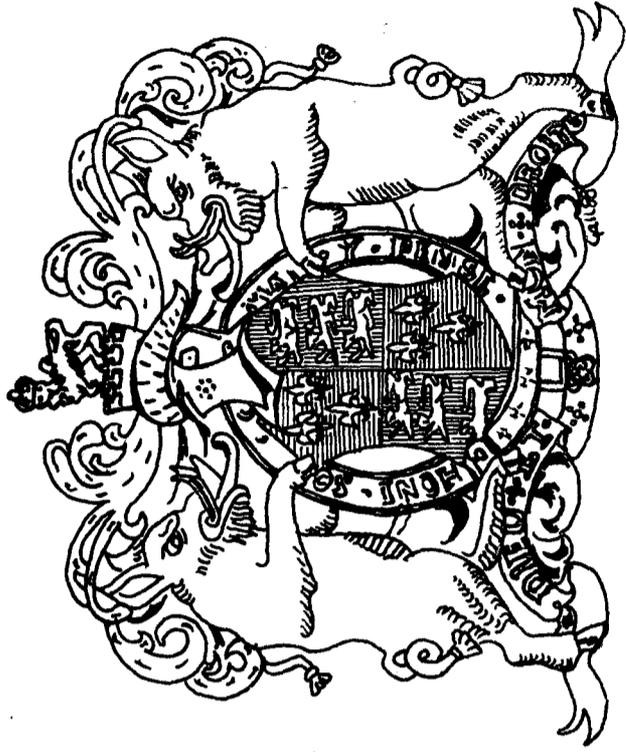


RICARDIAN REGISTER

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RICARDIAN REGISTER



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Ricardian Post

From the Editor

Time moves quickly and it seems almost impossible that the Fall, with the AGM and beginning of another Ricardian year, is nearly upon us. As you read through this issue, filled as it is with AGM announcements and news of happenings in the Society, I hope all of you can look back on as fulfilling a Ricardian year as I can.

We have, though, one recent upset for which I and the *Register* staff can only offer apologies, a brief explanation, and beg your understanding of a delay over which we had no control. Problems with shipment of *The Ricardians* from England and the recent hike in postal rates combined to postpone distribution of either quarterly. Hopefully, that will be but an occasional occurrence, but it does happen and we can only offer apologies for the delays.

It is time once again to thank the Society Board, committee chairmen and all the others who have contributed so much. The following letter speaks for all of us, in that regard.

And now, it's on to the nation's capital and what promises to be a wonderful AGM! I can only hope that I'll meet lots of you there!

Judie C. Gall

To The Editor

First, I would like to extend my greatest compliments on the job you and your staff have done with the *Ricardian Register*. After the sporadic and sketchy notes I was

accustomed to receiving in the earlier years of my membership in the Richard III Society, this has been a very welcome and pleasant change. Congratulations on a job well done.

I would also like to extend my regards to the leadership of the American branch of the Society and the vast improvements made in the organization since the change in leadership. I feel that the Society is a more active, enthusiastic and dynamic organization now for their efforts.

Thanks to everyone involved in the overall, improved quality of the American branch.

Margaret M. Anderson
Minnesota

Design Competition

We invite our artistic members to submit designs for jewelry, t-shirts, ties, scarves, mugs, etc. with a Ricardian theme, to be manufactured in the U.S. and made available through our Sales Officer. These items can be a good source of income for the Society and a great source of satisfaction to the designers; the last, selection and the attendant recognition, being the contest prize.

A committee will be appointed to judge the designs for appropriateness, originality and artistic skill. Please send all entries to Roxane Murph, Society Chairman, in care of the address given in the front of the *Register*.

The Richard III Society is a non-profit, educational corporation. Dues, grants, and contributions are tax-deductable to the extent allowed by law.

Dues are \$20.00 annually. Each additional family member is \$5. The membership year is from October 2nd to October 1st.

Members of the American Society are also members of the English Society. All Society publications and items for sale may be purchased either direct at the U.K. member's rate, or via the U.S. Society, when available. Papers may be borrowed from the English Librarian, but books are not sent overseas. When a U.S. member visits the U.K., all meetings, expeditions, and other activities are open, including the AGM, where U.S. members are welcome to cast a vote.

AGM - '88

Alexandria, Virginia

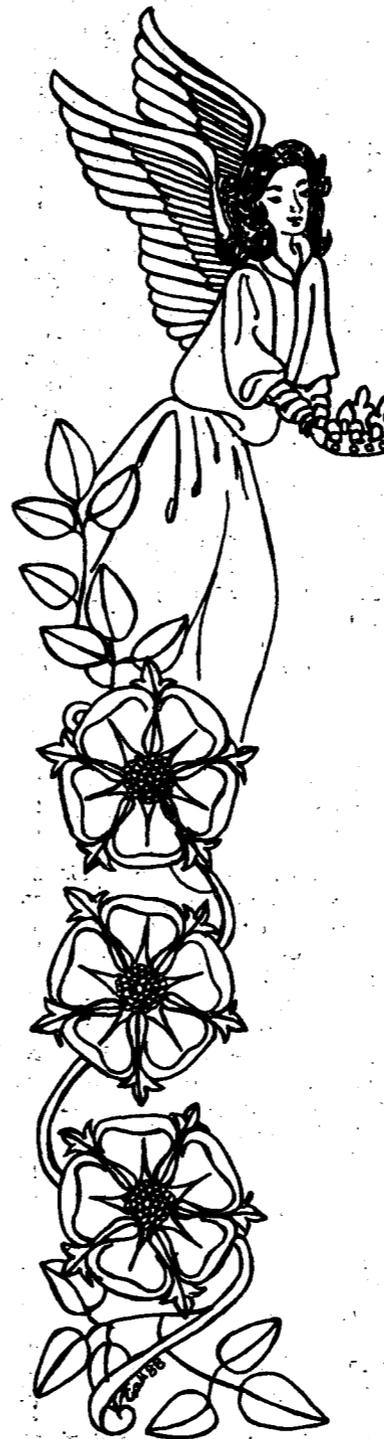
Sept. 30 - Oct. 2

Come one, come all! Take a step back in time in what promises to be a wonderful Ricardian weekend in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. The Middle Atlantic Chapter has laid beautifully detailed plans to lead us back into Richard's England, via a spectrum of workshops that can't fail to pique everyone's interest, then forward in time some 200 years to Colonial America and dinner at the tavern where George Washington bid farewell to his troops, and back in time again on Sunday, not quite to Richard's day, but to Gloriana's and an optional trip in to the Folger Theatre, a reproduction of an Elizabethan theater in the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. For those who have time to do a little exploring on their own, Old Town Alexandria itself offers some of the best of Colonial America, varied shopping, a wealth of fine dining, and, not far away, still majestically overlooking the Potomac, Washington's Virginia home, Mt. Vernon, among the many things to do and see in and around the nation's Capitol.

However, Ricardiana and the sharing of Ricardian lore and expertise will, no doubt, occupy almost all the waking moments of those of us who gather in Alexandria. We'll be able to "Meet Anne Neville: A Shakespearean Characterization," or discuss "Buckingham: Friend or Foe" in workshop settings, where we'll also have our choice of learning "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Life and Times in Renaissance England," or exactly how "A Man is Known by the Cut of His Clothes" in a medieval context; what we'd find "At His Grace's Table," or, after the royal banquet, what steps "The King's Dancing Feet" were likely to be taking. Then, to make workshop selection even more difficult, we'll be able to tour "Richard III's England: A Photographic Journey."

Having listened and learned and shared through a morning of lively presentations sure to pique our Ricardian imaginations, we'll gather for lunch and a keynote address that should inspire hope for the future of the Society, even as the workshops spark new avenues of interest in the past. Anne Vineyard, of Texas, whose students' articles appeared in the *Summer Register*, will be expanding on her immensely successful Ft. Worth workshop, "O Tey Can You See?" which should give us all food for thought in the matter of successfully inspiring future generations of Ricardians. Anne's address will be followed by the business meeting and then, that evening, by dinner at Gadsby's Tavern.

And, in between all this, does anyone really know a Ricardian, who, when in the company of a kindred soul, can't just talk almost endlessly about our favorite era, and our favorite King? That promises to commence at Friday night's Wine and Cheese Party and will very likely be incomplete when we take our leave of one another on Sunday! So, please come, if you can, and share your thoughts, meet your fellow Ricardians, make new friends and renew old acquaintances in an atmosphere charged with Ricardiana and overlaid with the warm hospitality of northern Virginia and the welcome of the Middle Atlantic Chapter, whose members have worked so diligently to provide a memorable Ricardian weekend.



Dark Angel

Rest you gentle, Dark Angel.
You did not die in vain.

The brief shining comet of your life
Should have burned so much longer.
You gave your life to those you loved--
With so little saved back for you!
Perhaps that was your greatest fault.

Of purest blood of the most royal
Of all royal lineage, no bend sinister
Smeared your name,
Great Plantagenet.
You only enriched; you did not destroy.

White was ever your color.
White armor, White Boar, White Surrey,
White Rose of York.
Fair flower forever sullied by Tudor,
Changed to blood-red in the carnage
of Ambien Hill.

After your heinous murder, you were
Vilified--defiled--slandered
For what you did not do.
Alas, dead men cannot defend themselves.
Given your courage, you would not try.
It remains for the survivors to lift
Your standard and clear your name
Of falsehood. You have suffered enough.
And, clear it we shall.

