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Launcelot Surry

Copied (Angleters)

15 septembre 1932

Monsieur,

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que nous ne possédons pas dans nos collections de peinture, le portrait d'Edouard VI auquel vous faites allusion dans votre lettre du 6 courant.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

Le Conservateur délégué.

A Monsieur Launcelot Surry
Bognor
Angleterre.

MEMO FROM



PUBLISHER, AUTHOR AND JOURNALIST

19 Copnor Road, Copnor, Portsmouth, England

6th September 1932.

Dear Sir,

I am engaged in writing a new book on the iconography of King Edward VI and am informed by Professor Dr Paul Ganz that there is in your Museum a full-length painting of Edward VI. I would esteem it a very great favour if you would kindly send me the Number and full entry of this picture in your Catalogue. Also I would value the gift or loan of a colour-plate or photograph of the picture. In the latter case please let me know cost, in case I wish to retain the photograph for my Collection. I am hoping that your picture may prove to be the one sent by the King to his Ambassador for presentation to the Emperor Charles V in 1551 and painted by the Court Painter, Guillim Stretes.

With many thanks,

Yours very truly,

Launcelot Surry

To the Director of the Musee National, Brussels, BELGIUM.

LAUNCELOT SURRY'S PUBLICATIONS.

"A KING AND HIS FAVOURITE"

By Lord Castletown.

4/- nett. By Post 4/4. Single Copies C.O.D., 4/9.

A brilliant memoir of gallant Barnabe Fitzpatrick, soldier diplomat and courtier, the friend of Edward VI., the defender of Queen Mary, the creditor of Queen Elizabeth. Fifteen plates, including special drawings by Lieut.-Colonel C. S. Collison, D.S.O. and Mr. John Power.

"THE PORTRAITS OF EDWARD VI."

by Launcelot Surry, M.P.I.

5/- net. By Post 5/6. Single copies C.O.D. 5/10.

Mr. Francis Hackett, the latest critic of Edward Tudor, in his book, "Henry VIII." impatiently dismisses him as "a morsel of puling ignominy, a shrinking inch-worm who blindly and automatically became the lottery ticket on which a nation staked its fate, the inheritor of a dynasty whose crown alone at this instant would snuff him out like a halfpenny dip." The biography with which this book opens effectively gives the lie to Mr. Hackett's extravagant rhodomontade.

LAUNCELOT SURRY, 19 COPNOR ROAD, PORTSMOUTH.

(Reprinted from the "Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society.")

A King and His Favourite. By The Right Hon. Baron Castletown of Upper Ossory, K.P., P.C., C.M.G., B.A., LL.D. Portsmouth: Launcelot Surry. 4/- net.

This story of the friendship between the youthful Edward VI. and his "Whipping-boy," fellow student and intimate friend, Barnabe Fitz-Patrick, Baron of Upper Ossory and ancestor of the author, should appeal both to the historian and the general reader.

In compiling this biography, Lord Castletown has drawn largely from the letters and "Journal" of the boy King, extracts from which enrich the work. The letters of Edward VI. to Barnabe are, of course, famous and have been quoted by other writers, and a notice of his life appeared in the Dictionary of National Biography, but here Lord Castletown has collected all the facts bearing on the career of his ancestor which otherwise would have to be sought through the scattered records of State Papers and various historians, and, by putting them into an easily accessible and attractive form, has done much for those engaged in the study of the period and has placed at the disposal of the general reader a work of much interest and charm.

It is written in a simple and straightforward style, but with certain imaginative touches which resurrect this by-gone friendship and make the principals live before our eyes. We see Barnabe brought to the English Court and filling the office of "Proxy for Correction" to Prince Edward, who "was beaten in Fitz-Patrick, so great an affection did he bear his servant": Then one of the ten "Gentlemen-in-Ordinary" of the King's Privy Chamber at a salary of £50 a year; Then in France where, by Edward's orders, he was to "enter the French King's service and accompany him on his campaigns by which means opportunities will be obtained of learning the French art of war and information of all passing events" and where, Edward's command quaintly ends, "you shall behave yourself honestly, more following the company of gentlemen than pressing the company of ladies there, and your chief pastime shall be hunting and riding." He was recalled a year before the tragically early death of his young master and was one of those present at his passing. Later we get a sketch of his career in Ireland, where his loyalty and up-right dealing, despite the personal enmity and political scheming of his cousin "Black Tom," the Earl of Ormonde, earned for him the tribute of Sir Henry Sidney—"Lord Upper Ossory was the most sufficient man in counsel and action for the war that ever I found of that country birth. Great pity it is of his death."

