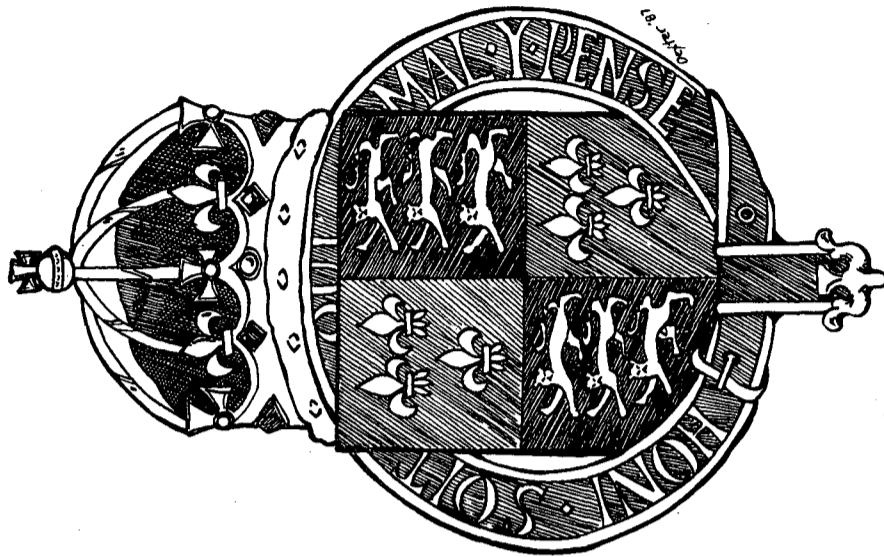


RICARDIAN REGISTER

VOLUME XXI, NO. 3

AUTUMN, 1987



1483 ~ Richard III ~ 1485

1987 AGM October 2 Fort Worth, Texas

RICHARD III SOCIETY, INC.

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From the Editor:

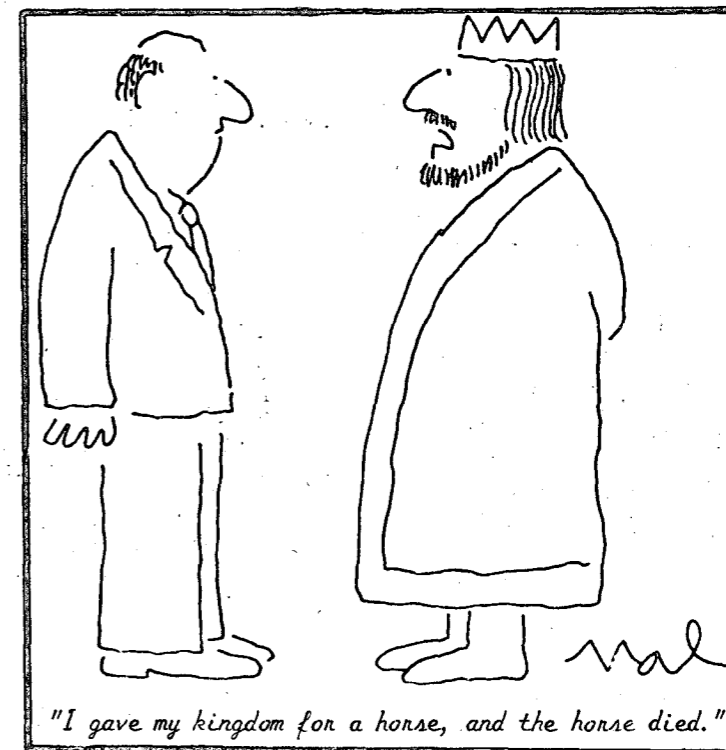
In October, we will gather for the '87 AGM in Fort Worth, election of officers for the 87-88 term, and the sharing of Ricardian knowledge and fellowship. As that annual event draws closer, it is also time to thank the members of the Board who have served so capably during the past Ricardian year: Roxane Murph, Robert Cook, Alan Dixler, Carole Rike, and Jacqueline Bloomquist. During their tenure we have had an increase in membership, awarded two Schallek Fellowships, and seen new and renewed efforts to establish Chapters all over the country, each accomplishments in which they can take great pride. To better serve the membership, a National Chapter Coordinator

and an Audio-Visual Librarian have been added to the roster of individuals giving their time and talents to the national organization. This Board has charted a course toward future success for which they deserve gratitude and a flourishing sweep of the "editorial hat!"

And, while giving kudos for jobs well done, if your funny-bones are tickled by the profusion of cartoons in this issue, thanks for the chuckle belongs to Dale Summers of Arlington, Texas, who took the time to collect them and send them along for our enjoyment.

Lastly, I'm looking forward to meeting many of you in Fort Worth. See you on October 2nd!

Judie C. Gall



AGM UPDATE

From the Chairman:

By now, you should have received your AGM mailing containing a letter and registration form. Please fill out the form and mail it to me as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment--yours, if the hotel books up early, and ours, if you are unable to attend. You will notice there is a space on the registration form for you to indicate if you want us to match you with a room-mate. If you do not have a room-mate, and want us to find you one, please enclose your check for the hotel room. We will work more efficiently if all the matching is done by us, for to involve the hotel in the process will cause confusion, if not chaos.

You will also note on the registration form that you do not need to be present to win a raffle prize, although you will certainly want to be at the meeting to pick up your airline tickets to London. If you are unable to attend, however, fill in the proper space and send your check for the raffle tickets. ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE RICHARD III SOCIETY, INC.

We look forward to seeing you on October 2!

*Roxane C. Murph,
Chairman*

CALL TO ARMS



To heralds of old, identification of arms and badges was serious business, often a matter of life and death in the midst of battle. Today, the tradition is nobly carried on by the College of Arms, founded in 1484 by Richard III. Arms tell their own story. To test your skills or better acquaint you with this ancient art, we are starting a new quiz, courtesy of Susan Dexter, our talented artist.

We have one clue. These arms belonged to a Queen. Answer? Next issue!

AGM WORKSHOPS



As promised, this year's AGM will feature two sets of workshops, covering a wide range of subjects. To further pique your interest, or help you plan your morning, if you've already decided to be in Fort Worth, we are proud to offer the following topics and moderators:

10:00 A.M. INDIVIDUAL RICARDIAN TRAVELS: How to plan your trip to England -- Dale Summers

THE BATTLE OF BOSWORTH -- Thomas Coveney

O TEY CAN YOU SEE? Presenting Richard III to Students -- Anne Vineyard

SO, YOU WANT TO FORM A CHAPTER AND DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN? Mary Miller and Judie Gall

11:00 A.M. NOVELS, PLAYS, & POEMS: More and Shakespeare and the Ricardian Response -- James A. Moore, PhD.

RICARDIAN READING -- Marie Martinelli

THE BONES IN THE TOWER -- Helen Maurer

Following lunch, the principal speaker for the '87 AGM:

RICHARD'S MOTIVATION FOR ACCEPTING THE CROWN -- Pamela Garrett



RICARDIAN CALENDARS

The 1988 Ricardian Calendars, the theme for which will be "Everyday Life in the Middle Ages" are now available. These beautiful calendars, highlighted by artwork provided by members of the Southern California Chapter can be purchased through our Sales Officer, Linda McLatchie. A SEPARATE ORDER FORM IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE REGISTER.