This is your legacy, our trust.
We will not let your banner fall.
As loyalty bound you, so does it.
Bind your faithful today.
"Richard, By the Grace of God..."
King of England. Last of your line.
No truer words.
The White Rose shall bloom again.

You did not die in vain.
Rest you gentle, Dark Angel.

Glenda A. Motley,
Virginia



SCHALLEK AWARD



Dr. Morris G. McGee, Chairman of the Schallek Memorial/Graduate Fellowship Committee, and his fellow committee members are pleased to announce the recipient of this year's award: Gary V. Gibbs, who is pursuing his graduate studies at the University of Virginia (Charlottesville), where he is concentrating on the study of Early Modern European History, specializing in 15th and 16th century England. His master's thesis addressed the celebrations of May Day festivals in 15th and 16th century England and his doctoral dissertation will examine the social functions of certain parish churches in the city of London during that period. Mr. Gibbs has held Graduate Teaching Assistantships at both the University of Florida, where he completed his Master's, and at the University of Virginia, where he is currently pursuing his Ph.D., and was the 1987 recipient of both the Thomas Jefferson Fellowship, Corcoran Department of History, for the study of a foreign language not offered at the University of Virginia (Ecclesiastical Latin) and of the Lily Dabney Scholarship, English-Speaking Union, Charlottesville Branch. Certainly we can all be very proud to have a scholar of Mr. Gibbs' calibre as the recipient of our fellowship, and extend him every wish for success in a field of study so immured in the era of greatest Ricardian interest.

The Schallek Memorial Graduate Study Fellowship is awarded to students pursuing graduate education in fields relating to the life and times of King Richard III (1452-1485) or, more generally, late fifteenth-century England. Candidates may be from the fields of history, literature, or from interdisciplinary areas. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, or have made application for first citizenship papers, and must be enrolled at a recognized educational institution, making normal progress toward a graduate degree. Awards are for one year, although applications for additional years are considered. Richard III Society/Schallek Memorial Graduate Study Fellowships are considered supplemental to other financial award aids...NOT a source of primary funding. An award may be made in increments of \$500 to separate candidates and up to \$2,000 to outstanding scholars.

Application forms can be obtained from:
Dr. Morris G. McGee
Partridge Hall, Room 466
Montclair State College
Upper Montclair, New Jersey 07042

Time of submission: November 1, 1988 - February 28, 1989.
Winners will be announced on June 1, 1989.

Judging will be done by a panel consisting of Dr. McGee and other educators: Dr. Lorraine C. Attreed, Dept. of History, Holy Cross College,

Worcester, MA; Dr. Richard R. Griffith, Dept. of English, Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus, Greenville, NY; Dr. Milton Stern, Dean, University Extension; University of California at Berkeley; and Dr. Charles T. Wood, Daniel Webster Professor of History, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH.

As always, members are encouraged to disseminate this information in their own areas so that as many as possible qualified candidates can be considered for the Schallek Award. 1989 will mark the tenth anniversary of this fellowship, through which the Society has, and will continue to promote advanced study of Richard III and of late-fifteenth-century England, in general.

Visiting Fellow at York

And, as we salute a worthy student pursuing his course in a field so compelling to us all, let us also congratulate a professor whose contributions to the broadening of the knowledge of the era is of continuing importance. Dr. A. Compton Reeves, Professor of History at Ohio University (Athens) and Society member of longstanding, has spent the spring and summer as a Visiting Fellow at the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research and the Department of History of the University of York. While in England, Dr. Reeves also lectured at Edinburgh University on Bishop William Lyndwood, a 15th-century canon lawyer, in addition to doing research for a companion book to his 1981 *Lancastrian Englishmen*.

Dr. Reeves' new book, *Lancastrian Lives*, will focus on the careers of four men of prominence during the period when the House of Lancaster held the throne of England: Sir Robert Umfraville, a prominent soldier/diplomat from the North; Thomas Montagu, Earl of Salisbury, one of the most able of Henry V's generals; Bishop William Aiscough, Henry VI's confessor and Church dignitary who was murdered by his own parishioners in 1450; and Ralph, Lord Cromwell, Treasurer of England and builder of Tattersall Castle in Lincolnshire. The quality, feeling for his subjects, wealth of information and wonderful readability of the quartet of biographies contained in *Lancastrian Englishmen* make Dr. Reeves' upcoming work an eagerly anticipated one, all the more so since it will delve into the lives of men like Thomas Montagu, whose descendants would be equally important to the House of York.

Again, our congratulations to both these outstanding scholars, Dr. Reeves and Mr. Gibbs, whose dedication to the investigation of the intricacies of history can do nothing but enrich us all.



Jacquetta of Luxembourg

Jacquetta of Luxembourg (1415?-1472) was of noble birth, being the daughter of Pierre, Count of St. Pol of Luxembourg and Duchess Marguerite del Balzo of Andria. She was half-French and half-Italian, and could prove her descent from Charlemagne.

In 1433, at the age of seventeen, Jacquetta was married to John of Lancaster, Duke of Bedford (1389-1435). For Jacquetta, this was an unusually fortunate match. Her new husband was the third son of Henry IV, King of England. He had been created Duke of Bedford in 1414 by his brother, Henry V, and was considered the most able and trustworthy of the King's brothers. After Henry's death in 1422, he became regent of England. In the struggle for the French crown after the death of Charles VI, he had commanded the English army in France and, in 1422, proclaimed his nephew, Henry VI (a child of nine months), king of France as well as England. As things stood, Bedford himself was next in line for the throne. He had defeated the French at Verneuil in 1424, and had been very successful in his other military operations--until Joan of Arc raised the siege of Orleans. (When she fell into Burgundian hands in 1431, it was Bedford who bought her from them and her burned alive as a witch and a heretic.)

By 1433, the Anglo-Burgundian alliance was beginning to break down, and this marriage between Jacquetta and Bedford assured that England could count on her father's political assistance, which was greatly needed at the time. However, the Duke was not totally motivated by politics; Jacquetta has been described in historical records as "handsome and lively," which description Thomas B. Costain called "and understatement, as, in reality, she was very handsome and extremely lively."¹ She was Bedford's second wife, and he desired to have a son. (His first wife had been the Duke of Burgundy's sister, Anne, and had only recently died in childbirth.)

Only two years after his marriage to Jacquetta, the Duke of Bedford died at Rouen--still without an heir. His young widow inherited all his estates, with the exception of one castle, which was left to an illegitimate son.

Upon Bedford's death, the bereaved Duchess was escorted to England by a guard of English knights from her late husband's household. In command of these was Sir Richard Woodville, thought by many to be the handsomest man in England. This Richard Woodville (born c.1405) came from an old, established Northamptonshire family which owned the manor of Grafton near Stony Stratford. His father was a soldier who had distinguished himself well serving under Henry V and John, Duke of Bedford. Richard, following in his father's footsteps, served in France and won a position on Bedford's staff.³ He had been knighted by the boy king Henry VI at Leicester.

Although his lineage was not as high as her own, the force of propinquity soon overcame prudence, and Jacquetta fell in love with this handsome knight.

Before she and her fortune could be suitably disposed of, the Duchess and the knight were wed (c.1436)... secretly, because she was forbidden to marry without the King's edict; her dower had been granted upon Bedford's death by a patent of the King. There is some question as to how much time elapsed before this misalliance became public knowledge. Some sources say the fact was concealed for as long as five years;⁴ although, that doesn't seem plausible, since their eldest daughter, Elizabeth Woodville, is thought to have been born by 1438.

They soon had no choice but to reveal the marriage. Parliament expressed its fury and indignation; the Duchess' dowry was confiscated and her income forfeited. (Both were later restored, through the intervention of their good friend, John of Gaunt's son, Cardinal Beaufort.) Her own aristocratic kinsmen were outraged by her disobedience, threatening Jacquetta and her husband with all manner of punishment. Shrewdly, as it turned out, she decided to throw herself upon young King Henry's mercy. A fine of 1,000 pounds was levied, which was considered lenient for the offense, and which was later paid by Cardinal Beaufort, in exchange for Jacquetta's manor of Charlton Canville.⁵ The Cardinal procured Woodville's pardon and, from then on, his advance was steady (particularly after the arrival of Margaret of Anjou). Sir Richard was appointed to the royal commission of Chief Rider of the Forest of Saucy; in 1448 he was created an earl, Lord Rivers; and in 1450 a Knight of the Garter and Privy Councillor. Meanwhile, Jacquetta and her husband had settled down at Grafton Castle, where they concentrated on raising a large family. Thirteen of their fifteen children grew to adulthood. All of them seem to have been endowed with their parents' good looks, amiability, ambition, strong will and a readiness to stand together in the face of adversity, the latter being a handy virtue to have, considering their later unpopularity.

To say that the Woodvilles were disliked for their greed or ambition would be too much of a simplification. Because Jacquetta had kept the title and rank of Duchess of Bedford, she was perceived as a young foreigner, married to a mere social-climbing knight, presuming to take precedence (until the arrival of Margaret of Anjou) over all the ladies of England. This could be enough to cause annoyance at any Court, anytime, but was of particular irritation during this period when a considerable amount of importance was placed on ceremony and protocol. To add to her plight, Jacquetta was not protected by any close relatives and had to fight her own battles against the jealous nobles, who treated her with contempt.

