

= Edward I of England =

Edward I (17 / 18 June 1239 ? 7 July 1307) , also known as Edward Longshanks and the Hammer of the Scots (Latin : Malleus Scotorum) , was King of England from 1272 to 1307 . The first son of Henry III , Edward was involved early in the political intrigues of his father 's reign , which included an outright rebellion by the English barons . In 1259 , he briefly sided with a baronial reform movement , supporting the Provisions of Oxford . After reconciliation with his father , however , he remained loyal throughout the subsequent armed conflict , known as the Second Barons ' War . After the Battle of Lewes , Edward was hostage to the rebellious barons , but escaped after a few months and joined the fight against Simon de Montfort . Montfort was defeated at the Battle of Evesham in 1265 , and within two years the rebellion was extinguished . With England pacified , Edward joined the Ninth Crusade to the Holy Land . The crusade accomplished little , and Edward was on his way home in 1272 when he was informed that his father had died . Making a slow return , he reached England in 1274 and was crowned at Westminster on 19 August .

He spent much of his reign reforming royal administration and common law . Through an extensive legal inquiry , Edward investigated the tenure of various feudal liberties , while the law was reformed through a series of statutes regulating criminal and property law . Increasingly , however , Edward 's attention was drawn towards military affairs . After suppressing a minor rebellion in Wales in 1276 ? 77 , Edward responded to a second rebellion in 1282 ? 83 with a full @-@ scale war of conquest . After a successful campaign , Edward subjected Wales to English rule , built a series of castles and towns in the countryside and settled them with English people . Next , his efforts were directed towards Scotland . Initially invited to arbitrate a succession dispute , Edward claimed feudal suzerainty over the kingdom . In the war that followed , the Scots persevered , even though the English seemed victorious at several points . At the same time there were problems at home . In the mid @-@ 1290s , extensive military campaigns required high levels of taxation , and Edward met with both lay and ecclesiastical opposition . These crises were initially averted , but issues remained unsettled . When the King died in 1307 , he left to his son , Edward II , an ongoing war with Scotland and many financial and political problems .

Edward I was a tall man for his era , hence the nickname " Longshanks " . He was temperamental , and this , along with his height , made him an intimidating man , and he often instilled fear in his contemporaries . Nevertheless , he held the respect of his subjects for the way he embodied the medieval ideal of kingship , as a soldier , an administrator and a man of faith . Modern historians are divided on their assessment of Edward I : while some have praised him for his contribution to the law and administration , others have criticised him for his uncompromising attitude towards his nobility . Currently , Edward I is credited with many accomplishments during his reign , including restoring royal authority after the reign of Henry III , establishing Parliament as a permanent institution and thereby also a functional system for raising taxes , and reforming the law through statutes . At the same time , he is also often criticised for other actions , such as his brutal conduct towards the Scots , and issuing the Edict of Expulsion in 1290 , by which the Jews were expelled from England . The Edict remained in effect for the rest of the Middle Ages , and it was over 350 years until it was formally overturned under Oliver Cromwell in 1656 .

= = Early years , 1239 ? 63 = =

= = = Childhood and marriage = = =

Edward was born at the Palace of Westminster on the night of 17 ? 18 June 1239 , to King Henry III and Eleanor of Provence . Edward is an Anglo @-@ Saxon name , as was not commonly given among the aristocracy of England after the Norman Conquest , but Henry was devoted to the veneration of Edward the Confessor , and decided to name his firstborn son after the saint . Among his childhood friends was his cousin Henry of Almain , son of King Henry 's brother Richard of Cornwall . Henry of Almain would remain a close companion of the prince , both through the civil war

that followed , and later during the crusade . Edward was in the care of Hugh Giffard ? father of the future Chancellor Godfrey Giffard ? until Bartholomew Pecche took over at Giffard 's death in 1246 .

There were concerns about Edward 's health as a child , and he fell ill in 1246 , 1247 , and 1251 . Nonetheless , he became an imposing man ; at 6 feet 2 inches (1 @. @ 88 m) he towered over most of his contemporaries , and hence perhaps his epithet " Longshanks " , meaning " long legs " or " long shins " . The historian Michael Prestwich states that his " long arms gave him an advantage as a swordsman , long thighs one as a horseman . In youth , his curly hair was blond ; in maturity it darkened , and in old age it turned white . [His features were marred by a drooping left eyelid .] His speech , despite a lisp , was said to be persuasive . "

In 1254 , English fears of a Castilian invasion of the English province of Gascony induced Edward 's father to arrange a politically expedient marriage between his fourteen @-@ year @-@ old son and thirteen @-@ year @-@ old Eleanor , the half @-@ sister of King Alfonso X of Castile . Eleanor and Edward were married on 1 November 1254 in the Abbey of Santa María la Real de Las Huelgas in Castile . As part of the marriage agreement , the young prince received grants of land worth 15 @, @ 000 marks a year . Although the endowments King Henry made were sizeable , they offered Edward little independence . He had already received Gascony as early as 1249 , but Simon de Montfort , 6th Earl of Leicester , had been appointed as royal lieutenant the year before and , consequently , drew its income , so in practice Edward derived neither authority nor revenue from this province . The grant he received in 1254 included most of Ireland , and much land in Wales and England , including the earldom of Chester , but the King retained much control over the land in question , particularly in Ireland , so Edward 's power was limited there as well , and the King derived most of the income from those lands .

From 1254 to 1257 , Edward was under the influence of his mother 's relatives , known as the Savoyards , the most notable of whom was Peter of Savoy , the queen 's uncle . After 1257 , Edward increasingly fell in with the Poitevin or Lusignan faction ? the half @-@ brothers of his father Henry III ? led by such men as William de Valence . This association was significant , because the two groups of privileged foreigners were resented by the established English aristocracy , and they would be at the centre of the ensuing years ' baronial reform movement . There were tales of unruly and violent conduct by Edward and his Lusignan kinsmen , which raised questions about the royal heir 's personal qualities . The next years would be formative on Edward 's character .