With the Holidays fast approaching, don't forget to add a few extras to your order to have on hand to give as that "little something extra" that's both unique and beautiful!



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD

The Board of the Richard III Society met on Sunday, May 10, 1987, with three members in attendance.

Alan Dixler reported that, as of April 24, we had \$15,351 in the general fund and \$2,000 in the scholarship fund. Carole Rike noted that \$6,000 of the general fund money belonged in the scholarship fund, of which only the interest can be disbursed, and Alan agreed that it should be listed separately in the future.

Carole reported that we now have 764 members.

The Board decided to send a survey to all members asking what kind of Ricardian tours they would prefer, including a price range, and their areas of special interest, and also asking for volunteers to act as tour coordinators. This will be done by Fall. The Board hopes to be able to offer first class and economy tours in alternate years, starting next Summer.

The Southern California Chapter has offered to do the Ricardian calendar again this year, and Roxane will write to Joyce Hollins to work out the arrangements. The Board agreed that the calendars must be ready for sale by September.

The Board discussed the mechanics of sending out the AGM notices, ballots, and dues notices, and Alan will check the laws governing timing and whether any of the notices must be sent first class.

The Nominating Committee, which is made up of Richard Durant of Detroit, Chairman, Carol Bessette of Virginia, and Janet Anderson of Texas, will send their report to Carole Rike by July 1, as required by the By-Laws.

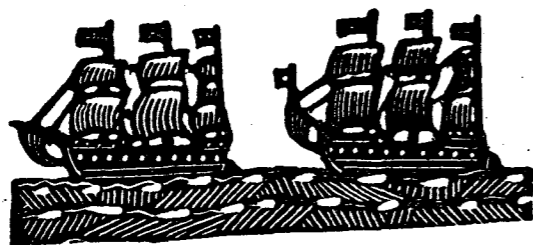
Roxane will write to Tony Collins, Chairman for the 1988 AGM, for a progress report.

The Board decided that the use of official stationery should be restricted to Board members and Committee Chairmen. Carole will draw up a list of prices for stationery, envelopes, and printing, so that they can be voted upon.

The British Society is interested in a joint publishing venture with the American Branch to publish out-of-print Ricardian books, such as Under the Hog and Kendall's Yorkist Age. Roxane will write to Peter Hammond to get more details regarding the amount of money which would be required to undertake the project.

Meeting was adjourned. The next Board meeting will be July 12, 1987.

Roxane C. Murph,
Chairman



Great Seal of Richard III

(engraving from Sandford's Genealogical History).

**RICHARD III
AND IRELAND:
Government,
the Galway Charter,
Mayor James Lynch,
and all of that . . .**

In 1419, there came as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the 37-year-old Richard, Duke of York. A veteran of the war in France, the Duke aspired to replace the weak and pietistic Henry VI as King of England. "And his appointment to Ireland was designed to divert his attentions from this aim at a time when the pattern of conflict between Lancaster and York was already taking shape."¹

The Irish, too, were impressed by this mighty prince from across the sea. So numerous were the submissions made to him by the Gaelic chieftains that a contemporary observer was brought to express the ever optimistic hope that "ere twelve months come to an end, the wildest Irishman in Ireland shall be sworn English."²

By the time of his departure from the country in September, 1450, Richard had effectively forged the link between Ireland and the Yorkist cause which was to last for over forty years. After the Yorkist forces were routed at Ludlow in September 1459, it was to Ireland that the Duke fled for refuge. Here he was received with open arms and the Irish Parliament took steps to legalize his position as chief governor of the country and to protect him against the charge of treason made by the English Parliament. Therefore, the Irish Parliament declared, in 1460, that Ireland was bound only by the laws accepted by its own parliament.

Lancastrian sympathy went into eclipse when John Butler, Earl of Ormond was defeated at Piltown in 1462 by Thomas Fitzgerald, Earl of Desmond, who was established as the most powerful lord inside Ireland. He retained his position until 1468, when after running afowl of Edward VI's Queen and her Woodville relatives, he was beheaded under the auspices of Sir John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester.

Thus, the alienation of the Desmond family and the eclipse of the house of Ormond paved the way for the rise of the Kildare Earls. In 1478, there succeeded to the chief governorship, Garrett More Fitzgerald, famous as the

Great Earl. Drawing to himself the loyalty of both Gaelic and Anglo-Irish, he used his power not to make himself an independent ruler, but to support the Yorkist cause to which he remained attached.

King Edward IV died on April 9, 1483 and eventually was succeeded by his brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who was crowned King of England on July 6, 1483. "The short reign of the last Yorkist allowed Home Rule in Ireland to reach its zenith."³ King Richard in his critical position felt the need to woo Irish hearts as his father had done and to eliminate any threat existing in the west in the attempt to consolidate his throne.

During this summer, Richard made allowances for the government of Ireland. He decided to make his son, Edward, Lieutenant of Ireland, thereby giving the country a definite status and direct link to the crown. William Lacy was sent to the powerful Earl of Kildare, who was to be deputy to the Lieutenant. "Appointment of the King's first born son Edward as Lieutenant of Ireland for three years, with all liberties, rights, powers, authorities, fees, profits, commodities and emoluments...provided that he shall not meddle with the disposition of vacant archbishoprics, bishoprics, abbeyes and priories of the King's patronage and shall not put lands acquired to other uses than the defense of that land and this by the advice of the King and Council."⁴

Notwithstanding the attempts of Richard to establish the power of the crown in Ireland, the Anglo-Irish and those of the Irish who were town dwellers sought the presence of law and order that would give their daily lives more stability. The town of Galway, over a period of two hundred years, had increased considerably in wealth and opulence by its constant commerce, particularly with France and Spain from whence its merchants annually imported vast quantities of wine. "And the principal part of the inhabitants being connected together by ties of kindred, (which were daily augmented by frequent inter-marriages), and by the more powerful influence of mutual interest; the great and continual object of this care and solicitude was to prevent any intercourse with the native Irish of the surrounding country from whose vindictive dispositions and implacable, though, perhaps, just and often provoked, resentment many of the towns people had from time to time been deprived of their properties and their lives."⁵

In order to effectively attain this desirable end and to cut off all communications between the town and the natives of the country, the inhabitants solicited Richard III for a charter that they might be at liberty to elect a mayor and bailiffs. Dominick Lynch Fitz John, in 1484, solicited and procured the Charter of Richard III under which he caused his brother, Pierce, to be elected mayor, and was himself the second. No person whomsoever, not even excepting the King's Lieutenant and Chancellor, should enter the town without permission; and particularly that the Lord Mac William of Clanrickard and his heirs should be forever deprived of all rule and authority in the town.

The new charter was accordingly granted, dated at Westminster, the 15th of December, 1484, whereby the King confirmed all former grants and renewed the powers to levy the tolls and customs which he directed, "should be applied towards the murage and pavage of the town."⁶ He also granted permission that they might yearly choose one mayor and two bailiffs, and ordained that no person should enter the town without license. The charter particularly stipulated that neither Clanrickard nor his heirs should have any rule or power whatsoever within the town, "either to act, enact, ordain or dispose of anything therein, by land or by water, as he and his predecessors were anciently

accustomed to do, without the special license and by the consent and superintendence of the mayor, bailiffs and corporation, to whom he granted plenary power and authority to rule and govern the town."⁷ These municipal grants being obtained, gave general satisfaction to the people and laid the foundation of the future greatness and prosperity of the town, which was also much advanced by the public faith and integrity of its merchants, and by the unsullied honor of the inhabitants whose adherence to truth and love of impartial justice became universally proverbial. A single fact, in illustration of this statement, will find it forcibly displayed in an appalling instance of inflexible virtue which occurred about this period in Galway, and which stands paralleled by very few examples in the history of mankind.