While scorned by the courtiers for his so-called "low birth," Sir Richard Woodville was acknowledged as a useful soldier. He accompanied the Duke of Somerset to France in 1439 and the Duke of York to Rouen in 1441. Whether Jacquetta went along on the first jaunt is uncertain, but she did go with her husband to Rouen, as did York's wife. It was there, in the same castle where Joan of Arc had been tried and condemned to death, that Cecily, Duchess of York, gave birth to her first surviving son, Edward, in April, 1442. (Cecily had already produced a son, Henry, who had died, and a daughter, Anne, born at Fotheringhay in 1439.) Jacquetta was probably in the castle, and may well have been in the bedchamber, when the future Edward IV was born!⁶ Two more children were born to the Duke and Duchess of York while at Rouen: Edmund, in May, 1443 and Elizabeth, the following year. It is very likely that Jacquetta's children and Cecily's were playmates during that time.

When Margaret of Anjou married Henry VI, Jacquetta, happily, found a friend and an ally. The Duchess was well-loved by the new Queen, being both French-born and related to the King by her first marriage. Also, Jacquetta's sister, Isabel, was married to the Queen's uncle, Charles of Anjou. For Jacquetta's sake, Margaret did what she could to improve the rank and fortunes of Richard Woodville, but it was too late--for the rest of his life, Lord Rivers and everyone connected with him bore the stigma of his "inferior birth." Usually, peers were spoken of in very guarded terms, but the Woodvilles were considered of little importance and, therefore, became the butt of many jokes and insults.

Jacquetta's marriage seems to have been happy, and her children were her

greatest joy. Her firstborn daughter, Elizabeth, grew up to be, by all accounts, a wondrously fair creature, with blue eyes and long, flowing hair, often described as "silver gilt"--perhaps, platinum blonde. She was appointed lady-in-waiting to Queen Margaret and, at the age of twenty-one, was advantageously married to John Grey, son of Earl Ferrers of Groby. In the Wars of the Roses, Grey sided with the Lancastrians, as did the Woodvilles, and was a commander of Queen Margaret's cavalry. He died in the second battle of St. Albans, and Elizabeth was left a widow with two, young sons. It is said that, when the Yorkists triumphed and Edward IV took the throne, he promptly confiscated the property of Bradgate, belonging to the Grey family. There seems to be some question as to whether this is true, but it is a necessary part of the romantic legend which grew from subsequent events. Supposedly, Elizabeth and her sons were destitute, so they returned to live with her parents at Grafton. It was there that King Edward, returning from a stag hunt, first noticed her.

The story goes that the fair young widow, with her two little, fatherless boys, waited beneath an oak tree to beg the King to take pity and restore her children's inheritance. (This, of course, was at the suggestion of her shrewd mother.) Edward, a notorious womanizer even then, was enchanted by her dazzling beauty and, after granting her request, invited her to take up residence at Court. She modestly declined, but indicated that he would be most welcome to visit her family whenever he wished (also, at her mother's suggestion). Seeing opportunity of another seduction, Edward began riding to Grafton frequently. But, Jacquetta's daughter repeatedly refused his amorous advances, saying, in effect, "My léige, full well I know that I am not good enough to be your Queen, but I am far too good to be your mistress." (In essence, the same tactic used some eighty years later by Anne Boleyn with Edward's grandson, Henry VIII--and, with equally successful results!) Not accustomed to being rejected by a woman, Edward was even more determined to have her.

Conspiring with the Duchess Jacquetta, Edward planned a clandestine wedding ceremony--not even the bride's father, Lord Rivers, nor her brothers and sisters knew what was taking place. It is very possible that even the witnesses were unaware of the bridegroom's true identity. Robert Fabyan, a London tradesman who was in no position to know the truth about the private life of the royal family, later consolidated other London chronicles into one--quite unreliable, but widely read--which was printed in 1516, three years after his death. He had this to say.

"In the most secret manner upon the first day of May (1464), King Edward spoused Elizabeth late the wife of Sir John Grey... which spousailles were solemnized early in the morning at the town near Grafton, near unto Stony Stratford. At which marriage was no person present but the spouse, the spousesse, the Duchess of Bedford her mother, the priest and two gentlemen and a young man who helped the priest to sing."⁷

It is probable that the ceremony took place in a small building known as the Hermitage, which was only a short walk away from Grafton manor house, and which, at the time, was hidden in the forest. Recent excavations have uncovered a tiled floor, and some of the tiles bear the Woodville arms and some the white rose, as though Edward were connected with the place in some special way.⁸ This theory is supported by the fact that Edward and Elizabeth could easily have reached the Hermitage from different directions without attracting attention,

and, likewise, could have arrived separately at Grafton manor house.

A few hours later (presumably after consummating his marriage), Edward rode back alone to Stony Stratford, where his attendants were waiting. Later the royal party traveled on to Northampton. They remained there for five days, during which time Edward received a visit from Elizabeth's father, who, by then, had been told the good news. The marriage remained a secret throughout the summer. Edward and his bride probably were able to get together only six or seven times, at most.

During her lifetime, Jacquetta of Bedford was suspected of sorcery and witchcraft (as was her daughter, Elizabeth) and accused of making wax figures. This was probably the only acceptable explanation for an unthinkable occurrence: that the tall, handsome 22-year-old King, Edward IV, the most eligible bachelor in Christendom, secretly took as his Queen the widow of a Lancastrian knight, mother of two sons, who was five years his senior--Dame Elizabeth Grey, daughter of the upstart Richard Woodville and his haughty Duchess. The young widow would have been penniless as well, had not Edward restored her inheritance--as well as her mother's dower--both of which had, according to tradition, been recently forfeited on the grounds of treason. Many believed that Edward must have been the victim of some curse or spell. In fact, it was Elizabeth's seductive beauty that had bewitched the young King; and, the scheming Jacquetta was clever enough to take advantage of his infatuation. But, an accusation of witchcraft was practically the only way by which a great lady could be brought low. The widow of Henry IV and the wife of Duke Humphrey of Gloucester had been imprisoned on such charges, and this was certainly remembered by Jacquetta's enemies.

There was another reason that some suspected the Duchess of sorcery, and she and her children encouraged the myth. The Woodville brothers and sisters, through their mother, claimed to be descended from a French water witch, or spirit, named Melusine, from whom they derived extraordinary strength and power. The royal family of Luxembourg had actually resorted to forgery, altering the roll of their pedigree to reflect this claim.⁹ Author Rosemary Hawley Jarman describes the legend thus:

"An ancestor the of the royal House of Luxembourg, Raymonde of Poitou, encountered Melusine near her home, a fountain in the forest. Enchanted by her, he quite lost his wits and promised her anything she wanted.

"She asked Raymonde for as much of the land around the fountain as could be covered by a stag's hide; then she cut the hide into ten thousand strips so that her land extended far beyond the forest. There she built, by magic, the castle of Lusignan.

"Melusine bore Raymonde several deformed, or at least unusual, children: Urban, with his one red and one green eye; Gedes of the scarlet countenance (for whom she built the castle of Favent and the monastery of Malliers); Gyot, of the uneven eyes (for him she built La Rochelle); Anthony, of the claws and long hair; a one-eyed son; and lastly, Geoffrey of the Tooth, who had a boar's tusk.

"She made her husband swear an oath that he would respect her privacy and leave her alone every Saturday. For a while he kept his word, but eventually the court gossip reached his ears: it was rumored that Melusine was betraying him. The next Saturday the suspicious Raymonde secretly followed her to a hidden lake and

watched as she bathed. He stated in astonishment--her lower body had changed into the tail of a monstrous fish or serpent! He dared not tell anyone what he had seen, and Melusine never spoke of having been discovered.

"One day, however, news came that their youngest son, Geoffery of the Tooth, had attacked and burned the monastery of Malliers and had murdered his own brother and a hundred monks. Hearing that the house of Raymonde had risen against itself, Raymonde cast out his wife, crying, 'Away, odious serpent! Contaminator of my noble race!' At this Melusine replied, 'Farewell. I go, but I shall come again as a doom. Whenever one of us is to die, I shall weep most dolorously over the ramparts of Lusignan; whenever tragedy strikes a royal House, I shall do likewise.' So she departed, after suckling once more her two youngest sons, holding them on the lap that owned scales shining like the moon."¹⁰

This entertaining, though incredible story--coupled with the general dislike of the Duchess Jacquetta and her Woodville family--may have contributed to some of the rumors and accusations that circulated later. These surfaced again in June, 1482 (after Edward's death), and the following January Parliament accepted a manifesto which declared Edward's marriage void for four reasons. Firstly, because it had been made without the assent of the Lords. Secondly, because it had been made by means of the sorcery and witchcraft of Elizabeth and her mother, Jacquetta. Thirdly, because it had been made secretly, without banns. Fourthly, because Edward was already married (or precontracted) to "one Dame Eleanor Butler daughter of the old Earl of Shrewsbury." There were no further details about his alleged marriage, merely the assertion, and notice that as a reason for bastardizing Edward V, it takes fourth place.