= = = Early ambitions = = =

Edward had shown independence in political matters as early as 1255 , when he sided with the Soler family in Gascony , in the ongoing conflict between the Soler and Colomb families . This ran contrary to his father 's policy of mediation between the local factions . In May 1258 , a group of magnates drew up a document for reform of the King ? s government ? the so @-@ called Provisions of Oxford ? largely directed against the Lusignans . Edward stood by his political allies and strongly opposed the Provisions . The reform movement succeeded in limiting the Lusignan influence , however , and gradually Edward 's attitude started to change . In March 1259 , he entered into a formal alliance with one of the main reformers , Richard de Clare , Earl of Gloucester . Then , on 15 October 1259 , he announced that he supported the barons ' goals , and their leader , Simon de Montfort .

The motive behind Edward 's change of heart could have been purely pragmatic ; Montfort was in a good position to support his cause in Gascony . When the King left for France in November , Edward 's behaviour turned into pure insubordination . He made several appointments to advance the cause of the reformers , causing his father to believe that his son was considering a coup d'état . When the King returned from France , he initially refused to see his son , but through the mediation of the Earl of Cornwall and the Archbishop of Canterbury , the two were eventually reconciled . Edward was sent abroad , and in November 1260 he again united with the Lusignans , who had been exiled to France .

Back in England , early in 1262 , Edward fell out with some of his former Lusignan allies over financial matters . The next year , King Henry sent him on a campaign in Wales against Llywelyn ap

Gruffudd , with only limited results . Around the same time , Simon de Montfort , who had been out of the country since 1261 , returned to England and reignited the baronial reform movement . It was at this pivotal moment , as the King seemed ready to resign to the barons ' demands , that Edward began to take control of the situation . Whereas he had so far been unpredictable and equivocating , from this point on he remained firmly devoted to protecting his father 's royal rights . He reunited with some of the men he had alienated the year before ? among them his childhood friend , Henry of Almain , and John de Warenne , Earl of Surrey ? and retook Windsor Castle from the rebels . Through the arbitration of King Louis IX of France , an agreement was made between the two parties . This so @-@ called Mise of Amiens was largely favourable to the royalist side , and laid the seeds for further conflict .

= = Civil war and crusades , 1264 ? 73 = =

= = = Second Barons ' War = = =

The years 1264 ? 1267 saw the conflict known as the Second Barons ' War , in which baronial forces led by Simon de Montfort fought against those who remained loyal to the King . The first scene of battle was the city of Gloucester , which Edward managed to retake from the enemy . When Robert de Ferrers , Earl of Derby , came to the assistance of the rebels , Edward negotiated a truce with the earl , the terms of which he later broke . Edward then captured Northampton from Montfort 's son Simon , before embarking on a retaliatory campaign against Derby 's lands . The baronial and royalist forces finally met at the Battle of Lewes , on 14 May 1264 . Edward , commanding the right wing , performed well , and soon defeated the London contingent of Montfort 's forces . Unwisely , however , he followed the scattered enemy in pursuit , and on his return found the rest of the royal army defeated . By the agreement known as the Mise of Lewes , Edward and his cousin Henry of Almain were given up as hostages to Montfort .

Edward remained in captivity until March , and even after his release he was kept under strict surveillance . Then , on 28 May , he managed to escape his custodians and joined up with the Earl of Gloucester , who had recently defected to the King 's side .

Montfort 's support was now dwindling , and Edward retook Worcester and Gloucester with relatively little effort . Meanwhile , Montfort had made an alliance with Llywelyn and started moving east to join forces with his son Simon . Edward managed to make a surprise attack at Kenilworth Castle , where the younger Montfort was quartered , before moving on to cut off the earl of Leicester . The two forces then met at the second great encounter of the Barons ' War , the Battle of Evesham , on 4 August 1265 . Montfort stood little chance against the superior royal forces , and after his defeat he was killed and mutilated on the field .

Through such episodes as the deception of Derby at Gloucester , Edward acquired a reputation as untrustworthy . During the summer campaign , though , he began to learn from his mistakes , and acted in a way that gained the respect and admiration of his contemporaries . The war did not end with Montfort 's death , and Edward participated in the continued campaigning . At Christmas , he came to terms with the younger Simon de Montfort and his associates at the Isle of Axholme in Lincolnshire , and in March he led a successful assault on the Cinque Ports . A contingent of rebels held out in the virtually impregnable Kenilworth Castle and did not surrender until the drafting of the conciliatory Dictum of Kenilworth . In April it seemed as if Gloucester would take up the cause of the reform movement , and civil war would resume , but after a renegotiation of the terms of the Dictum of Kenilworth , the parties came to an agreement . Edward , however , was little involved in the settlement negotiations following the wars ; at this point his main focus was on planning his forthcoming crusade .

= = = Crusade and accession = = =

Edward took the crusader 's cross in an elaborate ceremony on 24 June 1268 , with his brother

Edmund and cousin Henry of Almain . Among others who committed themselves to the Ninth Crusade were Edward 's former adversaries ? like the Earl of Gloucester , though de Clare did not ultimately participate . With the country pacified , the greatest impediment to the project was providing sufficient finances . King Louis IX of France , who was the leader of the crusade , provided a loan of about £ 17 @, @ 500 . This , however , was not enough ; the rest had to be raised through a tax on the laity , which had not been levied since 1237 . In May 1270 , Parliament granted a tax of a twentieth , in exchange for which the King agreed to reconfirm Magna Carta , and to impose restrictions on Jewish money lending . On 20 August Edward sailed from Dover for France . Historians have not determined the size of the force with any certainty , but Edward probably brought with him around 225 knights and altogether less than 1000 men .