James Lynch Fitz-Stephen, a wealthy merchant, was elected mayor in 1493, at which time a regular and friendly intercourse existed between the town and several parts of Spain. In order to more firmly establish the connection between them, he himself went on a voyage to Spain and, while in Cadiz, was received at the house of a rich and respectable merchant by the name of Gomez. Upon his departure for his own country, and in return for numerous civilities he had received from the Spaniard, he requested that Gomez let his son, a youth of nineteen, to accompany him back to Ireland, promising to take parental care of him during his stay and to provide for his safe return whenever he desired.

They embarked accordingly and, after an easy voyage, arrived in the bay of Galway. Lynch introduced the young stranger to his family, "by whom he was received with the openness of heart and hospitality which has ever characterized the Irish,"⁸ and he also recommended him as a companion to his only son, Walter, who was but a year or two older than Gomez, and who was considered one of the finest youths of his time for the beauty of his person and the winning facets of his manners. But, these endowments were counterbalanced with inferior qualities; a certain self-indulgence and tendency to the pleasures of the licentious, which greatly afflicted his father, who was himself exemplary for the purity of his life.

The young men lived together in perfect harmony. Frequent entertainments were given at the mayor's house in honor of the stranger and for the sake of advancing the suit of Walter to the beautiful Agnes, daughter of a rich and respectable neighbor. At one of these festivals, he saw the eyes of the lovely maid beam with rapture on the young Spaniard. Wild with astonishment, Walter upbraided her with haughty anger. She, in turn, affected disdain and refused to deny the charge and, though mutually enamored, one obeyed the dictates of jealousy; the other of pride.

The following night, as he passed by the residence of the fair one, he perceived a man coming from the house and knew him to be Gomez. Overcome by rage, he pursued his imagined rival and, in a solitary quarter of the town close to the shore, overtook him, drove a dagger into his heart, and cast him, bleeding, into the sea. In the night the tide threw the body of this innocent victim back on the beach, where it was found and soon recognized.

The wretched murderer had scarcely committed the bloody deed then he repented it and, when the first streaks of light appeared in the sky, he surrendered himself to the law. He proclaimed himself to be the murderer and, full of contrition and remorse, desired to be conducted to prison. His disconsolate parent, who as mayor had the power of life and death, sacrificed all personal considerations to his love of justice and ordered the guard to

secure their prisoner. The command was reluctantly obeyed. While some expressed admiration and pity for their upright magistrate, many of the lower classes, feeling commiseration for the fate of their favorite youth, filled the air with lamentations.

The legal inquiry which followed was short. On his own confession, the young man was convicted of the murder and received the death sentence from the mouth of his afflicted father, by whom he was remanded back to prison. Whatever the inward struggles of the father might have been, the firmness of justice was unshaken. "He was not to be wrought upon, either by the dread of popular clamor, the odium that it would attach to his name, the prayers and tears of his family, the indescribable despair of the hapless young lady, or harder to withstand than all those the yearnings of a paternal breast; but with a magnanimity that would have done credit to the sternest of heroes, he himself descended at night to the dungeon where his son lay, for the double and direful purpose of announcing to him that his sentence was to be executed on the following morning, and of watching with him, to prevent the possibility of his escape."⁹

Mayor Lynch entered the cell holding a lamp and accompanied by a priest and, locking the grate, kept the keys in his hands and seated himself in a recess in the wall. His son drew near and asked if he had anything to hope. He answered, "No, my son. Your life is forfeited to the laws, and at sunrise you must die--and if you dare hope, implore that Heaven may not shut the gates of mercy on the destroyer of his fellow creature."¹⁰ Then, fearful of lapsing into his natural softness and of forgetting the great duty imposed on himself, he requested the priest to proceed. They knelt down and the rites of the Church were administered to the unhappy criminal. The young man sighed heavily from time to time, but spoke of life and its concerns no more.

At daybreak, the summons to prepare was given to the guards and the father assisted the executioner in removing the irons which still bound his unfortunate son. The prisoner, flanked by this father and the priest, ascended a flight of steps to the street, where a strong escort awaited to escort them to the place of punishment. Prodigious crowds had gathered and were loud in their outcries for mercy. The soldiers were melted with pity and no longer willing to do their duty. They permitted the populace to continue their well-meant, but unlawful opposition. To attempt to pass through them was hopeless but, having withstood their tears and prayers and the stronger appeal of his own affections, this unhappy and resolute father determined not to yield from a motive of personal fear, but by one incredible effort to perform the sacrifice he had vowed to pay on the altar of justice.

Still keeping hold of his son, he mounted a winding staircase within the building which led to an arched window that overlooked the street in which the populace was assembled. He presented himself and his victim, about whose neck he had previously fastened the rope with which he had been bound and secured the other end in an iron ring projecting from the wall. "You have little time to live my son, let the care of your soul employ these few moments--take the last embrace of your unhappy father"--he embraced his unfortunate son, and launched him into eternity."¹¹

Epilogue

The innocent cause of this lamentable tragedy is said to have died of

grief, and the father of her lover to have secluded himself from society for the remainder of his days, never having been seen again except by his mourning family. Opinions may be divided as to the cruelty of the father, but few will question the integrity of the judge or the equity of the sentence.

A parallel in the characters of Richard III and James Lynch Fitz-Stephen may be gained in a comparison of their mottoes: "Loyaulte me lie," (Loyalty binds me) and "Semper Fidelis" (Always Faithful). Lynch's castle, built in 1320, still stands in Shop Street in Galway City and functions as a branch of the Allied Irish Bank. The arms of Henry VII are sculptured on the facade, twelve feet above street level. Out of sight, out of mind!

John O. Jewett,
Massachusetts

SOURCES

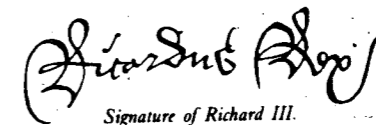
- The Course of Irish History, T.W. Moody & F.X. Martin, The Mercier Press, 1967.
Richard III: The Road to Bosworth Field, P.W. Hammond & Anne F. Sutton, Constable, London, 1985.
A History of Medieval Ireland from 1086 -1513, Edmund Curtis, Methen & Co., 1938.
History of Galway, James Hardiman, 1820.

FOOTNOTES:

1. The Course of Irish History, p. 160
2. Ibid., p. 161
3. A History of Medieval Ireland, p. 342
4. Richard III: The Road to Bosworth Field, p. 130
5. History of Galway, p. 67
6. Ibid., p. 69
7. Ibid., p. 69
8. Ibid., p. 70-71
9. Ibid., p. 74
10. Ibid., p. 74
11. Ibid., p. 75

ILLUSTRATION:

The Battle of Bosworth, Michael Bennett, St. Martin's Press, NY, 1985. The Great Seal of Richard III, p. 49. Signature, p. 51.



Signature of Richard III.

