



## Eikon Basilike.

*Jim Robson 1895*

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EIKON BASILIKH.  
Vel  
Imago Regis  
CAROLI,  
in illis suis  
ÆRUMNIS  
&  
SOLIITUDINE.

Rom. 8. Plus quàm victor, &c.

Bona agere & Mala Pati Re-  
gium est.

HAGÆ-COMITIS.

Typis S. E. Impensis F. William,  
& F. Eglesfield Londinenſium,  
apud quos vaneunt ſub ſigno  
Cœmæ, & ſub ſigno Cathæ in  
Cœmeterio S. Pauli. 1640.

All loyal subjects are interested in the story of this wonderful book, the authorship of which has been much disputed. Fraser, who occupied the unenviable post of censor of books, and was known as "Catalogue" Fraser, lost his office for daring to licence Walker's book on the *Eikon* which proved that a worthless person Gauden was the author, and not the Royal Martyr. Now public opinion is veering round to the belief that Charles I. really wrote the famous book. It has been conjectured that if the book had been issued a few hours before the King's execution, instead of a few hours after, the Monarchy would have been restored.

When the book was in the hands of the people, so marvellous was its effect, that contemporary authorities consider that nothing but Cromwell's ingenious and persistent condemnations of the work prevented the Restoration. Those engaged in the publication were

hunted down and imprisoned ; but in spite of every obstacle, the anxiety of the cavaliers to possess copies of this touching memorial was so great, and the perseverance of the printers so determined, that the work was newly put in type over and over again, and published with a rapidity that has never to this day been equalled. Fresh editions appeared almost daily at first, and afterwards every week.

Mr. E. Almack, a well-known bibliographer, has made this work a special study, and possesses no less than fifty editions. He is about to issue a *Bibliography of the King's Book, or Eikon Basilike*, which will be published by Messrs. Blades, East and Blades. It will be a valuable and unique work, and welcome to all book-lovers. By the kindness of the Publishers, we are able to print a fac-simile of the title page of the first edition of the book, which will be of considerable interest to all bibliographers.

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NOTES ON A DISCOVERY OF A SMALL STONE OBJECT AT OXFORD.—*by Miss Swan.*—In digging the foundations for the New City Buildings in Oxford, the workmen have come upon an interesting little vessel. This object (*see illustration on frontispiece*), was found about 20 feet below the surface of the ground, under the old office of the Town Clerk, south of the vaulted cellar of Cnap Hall. It is in shape and appearance like a miniature font, but it has no drain-hole ; there are remains of some oily substance still discernible in the basin. The measurements are as follows : Total height, 11 inches ; square bowl,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; depth of bowl,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It originally stood on five shafts, the centre one, two-and-a-half of the outer ones and half the bowl remains. The centre shaft is cylindrical, and quite plain, and it and the half bowl are in one piece. One of the outer shafts is carved with a rectangular pattern, which forms a diamond in the centre of it. The second outer shaft and the portion of the third which still remains are alike ornamented with a spiral pattern. The four sides of the base are all similar, and have a succession of crosses carved on them. Round the basin, and also at the square edge of the vessel, is a raised moulding, which shows traces of the cable pattern. On the face of the bowl is a beaded moulded arch, and the moulding is continued over the pillars, but I cannot discover any traces of cable work in this. The part of Oxford in which this vessel was found was originally the Jews' quarter, and known as Jewry. For the illustration I am indebted to Mr. Herbert Hurst, who first drew my attention to the discovery, and this has been reproduced by the kind permission of the British Archæological Association.