Originally , the Crusaders intended to relieve the beleaguered Christian stronghold of Acre , but Louis had been diverted to Tunis . The French King and his brother Charles of Anjou , who had made himself King of Sicily , decided to attack the emirate to establish a stronghold in North Africa . The plans failed when the French forces were struck by an epidemic which , on 25 August , took the life of King Louis himself . By the time Edward arrived at Tunis , Charles had already signed a treaty with the emir , and there was little else to do but return to Sicily . The crusade was postponed until next spring , but a devastating storm off the coast of Sicily dissuaded Charles of Anjou and Louis 's successor Philip III from any further campaigning . Edward decided to continue alone , and on 9 May 1271 he finally landed at Acre .

By then , the situation in the Holy Land was a precarious one . Jerusalem had fallen in 1244 , and Acre was now the centre of the Christian state . The Muslim states were on the offensive under the Mamluk leadership of Baibars , and were now threatening Acre itself . Though Edward 's men were an important addition to the garrison , they stood little chance against Baibars ' superior forces , and an initial raid at nearby St Georges @-@ de @-@ Lebeyne in June was largely futile . An embassy to the Ilkhan Abaqa (1234 ? 1282) of the Mongols helped bring about an attack on Aleppo in the north , which helped to distract Baibars ' forces . In November , Edward led a raid on Qaqun , which could have served as a bridgehead to Jerusalem , but both the Mongol invasion and the attack on Qaqun failed . Things now seemed increasingly desperate , and in May 1272 Hugh III of Cyprus , who was the nominal king of Jerusalem , signed a ten @-@ year truce with Baibars . Edward was initially defiant , but an attack by a Muslim assassin in June forced him to abandon any further campaigning . Although he managed to kill the assassin , he was struck in the arm by a dagger feared to be poisoned , and became severely weakened over the following months .

It was not until 24 September that Edward left Acre . Arriving in Sicily , he was met with the news that his father had died on 16 November , 1272 . Edward was deeply saddened by this news , but rather than hurrying home at once , he made a leisurely journey northwards . This was partly due to his health still being poor , but also due to a lack of urgency . The political situation in England was stable after the mid @-@ century upheavals , and Edward was proclaimed king at his father 's death , rather than at his own coronation , as had until then been customary . In Edward 's absence , the country was governed by a royal council , led by Robert Burnell . The new king embarked on an overland journey through Italy and France , where among other things he visited Pope Gregory X in Rome , King Philip III in Paris , and suppressed a rebellion in Gascony . Only on 2 August 1274 did he return to England , and was crowned on 19 August .

= = Early reign , 1274 ? 96 = =

= = = Welsh wars = = =

= = = = Conquest = = = =

Llywelyn ap Gruffudd enjoyed an advantageous situation in the aftermath of the Barons ' War . Through the 1267 Treaty of Montgomery , he officially obtained land he had conquered in the Four

Cantref of Perfeddwlad and was recognised in his title of Prince of Wales . Armed conflicts nevertheless continued , in particular with certain dissatisfied Marcher Lords , such as Gilbert de Clare , Earl of Gloucester , Roger Mortimer and Humphrey de Bohun , Earl of Hereford . Problems were exacerbated when Llywelyn 's younger brother Dafydd and Gruffydd ap Gwenwynwyn of Powys , after failing in an assassination attempt against Llywelyn , defected to the English in 1274 . Citing ongoing hostilities and the English king 's harbouring of his enemies , Llywelyn refused to do homage to Edward . For Edward , a further provocation came from Llywelyn 's planned marriage to Eleanor , daughter of Simon de Montfort .

In November 1276 , war was declared . Initial operations were launched under the captaincy of Mortimer , Lancaster (Edward 's brother Edmund) and William de Beauchamp , Earl of Warwick . Support for Llywelyn was weak among his own countrymen . In July 1277 Edward invaded with a force of 15 000 , of whom 9 000 were Welshmen . The campaign never came to a major battle , and Llywelyn soon realised he had no choice but to surrender . By the Treaty of Aberconwy in November 1277 , he was left only with the land of Gwynedd , though he was allowed to retain the title of Prince of Wales .

When war broke out again in 1282 , it was an entirely different undertaking . For the Welsh , this war was over national identity , enjoying wide support , provoked particularly by attempts to impose English law on Welsh subjects . For Edward , it became a war of conquest rather than simply a punitive expedition , like the former campaign . The war started with a rebellion by Dafydd , who was discontented with the reward he had received from Edward in 1277 . Llywelyn and other Welsh chieftains soon joined in , and initially the Welsh experienced military success . In June , Gloucester was defeated at the Battle of Llandeilo Fawr . On 6 November , while John Peckham , archbishop of Canterbury , was conducting peace negotiations , Edward 's commander of Anglesey , Luke de Tany , decided to carry out a surprise attack . A pontoon bridge had been built to the mainland , but shortly after Tany and his men crossed over , they were ambushed by the Welsh and suffered heavy losses at the Battle of Moel y don . The Welsh advances ended on 11 December , however , when Llywelyn was lured into a trap and killed at the Battle of Orewin Bridge . The conquest of Gwynedd was complete with the capture in June 1283 of Dafydd , who was taken to Shrewsbury and executed as a traitor the following autumn .

Further rebellions occurred in 1287 and 1288 , and , more seriously , in 1294 , under the leadership of Madog ap Llywelyn , a distant relative of Llywelyn ap Gruffudd . This last conflict demanded the King 's own attention , but in both cases the rebellions were put down .

=== Colonisation ===

By the 1284 Statute of Rhuddlan , the Principality of Wales was incorporated into England and was given an administrative system like the English , with counties policed by sheriffs . English law was introduced in criminal cases , though the Welsh were allowed to maintain their own customary laws in some cases of property disputes . After 1277 , and increasingly after 1283 , Edward embarked on a full scale project of English settlement of Wales , creating new towns like Flint , Aberystwyth and Rhuddlan . Their new residents were English migrants , with the local Welsh banned from living inside them , and many were protected by extensive walls .