RICARDIAN READING

HARD-TO-FIND

Our Research Librarian, Helen Maurer has suggested that members seeking particularly hard-to-find books, which we do not have in our library, try the interlibrary lending system of their local library. For instance, word has been recently received that The Plantagenet Ancestry by Lt. Col. W.H. Turton, D.S.O. (1975) can be obtained, apparently without postage fees, on interlibrary loan from the Morris Library, University of Delaware (ISBN 680542549, call number Folio CS 418 .T8 1968). To make use of this service, you should give the title and author of the book you want. Additional information is helpful, but not necessary for your library to order the book from the nearest available source.

Beth Williams has offered to supply a list of books which can be obtained in this manner, but we need help in coordinating such a service for our members. If you can help with the organizational effort, which can't be properly addressed by the Society Librarian in addition to her regular duties, please contact HELEN MAURER, 24001 SALERO LN., MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691. With help, this resource can be made available, but without someone to organize it, there is no way that can be done at present.

FROM THE RESEARCH LIBRARY

Patronage Pedigree and Power In Later Medieval England, edited by

Charles Ross; Alan Sutton, Gloucester, 1979; Rowman & Littlefield, N.J., 1979.

This compendium of presentations at a symposium on medieval history at the University of Bristol in 1978 is invaluable reading for anyone interested in the era. It provides a wealth of background, as well as an interesting comparison of two island kingdoms, England and Japan in the 15th century. Of particular interest to Ricardians are: "The Sense of Dynasty in the Reign of Henry VI" by R.A. Griffiths; "The Changing Role of the Wydevilles in Yorkist Politics to 1483" by Michael Hicks; "Baronial Councils of the Later Middle Ages" by Carole Rawcliffe (although Ricardians may well be disappointed that Ms. Rawcliffe fails to mention Richard's original Council of the North); "Yorkist Propaganda: Pedigree, prophecy and the 'British History' in the Reign of Edward IV" by Alison Allan.

Each extensively footnoted essay provides thoughtful insight into the era, and the point of view varies from author to author, mostly well-balanced and well-worth consideration by the serious investigator of medieval history. Although I scarcely expected to find it so, one of the most interesting pieces in the book is K.R. Dockray's "Japan and England during the fifteenth century: The Onin War and the Wars of the Roses." It was fascinating to find two societies so closely paralleling one another on opposite sides of the globe. The sheer horror of the Onin War, however, makes the Wars

of the roses seem somewhat like the staged melee at the tournaments held when "chivalry was in flower." The presentation on the Wydevilles is very enlightening, tracing the family from their rise from obscurity in 1403 to their fall in 1483. Becoming better acquainted with the workings of the baronial councils gives an understanding of the problems faced by the central government and the monarchy.

These are only a few examples of what can be gleaned from this interesting approach to various aspects of life and government in the late Middle Ages. It is well worth reading if one wishes to understand many of the political problems which led to Bosworth and, indeed, to the eventual demise of the feudal form of government.

Judie C. Gall

The Book of the Medieval Knight, by Stephen Turnbull, Crown Publishers, NY, 1985.

While, at first glance, this book might easily be dismissed as yet another, beautifully illustrated but inadequately written volume geared to an audience not very interested in historical detail or complicated text, nothing could be further from the truth. Commencing early in the 14th century with the Scots-English struggles at Bannockburn, Mr. Turnbull follows the cult of knighthood through several European societies. His well-written text is evenhanded in its treatment of the events and personalities involved, never more so than in his assessment of Richard III.

The book is broken into 12, easy-to-follow chronological segments. There are over 200 illustrations, more than 80 of which are in color. Those, combined with

the text, make it a wonderful adjunct to less descriptive reading. Mr. Turnbull closes his informative work with an extensive reference list for those interested in pursuing the subject further. In short, it would make an informative addition to any Ricardian library.

Judie C. Gall

FICTION LIBRARY LIST NOW AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM MARIE MARTINELLI.

The Death of a King, P.C. Doherty; St. Martin's Press, N.Y., 1985, Bantam Books (Paperback), 1987.

As Ricardian are certainly aware, history contains many events which cannot be explained in a modern way. This well-written and well-researched mystery is full of such puzzles and is guaranteed to keep readers spellbound.

The central mystery is who murdered King Edward II, but other aspects of the plot make this medieval tale a real thriller. Queen Isabella kept her dead husband's heart in a glass case! Why? What is the reason that Edward's son waited 17 years to investigate his father's murder? These questions keep one reading on into the night.

In short, medieval history buffs will enjoy this story, murder mystery fans will relish it, and both will be unable to put it down! P.C. Doherty holds a doctorate in history from Oxford University, and this novel is his first. Let us hope it will be the beginning of a career in which we can all take delight.

*Trisha Stanton,
New Mexico*



LIBRARY ANGELS

Research Librarian, Helen Maurer, send word of more "Angels" whose time and efforts have been expended on behalf of our Research Library in various ways too numerous or involved to be individually detailed. Both gratitude and appreciation are heaped behind this small acknowledgment of the following people:

Margaret Anderson, Minnesota
Mary Bearon, New Hampshire
Mary Donermeyer, Massachusetts
Pamela Gannett, California
Carolyn Hammond, London, England
Barbara Hirsch, California
Megan Macauley, California
Larry Pumphrey, California
Mrs. Daniel Taylor, New York
Mary Weigley, Pennsylvania
Phyllis Young, California

Those wishing to assist Helen or to donate books may contact her at: 24001 Salero Ln., Mission Viejo, CA 92691.

1987 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are proud to announce the following members of the 1987 national Nominating Committee:

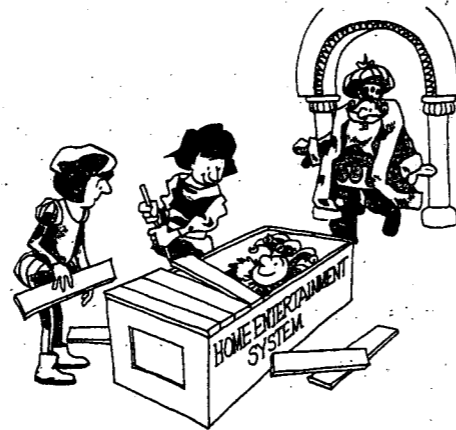
Richard Durant, Chairman
Janet Anderson
Carol Bessette

Throughout the Spring and Summer they have been working diligently to assemble the 1987-88 slate of national officers. Needless to say, our thanks and

appreciation of their efforts go with the announcement.

AUDIO-VISUAL LIBRARIAN

We are also proud to announce the appointment of Mr. RODNEY KOONTZ as the Society's Audio-Visual Librarian. It is hoped that this new facility, with your help and generosity, will expand over the years so that we may offer our membership a full spectrum of historical productions and literature as it becomes available in this exciting medium. If you would like to offer your assistance or make inquiries about what is currently available, please contact Rodney at 3921 Royal St., New Orleans, LA 70117-5439.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE WINTER REGISTER WILL BE OCTOBER 15, 1987.

MARGARET OF YORK,

Duchess of Burgundy,

1446-1503

The facts of Margaret's life, prior to her July, 1468 marriage to Duke Charles of Burgundy could easily fit on a small notecard:

Born: Fotheringhay Castle, Northamptonshire on 3 May, 1446, the sixth surviving child of Richard of York and Cecily Neville.

