

THE HIGH ALTAR, WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Earl Marshal's official staff, otherwise known as the College of Arms, comprising the Garter King, the Heralds and Pursuivants, wear gorgeous tabards emblazoned with the arms of Great Britain and Ireland.

In the Abbey procession the Archbishop of Canterbury immediately precedes the Queen Consort's Regalia and Queen Alexandra herself, who is followed by the Princesses of the Blood Royal; and apart from the Monarch and Her Majesty the Archbishop will have by far the most important part in the day's function. Upon the Princesses follows the King Regnant's minor Regalia—St. Edward's Staff, the Golden Spurs, the Sceptre with the Cross, the Third and Second Swords and Curtana. The Princes of the Blood Royal will follow the Regalia and in their train will come the Earl Marshal of England (the Duke of Norfolk), Lord Salisbury, bearing the Sword of State, the Lord High Constable of England, the Sceptre with the Dove; St. Edward's Crown, borne by the Lord High-Steward; the Orb, the Patina, the Bible, and the Chalice, this latter ornament being borne by the Bishop of London. Then will come the King, attended by the Bishops of Bath and Durham, and supported on each side by ten gentlemen-at-arms with their standard bearer and lieutenant.

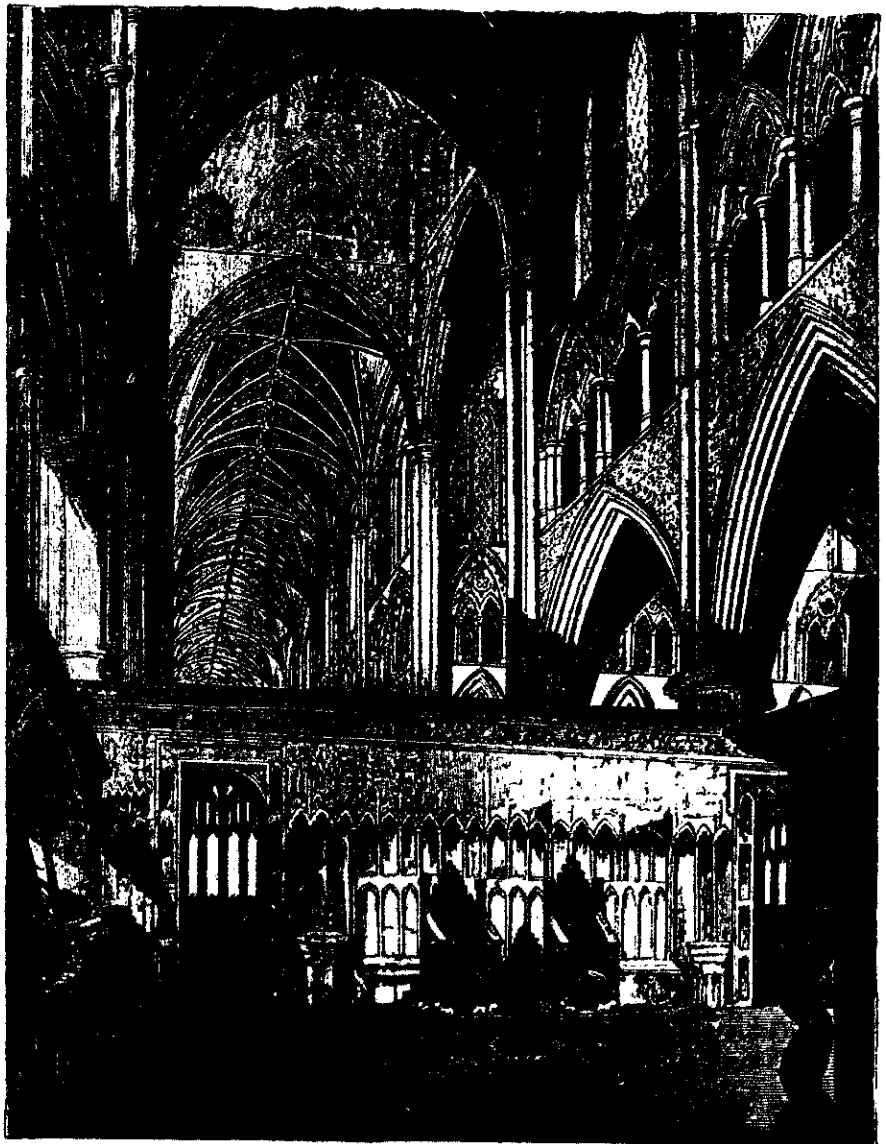
The King will move towards two chairs placed midway between the chair of homage and the altar, and standing on a carpeted space, which is called "The Theatre." After he is seated Her Majesty, the Queen Consort, will take her seat in the second