An extensive project of castle building was also initiated , under the direction of Master James of Saint George , a prestigious architect whom Edward had met in Savoy on his return from the crusade . These included the castles of Beaumaris , Caernarfon , Conwy and Harlech , intended to act both as fortresses and royal palaces for the King . His programme of castle building in Wales heralded the introduction of the widespread use of arrowslits in castle walls across Europe , drawing on Eastern influences . Also a product of the Crusades was the introduction of the concentric castle , and four of the eight castles Edward founded in Wales followed this design . The castles made a clear , imperial statement about Edward 's intentions to rule North Wales permanently , and drew on imagery associated with the Byzantine Roman Empire and King Arthur in an attempt to build legitimacy for his new regime .

In 1284 , King Edward had his son Edward (later Edward II) born at Caernarfon Castle , probably

to make a deliberate statement about the new political order in Wales . David Powel , a 16th @-@ century clergyman , suggested that the baby was offered to the Welsh as a prince " that was borne in Wales and could speake never a word of English " , but there is no evidence to support this account . In 1301 at Lincoln , the young Edward became the first English prince to be invested with the title of Prince of Wales , when King Edward granted him the Earldom of Chester and lands across North Wales . The King seems to have hoped that this would help in the pacification of the region , and that it would give his son more financial independence .

= = = Diplomacy and war on the Continent = = =

Edward never again went on crusade after his return to England in 1274 , but he maintained an intention to do so , and took the cross again in 1287 . This intention guided much of his foreign policy , until at least 1291 . To stage a European @-@ wide crusade , it was essential to prevent conflict between the greater princes on the continent . A major obstacle to this was represented by the conflict between the French House of Anjou ruling southern Italy , and the kingdom of Aragon in Spain . In 1282 , the citizens of Palermo rose up against Charles of Anjou and turned for help to Peter of Aragon , in what has become known as the Sicilian Vespers . In the war that followed , Charles of Anjou 's son , Charles of Salerno , was taken prisoner by the Aragonese . The French began planning an attack on Aragon , raising the prospect of a large @-@ scale European war . To Edward , it was imperative that such a war be avoided , and in Paris in 1286 he brokered a truce between France and Aragon that helped secure Charles ' release . As far as the crusades were concerned , however , Edward 's efforts proved ineffective . A devastating blow to his plans came in 1291 , when the Mamluks captured Acre , the last Christian stronghold in the Holy Land .

After the fall of Acre , Edward 's international role changed from that of a diplomat to an antagonist . He had long been deeply involved in the affairs of his own Duchy of Gascony . In 1278 he assigned an investigating commission to his trusted associates Otto de Grandson and the chancellor Robert Burnell , which caused the replacement of the seneschal Luke de Tany . In 1286 , Edward visited the region himself and stayed for almost three years . The perennial problem , however , was the status of Gascony within the kingdom of France , and Edward 's role as the French king 's vassal . On his diplomatic mission in 1286 , Edward had paid homage to the new king , Philip IV , but in 1294 Philip declared Gascony forfeit when Edward refused to appear before him in Paris to discuss the recent conflict between English , Gascon , and French sailors (that had resulted in several French ships being captured , along with the sacking of the French port of La Rochelle) .

Eleanor of Castile had died on 28 November 1290 . Uncommon for such marriages of the period , the couple loved each other . Moreover , like his father , Edward was very devoted to his wife and was faithful to her throughout their married lives ? a rarity among monarchs of the time . He was deeply affected by her death . He displayed his grief by erecting twelve so @-@ called Eleanor crosses , one at each place where her funeral cortège stopped for the night . As part of the peace accord between England and France in 1294 , it was agreed that Edward should marry Philip IV 's half @-@ sister Margaret , but the marriage was delayed by the outbreak of war .

Edward made alliances with the German king , the Counts of Flanders and Guelders , and the Burgundians , who would attack France from the north . The alliances proved volatile , however , and Edward was facing trouble at home at the time , both in Wales and Scotland . It was not until August 1297 that he was finally able to sail for Flanders , at which time his allies there had already suffered defeat . The support from Germany never materialised , and Edward was forced to seek peace . His marriage to Margaret in 1299 ended the war , but the whole affair had proven both costly and fruitless for the English .

= = = The Great Cause = = =

The relationship between the nations of England and Scotland by the 1280s was one of relatively harmonious coexistence . The issue of homage did not reach the same level of controversy as it did in Wales ; in 1278 King Alexander III of Scotland paid homage to Edward I , but apparently only for

the lands he held of Edward in England . Problems arose only with the Scottish succession crisis of the early 1290s . In the years from 1281 to 1284 , Alexander 's two sons and one daughter died in quick succession . Then , in 1286 , King Alexander died himself , leaving as heir to the throne of Scotland the three @-@ year @-@ old Margaret , the Maid of Norway , who was born in 1283 to Alexander 's daughter Margaret and King Eric II of Norway . By the Treaty of Birgham , it was agreed that Margaret should marry King Edward 's then one @-@ year @-@ old son Edward of Carnarvon , though Scotland would remain free of English overlordship .

Margaret , by now seven years of age , sailed from Norway for Scotland in the autumn of 1290 , but fell ill on the way and died in Orkney . This left the country without an obvious heir , and led to the succession dispute known to history as the Great Cause .

Even though as many as fourteen claimants put forward their claims to the title , the real contest was between John Balliol and Robert de Brus . The Scottish magnates made a request to Edward to conduct the proceedings and administer the outcome , but not to arbitrate in the dispute . The actual decision would be made by 104 auditors - 40 appointed by Balliol , 40 by Bruce and the remaining 24 selected by Edward I from senior members of the Scottish political community . At Birgham , with the prospect of a personal union between the two realms , the question of suzerainty had not been of great importance to Edward . Now he insisted that , if he were to settle the contest , he had to be fully recognised as Scotland 's feudal overlord . The Scots were reluctant to make such a concession , and replied that since the country had no king , no one had the authority to make this decision . This problem was circumvented when the competitors agreed that the realm would be handed over to Edward until a rightful heir had been found . After a lengthy hearing , a decision was made in favour of John Balliol on 17 November 1292 .

