

He died on the 8th of May 1411,¹ having by his will, dated 25th April 1408, directed his remains to be deposited next and beneath the tomb of John earl of Pembroke, in the church of the Black Friars at Hereford.² By Joan, his wife, sister and coheir of Thomas Fitzalan earl of Arundel, he left an only son, Richard Beauchamp, afterwards earl of Worcester; and two daughters,—Joan who married James Butler earl of Ormond, and Elizabeth.

The heir-general and representative of William lord of Bergavenny is Mary-Frances-Elizabeth Stapleton, now baroness Le Despenser.

ARMS.

Gules, a fess between six cross-crosslets Or, the fess charged with a mullet for difference.

SIR
WILLIAM
BEAU-
CHAMP.

LXII.

RICHARD PLANTAGENET PRINCE OF WALES,

AFTERWARDS

KING RICHARD II.

As it would be foreign to our plan, and impracticable within its necessary limits, to enter into the personal history of this weak and misguided prince after his accession to the throne, and as a summary of the transactions of the Order during his sovereignty will be given in subsequent pages, we propose to offer here a few notices only, relating to the commencement and termination of his unhappy life.

Richard of Bordeaux, the second and youngest son of Edward prince of Wales by Joan of Kent, was born in the abbey of St. Andrew, in that city, on the 6th of January 1366-7,³ a few days before the departure of his heroic father

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¹ Esc. 12 Hen. 4, No. 34.

² Reg^r Arundel, vol. ii. fo. 155.

³ Leland (*Collect. vol. i. pt. 2, ed.* 1770, p. 448) cites an anonymous catalogue of the kings of England,

of the age of Hen. VII, for the singular fact that Richard was born "sine pelle et nutritus in pellibus caprorum."

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upon his expedition into Spain; and, according to the testimony of Froissart,¹ received baptism from the archbishop of the diocese, at the font of the abbey church, on the 8th of the same month; the king of Majorca and the bishop of Agen assisting at the solemnity as sponsors.²

He was carried by his august parents to England, soon after they had been bereft of their eldest son Edward, whose death happened in January 1370-1; and, when only in his sixth year, was nominated keeper of the realm, or regent, upon the embarkation of Edward III. and his sons for France, with the army destined for the relief of Thouars.³

After the lamented death of his illustrious father, on the 8th of June 1376, it seems to have been thought expedient (the right of succession to the crown by the son of a deceased heir-apparent not having been established by any precedent since the Norman conquest) that the young prince should, in the lifetime of the reigning monarch, be solemnly acknowledged, in full parliament, as the future sovereign. He was accordingly presented to that assembly on the 25th of the same month; when the archbishop of Canterbury, adverting to the loss which the nation had suffered by the demise of the heir-apparent, observed that the late prince Edward, having left so noble and graceful a son, his very image and figure, to represent him, might be considered as still present amongst them, and that prince Richard was therefore to be regarded as the true heir-apparent, and as such held and revered by the parliament and all other the king's liege subjects. The commons thereupon unanimously prayed the king to grant to him the name and honour of prince of Wales, in as ample a manner as that in which his father had been invested with that dignity.⁴

Soon after the interment of the remains of the Black

¹ Froissart, tom. iv. p. 353. The chronicler was then sojourning at Bordeaux.

² In Chron. W. Thorn, (*Rerum Angl. Script. col.* 2142) it is related that at the birth of the young prince, which occurred on the day of Epiphany, three "magi," the kings of Spain, Navarre, and Portugal, were

present and made costly gifts to him; but there is no other authority for the statement, and the king of Portugal was certainly then in his own dominions.

³ Pat. 46 Ed. 3, p. 2, m. 25, dated Sandwich, 30th Aug. 1372.

⁴ Rolls of parliament, vol. ii. p. 330^b.

Prince at the ensuing Michaelmas,¹ Richard was created prince of Wales, duke of Cornwall, and earl of Chester;² and empowered to open parliament, in the king's name, on the 27th of January following, by a commission, dated on the day preceding, in which he is described by the three titles then recently conferred upon him.³ Until the latter date he appears to have been under the immediate charge of the princess his mother, to whom payments, on account of the allowance of 1000 marks per annum for his maintenance, were from time to time issued.⁴

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At the feast of St. George 1377, the prince of Wales was admitted into the Order of the Garter, and placed in the stall of his illustrious father.⁵

We have not remarked, in the existing narratives of his life, any mention of a proposal, about this time, that prince Richard should accompany his uncle the duke of Lancaster beyond sea. It appears, however, by a public record,⁶ that, on the 17th June 1377, the sum of 631*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* was issued to him from the exchequer on account of wages for six hundred men-at-arms and as many archers, who were to form his retinue in the intended expedition: but the death of king Edward happening on the 21st of the same month, Richard was called to the discharge of higher duties.