After Edward revealed his marriage to Elizabeth, the Woodvilles, especially Jacquetta, were more unpopular than ever. Her name was still tarnished by the scandal of her marriage nearly thirty years before. Even as late as 1483, according to Mancini, a foreigner visiting London was told that the trouble with the Woodvilles was that they were low-born. Some claimed to dislike them because they had been Lancastrians fighting for Henry VI. However, upon closer scrutiny, one can see that these are superficial excuses for much more deep-seated resentments.

To begin with, Lord Rivers had been a peer since 1448, a good deal longer than many of the other members of the House of Lords. Duchess Jacquetta had once been the highest-ranking lady in England. The claim that the Woodvilles were resented because they had fought for Henry VI is also pure nonsense; everyone--including Edward himself--had started as a loyal subject of Henry VI. And, no stigma whatever was attached to changing sides, providing it was done in an open manner, and not too often. Allegations that the Woodvilles were grasping and pushing seem to be largely unfounded. Lord Rivers, a professional soldier, conscientiously carried out the duties entrusted to him; and Anthony, Lord Scales, was positively admired for his elegance, erudition and prowess at jousting. In fact, the Paston brothers, who heard all of the Court gossip, found fault with the Woodvilles only because they were not useful patrons and had no influence.¹¹

Taken singly, none of the honors or rewards received by the Woodvilles was really unreasonable. Edward was an able king and would not have acted with criminal irresponsibility just to appease the demands of his wife and her

family. In 1466, Edward made his father-in-law Lord Treasurer and Earl Rivers carried out his duties as honestly and efficiently as any other peer would have done--perhaps better than some. Anthony was already Lord Scales (through marriage). He was given the Isle of Wight, which might have been bestowed on him anyway. The other members of the family received only minor prizes. In terms of power, they were negligible compared to the Neville bloc. What, then, was the real reason behind this resentment? Most certainly the advantageous marriages arranged for them had much to do with it.

It is not entirely accurate to say that the Woodvilles married above their station only through nepotism and greed. Edward was intelligent enough to recognize the danger in allowing a rich man to become even richer. The rise of Warwick--not to mention his own rise by the union of York and Mortimer--was a constant reminder of what could happen when wealth married wealth. Looking more closely, we can see that he shrewdly used Elizabeth's sisters and her elder son to block the dynastic marriages which the nobles might have otherwise arranged among themselves, to the detriment of himself and his heirs.

Six of Elizabeth's sisters were married to peers, which understandably enraged the parents of other eligible maidens, as well as the families of the young men who had been looking forward to doubling their wealth by marrying an heiress. For example, the Duke of Exeter's only child, Anne, was a potential pretender to the throne. Edward bought her back from Montagu's son, to whom she had been promised, and married her, instead, to his stepson, Thomas Grey. The motive for this was not lost on the Nevilles. Another potential danger was the immensely wealthy, young Henry, Duke of Buckingham, whose mother was a sister of the Duke of Somerset. He was also a potential claimant to the throne. Edward attempted to neutralize him by marriage to Catherine Woodville. John Woodville was married to Edward's aunt, the sixty-six year old Dowager Duchess of Norfolk, who had already had three husbands and was involved in lawsuits over her vast holdings of Mowbray and Beaumont property. It should be pointed out that no partners were found chosen for Elizabeth's other brothers, nor for her other son, Richard Grey. Mancini and other contemporary chroniclers picked up most of their information from the Court gossip of the very individuals who were thwarted by these tactics.

Further, there is no evidence that the Woodvilles actually possessed many disagreeable characteristics. On the contrary, they seem to have had a great deal of charm and charisma. Edward IV genuinely enjoyed the company of his wife's family, often preferring to socialize with her relatives, rather than his own. Duchess Jacquetta has been called greedy and ambitious, but if that had truly been her nature, would she have married someone as socially insignificant as Richard Woodville?

True, Jacquetta managed her daughter's secret marriage to the King, but she may have felt justified in promoting such a match in view of her own royal blood. At Elizabeth's coronation mass, she had supported the crown in her hands so that her daughter would feel no discomfort from its great weight. She stood as godmother, along with the Duchess Cecily of York, for their first grandchild, Elizabeth of York. She was always devoted to her husband and children.

But, Jacquetta was by no means unscathed. In 1468, an unfortunate scandal with a prominent and extremely wealthy alderman and draper, Sir Thomas Cook, irreparably damaged her reputation. Cook, a man whose wealth seemed almost infinite, owned a magnificent tapestry, generously woven with gold thread, for which he reportedly had paid £800. The Duchess expressed a wish to buy it, but Cook refused to sell. Whether her offer was not high enough, or he just wanted

to keep the tapestry for himself is not clear.

Coincidentally, that spring an agent for Margaret of Anjou, a man named Cornelius, was captured. Under torture, he accused Lord Warwick's servant, Hawkins, of being a co-conspirator and Hawkins, in turn, named Warwick's friend, Lord Wenlock, and some other London citizens, among them Sir Thomas Cook. Edward dismissed any idea of Warwick's being implicated and released Wenlock, but there was some evidence against Cook, and he was thrown into prison to await trial. Edward temporarily released him, at the request of his sister, Margaret of York, who was preparing to set out on her bridal journey, because Cook had guaranteed the bond that secured her dowry of 200,000 gold crowns. After Margaret's departure, Cook was re-arrested. While he was again awaiting trial, the Queen's father, Lord Rivers, the Lord Treasurer, and her cousin, Sir John Fogge, Treasurer of the Royal Household, under the pretense of looking for evidence of treason, sent their servants to ransack two of Cook's many houses. Knowing that their masters would defend them, the servants drank as much of Cook's wine as they could hold, and carried away £700 worth of plate and jewels, two hundred broadcloths, and the beautiful gold-worked tapestry, which had been coveted by the Duchess of Bedford.

When Cook was brought to trial, he was found innocent of treason. The first jury was then dismissed and a second called in. Even they, "acting under extreme pressure," would convict him only of misprision (having knowledge of treason and not disclosing it). He was sentenced to pay an enormous fine, £22,000. In spite of his losses of more than £14,000 from the looting of his townhouse (the other house wasn't considered) to offset the fine, he was still liable for £8,000. On top of that, the Queen revived an ancient demand known as Queen's Gold, whereby she could claim another £100 for every £1,000 exacted by the King. In spite of all this, the Queen and her parents were unhappy with the verdict. If Cook had been executed for treason, all of his fortune would have been forfeit to the Crown. They were enraged against the judge, Sir John Markham, and begged the King to dismiss him. Edward did, in fact, deprive him of office the following year, "for being too lenient."¹² Edward was highly uneasy at the suspicion that anyone might be conspiring in the schemes of Margaret of Anjou, and there was some political sense in his action, since Cook probably was helping to finance Queen Margaret in order to further his own ambitions. It was a contest between the King's influence and Cook's money. Edward was probably trying to break Cook financially, knowing that if he didn't, Cook would continue to take part in future intrigues. A few subsequent arrests and executions took place, with evidence that there was, indeed, a faction plotting to restore Margaret and the Lancastrians to power. But, Edward's dismissal of the judge was seen as unjust, and his own greed for Sir Thomas Cook's money may even have been an element in the case.

The common people, completely ignorant of any of the real issues, believed that the Woodvilles were at the bottom of the whole affair, motivated mainly by Jacquetta's desire to for the tapestry. Her reputation was permanently sullied by the scandal. She and her family were hated more than ever.

In August of the following year, during another uprising, Warwick's men captured Jacquetta's husband and son, Earl Rivers and Sir John Woodville. Seeing his chance, at last, to wreak bloody revenge upon those who had ousted him at Court, Warwick had them executed without any semblance of a trial. After this unprovoked murder, public opinion was in Jacquetta's favor, and all accusations and cases against her collapsed.¹³ Edward was captured and held hostage, and Jacquetta was forced to flee with the Queen and her children into sanctuary.

There she assisted at the birth of the long-awaited male heir, Prince Edward. Most certainly she was also entrusted with the care of her young granddaughters while awaiting the triumphant return of the King.

In May, 1472, the Duchess of Bedford died. The exact cause of her death is not known, although some reports claim that she had been emotionally distraught and, as a result, her health had suffered since the beheading of her dear husband and son, John. She lived long enough to see her daughter restored to the position of Queen of England and her grandson, Edward, created Prince of Wales (five months after he was born in sanctuary at Westminster Abbey). Considering the upsetting sequence of events which followed her son-in-law's reign, perhaps Jacquetta died at the best possible time.

Joyce Hollins,
California

FOOTNOTES

1. Costain, Thomas B.: *The Last Plantagenets*; Doubleday, p. 322.
 2. Clive, Mary: *This Sun of Yonk*; Alfred A. Knopf; p. 13.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Costain; op. cit.; p. 323.
 5. Jarman, Rosemary Hawley: *The King's Grey Mare*; Little, Brown & Co., p. 29.
 6. Clive: op. cit.; p. 14.
 7. Falkus, Gila: *The Life and Times of Edward IV*; Weidenfeld & Nicolson; p. 87.
 8. Clive: op. cit.; p. 103.
 9. Jenkins, Elizabeth: *The Princes in the Tower*; Coward, McCann & Goghegan, Inc.; p. 25.
 10. Jarman: op. cit.; pp. 29-30.
 11. Clive: op. cit.; p. 113.
 12. Jenkins: op. cit.; pp. 48-49.
 13. Clive: op. cit.; p. 145.
- Special thanks to Claudia Peterman of the Southern California Chapter for her genealogy research of Jacquetta and the House of Luxembourg.