Even after Balliol 's accession , Edward still continued to assert his authority over Scotland . Against the objections of the Scots , he agreed to hear appeals on cases ruled on by the court of guardians that had governed Scotland during the interregnum . A further provocation came in a case brought by Macduff , son of Malcolm , Earl of Fife , in which Edward demanded that Balliol appear in person before the English Parliament to answer the charges . This the Scottish King did , but the final straw was Edward 's demand that the Scottish magnates provide military service in the war against France . This was unacceptable ; the Scots instead formed an alliance with France and launched an unsuccessful attack on Carlisle . Edward responded by invading Scotland in 1296 and taking the town of Berwick in a particularly bloody attack . At the Battle of Dunbar , Scottish resistance was effectively crushed . Edward confiscated the Stone of Destiny ? the Scottish coronation stone ? and brought it to Westminster placing it in what became known as King Edward 's Chair ; he deposed Balliol and placed him in the Tower of London , and installed Englishmen to govern the country . The campaign had been very successful , but the English triumph would only be temporary .

= = Government and law = =

= = = Character as king = = =

Edward had a reputation for a fierce temper , and he could be intimidating ; one story tells of how the Dean of St Paul 's , wishing to confront Edward over the high level of taxation in 1295 , fell down and died once he was in the King 's presence . When Edward of Caernarfon demanded an earldom for his favourite Gaveston , the King erupted in anger and supposedly tore out handfuls of his son 's hair . Some of his contemporaries considered Edward frightening , particularly in his early days . The Song of Lewes in 1264 described him as a leopard , an animal regarded as particularly powerful and unpredictable .

Despite these frightening character traits , however , Edward 's contemporaries considered him an able , even an ideal , king . Though not loved by his subjects , he was feared and respected . He met contemporary expectations of kingship in his role as an able , determined soldier and in his embodiment of shared chivalric ideals . In religious observance he also fulfilled the expectations of his age : he attended chapel regularly and gave alms generously .

Edward took a keen interest in the stories of King Arthur , which were highly popular in Europe during his reign . In 1278 he visited Glastonbury Abbey to open what was then believed to be the tomb of Arthur and Guinevere , recovering " Arthur 's crown " from Llywelyn after the conquest of North Wales , while , as noted above , his new castles drew upon the Arthurian myths in their design and location . He held " Round Table " events in 1284 and 1302 , involving tournaments and feasting , and chroniclers compared him and the events at his court to Arthur . In some cases Edward appears to have used his interest in the Arthurian myths to serve his own political interests , including legitimising his rule in Wales and discrediting the Welsh belief that Arthur might return as their political saviour .

= = = Administration and the law = = =

Soon after assuming the throne , Edward set about restoring order and re-establishing royal authority after the disastrous reign of his father . To accomplish this , he immediately ordered an extensive change of administrative personnel . The most important of these was the appointment of Robert Burnell as chancellor , a man who would remain in the post until 1292 as one of the King 's closest associates . Edward then replaced most local officials , such as the escheators and sheriffs . This last measure was done in preparation for an extensive inquest covering all of England , that would hear complaints about abuse of power by royal officers . The inquest produced the set of so-called Hundred Rolls , from the administrative subdivision of the hundred .

The second purpose of the inquest was to establish what land and rights the crown had lost during the reign of Henry III .

The Hundred Rolls formed the basis for the later legal inquiries called the Quo warranto proceedings . The purpose of these inquiries was to establish by what warrant (Latin : Quo warranto) various liberties were held . If the defendant could not produce a royal licence to prove the grant of the liberty , then it was the crown 's opinion ? based on the writings of the influential thirteenth-century legal scholar Bracton ? that the liberty should revert to the king .

By enacting the Statute of Gloucester in 1278 the King challenged baronial rights through a revival of the system of general eyres (royal justices to go on tour throughout the land) and through a significant increase in the number of pleas of quo warranto to be heard by such eyres .

This caused great consternation among the aristocracy , who insisted that long use in itself constituted licence . A compromise was eventually reached in 1290 , whereby a liberty was considered legitimate as long as it could be shown to have been exercised since the coronation of King Richard I , in 1189 . Royal gains from the Quo warranto proceedings were insignificant ; few liberties were returned to the King . Edward had nevertheless won a significant victory , in clearly establishing the principle that all liberties essentially emanated from the crown .

The 1290 statute of Quo warranto was only one part of a wider legislative effort , which was one of the most important contributions of Edward I 's reign . This era of legislative action had started already at the time of the baronial reform movement ; the Statute of Marlborough (1267) contained elements both of the Provisions of Oxford and the Dictum of Kenilworth . The compilation of the Hundred Rolls was followed shortly after by the issue of Westminster I (1275) , which asserted the royal prerogative and outlined restrictions on liberties . In the Mortmain (1279) , the issue was grants of land to the church . The first clause of Westminster II (1285) , known as De donis conditionalibus , dealt with family settlement of land , and entails . Merchants (1285) established firm rules for the recovery of debts , while Winchester (1285) dealt with peacekeeping on a local level . Quia emptores (1290) ? issued along with Quo warranto ? set out to remedy land ownership disputes resulting from alienation of land by subinfeudation . The age of the great statutes largely ended with the death of Robert Burnell in 1292 .