¹ The issue roll of the exchequer records a payment, on 31st July 1376, to divers messengers for carrying to all parts of England letters, under the privy seal, directing the peers and others to repair to London at Michaelmas, in order to proceed to the funeral.—*Exit. Pell. Pasch.* 50 Ed. 3.

² Cart. 50 Ed. 3, No. 10, dated Havering-at-Boure, 20th Nov. 1376. The dukedom of Cornwall was included in the grant, as that dignity had not devolved to Richard under the limitation in the patent to his father (*antea*, p. 12, *note*). The grant was made with reservation of one-third of the revenues of the principality, duchy, and earldom to Joan, his mother, as her dower; with reversion to him at her death. The only parallel instance in our history of the succession of a grandson to the

station of heir-apparent is that of prince George (afterwards George III.) who was created, in 1751, prince of Wales and earl of Chester; but not, conformably to the precedent of 1376, duke of Cornwall.

³ Rolls of Parl. vol. ii. p. 361.

⁴ *Exit. Pell. Pasch. et Mich.* 50 Ed. 3; and, on 3rd June 1377, the sum of 100 marks was advanced to enable him to pay to William de Montacute earl of Salisbury an annuity out of the prince's stannaries in Cornwall, which had been reserved in the patent of 1376.—*Exit. Pell. Mich.* 51 Ed. 3.

⁵ Wals. p. 192, No. 30. Robes of the Order were provided for him against the feast, under privy seals of 4th and 6th April 1377.—*Antea*, p. 11.

⁶ *Exit. Pell. Mich.* 51 Ed. 3.

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On the 22nd of January 1381-2 king Richard solemnised his nuptials with Anne of Luxemburgh, daughter of the emperor Charles IV. and sister of Wenceslaus emperor of Germany and king of Bohemia. The queen died without issue on the 7th June 1394; and Richard married, secondly, on the 28th October 1396, Isabel, the daughter of Charles VI. king of France, then only seven years of age.

Henry of Bolingbroke having, about the middle of August 1399,¹ after the landing of Richard in Wales from his impolitic expedition to Ireland, obtained possession of the king's person at Flint castle, he conducted him to London and lodged him in the Tower; where, on the 29th of September, an act of abdication was tendered to and signed by the unfortunate prince "with a cheerful countenance" (if we may believe the record) and with delivery of his signet, and other formalities.² On the day following, being that on which the parliament had been summoned to meet, the vacancy of the throne was formally declared, the royal chair being covered with a cloth of gold, and the duke of Lancaster still occupying his usual seat. A justification of these violent measures, grounded upon the misrule and crimes of the dissolved government, and particularly the murder of the duke of Gloucester, was put upon record; a sentence of deposition pronounced; and a committee appointed, consisting of the bishop of St. Asaph, the abbot of Glastonbury, the earl of Gloucester, the lord Berkeley, sir Thomas Erpyngham, and sir Thomas Grey, with chief justice Thirnyng, to notify that sentence to the dethroned monarch, and to renounce the fealty and homage of the nation. On the same day Henry duke of Lancaster, standing up in his place, claimed the crown, as being "descended by right line of blood coming from the good lord king Henry the third;" and, his claim having been unanimously admitted by the parliament and people present, he was placed by prelates in the royal seat.³

The formal notification of the sentence of deposition was

¹ Rymer, vol. viii. p. 84. Proclamation issued at Chester, 20th August, on the way from Flint towards London.

² Rolls of parl. vol. iii. pp. 416, 417.

³ Ibid. pp. 417-423.

made to Richard at the Tower on the 1st of October;¹ and, on the 23rd of that month, it was resolved in parliament, upon the motion of the earl of Northumberland, that the deposed king "should be put in safe and secret custody in such place where no concourse of the people might happen; that he be guarded by sure and sufficient persons, who had not been familiar to him or at any time about him; and that this be done in the most secret manner possible."² This resolution was converted into a formal judgment on the 27th October, the king being present in parliament, with the important addition that the imprisonment should be *perpetual*.³ The stronghold, selected by Henry and his council for this purpose, was Pontefract castle.

From the prison to the grave of a dethroned sovereign the passage is ever short. The death of Richard, whatever may have been its proximate cause,⁴ took place on or about the 14th of February 1399–1400.⁵ His body was brought to London;⁶ and, after having been shown to the public⁷ in St. Paul's cathedral, where the obsequies were performed in the presence of the new king,⁸ it was conveyed to Langley in

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¹ Rolls of parl. vol. iii. p. 424.

² Ibid. p. 426.

³ Ibid. p. 427.

