and no other means of subsistence, won his way to fame and fortune.

The manufacture of wool encouraged the raising of sheep, and in 1455 silk

placable enemy to ignorance and its attendant crimes that progress can call its own.

No two authors spelled alike at that time, however, and the literature of the day was characterized by the most startling originality along that line.

The drama began to bud, and the chief roles were taken by the clergy. They acted Bible scenes interspersed with local witticisms and often turned away money.

Afterward followed what were called moral plays, in which the bad man always suffered intensely on a small salary.

The feudal castles disappeared, and new and more airy architecture succeeded them. A better class of furniture also followed, but it was very thinly scattered through the rooms, and a person on rising from his bed in the night would have some difficulty in falling over anything. Tidies on the chairs were unknown, and there was only tapestry enough to get along with in a sort of hand to mouth way.

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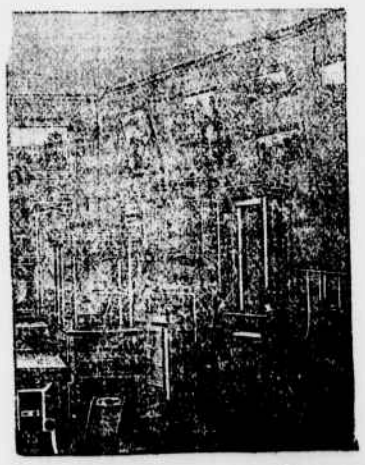

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