Ed. Note: It is interesting to note, in light of the introduction of the legend of Melusine in the preceding article, that the House of Luxembourg was not the only medieval royal house to make the most of their alleged, or perceived, connection with Melusine. Edward III, during the halcyon days of his great victories over the French, quite deliberately played up the notion that he, the seemingly magical and invincible military giant, was descended from Melusine, although it not known whether the victor of Crécy and Poitiers actually believed the tale himself, or was simply shrewd enough to make the most of it with the French, who, apparently, did.

Also, while it is logical to base one's opinion of Elizabeth Woodville's personal greed on instances like her claiming the Queen's Gold, or Aurum Reginae, it is unfair to say that she revived the custom. It was known and recorded as early as the reign of Henry II and collected by every Queen, until the death of Henry VIII, not only on criminal fines, such as the one Cook paid, but those paid to the Crown for the granting of lands, titles or privileges, as well.

Ricardian Reading

Paul Murray Kendall's classic biography of Richard III, originally published in 1955, has been reissued in paperback. *The Daily Telegraph* praised "this bustling, vivid, exuberant biography" by saying: "Mr. Kendall has drawn a plausible, human and convincing picture of Richard and he has told an exciting story with infectious enthusiasm and dramatic skill."

This book is a must for every Ricardian library!

It can now be ordered from our Sales Office. Price: \$20.00, plus \$1.00 postage. Make checks payable to the Richard III Society, Inc. and mail to Linda B. McLatchie, Sales Officer, 330 Cedar Street, Ashland, MA 01721.

Linda B. McLatchie

Novels, Novels, Novels...

Ricardians winding down from a final flurry of late summer activities or just filling the lull before things speed back up for Fall can at least take courage from the fact that they will not be bereft of entertainment. Three popular novels of interest to the anglophile are currently available in bookstores; though the quality varies (as does the association with Richard), any of the three will make a welcome respite.

In The Shadow of the Crown; Susan Bowden, Bantam Books.

This one tells the story of Joisee Radcliffe; a young (and, of

course, beautiful) heiress who flees into the wilds of Yorkshire and ends up attached to the court of Richard, Duke of Gloucester. This is pretty much your standard historical romance with flashing eyes, tossing heads and stamping feet. What makes it interesting to us is, of course, Joisee's proximity to Richard; not only does she become his ward, she marries his horsemaster and the fortunes of the two families remain intertwined throughout the book.

Ms. Bowden includes a note at the book's end identifying herself as "one of us"--but, by then, her sympathetic portrayal of Richard and the loyalty of members of his household after Bosworth has already told the reader where her sympathies lie. *Shadow* is an enjoyable book--all the more so because Ms. Bowden's accuracy over historical details is complete.

The King's White Rose, Susan Appleyard, Paperjacks.

This book is not quite so responsible. The idea of having Jane Shore as a heroine is...well, it's at least a novel concept. But, we really can't describe the result as historical reading at its finest.

"Ludgate has been kind to me. It has taught me to feel once again." Those are Jane's farewell words at the book's close. And, this quote should prepare the reader for the story of poor, misunderstood Jane Shore, who's really good at heart...actually a virtuous wife. Hastings took advantage of her. No, really!

Only with Edward (of course)

does ill-treated Jane find True Love and Total Sexual Fulfillment. Afterward, well...a girl's gotta live. Right? Ms. Appleyard skirts (pun intended) the main Ricardian issues, but does include several passages about Richard's "indefinably sinister" appearance, and this manages to convey the idea. In short, *The King's White Rose* is probably not destined to become a Ricardian classic.

Sanum, Edward Rutherford, Crown Publishers.

This is the best of the three novels, but the least directly concerned with Plantagenet events. *Sanum* is the history of Salisbury Plain with five families as the central focus. Tracing them from the Ice Age to 1985, Rutherford shows the same ability to tell a story convincingly (with the same kind of detail) which has made Michener so popular.

Main events in the Salisbury area, of course, take precedence over far-off battles and royal problems--just as they would have to area residents. The canonization of St. Osmond in 1457 was of much more importance, for instance, than anything else for many years. After all, royals squabbled and fought and always had!

A well-researched and thoroughly enjoyable book, *Sanum* is not only an entertaining way to find out more about Salisbury, but should be required reading for anyone planning a trip to the area. Since that includes everyone in the Society, *Sanum* would make a fine gift to yourself, or another member!

Trisha Stanton,
New Mexico

Of Virtue Rare, Linda Simon, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1982.

This small book has very little to recommend it. Sloppily researched and edited, it makes gross errors of fact which it sometimes corrects with no reference to the earlier citation. Ms. Simon identifies Richard II as the nephew of Edward III, rather than his grandson. She states that the Earl of Warwick concluded a marriage alliance between his daughter Anne and the Duke of Clarence. Later, she describes the death of Clarence's wife, Isabel, while Anne is married to the Lancastrian Prince Edward.

The author's sources are questionable. She relies heavily on chronicles that most modern scholars have rejected. She bases Richard's assumption of the throne totally on Thomas More, down to the strawberries and withered arm! She does admit, to her credit, there is no proof that Richard murdered his nephews, or that the boys were murdered at all.

The book is more of a superficial scan of the Wars of the Roses than it is a biography of anyone. This fact can possibly be explained by a paucity of sources on Margaret Beaufort and her son before August 22, 1485. But, the blatant errors which abound throughout its pages seem reason enough to classify the work as fiction.

Ms. Simon stresses Margaret Beaufort's piety and rigorous self-discipline. But, piety to both means hours spent in prayer or wearing a hair garment. Neither the author nor the subject see the dichotomy of her "virtue" versus her treason against Richard or of human compassion countering the tyrannical hold Margaret held over her son's royal household.

The book is partially redeemed by some vivid descriptions of daily life in medieval England, but the flow of the narrative is too often broken by the insertion of a long quotation in medieval language.

Not content to end with Margaret's death, Ms. Simon continues her grim saga until Elizabeth's birth. The implication, of course, is that whatever treason brought the Tudors to the throne and whatever England suffered during the other four Tudors, was justified by the magnificence of Gloriana. But, it would be well to remember that Elizabeth's heritage was Plantagenet as well as Tudor.

Dale Summers,
Texas

Passion Rose, Mallory Burgess,
Avon, NY, 1987. \$3.95.

My theory is that this started out to be a not-too-bad adventure novel, perhaps about smugglers in the 19th century, but either the author or her editor felt it wouldn't sell because it had no kings, dukes or other nobility as characters. So, some which had been edited out of a Wars of the Roses novel were inserted. Then, in a spirit of thriftiness, snippets of various other novels which were lying around were used. One character, who possess the unlikely name of Azalee Winterhur, seems to have originated in a War-Between-the-States novel. As for Richard... Well, in this story he comes straight out of Bram Stoker. Another character in the book compared him to Nero, but even Nero wasn't crazy enough to set himself on fire like a dish of Cherries Jubilee just to make an entrance at a party. Burgess' Richard is paranoid, hysterical, megalomaniac and

bonkers...and, that's his good side.

Alternately, it may have been written by committee. This would explain why it is fairly accurate in some places and provides some real howlers in others, such as locating Lancashire "very near" Wales; and it would account for Richard's disappearing and reappearing withered arm.

The theory has also been offered that these books are written by computer, but I don't think so. A computer would be more consistent, I think.

Myrna Smith,
Texas

Ed. Note: Myrna, who can always be counted upon to say precisely how she feels about a book, has given kind marks to In the Shadow of the Crown, reviewed earlier in this section by Trisha Stanton. All in all, it would seem there is both cause for hope and for gnashing of teeth, with regard to recently available novels. Interest in the era, indeed in Richard himself, seems far from being on the wane, and there's always the hope that we're slowly gaining ground!



"We interrupt this program to bring you an important news bulletin..."

Silent Auction

Thanks to the success of last summer's Silent Auction, we have decided to do it again! Proceeds will go toward new library acquisitions.

To bid on a book, write to Helen Maurer, 24001 Salero Lane, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 by October 15. Indicate which book you want and what you would be willing to pay for it. You may, of course, bid on more than one book. SEND NO MONEY!!! You will be notified of the auction results toward the end of October. Condition of books and original selling prices (where ascertainable) are indicated. In cases where more than one copy is available, the one in best condition will go to the highest bidder; the next best to the next highest (unless you specify otherwise with your bid).

The Paston Letters; ed. by Norman Davis, Oxford University Press, 1963. Hardcover in very good to excellent condition, with jacket. Pocket-sized book with introduction, notes and glossary. 3.00 (\$ or £ -- I'm not sure which!)

Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage; 1976. Hardcover in very good condition with slightly worn jacket. Gives full details of on peers, baronets and members of the royal family as of 1976, with arms, crests, and lists of offspring. \$95.00

A Directory of British Peerage; Genealogical Publishing Co., 1985. Paperback in excellent condition. Lists titles & surnames; indicates existence of peerage, ownership, period and fate, and where to get further information. Does not include biographical information. \$12.50

Medievalia et Humanistica: Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Culture; New Series, nos. 1, 2, & 3 (1970-1972), Case Western Reserve University Press. All volumes are hardbound, with jackets, in pristine condition. Each contains a collection of scholarly essays on various subjects: e.g., "Wyclif and the Augustinian Tradition," "Number Symbolism and Medieval Literature," "Rhythmic Architecture in the Music of the High Middle Ages (vol. 1); "Kingship, Government and Politics in the Middle Ages," "Lord Berners: a Survey," "Latin Palaeography in the Later Middle Ages: Some Recent Contributions," "The Cataloguing of Medieval Manuscripts: a Review Article" (vol. 2); and "Medieval Poems and Medieval Society," "Bachelor and Retainer," "The Medieval Lyric and its Public," "Clerical Judges in the English Courts" (vol. 3). Volumes may be bid on separately. No original price known.

Medieval Art; Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1962. Paperback guidebook in excellent condition. Many black & white illustrations.

Metropolitan Museum of Art, School Picture Sets: "Monks & Monasteries," "Medieval Towns & Guilds," "Life in a Medieval Castle," and "Knights in Armor." No date, all in very good to excellent condition. Each page has black and white picture and brief text: perforated to make 3-3/4 x 6" cards. Price unknown.

Good King Richard? Jeremy Potter, Constable. Hardcover in good condition. Jacket somewhat worn. An account of Richard and his reputation, up to the present. \$20.00

The Lore of the Unicorn; Odell Shepherd, Harper Colophon. Paper-

back in fair to good condition--not battered, but pages yellowing. Everything you ever wanted to know about the beast. \$4.95

Richard III; G.W.O. Woodward, 1972 edition. Pitkin Pictorial. Paperback in good condition. Two copies available. \$3.50

The Arts of the Alchemists; C.A. Burland, McMillan, 1968. Hardcover in very good to excellent condition, with jacket. \$9.95

The St. Martin Embroideries; Margaret B. Freeman, Metropolitan Museum, 1968. Hardcover in excellent condition. Jacket slight rubbed at edges. Many black & white photos. \$6.95

The National Trust Year Book: 1975-76; The National Trust. Quality soft cover in excellent condition. Articles relating to art, conservation, etc., on National Trust properties, including one on portraits of Kings and Queens displayed at Montacute House. £3.50

The Middle Ages: Treasures from the Cloisters and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Vera K. Ostola, 1969. Quality softcover in very good to excellent condition. Cover very slightly worn at edges. Few color photos; many black & white. Full descriptions of objects. \$2.95 (Seems a tiny amount to pay for this large a book!)

MAGAZINES AVAILABLE

British History Illustrated; 1:1, 1974. Contains "The Paston Letters" by David Mason; picture of Victoria on front. Cover smudged, slightly worn at seam; contents good to excellent condition. \$1.50.

British History Illustrated; 1:4, 1974. Contains "Richard III" by Nigel Balchin, Society of Antiquaries picture of Richard on front. Cover slightly smudged and very worn at seam; contents in excellent condition. \$1.50.

Helen Maurer,
Research Librarian

Blanc Sanglier

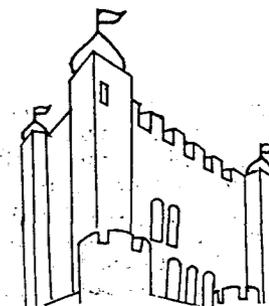
Battle scarred and war weary,
Losing strength and youth betimes;
Always loyal, true and faithful,
Never trait'rous, false or cruel.
Come now in this final hour
Say the words that should be said.
All is lost this day -- forever.
Nothing gained where all was ventured,
God's our judge, He'll have His way.
Loving friends, please to remember,
In this life of strife and pain,
Each of us must e'er look upward,
Reject our sins, to live again.

John O. Jewett,
Massachusetts

*Requiescas in pace,
Ricardus Rex*

Quoth the Raven: "EVERMORE!"

Legend & Remnant of the Tower Zoo



This examination of the menageries of Great Britain, particularly during the Middle Ages, will take us far afield, both in time and space. Oddly enough, it begins and ends with consideration of that black, somewhat ominous and highly intelligent member of the family *Corvidae*: the raven. There will be several halts along the journey which takes us from ancient Greece to modern times at the Tower of London.

When discussing the collecting and keeping of wild animals there is a temptation to begin with the apocryphal story of little Ogg and the wild wolf cub he captured, brought back to the family cave and, thenceforth, kept as a pet. Since most of us have heard the story, we will press onward to the era of the ancient Greeks, to the time of the early Danaans, whose cult considered the raven a holy bird and, later, alternately with the owl, symbolic of the goddess Athena. Odin, king of the Scandinavian gods, was also associated with the raven. The Danes brought the cult to the British Isles; their sea raven banners flying on the long ships. Even earlier, when the Celts moved from Ireland to Britain, the raven totem moved with them.

In the theocracy of the Celts, the early Celtic god, Bran (Vron), was equal in rank with Zeus, Osiris and Odin in importance. To Odin's worshippers the raven, associated with him as a holy bird, the emblem of death and eternity, was thus considered a prophetic symbol. The raven has a life span equal to that of a human. It uses the same nest for many consecutive years. Consequently, since it also mates for life, it is not difficult to see why its unique characteristics fostered belief in its immortality and steadfastness.

During battle, the warriors of the early Britons invoked the power of the raven on their war horns by imitating the bird's croaking. "Feeding the ravens" was a normal description of battle slaughter because ravens were scavengers of the battlefield. A mighty warrior of the 6th century is thus described:

"gochone brein du a uun
caen ceni bei ef Arthur"

("He glutted black ravens on the wall of the fort,
although he was not [King] Arthur.")

After Bran's death, his head was taken to what was later named Tower Hill and buried there. Legend tells us that he waits there, guarding the realm. His name itself means "raven." From this ancient belief, it is a short step to the legend that as long as ravens remain at the Tower, Britain will stand.

Thus, after some digression, we arrive at the study of the zoos of the Plantagenets and their contemporaries, as well as the periods before and after that dynasty.

When the Romans invaded Britain, they found, perhaps to their surprise, that the inhabitants kept certain small animals in pens and cages, not for food, work or sport, but for amusement, enlightenment and as pets. Granted, these

animals were kept by their owners to look at and study and were usually, small rodents, such as squirrels and rabbits. Since the Romans kept animals for use in their games, for work or food, it may have been difficult for them to understand this practice.

Henry I was the first English monarch to make any effort to found a menagerie of wild animals. He established his zoo at Woodstock in Oxfordshire. Nowadays, Woodstock is a small town of 2100 people, famous as the site of Blenheim Castle, built by public donation for John, first Duke of Marlborough and victor of Blenheim. It is also the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, who is buried two miles south of Woodstock. No mention of a zoo is made in the list of places of interest to the visitor.

It was the custom then, and for sometime thereafter, for the monarch to be accompanied by his personal possessions in his travels about the realm. Henry's menagerie was no exception; and we are all familiar with the story of King John's losing the crown jewels in the Wash. It was an experience no doubt as stressful for the animals as that experienced by the mistresses of Louis of France, when he journeyed to his various chateaux. It was said that he stopped for nothing; motion sickness, calls of nature, or imminent childbirth. At any rate, Henry's animals had journeys over rough roads, in all sorts of weather.

During the reign of Henry II the royal zoo began to come into its own. It was moved to the Tower of London, where it remained for 600 years. According to an account written in 1190 by William Fitz-Stephen, chaplain to Thomas à Becket, the city had on its east the Palatine Castle (as the Tower was sometimes called) "very great and strong; the keep and walls rise from very deep foundations and are fixed with the blood of animals." This practice was believed to temper the mortar and make it strong. There are those who say human blood was also used for this purpose.

Frederick II of Germany paid a compliment to the arms of England when he presented Henry III with three leopards on the occasion of Frederick's marriage to Isabella, Henry's sister. Henry I was also interested in leopards which, because of their kinship to the lion, were considered symbols of royalty.

Frederick II, known as *Stupor Mundi* (the Wonder of the World), was not only the author of an authoritative volume on falconry and ornithology, but he also enjoyed studying wild animals at first hand and kept at least 3 zoos of his own. He, too, travelled with an animal entourage, which included cheetahs and camels.

The Lion Gate and the Lion Tower were built after the zoo was moved from Woodstock. The zoo later contained a number of curiosities, including a white bear. Some authorities claim this was an albino version of a large bear, but since it was donated to Henry III's zoo by the King of Norway, it is entirely possible that it was a polar bear.

An unusual method of providing food for the bear was practiced. The bear was muzzled, led to the nearby Thames, where a rope was slipped around its neck, before it was unmuzzled. Thus securely tethered, it was allowed to swim, catching its own food amongst the plentiful fish. There is no mention of the hardy soul charged with muzzling and unmuzzling the bear, nor of the rate of turnover in this job.

Raising money to feed the animals was a constant worry. Not only was the money forthcoming from a reluctant public in the form of unpopular taxes, but the funds were bled away by the greed of many of the zoo keepers, who lined their own pockets with it.

During the time of Henry III, an elephant was acquired from Louis of France. People came from all over the country to see this fabled beast, in

spite of primitive transportation and inclement weather. Unfortunately, the elephant died after two years. It is recorded that Henry "wept bitterly at its death."

