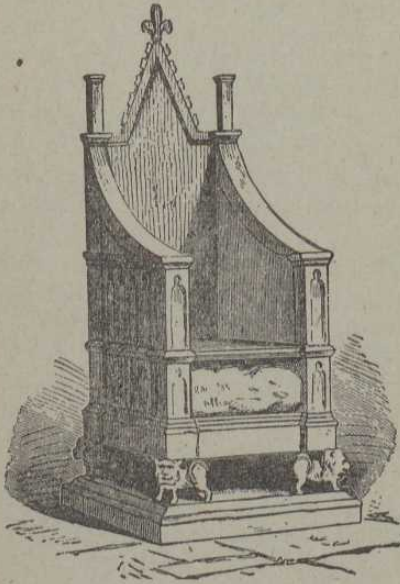


baby son, who had been born in Wales a few months before, and was too young to speak a word of any language. He was called Prince of Wales, and that is why the eldest son of the English sovereign usually receives that title, though he has no more power over Wales than over any other part of the kingdom.

75. **The attempt to conquer Scotland.**—Edward also attempted to conquer Scotland, but this proved a far harder task than to conquer Wales. The Scottish king had died, leaving no direct heir, and several distant relatives claimed the throne. These agreed to submit the dispute to Edward, but he refused to act unless he were acknowledged as overlord. Although the commons would not consent, the barons and clergy did. Edward decided in favour of John Balliol, though Robert Bruce had a claim that many thought equally good.



THE CORONATION CHAIR

Soon Edward began to act so much as if he himself were king of

Scotland that even Balliol rebelled. Edward invaded Scotland in 1296, dethroned Balliol, and compelled the Scots to submit to his rule. When he went home, he carried with him to London a stone upon which the kings of Scotland had always sat when they were crowned. It is called the Stone of Scone, and the people believed that it was the very one that Jacob had for a pillow when he dreamed of the ladder and the angels. Edward put it into the