⁴ After considering the different hypotheses concerning the manner of the death of Richard, we are inclined to adopt the unconfuted assertion in the manifesto of the Percys before the battle of Shrewsbury, that it was produced by "hunger, thirst, and cold," willfully inflicted by his keepers.—*Hartl. MS.* 661, f. 152; *Archæol.* vol. xvi. p. 141.

⁵ Ypodigm. Neustr. p. 158, ed. 1574.

⁶ The following payments for the expenses of the removal are copied from Exit. Pell. Mich. et Pasch. 1 Hen. 4.—"17 Feb. [1399–1400] Thome Tuttebury Cler. cust. Garderob. dñi Reg. in denar. sibi librat. p^r. man. Willi. Pamphlion scutiferi sup. exp. faciend. sup. cariagiū corp^{is} Ricardi nup. Reg. Angl. de villa de Pomfrait usq. Lond. p^r.

breve suū currens de priv. sigil. ut supra lxxvi. l. xiii. s. iv. d."—"5 Jun. Thome Tuttebury Cl. cust. Garderobe dñi R. in denar. sibi librat. p^r. man. Joh^{is} Wardale et Willi. Pamphlyon sup. custubus et expen. faciend. circa cariagiū corp^{is} Ricⁱ nup. reg. Angl. de castro de Pountfreyt usq. Lond. p^r. Pras de librat. deⁱ custodis ut supra xliii. vi. s. viii. d."

⁷ Wals. p. 405.

⁸ "20 Mar.—In denar. solut fratri — de ordine — confessori Regis ad distribuend. pro aia Ricⁱ nup. Reg. Angl. sc^{di} inter pauperes et debiles personas de elimos. dñi nri Reg. Henr. in obsequiis ipsius dñi Reg. Ricⁱ nup. in eccl^{ia} Sci. Pauli Lond. celebrat. ex precepto dñi nri R. xx. s."—"Robto Eslakby elimosinar. Reg. in denar. p^r. ip^m. recept. de Henr^o. Som^{re} cl^{ico} ad distrib. inter certos religiosos presbiteros ad mille missas celebrand. pro salute aie Ricⁱ nup.

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Hertfordshire for sepulture.¹ Among the first acts of Henry V. was the removal of the remains of his early benefactor king Richard to the burial-place of the kings in Westminster abbey.²

ARMS,

Whilst prince of Wales.

France and England, quarterly, over all a label of three points Argent.³

CREST.

On a chapeau d'état, the lion of England, crowned and differenced by the same label.

BADGES.

1. On a mount Vert, a white hart couchant, gorged with a ducal coronet and chain reflexed Or. This was the device of his mother Joan, as countess of Kent.
2. The same, with an archer, behind a tree, shooting at it.
3. The sun in splendour; his father having used the sun rising from a cloud.
4. A peascod-branch, as upon his robe on the tomb at Westminster.

Reg. Angl. sec'di defuncti (precepto dñi nri R.) cujus corpus apud Langeley humatū existit xvi li. xiii s. iiii d."—*Exit. Pell. Mich. 1 Hen. 4.*

¹ Wals. ut supra.

² *Exit. Pell. Mich. 1 Hen. 5, 8th Novemb.*

³ Before the death of his father the label was differenced by a cross Gules on the centre point. After his accession he adopted, amongst other similar conceits, St. Edward the Confessor as his patron, and caused the arms ascribed to that king (viz. a cross flory between five martlets) to be impaled with his own. This distinction was, however, not exclusively used by Richard, but conceded to the families of Holand, Mowbray, and Beaufort.

We shall add three other extracts, from the issue roll of the 20th Mar. 1399–1400, which may have related to an inquiry touch-

ing the goods and chattels of the deceased king.—“Willo. Loveney cler. M. Garderob. de Rege misso precepto dñi Reg. in secretis negociis ipsius dñi Reg. versus cast. et villa de Pountfreyt in denar. sibi lib'at p' man. pp'r. pro. vad. cust. et expen. suis et hominum suor. equitantū et redeuntū causa s'vicii Reg. pd'ci. lxvi s. viii d.”—“Cuidam Valletto Thome Swynford militis venienti de castro de Pountfreyt versus Lond. ad certificand. cons°. R. de c'tis materiis com'odu dñi Reg. concernentibus In denar. sibi lib'at pro vad. et exp. suis et locatione unius equi causa festinaco'is viagii pd'ci—xxvi s. viii d.”—“Cuidam alio vall'o. misso de Lond. ex p'te consilii R. vs. castr. de Pountfreyt tutoribus et custodibus corp'is Ric'i. nup. R. Angl. sc'di In denar. sibi lib'at. p' man. p'pr pro vad. et exp. suis—vis. viii d.”—*Exit. Pell. Mich. 1 Hen. 4.*