The value of the work is enhanced by the fine reproductions, some previously unpublished, of various portraits of Edward VI., and by two interesting imaginative pictures by Mr. John Power of Cork. It is well produced.

"An unusually interesting book just published is "A King and his Favourite," by Lord Castletown of Upper Ossory. His Lordship has used many original documents in the compilation of the volume and there are many passages in the book of outstanding interest"—*Evening News.*"

Notices of "A King and His Favourite" appeared in the "Munster News," "Westmeath Independent," "Roscommon Messenger" "Kilkenny People," "Kilkenny Journal," "Tyrone Courier" and "Tuam Herald."



(SPECIMEN ILLUSTRATION FROM "A KING AND HIS FAVOURITE.")

(Reprinted from the "Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society").

The Portraits of Edward VI., by Launcelot M. N. Surry, M.P.I., Portsmouth ; A. G. Searle & Sons, 58, Arundel St. Price 5/- net

The young King Edward has ever been to all English speaking people a tender memory, and in no where has this shown itself more than in the efforts of the best artists to lovingly depict him. We find Holbein, Peter Oliver, Nicholas Hilliard, Guillim Stretes, Nollekens, Scheemaker, Bartolozzi, Vertue and others, each in their turn finding scope for the noblest essays of their pencils or chisels in depicting actual or ideal likenesses of the boy Monarch.

This has not been peculiar to England, great continental artists have also contributed, with the result very many portraits existed, or should be in existence today, shewing the highest achievements of the leading masters in art. Artists in every conceivable direction have also vied with each other in portraying him through every known media—stone—lead—bronze—iron—marble—terra cotta—glass—wax—medals—cameos—miniatures, etc., and in every stage of his short life. To bring all these works of art to our notice has been the task to which Mr. Surry set himself. Three previous lists had been published, but in no case complete or satisfactory. With untiring energy he has corrected the errors and supplied additional facts of the highest value. Love of art, and love for his subject have been the motive powers which directed the author in his intricate and exhaustive researches.

The volume begins with a well-written history of Edward VI. from his birth, October 12, 1537, to his coronation on Shrove Sunday, 1547, and to his death at old Greenwich Palace on July 6th, 1553, from consumption. This story contains many facts relating to the wonderful mental powers of the young King, and to the interest he took in studying British and Foreign politics, and the poor of England. This evidence of his kindly heart has perhaps aroused the deep feeling of affection for him that has lasted through four centuries. He was a child of genius; and Mr. Surry's short but sufficient history confirms it. After this important historical opening the author proceeds to discuss the essential points of the various portraits with great skill and discretion in a full and authoritative manner.

To give a detailed account of all the portraits would not be possible, but we can confidently recommend Mr. Surry's descriptions of them, so carefully delineated from an artist's point of view, and a historian's critical study. He draws attention in the first place to the various portraits personally effected or modelled upon the work of Holbein, followed by the portraits of the schools of Holbein, Memling, Hueet, Zuccaro, and Hollar. Those ascribed to Guillim Stretes, various unassigned portraits, Cameo and Miniature portraits, historical and family portraits, The House of Lords portrait, Monumental and Numismatic, Southam, and others, as well as to the collection of pictures painted for King Edward VI. Each and all are noted and their merits or demerits criticized in this fascinating book, which with its well executed illustrations and sketches, excellent printing, and wealth of information, we heartily commend to artists, historians, and general readers, who will benefit much by Mr. Surry's expert knowledge of his subject.

"Mr. Surry gives us a valuable and exhaustive guide to the various portraits of this, the least known of our monarchs."

"Literary Guide."

"A fascinating story. We congratulate the author on compiling such an excellent reference volume." *"Evening News."*

"Mr. Surry has studied with great care nearly all the portraits, the genuine ones and the doubtful and his book should be extremely useful to students both of art and history." *"Winchester Diocesan Chronicle."*