October, 1459: Taken into custody after the rout of her father's forces at Ludlow. "Kept full strait" under the auspices of a kinswoman, the Duchess of Buckingham. Later released owing to the pressure of fear of Yorkist reprisals.

Summer, 1460: London secured for the Yorkist forces because of the successful campaign of "The Calais Earls". Margaret and younger brothers, while awaiting the return from exile of their father, lodged in the home of a family adherent. Some measure of comfort and security derived from the daily visits of their eldest brother, Edward.

February, 1461: Father and elder brother dead; younger brothers sent to safety in a foreign land; Margaret and her mother once again vulnerable to capture by the army of their family's adversaries.

This eventuality was forestalled by the nearly miraculous victories of the



The presentation of a book to Margaret of Burgundy, patron of Caxton's History of Troy. St Bride's Printing Library

Yorkist forces, now under the command of Edward of March. By crushing the Lancastrian army at Mortimer's cross and Towton, Edward was able to assert his hereditary right to the throne and, in March 1461, by popular acclamation was proclaimed King Edward IV.

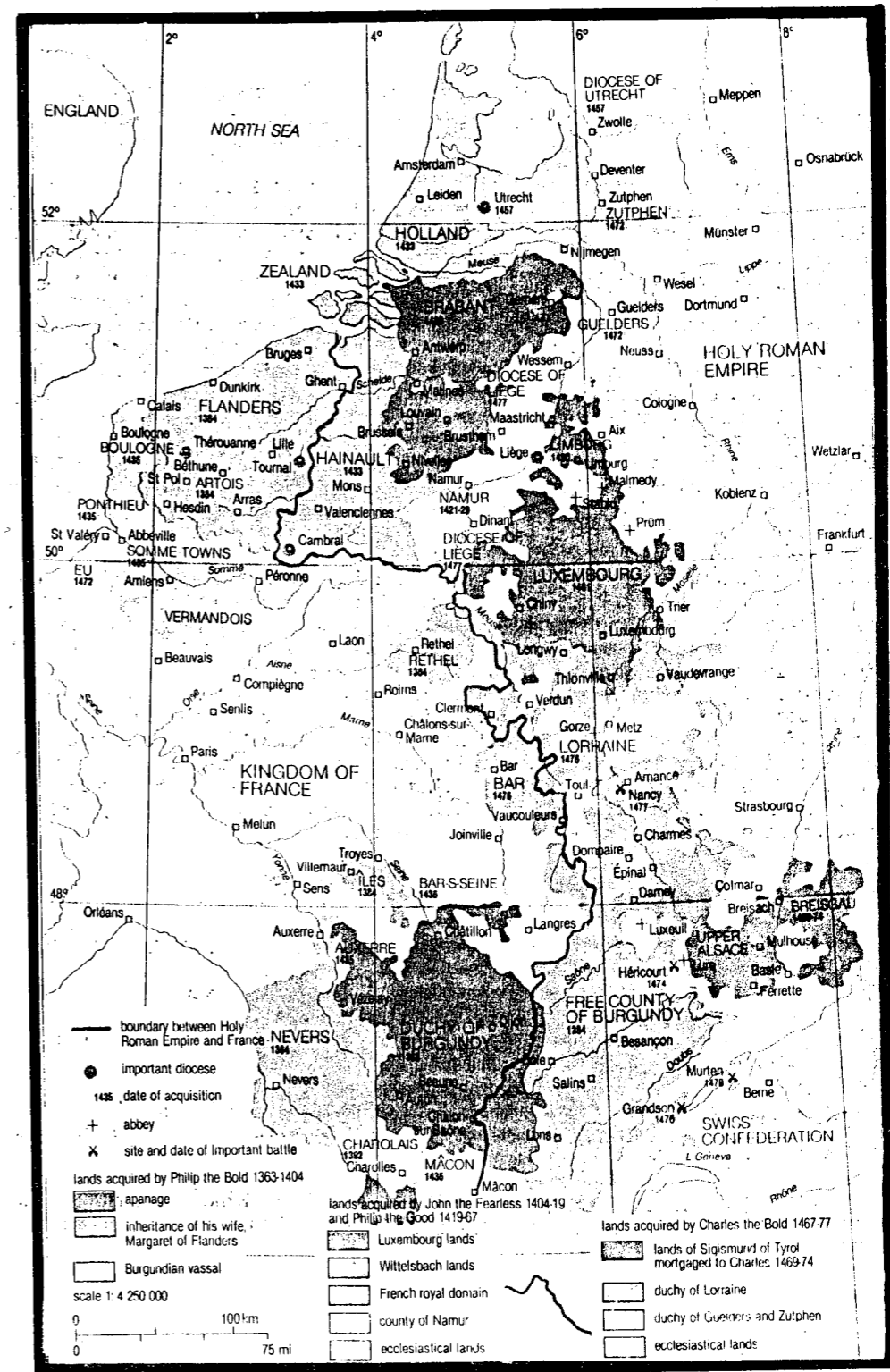
Margaret herself was to play very little part in English history until the October, 1467 council at Kingston-on-Thames where she with "so sober a demeanure, so faire a visage, so lovyng a countenance and so princely a port" consented to marry the heir to the Burgundian duchy, Charles, then Count of Charolais. It is suggested by Dorothy Stuart that the marriage to a foreign head of State offered Margaret one of the few avenues of escape from the overweening behavior of her socially inferior sister-in-law, Elizabeth Woodville.¹ Whatever her reasons, and assuming that they mattered at all to Edward IV, the union did not take place until July, 1468. By this time, political and economic necessity on both sides dictated an end to the vacillation which had stalled the proceedings on other occasions.

Glowing accounts of the wedding and the events leading up to it have been recorded, but we can only surmise Margaret's feelings about her new life. Although she was warmly received by Charles' mother and his daughter, Mary, surely she knew that two important Lancastrian exiles** had only recently left sanctuary in Burgundy, and she possibly had heard rumors of Charles' alleged homosexuality. However, when asked by the Bishop of Salisbury if she was willing to be affianced to Duke Charles she replied that she had been sent to Burgundy by the king of England and that "that thing that he had asked of her, she was prepared to do."²

Having made this less than romantic reply, Margaret settled down to a less than idyllic married life. Separation was to be the hallmark of her marriage, the first coming quickly upon completion of the nuptials as Charles rode out to quell the rebellious citizens of Liege. His vision of an extended Burgundian territory was to keep the restless Charles often absent from Court and the company of his wife and daughter. Any maternal feelings which Margaret may have longed to bestow on her own children were subsequently lavished on Mary, whose own mother had died in 1465. Their relationship was one of mutual, lifelong devotion.

Although Margaret was unable to provide Burgundy with additional heirs, she fashioned a unique place for herself in her adopted land. She is remembered as a driving force in the establishment of Burgundian literary efforts. Her patronage of William Caxton was to bear fruit in the 1475 publication of *Recuyell Of The Histories Of Troy*, the first book printed in English. When Burgundian sovereignty was threatened in May, 1475, in Charles' absence, Margaret herself received the generals with whom she planned defensive strategies. Again in 1476, she was "closely and actively engaged...in raising finances, assembling troops...in an atmosphere of crisis and turmoil."³

When Charles died in 1477, Margaret, as a childless widow, would probably have been cast into obscurity but for the loving relationship which she had done so much to foster with her stepdaughter, Mary. Burgundy, as a male fief, had reverted to the French Crown upon Charles' death, but Mary, by virtue of her vast inheritance, was still a person of great importance. She was sought after by the future Charles VIII of France and George of Clarence, Margaret's brother, but chose to marry Maximilian of Austria in August, 1477. Mary's death in 1482 ended what was, by all accounts, a happy union, which had produced two



THE HOLDINGS OF BURGUNDY UNDER CHARLES THE BOLD

children, Margaret of Austria and Philip the Fair. "Madame le Grande", the Dowager Duchess Margaret was to play an active and honored role in their lives, even to sponsoring in Baptism Philip's firstborn son, the future Holy Roman Emperor Charles V.