At one time, admission to the zoo could be purchased by bringing a live dog or cat as food, instead of money. Lest we get too exercised over this, we should realize that this form of death was probably quicker than the modern custom of abandoning unwanted animals along busy freeways, or in the wilds, to starve.

During their 600 years in the Tower, the animals were cared for in various ways, ranging from indifference and neglect to positive cossetting. There were periods when some animals were given alcohol as part of their diet. It was believed, for instance, to make elephants more tractable. Zebras were given ale to drink in the hope that they could be broken to harness. This was futile, ale or no, and the practice was abandoned. The Empress Josephine of France, however, is said to have had a zebra as a mount for her children. Presumably, breaking a zebra to harness was no more difficult than handling the Emperor.

The heyday of the Tower zoo came in the 19th century. The animal exhibits were greatly augmented by British military officers' gifts from their stations in East India, West Africa and North America. Animals were treated with dignity; better than in earlier times, better than in later times.

In 1822, the zoo was restocked by a new keeper; but the Tower entrance as blocked by expansion. For a time, during this period, tickets were sold to view the "annual washing of the lions." Appropriately enough, this supposed event was scheduled for April Fool's Day.

Closure of the zoo finally came in 1835, during the reign of William IV, after many financial and spatial difficulties. The animals were transferred to the newly-opened Zoological Gardens in Regents Park, which brings us back to the ravens, who still inhabit the old zoo.

There is a special fund for raw meat for them, paid for by Parliament. There is a special officer, the Master of the Ravens, who is charged with caring for them. There is a special cage in the Lanthorn Tower from which they emerge to hop about on the lawns and fly about, uttering their harsh cries. There, as living reminders of Bran, the great Celtic god, they guard the realm for as long as they choose to stay.

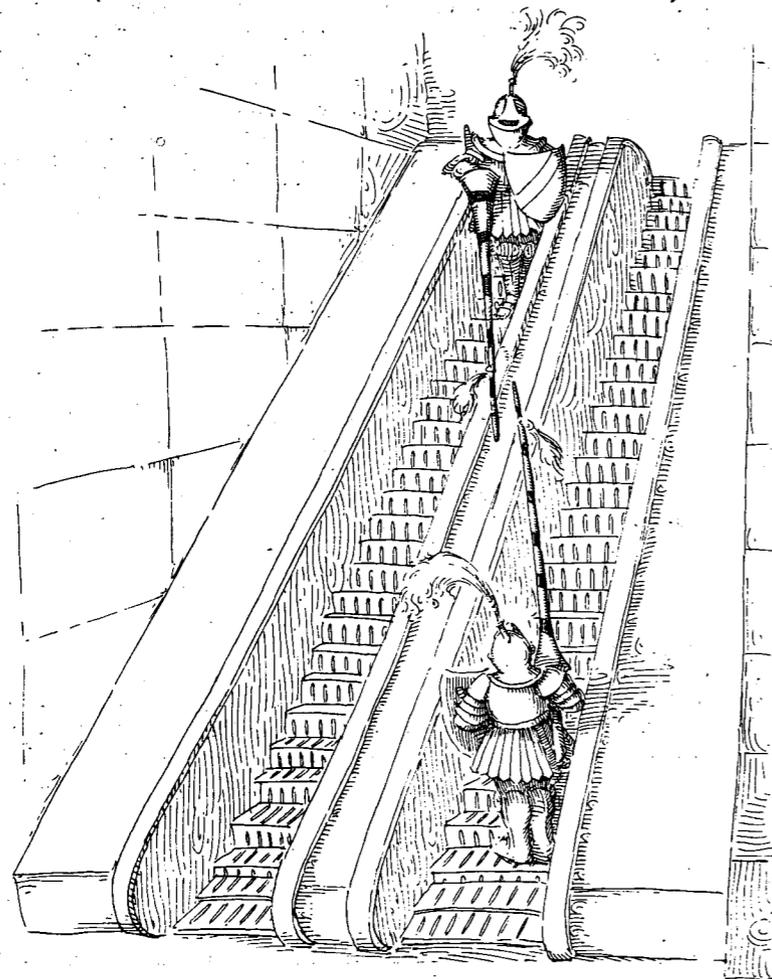
In the guidebook, *Zoos of the World*, the Tower is still called the site of a zoo and, under the heading "Zoo Collection" is the single word, "birds." If we listen, we do not hear the mournful "Nevermore" of Poe's raven, but, instead, the optimistic prophecy: "Evermore," for there will always be an England.

Mary E. Swanson,
Washington

SOURCES:

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5. Graves, Robert: *The White Goddess*, Farrar, Strauss & Giroux, NY, 1975.

6. Hammond, Peter: *Royal Fortress*, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Great Britain, 1978.
7. Hibbert, Christopher: *The Story of the Tower of London*, Newsweek Book Division, NY, 1971.
8. Rybot, Doris: *It Began Before Noah*, Michael Joseph Ltd., London, 1972.
9. Scott, A.F.: *Everyone a Witness: the Plantagenet Age*, Thomas Y. Crowell, NY, 1976.



A horse?? Who needs a horse at Market Neiman?

Scattered Standards

In recent months several inquiries have been made in regard to the various newsletters published by some of our larger Chapters. There are three regular publications of this kind and all accept subscriptions from non-Chapter members. Each is unique and is reflective of the wide-ranging interests of Ricardians in a given Chapter area, thus offering a perspective not often possible in the pages of the *Register*. If you would like to avail yourself of this means of getting to know your fellow Ricardians a little better, please contact the following:

The California Sunne
(Southern California Chapter)
Subscription: \$2.00 per year.
Published quarterly.

Joyce Hollins
7655 Quimby Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91304

The Rampant Boar
(Northern California)
Subscription: \$5.00 per year.
Resuming quarterly publication.

Andrew Knight, Editor
1731 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

The Crown & Helm
(Ohio Chapter)
Subscription: \$2.50 per year.
Published quarterly.

Gillie Lehmann, Editor
4354 West 48th Street
Cleveland, OH 44144

Any inquiries should be directed to

the people given above and all checks made payable to the appropriate Chapter.

Deadlines

In order to avoid any future dearth of information for this segment, the following deadline submission dates should be noted:

For the Winter issue: October 15
For the Spring issue: January 15
For the Summer issue: April 15
For the Autumn issue: July 15

Given the complicated nature of the long-distance proofing process involved in the production of the *Register*, it is impossible to guarantee that material received after the above dates, for inclusion in an immediately upcoming issue, will appear in a desired edition. That being the case, please make every effort to have your news, Chapter reports, and even full-length articles in the hands of the Editor by the stated dates, unless other, specific arrangements have been made.

Annual Chapter Reports

The end of the Ricardian year is fast approaching and it is time, once again, to make annual Chapter reports. Accounts of a full year of activity cannot be printed in the *Register*, but each Chapter is required to submit a report of their activities to the Board and

to the Chapter Coordinator:

Roxane C. Murph, Chairman
3501 Medina Avenue
Ft. Worth, TX 76131

Mary P. Miller,
Chapter Coordinator
8801 James Avenue, N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Middle Atlantic Chapter

From the Middle Atlantic Chapter, in lieu of a more detailed account of recent activities which they would have made if not busily planning to welcome us all to Washington, D.C. this Fall, comes intriguing news of one of their members.

Mary Schaller, who will be playing an active role in AGM '88, has been busy organizing a cricket team for the youngsters in the D.C. area whom she has already gotten hooked on English history, via her Shakespearean theater workshop. According to a write-up in *The Washington Times* it hasn't been the easiest thing in the world to get the Shakespearean Overseas (SOS) team going, but Mary has persevered and the team will even be playing in England this summer, and news of this fledgling American cricket venture also made the BBC, long before the team winged its way to England. Nice going, Mary!

Now with enthusiasm, originality and initiative like that, how can any of us not look forward to meeting Mary in Washington and hearing what she has to share with us from the Folger, where she serves as a docent? Members might also recall mention in the *Register* of the Ricardian play Mary has written and produced in her theater group. This is one interesting,

multi-talented lady!

Ohio Chapter

In the sweltering heat that has threatened to turn Ohio, among other places, into the next great desert of the world nearly forty members and guests of the Chapter gathered at the Karl Road Christian Church in Columbus, Ohio on July 9 for a combination business meeting and celebration of the anniversary of Richard's coronation.

Hardly ever has business been attended to so expeditiously, but we were all eagerly anticipating what was coming...an authentic medieval banquet, prepared by our own experts, Tom Coles and Spencer Northup. We were not disappointed! A melange of appropriately attired members and more seasonably garbed folks sat down to a wonderful repast, served in several "removes," on bread trenchers by costumed servers recruited from the SCA by Tom and Spencer. It was an unforgettable experience, for both palate and mind, and one that will, hopefully, become an annual Chapter event.

The next Chapter meeting will be held on Sunday, October 19 at the home of Sue Butts of Lakewood, (Cleveland) Ohio. This meeting will commence not only the new membership year, but terms of office as well. Dennis Howard, 4320 Angel Ridge Road, Athens, OH 45701 is Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Those interested in serving as an officer, or wishing to place someone's name in nomination, should contact Dennis. Annual dues checks (\$5.00) should be sent to Treasurer, Gary Bailey, 861 Stanwell Dr., Highland Heights, OH 44142.

See you in October!