= = = Finances , Parliament and the expulsion of Jews = = =

Edward I 's frequent military campaigns put a great financial strain on the nation . There were several ways through which the king could raise money for war , including customs duties , money

lending and lay subsidies . In 1275 , Edward I negotiated an agreement with the domestic merchant community that secured a permanent duty on wool . In 1303 , a similar agreement was reached with foreign merchants , in return for certain rights and privileges . The revenues from the customs duty were handled by the Riccardi , a group of bankers from Lucca in Italy . This was in return for their service as money lenders to the crown , which helped finance the Welsh Wars . When the war with France broke out , the French king confiscated the Riccardi 's assets , and the bank went bankrupt . After this , the Frescobaldi of Florence took over the role as money lenders to the English crown .

Another source of crown income was represented by England 's Jews . The Jews were the king 's personal property , and he was free to tax them at will . By 1280 , the Jews had been exploited to a level at which they were no longer of much financial use to the crown , but they could still be used in political bargaining . Their usury business ? a practice forbidden to Christians ? had made many people indebted to them and caused general popular resentment . In 1275 , Edward had issued the Statute of the Jewry , which outlawed usury and encouraged the Jews to take up other professions ; in 1279 , in the context of a crack @-@ down on coin @-@ clippers , he arrested all the heads of Jewish households in England and had around 300 of them executed . In 1280 , he ordered all Jews to attend special sermons , preached by Dominican friars , with the hope of persuading them to convert , but these exhortations were not followed . The final attack on the Jews in England came in the Edict of Expulsion in 1290 , whereby Edward formally expelled all Jews from England . This not only generated revenues through royal appropriation of Jewish loans and property , but it also gave Edward the political capital to negotiate a substantial lay subsidy in the 1290 Parliament . The expulsion , which was reversed in 1656 , followed a precedent set by other European territorial princes : Philip II of France had expelled all Jews from his own lands in 1182 ; John I , Duke of Brittany , drove them out of his duchy in 1239 ; and in the late 1240s Louis IX of France had expelled the Jews from the royal demesne before his first passage to the East .

Edward held Parliament on a reasonably regular basis throughout his reign . In 1295 , however , a significant change occurred . For this Parliament , in addition to the secular and ecclesiastical lords , two knights from each county and two representatives from each borough were summoned . The representation of commons in Parliament was nothing new ; what was new was the authority under which these representatives were summoned . Whereas previously the commons had been expected simply to assent to decisions already made by the magnates , it was now proclaimed that they should meet with the full authority (plena potestas) of their communities , to give assent to decisions made in Parliament . The King now had full backing for collecting lay subsidies from the entire population . Lay subsidies were taxes collected at a certain fraction of the moveable property of all laymen . Whereas Henry III had only collected four of these in his reign , Edward I collected nine . This format eventually became the standard for later Parliaments , and historians have named the assembly the " Model Parliament " .

= = Later reign , 1297 ? 1307 = =

= = = Constitutional crisis = = =

The incessant warfare of the 1290s put a great financial demand on Edward 's subjects . Whereas the King had only levied three lay subsidies until 1294 , four such taxes were granted in the years 1294 ? 97 , raising over £ 200 @,@ 000 . Along with this came the burden of prises (appropriation of food) , seizure of wool and hides , and the unpopular additional duty on wool , dubbed the maltolt . The fiscal demands on the King 's subjects caused resentment , and this resentment eventually led to serious political opposition . The initial resistance was not caused by the lay taxes , however , but by clerical subsidies . In 1294 , Edward made a demand of a grant of one half of all clerical revenues . There was some resistance , but the King responded by threatening with outlawry , and the grant was eventually made . At the time , the archbishopric of Canterbury was vacant , since Robert Winchelsey was in Italy to receive consecration . Winchelsey returned in January 1295 and had to consent to another grant in November of that year . In 1296 , however , his position changed

when he received the papal bull *Clericis laicos* . This bull prohibited the clergy from paying taxes to lay authorities without explicit consent from the Pope . When the clergy , with reference to the bull , refused to pay , Edward responded with outlawry . Winchelsea was presented with a dilemma between loyalty to the King and upholding the papal bull , and he responded by leaving it to every individual clergyman to pay as he saw fit . By the end of the year , a solution was offered by the new papal bull *Etsi de statu* , which allowed clerical taxation in cases of pressing urgency .

Opposition from the laity took longer to surface . This resistance focused on two things : the King 's right to demand military service , and his right to levy taxes . At the Salisbury parliament of February 1297 , Roger Bigod , Earl of Norfolk , in his capacity as Marshal of England , objected to a royal summons of military service . Bigod argued that the military obligation only extended to service alongside the King ; if the King intended to sail to Flanders , he could not send his subjects to Gascony . In July , Bigod and Humphrey de Bohun , Earl of Hereford and Constable of England , drew up a series of complaints known as the Remonstrances , in which objections to the extortionate level of taxation were voiced . Undeterred , Edward requested another lay subsidy . This one was particularly provocative , because the King had sought consent only from a small group of magnates , rather than from representatives from the communities in parliament . While Edward was in Winchelsea , preparing for the campaign in Flanders , Bigod and Bohun turned up at the Exchequer to prevent the collection of the tax . As the King left the country with a greatly reduced force , the kingdom seemed to be on the verge of civil war . What resolved the situation was the English defeat by the Scots at the Battle of Stirling Bridge . The renewed threat to the homeland gave king and magnates common cause . Edward signed the *Confirmatio cartarum* ? a confirmation of Magna Carta and its accompanying Charter of the Forest ? and the nobility agreed to serve with the King on a campaign in Scotland .

Edward 's problems with the opposition did not end with the Falkirk campaign . Over the following years he would be held up to the promises he had made , in particular that of upholding the Charter of the Forest . In the parliament of 1301 , the King was forced to order an assessment of the royal forests , but in 1305 he obtained a papal bull that freed him from this concession . Ultimately , it was a failure in personnel that spelt the end of the opposition against Edward I. Bohun died late in 1298 , after returning from the Falkirk campaign . As for Bigod , in 1302 he arrived at an agreement with the King that was beneficial for both : Bigod , who had no children , made Edward his heir , in return for a generous annual grant . Edward finally got his revenge on Winchelsea in 1305 , when Clement V was elected pope . Clement was a Gascon sympathetic to the King , and on Edward 's instigation had Winchelsea suspended from office .