The dynastic ups and downs in Burgundy were being reflected very similarly in Margaret's homeland. The unexpected death of Edward IV had left England in the throes of political chaos, from which Margaret's youngest brother had emerged as King. By the time of his death, the accomplishments of the brief, troubled reign of Richard III had been eclipsed by the mystery surrounding the fates of his nephews, the sons of Edward on whose legitimacy Richard's ascension had hinged. Whatever Margaret's private thoughts on the validity of the rumors concerning the boys, she showed herself to be a staunch supporter and collaborator to those loyal to her deposed youngest sibling. She opened her Court to any Yorkist who managed to escape the grasp of the Tudor monarch, Henry VII. Forth from Burgundy sallied the Earl of Lincoln, Margaret's nephew and Sir Francis Lovel, friend of the last Plantagenet king, in their vain attempt to retrieve the English Crown for York. Years later, when Perkin Warbeck declared himself to be none other than Richard, fourth Duke of York, Margaret found no difficulty in recognizing him as such. In addition to the financial aid which she tendered Warbeck, she buttressed his credibility by writing letters of introduction to Pope Alexander VI reiterating her wholehearted support of Warbeck.⁴ In fact, she showed no sign of slackening her efforts against Tudor until she was absolutely forced to do so. Among the terms of the Burgundian Treaty of 1496, also known as Intercursus Magnus, the Archduke Philip agreed, in return for favorable economic concessions, to limit the Dowager Duchess' attempts to interfere in English politics.

Having acquiesced to her step-grandson's conditions, Margaret quietly lived the remainder of her years at her home in Malines, where she died on 28 November, 1503. In her time, she had been sister to two kings, consort of one of the wealthiest, most powerful rulers in Europe, and an acknowledged patron of the arts. If she ever gave time to pondering her achievements, one wonders if her proud Plantagenet blood didn't cherish the idea that, in the end, nothing short of an international agreement could stop her!

Mary Bearon,
New Hampshire

* Edward, Earl of March, Richard Neville (elder), Earl of Salisbury, Richard Neville (younger), Earl of Warwick.

** Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, Henry Holland, Duke of Exeter.

1. History Today, "The Marriage of Margaret of York and Charles Duke of Burgundy, July, 1468", 1968. p. 258.
2. Ibid. p. 260.
3. Charles the Bold, Richard Vaughan, Longmans Group, Ltd. 1973. p. 235.
4. The Reign of Henry VII, Michael van Cleave Alexander, Rowman and Littlefield, NJ, 1968. p.111.

ILLUSTRATIONS: 1. England in the Age of Caxton, Geoffery Hindley, Granada, St. Albans, 1979. p.11, and 2. Atlas of Medieval Europe, Donald Matthew, Equinox Ltd., Oxford, 1983. p. 208.



PLAYWRIGHTS' CORNER

THE FINAL TRIAL OF RICHARD III

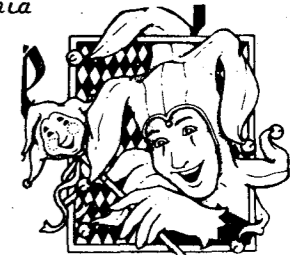
by Mary Schaller

"Now is the winter of our discontent...", says Richard in the famous opening lines of Shakespeare's play, and well should poor Richard feel discontent when at all too frequent intervals he is resurrected to undergo yet another "trial" to clear his "false and perjurd" name. So, once again Richard was dragged from before a heavenly court to be prosecuted by History and Rumour, defended by Charity and judged by the audience in Mary Schaller's "The Final Trial of Richard III," presented for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Richard III Society on March 28th in Springfield, Virginia.

The production, staged by the author and by the Shakespeare class of the Fairfax County Recreation Department, gave us a Richard definitely cast against type (Jerry Reece, a six-foot blond); a female Thomas More and Will Shakespeare, and at least one third of the play in Shakespeare's own dialogue. Ms. Schaller's idea of Richard's defense was an endless repetition of facts, well known to most Ricardians and of too complicated and dry a nature for non-Ricardians. The most scintillating scenes were those using Shakespeare's own dialogue to allow Richard to refute the Bard's erroneous portrait of himself.

You have to give Ms. Schaller's class credit. They struggled with wooden dialogue and some, for instance, Kathleen Robinson (Rumour), even managed to rise above it and give creditable performances. I realize that the aim of the Society is to clear the name of Richard III, but surely there must be a better and more productive way than this. In fact, if this is to be Richard's fate, endlessly to defend his honour in this manner, one almost hopes that at the next "trial" he pleads guilty and spares all of us the misery of watching him go down to ignominious victory.

Patricia A. Knowles,
Virginia



COMICO VERSUS SHAKESPEARE

With a KRAK and a WAK! Jonny Quest is found fencing furiously on the cover of this #10 issue of Jonny Quest, March, 1987, published by Comico, The Comic Company. This adventure, entitled "Winters of Discontent," and written by William Messner-Loebs, takes place in fifteenth-century England. Through a "temporal displacement device," Jonny, his dog Bandit, and his friend Hadjii,

are zapped into the past shortly after attending their first performance of Shakespeare's Richard III. Thoroughly frightened by the ugly, misshapen king and his evil deeds on stage, Jonny is in for some surprises when he comes face to face with the "real" Richard.

For those not "in the know," the Jonny Quest comic is based on a 1960's television cartoon show which ran on Prime Time TV for five years. The main character is Jonny Quest, who lives with his scientist father, Dr. Benton Quest, their bodyguard, Roger "Race" Bannon, Jonny's friend, Hadjii (who joined the family while they were in India), and his dog, Bandit. These adventurers travel all over the world to investigate mysterious events for the government. In this issue they find themselves in England, associated with a Shakespearean actor (a direct descendant of a Henry Tudor supporter) who specializes in playing Richard III. It is his "time machine" which thrusts Jonny, Hadjii, and Bandit back into 1485.

Jonny thwarts a plot (financed with Woodville gold) to poison the King; learns that Richard is neither ugly, misshapen, nor evil, and even joins the two Princes for play in the Tower. Hadjii, separated from Jonny during their "displacement," observes the French invasion led by Henry Tudor. Being able to read minds, Hadjii realizes Henry's intention and runs to warn King Richard, reporting that Henry "means to KILL everyone with a trace of ROYAL BLOOD...men, boys...ANYONE!" (Page 23) Acting on the warning, Richard, before riding off to Bosworth, sends his nephews to friends in the North. A subsequent attempt is made to kidnap the Princes, but Jonny and Hadjii successfully intervene, sending the boys off to safety. At this point, Jonny and Hadjii fade off into the future and return to the twentieth century.