Judie C. Gall

Amateur Radio Operators

Florida member, John McMillan is searching for a kindred soul, not just a Ricardian, but any Ricardians who, like himself, are also amateur radio operators. If you are one, and are interested in using this thoroughly modern means of communication as yet another way of exchanging your 15th-century views, please contact John (K4QOP) at 7726 S.W. 53rd Place, Gainesville, FL 32608.

Annual Dues

The Board of Trustees of the Richard III Society has decided, very reluctantly, to raise the annual dues to \$25.00. Printing and mailing costs have increased drastically; contributions have fallen, and we feel we must take this step to insure that we have funds to cover our many worthwhile services to our members. We sincerely hope that this will not present a hardship to any of you, and that you will agree the small added cost is worth the many benefits you receive from the Society. The increase will take effect Oct. 2, 1988.

Roxane C. Murph,
Chairman



Heraldry Quiz

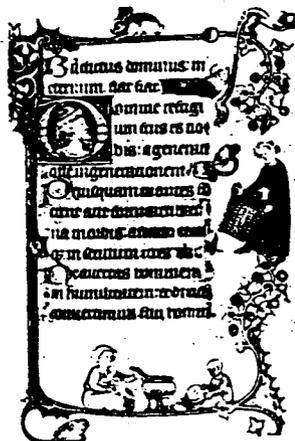


These arms, borne by a confederation first chartered by Edward the Confessor, are one of the best extant examples of dimidation, largely abandoned in later medieval heraldry.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS QUIZ:
Richard Neville; son of Ralph, Earl of Westmoreland; created Earl of Salisbury.



If you are contemplating writing something for the *Register* or are charged with composing any quarterly Chapter news to be shared with the membership, please note the submission dates given in the previous section, or contact the Editor to make specific arrangements. Only timely receipt of material can assure its appearance in a given issue.



The Board Chronicles

July 10, 1988

Telephone conference meeting was called to order by Chairman Roxane Murph at 1:00 p.m. (PST). Treasurer Alan Dixler, Secretary Jacqueline Bloomquist and Membership Secretary Carole Rike were on the line. Robert Doolittle, Vice-Chairman, was excused.

I. Minutes of last meeting approved as read.

II. Treasurer's Report:

\$ 3,000 in endowment fund.

\$ 4,000 in scholarship fund.

\$19,500 in general treasury (figures current as of 6/24/88).

A. UNDER DISCUSSION: cost of importing *The Ricardian* from England and how we can have a smoother operation so that we receive them on time.

B. ALSO UNDER DISCUSSION: how the Society can raise some needed funds. We might try designing some memo-pads, etc. Members might wish to submit designs.

C. Judie Gall requested that the *Register* be extended to 28 pages. Request approved.

III. As of July 10, 1988 we have 682 members.

IV. Unfinished business:

A. AGM - BALLOTS will be mailed first class by Carole Rike. Also included in package will be Registration Forms and chances on Ricardian Raffle.

B. Nancy Weitendorf, Marge Nelson and Linda Spicer, who were this year's Nominating Committee have submitted some guidelines for future committees, and these will be discussed at the AGM.

C. Helen Maurer asked to hold another Silent Auction and the Board gave its approval.

V. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. (PST). Next meeting will be September 11, 1988.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline Bloomquist,
Recording Secretary

Gallinaufry

Notes from the Research Office

RICARDIAN ERRATA (AND DOWNRIGHT AND PERSISTENT SCANDAL) IN PRINT. If you encounter, in the course of your research, a point of view you feel the Society should address, please bring it to my attention. I'll be happy to write the author in my official capacity, but I encourage members to write their own letters whenever possible.

WHO'S WHO. Mary Donermeyer writes that she has a biographical index of "just about everybody--over 2,000 names"--connected with Richard. For more information, contact her at 67 Moss Road, Springfield, MA 01119.

A RICARDIAN MAP. Marge Nelson has discovered an excellent map of London for Ricardian scholars. Available from the Folger Library for \$10 pp; the map is dated 1560 and depicts a bird's eye view of streets and buildings from Westminster to the Tower, looking north from the Thames. Write to: Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 E. Capitol Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

WHO ARE THE OTHER THREE KINGS OF ENGLAND, BESIDES RICHARD, WITHOUT TOMBS? To my knowledge, every monarch since the Conquest has a tomb or monument, except Richard and possibly, depending on one's opinion of the Bones, Edward V. (Whether the monarch is buried in the tomb which bears his name is questionable in some cases.) I am not certain about pre-Conquest kings, and would like to hear from other members on this topic.

HOW IS RICHARD'S MOTTO PRONOUNCED? In modern French, lwah-yoh-tay muh lee; Richard probably pronounced the first word, lay-oh-tay; if you've read around in 15th-century French literature, you've probably seen it written léaulté or léauté; as well as loyauté or loyaulté.

HOW DO YOU FIGURE OUT THE DATES IN THE MEDIAEVAL CALENDAR? A readily available reference guide for the calendar is contained in the back of the latest *Oxford Companion to English Literature.* Robert R. Newton's *Mediaeval Chronicles and the Rotation of the Earth* (see below) includes a brief and readable account of the early Church's struggle with the calendar.

Mediaeval documents were sometimes dated according to the monarch's reign, rather than the calendar year. *Anno primo Ricardus Tertii* (in the first year of Richard III) would thus date a document between July, 1483 and July, 1484, and one would need to look at the date to determine the calendar year.

WHAT WAS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE ECLIPSE WHICH OCCURRED DURING ANNE'S DEATH? WAS IT SUFFICIENT TO BE SEEN BY THE CASUAL OBSERVER AND TO BE TERMED A GREAT ECLIPSE BY THE CROYLAND CHRONICLER? It is not possible to determine the exact magnitude

of an eclipse for which certain data--among them, the speed of the earth and moon at the time and the degree of perturbation (disturbance by other heavenly bodies)--are not available. Since the fine movements of the earth and moon are still not predictable or explainable, it is still not possible to predict exactly the path or magnitude of a future eclipse.

The eclipse of 16 March, 1485, was total over southern Spain and the Mediterranean. Mary Donermeyer, who asked this question, cites two English sources who reportedly witnessed it: the Croyland Chronicler and a Dr. Lewis, who was in London at the time, acting as go-between between Margaret Beaufort and Elizabeth Woodville. (The Croyland Chronicler, however, merely says Anne died "about the middle of the following day (16 March, 1485), upon a day of a great eclipse of the sun, which then took place.")

Dr. Lewis was a scientist and might be presumed to have made his own observations: we do not know who, or more importantly where the Croyland Chronicler was--or whether he saw the eclipse himself or merely reported someone else's observations. The hour of totality (or, in England, greatest magnitude) for the eclipse was approximately 2:23-2:28 p.m., which would seem to support the Croyland Chronicler's "middle of the day."

Modern scientists differ greatly as to what constitutes a "visible" eclipse to someone who isn't watching it: the low end of the scale is .78 (undocumented) and the high end .9 (the sun 90% obscured).. Dr. Lewis, and perhaps the Croyland Chronicler, as an ecclesiastic devoutly attempting to fix the date of Easter, might both have been "looking for an eclipse" on the day in question. And the latter, keeping in mind that the mediæval day always had 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness, regardless of the latitude or time of year, might have fudged a little on the time of Anne's demise.

I am not a professional scientist and should dearly love to hear from anyone who is on this topic. (Sources for this reply include *Ricardians* January and May, 1986 and June, 1973; *Mediaeval Chronicles and the Rotation of the Earth* by Robert R. Newton; *A Canon of Eclipses -2002 to +2526*, by Jean Meeus and Hermann Mucke [1983]; and *A Canon of Eclipses* by Oppolzer [1962]).

Mallory Paxton,
Research Officer

RICARDIAN CALENDARS - Presstime Update

BULK CALENDAR ORDERS: The shipping charge for any number, over 9, will be a flat **\$5.00 per order**, rather than the per calendar rate quoted in the ad at the back of this issue.

Looking for the perfect gift for a history buff? Student? Teacher?
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*It's coming soon! The beautiful, decorative
1989 Medieval Calendar!*



All new hand-rendered art, historical events of Ricardian interest (mostly 15th-century), and membership information about the Richard III Society. Keep one for yourself and order several for gifts, chapter promotions or public relations! If you have seen our calendars of past years, you already know that this is more than just an ordinary calendar-- it is an unusual work of art, a teaching tool, and a special way to introduce others to the Ricardian cause!

Printed on fine quality parchment, the 1989 calendar will depict late medieval historical events which occurred or are commemorated during each month. All art work, research and production by local chapter members. The proceeds will be used to benefit worthy Society causes and/or the Schallek memorial scholarship fund.

WHAT'S MORE... IT'S LESS!

Price per calendar is **ONLY \$6.50** (which, you will note, is **\$1.00 less** than the retail price of our 1987 calendar!) If ordered in quantities of ten or more shipped to the same address, a special 'wholesale' price of **ONLY \$4.50** per calendar will be extended. (Please add \$1.00 ea. for postage, packaging and handling.) *Local chapters are encouraged to order in quantity and re-sell at the mark-up, if you wish, as a fund-raiser for your own chapter treasury.*

*1989 Medieval Calendars will be available for distribution
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Quantities will be limited: place your order now!

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500 S. La Veta Park Circle #37; Orange, CA 92668

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*Richard III Society, Inc.
Southern California Chapter*