(and lower) chair on his left hand, and the actual ceremony will begin. The service, rich, intricate, and expressive, is not sanctioned by any Act of Parliament, and is purely a creation of the Church, which thus, by immemorial tradition, consecrates the State in the person of the Sovereign. On the entrance of the King the anthem "I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the House of the Lord" is sung. The recognition of the Sovereign follows. He is presented to the people by the Archbishop, who calls on them to recognise him as lawful King, although not crowned. The actual words used are as follows: *Sirs, I here present unto you King Edward, the Undoubted King of this Realm; Wherefore all you who are come this day to do your Homage, Are you willing to do the same? The question is first put facing the east, and is repeated facing the south-west and north, the Sovereign standing all the while and turning with the Archbishop as he severally asks the question. At every repetition there will be an answering volley of cheering from those present, and with the last round of acclamation the trumpets will sound and the drums beat. The Bible, Paten and Chalice are brought by the Bishops, who had borne them, and placed upon the altar. The King and Queen go to their chairs, set for them on the south side of the altar, where they are to kneel at their Faldstools when the Litany begins. The Archbishop of Canterbury takes the Regalia from the great nobles gather-*

even London streets have never witnessed may be anticipated. There is the popularity of the King, the fact that from setting foot on Britain's shores Queen Alexandra has occupied a warm place in the nation's affections, and possibly almost as potent a factor, the passage of the men who have upheld the honour of the Empire on the South African battlefield. The demonstration on the day that King Edward journeys to Westminster to be crowned with his consort will be a day indelibly stamped on the memories of all fortunate enough to witness it. No absolutely definite programme of the proceedings is available at the time of writing. Such an interval has elapsed since the last Coronation that to sift out and bring the arrangements to definite shape has been a very difficult task indeed. But we have sufficient to go on to obtain a very good idea of the order of procedure inside Westminster Abbey. The King and Queen Consort will arrive at the western door of the Abbey, as already stated, about 10.30 on the morning of the Coronation, June 26.

There he will be received by the Great Officers of State, the noblemen bearing the Regalia, the Bishop carrying the Patina (or broad, shallow dish), the Chalice and the Bible. There will follow a half hour's delay while the King and Her Majesty, Queen Alexandra, repair to their robing chambers, where they will don Royal robes of crim-on velvet, furred with ermine. Close upon noon the organ will peal out the first notes of the anthem "I Was Glad," and the same moment the grand procession will enter the choir, headed by the Prebendaries and Dean of Westminster, who, as a little boy, walked up from Clapham Common and stood in the crowd to watch the Coronation procession of Queen Victoria.

After the Abbey clergy will come the officers of both Royal Households, the Archbishop of York, the Lord Chancellor, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. The clergy engaged, including, besides the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Winchester (Chancellor of the Order of the Garter), and the other Bishops of the Established Church, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, are vested not in the plain black and white commonly associated with their offices, but in gorgeous copes or cloaks. The great officers of State wear under the robes of their respective offices habiliments belonging to the days of the first Tudor King—the end of the fifteenth century. The



THE NAVE OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY, LOOKING WEST FROM ST. EDWARD'S CHAPEL.