Of course, there's more to it than that, but what a welcome surprise to find such as the following:

1. From the lips of a peasant speaking of Richard: "Why after 'is dear brother died, we was afraid there'd be another TWENTY YEARS of civil war. But 'e come down from the North and took charge. 'E's kept the PEACE. I know one thing...in years to come, folks will BLESS the name o' RICHARD THE THIRD!" (Page 11)
2. Richard speaking of the two Princes: "You'd heard I'd done away with them. That old rumor! Doubtless spread by DEAR Bishop Morton on his run to France." And, later: "I'd hoped that ending the war with the Scots would bring PEACE in my lifetime, but I was WRONG. I've sent a dozen letters to the Regent of France..." (page 14)
3. Prince Edward to Jonny: "Pillows! Of COURSE we don't! NOBODY sleeps on pillows, 'cept old LADIES who are having BABIES." And later, both Princes concerning living in the Tower: "This is the SAFEST place in London... If the French invade, we'll be safe as anything here!" (Page 18)
4. Richard, who has read the copy of Shakespeare's Richard III which Jonny had inadvertently carried from the 20th century: "So...Henry Tudor wins, after all. Wins EVERYTHING, and makes me a MONSTER with his lies. ...I've pardoned the Woodvilles and the Nevilles and the rest, hoping they'd see we could all live without hate. But that, too, it seems, was a FAILURE." (Page 21)
5. Finally, la pièce de resistance, Richard, on the eve of Bosworth, to Jonny: "In the North, there's a folk-saying: 'Truth is the daughter of time.' ...It means that LIES don't HOLD, not in the long run. People are BETTER than

that, and no matter what lies they're told, eventually they know what's TRUE." (Page 22)

And, there you have it! Richard III in the comics--and one of the "good guys" at that! What a delightful way to introduce kids (and grownups, too) to the fact that Shakespeare was a Tudor dramatist, not an historian. Surely, this author, William Messner-Loebs, deserves our commendations.

Bonnie Battaglia
Mary Jane Battaglia,
California



RICARDIAN LITERATURE FOR YOUNG READERS

Bonnie and Mary Jane Battaglia have taken the time to acquaint us with a Ricardian story as it appeared in a literary genre geared to the younger reader, but that is by no means the only literature available to budding, young Ricardians or the children and grandchildren of long-time advocates of Richard's cause. Unfortunately, there is little that presents a balanced, let alone a favorable point of view. The above writers are right in commending Mr. Messner-Loeb. The area of Ricardian books for young readers is one that deserves our scrutiny, even contributions. Material is being gathered for a report in some future Register. We will try to present comments, reviews, and suggested reading. If you'd like to recommend material, or report things you've found to be especially offensive, please let us know. Only in learning where we are in this important area of literature can we hope to achieve the standards we would like to see. We owe it to the young to correct Richard's story in their genre with the fervor which we apply to the misconceptions and errors we find in our reading, if at all possible. Just forward your comments to the Editor of the Register and watch for what we hope will prove to be an interesting, informative presentation on children's literature.

NIGHTFALL - AUGUST 22, 1485

Carrion birds have rested.
The crescent moon's pale sliver
Of light reflects on armor;
A breast plate, a helmet;
Yea, verily -- a corpse wrapped
In a battle flag torn from
Its standard, the downward
Plunge to earth.

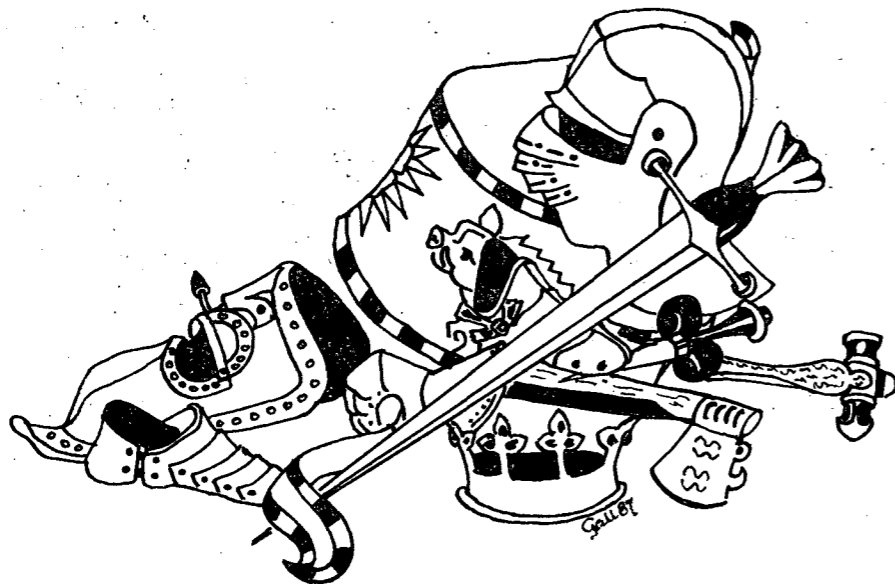
Charon, ready your launch!
Death, call up your roll!
Faithful Brackenbury; perished.
John Kendall; slain....
Loyal scrivener, in thought and deed.
Catesby; the craven,
Betrayed, piteously dispatched.
Lord Jesus, grant them mercy!

The king is dead, long live the king!
A brass-bound prayer, uttered
In hypocrisy, on Milford's shore:
"Judica me, Deus,
Et discerne causum meum
De gente non sancta;
Ab homine iniquo, et doloso
Erue me..."*

From Sutton Cheney to Atherstone
The satellite scudders behind
The clouds, and out again,
Transfixed by scene below,
The silence and the loneliness,
Its one, great eye obsessed
To stand watch above the darkness,
A witness to eternity.

*Footnote -- Translation
"Judge me, O God,
And distinguish my cause
From the nation
That is not holy:
Deliver me from the
Unjust and deceitful man...."
From the 42nd Psalm

John O. Jewett,
Massachusetts



SCATTERED STANDARDS

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

On Sunday, May 17, Chapter members from Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania and their guests met for brunch at The Tobacco Company Restaurant in Richmond, Virginia. Located in the historic Shockoe Slip area, the restaurant was a tobacco warehouse in the 1870'S, and is an example of the extensive renovation efforts in downtown Richmond.

The group reconvened at Agecroft Hall, a 15th-century English manor house which was dismantled and moved to the U.S. in the 1920'S, where it was reconstructed overlooking the James River in a lovely residential section of Richmond. The Chapter members were given a private tour of the house and then enjoyed the gardens and grounds.

Several Society members agreed that one of the real pleasures of the day was the opportunity to meet and relax with other Ricardians. It was a good chance for us to get to know one another.

Chapter activities will resume in the Autumn. Meanwhile, the Chapter officers are planning to conduct a membership survey to identify the types of activities of most interest. For further information, contact Carol Bessette (703) 569-1875, or Mary Schaller, (703) 323-7339.

Carol Bessette,
Chairman,

New England Chapter

On April 26, 1987, the Chapter

convened at the home of Martha Mitchell in Amherst. There were 9 members in attendance. The By-Laws were presented; two changes being suggested and approved. The following officers were elected: John Jewett, Chairman; Mary and Don Donermeyer, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, respectively; Linda Spicer, Secretary; and, Board Members at Large, Martha Mitchell and Mary Bearor. John Jewett will handle the logistics of our formal recognition as a chapter and the Donermeyers will set up a bank account for the chapter.