= = = Return to Scotland = = =

The situation in Scotland had seemed resolved when Edward left the country in 1296 , but resistance soon emerged under the leadership of William Wallace . On 11 September 1297 , a large English force under the leadership of John de Warenne , Earl of Surrey , and Hugh de Cressingham was routed by a much smaller Scottish army led by Wallace and Andrew Moray at Stirling Bridge . The defeat sent shockwaves into England , and preparations for a retaliatory campaign started immediately . Soon after Edward returned from Flanders , he headed north . On 22 July 1298 , in the only major battle he had fought since Evesham in 1265 , Edward defeated Wallace 's forces at the Battle of Falkirk . Edward , however , was not able to take advantage of the momentum , and the next year the Scots managed to recapture Stirling Castle . Even though Edward campaigned in Scotland both in 1300 , when he successfully besieged Caerlaverock Castle and in 1301 , the Scots refused to engage in open battle again , preferring instead to raid the English countryside in smaller groups .

The defeated Scots , secretly urged on by the French , appealed to the pope to assert a claim of overlordship to Scotland in place of the English . His papal bull addressed to King Edward in these terms was firmly rejected on Edward 's behalf by the Barons ' Letter of 1301 . The English managed to subdue the country by other means , however . In 1303 , a peace agreement was reached between England and France , effectively breaking up the Franco @-@ Scottish alliance . Robert

the Bruce , the grandson of the claimant to the crown in 1291 , had sided with the English in the winter of 1301 ? 02 . By 1304 , most of the other nobles of the country had also pledged their allegiance to Edward , and this year the English also managed to re @-@ take Stirling Castle . A great propaganda victory was achieved in 1305 when Wallace was betrayed by Sir John de Menteith and turned over to the English , who had him taken to London where he was publicly executed . With Scotland largely under English control , Edward installed Englishmen and collaborating Scots to govern the country .

The situation changed again on 10 February 1306 , when Robert the Bruce murdered his rival John Comyn and a few weeks later , on 25 March , had himself crowned King of Scotland by Isobel , sister of the Earl of Buchan . Bruce now embarked on a campaign to restore Scottish independence , and this campaign took the English by surprise . Edward was suffering ill health by this time , and instead of leading an expedition himself , he gave different military commands to Aymer de Valence and Henry Percy , while the main royal army was led by the Prince of Wales . The English initially met with success ; on 19 June , Aymer de Valence routed Bruce at the Battle of Methven . Bruce was forced into hiding , while the English forces recaptured their lost territory and castles .

Edward responded with severe brutality against Bruce 's allies and supporters . Bruce 's sister , Mary , was hung in a cage outside of Roxburgh for four years . Isabella MacDuff , Countess of Buchan , who had crowned Bruce , was hung in a cage outside of Berwick Castle for four years . Bruce 's younger brother Neil was executed by being hanged , drawn , and quartered ; he had been captured after he and his garrison held off Edward 's forces who had been seeking Bruce 's wife (Elizabeth) , daughter Marjorie , sisters Mary and Christina , and Isabella .

It was clear that Edward now regarded the struggle not as a war between two nations , but as the suppression of a rebellion of disloyal subjects . This brutality , though , rather than helping to subdue the Scots , had the opposite effect , and rallied growing support for Bruce .

= = Death and legacy = =

= = = Death , 1307 = = =

In February 1307 , Bruce reappeared and started gathering men , and in May he defeated Aymer de Valence at the Battle of Loudoun Hill . Edward , who had rallied somewhat , now moved north himself . On the way , however , he developed dysentery , and his condition deteriorated . On 6 July he encamped at Burgh by Sands , just south of the Scottish border . When his servants came the next morning to lift him up so that he could eat , he died in their arms .

Various stories emerged about Edward 's deathbed wishes ; according to one tradition , he requested that his heart be carried to the Holy Land , along with an army to fight the infidels . A more dubious story tells of how he wished for his bones to be carried along on future expeditions against the Scots . Another account of his deathbed scene is more credible ; according to one chronicle , Edward gathered around him the Earls of Lincoln and Warwick , Aymer de Valence , and Robert Clifford , and charged them with looking after his son Edward . In particular they should make sure that Piers Gaveston was not allowed to return to the country . This wish , however , the son ignored , and had his favourite recalled from exile almost immediately . The new king , Edward II , remained in the north until August , but then abandoned the campaign and headed south . He was crowned king on 25 February 1308 .

Edward I 's body was brought south , lying in state at Waltham Abbey , before being buried in Westminster Abbey on 27 October . There are few records of the funeral , which cost £ 473 . Edward 's tomb was an unusually plain sarcophagus of Purbeck marble , without the customary royal effigy , possibly the result of the shortage of royal funds after the King 's death . The sarcophagus may normally have been covered over with rich cloth , and originally might have been surrounded by carved busts and a devotional religious image , all since lost . The Society of Antiquaries opened the tomb in 1774 , finding that the body had been well preserved over the preceding 467 years , and took the opportunity to determine the King 's original height . Traces of

the Latin inscription *Edwardus Primus Scottorum Malleus hic est* , 1308 . *Pactum Serva* (" Here is Edward I , Hammer of the Scots , 1308 . Keep the Vow ") , which can still be seen painted on the side of the tomb , referring to his vow to avenge the rebellion of Robert Bruce . This resulted in Edward being given the epithet the " Hammer of the Scots " by historians , but is not contemporary in origin , having been added by the Abbot John Feckenham in the 16th century .