There was enthusiasm about the idea of designing official Chapter stationery. We are open to any and all suggestions. If you have a design, quote, picture, or any combination of the three, send them to John Jewett or submit them at the meeting in August, where the design will be voted upon.

For anyone interested in joining the Chapter, the dues are \$5.00 per year, payable in April, and should be sent to the Donermeyers at: 67 Moss Road, Springfield, Massachusetts 01119.

The next meeting will be August 22, 1987 (Bosworth Weekend). Tentative plans are being made for an excursion to the Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester, to be followed by dinner in a local restaurant. You will be updated on this as plans become more finalized.

Linda Spicer,
Secretary

Ohio Chapter

On Saturday, May 2, 1987, the

Chapter made its debut at the Ohio State University Renaissance Festival. Held on the campus in Columbus, this is the largest, free festival of its kind in the country and is annually attended by thousands of people from all over the state. For this occasion, many of our members were beautifully costumed and our booth proudly flew a replica of Richard's standard, a surprise gift from the editor of our newsletter. During the course of the day, we had the opportunity of discussing the Ricardian point of view with scores of people, to distribute literature on the Society and the Chapter, and make more contacts than possible in any other milieu. In addition, it was a wonderful opportunity for the many Ohio Ricardians who attended the Festival (most of whom stayed the entire day and helped staff the booth) to get better acquainted. After the close of the Festival, we gathered at a local, wonderfully medieval restaurant for dinner.

Only days prior to the Festival, one of our Columbus members, Cindy Northup, was interviewed by Mark Hardin of the Columbus Dispatch. The interview generated much positive response on the part of Festival goers and generated a spate of letters to the Dispatch Editor, all of which creates interest in the Society, which can only be counted as a plus.

As this is being written, plans are under way for the celebration of the Chapter's first anniversary on July 25th, in Cleveland, at the home of Gillie Lehmann. All the pertinent details will be in the Summer issue of the Crown & Helm. Hopefully, many of you will be on hand to help us celebrate.

For further information about the Chapter, contact Nancy Weiten-

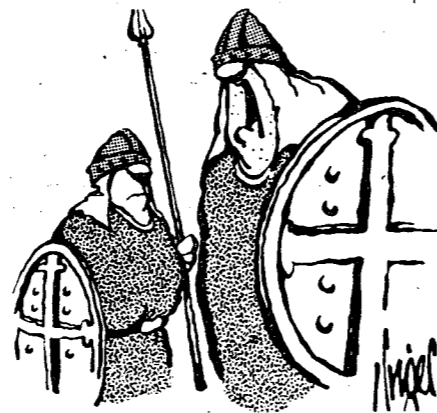
dorf, P.O. Box 654, North Olmsted, OH 44070-0654 (Chairman), or Judie Gall, 5971 Belmont Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45224 (Secretary). We look forward to welcoming guests and visitors, as well as any new, national members whom we haven't had the chance to contact yet.

*Judie C. Gall,
Secretary*

New York State (Northern):

As the members in upstate New York are scattered around, it has been difficult to organize a chapter of the Society and have meetings. It has finally been decided to write to the Register asking any New York upstaters who would like to get together to form a chapter to contact me at the address listed in the "Chapter Contacts" section. It is hoped that a central location and meeting date will be worked out before the snow flies again!

Mary Ann Park



"What do you mean you overslept? That's the third battle you've missed!"

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ATTENTION CHAPTER CONTACTS AND OFFICERS!

The Register is an excellent vehicle for publicizing both Chapter happenings and generating interest in areas where new Chapters are in the process of being formed. However, reports must be received to be printed. Guidelines for submission of the reports are detailed on page 22 of the Summer issue. Unfortunately, with the increased number of active Chapters and reduced size of the Register, space must be carefully allotted, but it is available, and we want to hear from you. SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE WINTER ISSUE WILL BE OCTOBER 15, 1987. Material must be in the hands of the editor by then in order to appear in that issue. Remember, your news is one of the many things which help to make the Register interesting! We'd like to hear from all of you... prior to every issue!

SCHALLEK AWARDS

Dr. Morris G. McGee, Chairman of the selection committee for the Society's Schallek Memorial Fellowship, announces two recipients this year. Shirley Grubb of Boulder, Colorado, is pursuing postdoctoral studies in her chosen field of oral interpretation and theater. Her PhD. thesis addressed rhetorical and dramatic characterizations in Richard III, about which she says: "Since Shakespeare is often quoted as the instrument of Richard's bad reputation, a study which points out the consciousness, and the complexity of the rhetoric involved in Richard's characterization would seem to support the aims of the Richard III Society." We wish this recipient all the best in the pursuit of her studies and might also add that she has agreed, when her time permits, to prepare something especially for the Register, in addition to getting her doctoral dissertation ready for publication.

The second winner of the Fellowship is Thomas S. Freeman of Trenton, New Jersey, a history major at Rutgers University, who plans to commence his doctoral studies in the field of late medieval and early modern history, with special emphasis on England and France. Mr. Freeman is preparing two papers on Vergil's Anglica Historia. Again, we wish Mr. Freeman every success with this project and with his doctoral studies. Perhaps at some future date we will have the opportunity of also sharing his opinions on Vergil's work with our membership.

Our thanks are also extended to Dr. McGee and the Committee for their work in making the selections for this year.

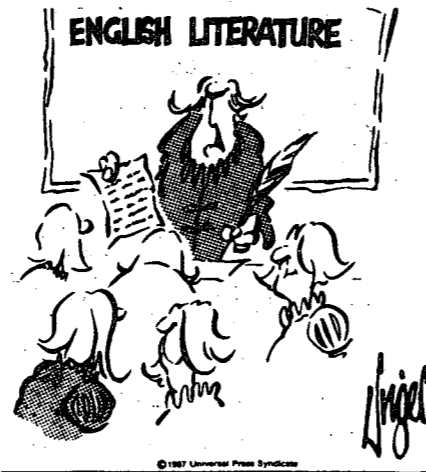


BE A FRIEND

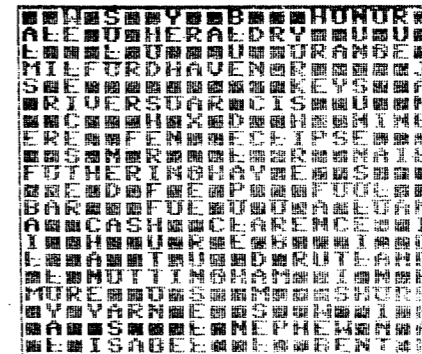
From California comes word of a need, the fulfillment of which could bring untold hours of enjoyment.

An 87-year-old woman, whose hero is Richard III, would appreciate any "books on tape" that may be available on Ricardian subjects. She cannot read, but likes to listen to tapes, and has a tape recorder. If any of you know of anything that might be of interest, please write to: JACQUELINE BLOOMQUIST, 1708 HIGHLAND PLACE, BERKELEY, CA 94709. Also, are there any Ricardians in Marin County who might be able to spare an hour or so to visit this lady and read to her? She is in a nursing home in San Rafael and is very alert. I will furnish you with the details.

*Jacqueline Bloomquist,
California*



"Shakespeare, did your father help you with this homework?"



ANSWERS -- SUMMER PUZZLE

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE
WINTER ISSUE - OCTOBER 15, 1987**