= = = Historiography = = =

The first histories of Edward in the 16th and 17th centuries drew primarily on the works of the chroniclers , and made little use of the official records of the period . They limited themselves to general comments on Edward 's significance as a monarch , and echoed the chroniclers ' praise for his accomplishments . During the 17th century , the lawyer Edward Coke wrote extensively about Edward 's legislation , terming the King the " English Justinian " , after the renowned Byzantine law @-@ maker , Justinian I. Later in the century , historians used the available record evidence to address the role of parliament and kingship under Edward , drawing comparisons between his reign and the political strife of their own century . 18th @-@ century historians established a picture of Edward as an able , if ruthless , monarch , conditioned by the circumstances of his own time .

The influential Victorian historian William Stubbs instead suggested that Edward had actively shaped national history , forming English laws and institutions , and helping England to develop parliamentary and constitutional government . His strengths and weaknesses as a ruler were considered to be emblematic of the English people as a whole . Stubbs ' student , Thomas Tout , initially adopted the same perspective , but after extensive research into Edward 's royal household , and backed by the research of his contemporaries into the early parliaments of the period , he changed his mind . Tout came to view Edward as a self @-@ interested , conservative leader , using the parliamentary system as " the shrewd device of an autocrat , anxious to use the mass of the people as a check upon his hereditary foes among the greater baronage . "

Historians in the 20th and 21st century have conducted extensive research on Edward and his reign . Most have concluded this was a highly significant period in English medieval history , some going further and describing Edward as one of the great medieval kings , although most also agree that his final years were less successful than his early decades in power . Three major academic narratives of Edward have been produced during this period . Frederick Powicke 's volumes , published in 1947 and 1953 , forming the standard works on Edward for several decades , and were largely positive in praising the achievements of his reign , and in particular his focus on justice and the law . In 1988 , Michael Prestwich produced an authoritative biography of the King , focusing on his political career , still portraying him in sympathetic terms , but highlighting some of the consequences of his failed policies . Marc Morris 's biography followed in 2008 , drawing out more of the detail of Edward 's personality , and generally taking a harsher view of the King 's weaknesses and less pleasant characteristics . Considerable academic debate has taken place around the character of Edward 's kingship , his political skills , and in particular his management of his earls , and the degree to which this was collaborative or repressive in nature .

There is also a great difference between English and Scottish historiography on King Edward . G. W. S. Barrow , in his biography on Robert the Bruce , accused Edward of ruthlessly exploiting the leaderless state of Scotland to obtain a feudal superiority over the kingdom . This view of Edward is reflected in the popular perception of the King , as can be seen in the 1995 movie *Braveheart* 's portrayal of the King as a hard @-@ hearted tyrant .

= = Family and children = =

Edward married twice :

= = = First marriage = = =

By his first wife Eleanor of Castile , Edward had at least fourteen children , perhaps as many as

sixteen . Of these , five daughters survived into adulthood , but only one son outlived his father , namely King Edward II (1307 ? 1327) . He was reportedly concerned with his son 's failure to live up to the expectations of an heir to the crown , and at one point decided to exile the prince 's favourite Piers Gaveston . His children by Eleanor of Castile were as follows :

= = = = Sons from first marriage = = = =

John (13 July 1266 ? 3 August 1271) , predeceased his father and died at Wallingford while in the custody of his granduncle Richard , Earl of Cornwall , buried at Westminster Abbey .

Henry (6 May 1268 ? 14 October 1274) , predeceased his father , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Alphonso , Earl of Chester (24 November 1273 ? 19 August 1284) , predeceased his father , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Son (1280 / 81 ? 1280 / 81) , predeceased his father ; little evidence exists for this child .

King Edward II (25 April 1284 ? 21 September 1327) , eldest surviving son and heir , succeeded his father as king of England . In 1308 he married Isabella of France , with whom he had four children .

= = = = Daughters from first marriage = = = =

Daughter (May 1255 ? 29 May 1255) , stillborn or died shortly after birth .

Katherine (before 17 June 1264 ? 5 September 1264) , buried at Westminster Abbey .

Joanna (Summer or January 1265 ? before 7 September 1265) , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Eleanor (c . 18 June 1269 ? 19 August 1298) , in 1293 she married Henry III , Count of Bar , by whom she had two children , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Juliana (after May 1271 ? 5 September 1271) , born and died while Edward and Eleanor were in Acre .

Joan of Acre (1272 ? 23 April 1307) , married (1) in 1290 Gilbert de Clare , Earl of Hertford , who died in 1295 , and (2) in 1297 Ralph de Monthermer . She had four children by Clare , and three or four by Monthermer .

Margaret (c.15 March 1275 ? after 11 March 1333) , married John II of Brabant in 1290 , with whom she had one son .

Berengaria (May 1276 ? between 7 June 1277 and 1278) , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Daughter (December 1277 ? January 1278) , buried in Westminster Abbey .

Mary of Woodstock (11 / 12 March 1279 ? 29 May 1332) , a Benedictine nun in Amesbury , Wiltshire , where she was probably buried .

Elizabeth of Rhuddlan (c . 7 August 1282 ? 5 May 1316) , married (1) in 1297 John I , Count of Holland , (2) in 1302 Humphrey de Bohun , Earl of Hereford . The first marriage was childless ; by Bohun Elizabeth had ten children .

= = = Second marriage = = =

By Margaret of France Edward had two sons , both of whom lived into adulthood , and a daughter who died as a child . The Hailes Abbey chronicle indicates that John Botetourt may have been Edward 's illegitimate son ; however , the claim is unsubstantiated . His progeny by Margaret of France was as follows :

= = = = Sons from second marriage = = = =

Thomas of Brotherton , 1st Earl of Norfolk (1 June 1300 ? 4 August 1338) , buried in Bury St Edmunds Abbey . Married (1) Alice Hales , with issue ; (2) Mary Brewes , no issue .

Edmund of Woodstock , 1st Earl of Kent (1 August 1301 ? 19 March 1330) , married Margaret Wake with issue .

===== Daughter from second marriage =====

Eleanor (6 May 1306 ? 1310)

== Ancestry ==