

with the Carnival is the "Welcome" arch which spans the entire thoroughfare at its western extremity, standing directly opposite the depot. It is a huge affair, and though constructed of light material is so artistically finished as to have a massive and permanent appearance. It consists of one grand arch in the centre and a smaller one on either side. The word "Welcome," in large letters appears on the former, and "Rex I" and "Rex II" on the others, respectively. On Twenty-fourth Street, commencing at the intersection of Adams Avenue, raised seats line either side the entire distance of the block, and these seats will contain many thousands of people. Here the king and queen will review their visitors, as they pass in line along the street. Here also will occur the tournament, patterned as nearly as the ability of the horsemen and advanced civilization will permit, after the old-time jousts, when Ivanhoe flourished and such customs were more popular than now. This is nicely covered in and made as comfortable as circumstances would permit. The Carnival palace, so called, is not a very palatial looking affair inside or out, being constructed of lumber with a canvass covering. The time and means at the disposal of the committee would not perhaps admit of a more pretentious structure. It is, however, finely decorated and is quite spacious, the amphitheatre having a 10,000 seating capacity, and the dancing floor beneath being a huge affair. Everything seems to be well arranged, and neatness and display characterize all features.

All are looking forward to tomorrow, when "Rex" and his retinue arrive from New Orleans. It will doubtless be the principal day of the five during which the proceedings last.

The decorations previously spoken of are still going on. Washington Avenue in particular presents a very gaudy appearance, the display of flags and brilliant designs being almost bewildering in their profusion.

The tournament of Knights of the Lance commenced at 2 p.m. and is still going on. The object is to determine who shall be chiefs of the knights (he selects the Queen); also to select twelve knights to have conspicuous places as Rex Royal Guards.

The knights are dressed in medieval costume and present a showy appearance. Music and a large crowd of people are in attendance.

OGDEN, June 30th.

### EUROPE'S BOY KING.

Alfonso XIII is the most popular of sovereigns. Not only do his own subjects take delight in him, but elsewhere he is looked upon with affectionate kindness. He is the boy King of Europe, and he belongs to us all, says a writer in the *Atlanta*.

His majesty's ceremonial duties began at once. For scarcely had he drawn his first breath before he was

presented to some of his more important subjects. Senor Sagasta, the prime minister, took him on a silver tray, and carrying him into the neighboring apartment duly presented him to the nobles and senators there assembled to await his advent. In a few touching words the minister introduced his tiny lord to the gentlemen and ended by shouting "Long live the King!" a cry which was heartily taken up by all present. Whereupon the king, no doubt, most uncomfortable on his tray of silver, cried lustily, and the hearts of all rejoiced, for it was thereby seen that he was a strong and healthy babe. After this trying ordeal the king was delivered over to his nurse and other attendants, and his life began. The life of a royal baby during his first days can hardly be made to differ from the life of any other baby. Each must have a nurse and plenty of sleep. Ramunda, a healthy woman from the traditional Spanish nursing province, ably fulfilled her part, and the royal nursing throve well apace.

What should be the name of his Majesty? That was the great question of the moment. The Queen Regent wished to call him Alfonso, after the dead father who had never seen him. But an Alfonso the Thirteenth was pronounced unlucky. The Cabinet wavered between Charles and Philip, but eventually the mother carried the day. The Pope, who, by the way, is himself a number thirteen, offered to stand godfather, and on May 22d the christening took place in the Royal Chapel. By the Queen's express command the galleries leading to the chapel were thrown open to the public, so that peasants and princes elbowed their way to the front to catch a sight of the imposing procession. At 1 o'clock his Majesty made his appearance, lying in the arms of the Duchess Medina de las Torres. A crowd of the elite of Spanish aristocracy, glittering in brilliant uniforms and gala toilets, filled the body of the chapel and stood grouped around the font. Smallest, but perhaps most conspicuous of all, were the little sisters of the king, including the quondam Queen, Mercedes, too young and innocent to have any feelings but those of joy at the birth of her brother. The names given to the little king were Alfonso Leon Fernando Santiago Maria Isidro Pascual Antonio. Immediately after the ceremony of baptism he was invested with all the Spanish royal orders, beginning with the Golden Fleece, and then at length the procession re-formed, and the baby was restored to the sheltering arms of his proud mother. His household nominally consisted of numerous officers, both civil and military, but in reality his Majesty's household was pretty well summed up in Raymunda, who never left him day or night.

On the 28th of June Alfonso XIII made his first public appearance, driving through the streets of his capital with his mother to the church of Autocha, where the Queen attended a thanksgiving

service. It is hardly needful to state that he was everywhere received most enthusiastically. A real sovereign king only five weeks old was a sight to soften the heart of a Carlist or a republican. His Majesty's first shoes gave the occasion for another pretty ceremonial, in which Spanish court etiquette, reduced down to a baby's size, ceases to be the ludicrous thing that it is. The King's first shoes were made of white leather embroidered with gold, and the day that he first put them on the Queen gave 300 pairs of ordinary shoes to be distributed among the poor children of Madrid.

On the first of December, 1887, being then a year and a half old, the King in person opened his first parliament. The crush to witness the opening of that parliament was quite extraordinary, and some hundreds of ladies got pushed into the body of the hall, to the chagrin and exclusion of the senators, the appointed occupiers. The King and his mother entered the hall to the sound of Charles V's royal march. The baby was dressed all in white, with a white bonnet upon his head, but when seated upon the throne his bonnet was taken off. By his side stood the Queen dressed in black. While she read the royal speech the little monarch surveyed the scene with gravity, looking first at his mother and then at the assemblage, who, we may be sure, looked exclusively at him. When the reading was finished his Majesty showed a desire to be among the first to leave, but his mother took him in her arms, and then he remained perfectly quiet during the rest of the proceedings. There is something pathetic about this playing at being a King. The fair, innocent, white-robed-babe, seated on the throne of black, cruel Philip II, presents a contrast bordering on the marvelous.

Alfonso XIII is described as being a beautiful child, with fair curling hair, which, until recently, used to float over his shoulders. He is bright and cheerful in manner, notwithstanding his country and his crown. He has his little sisters to play with, but as a King of Spain cannot meet his equal he can hardly be said to have any playfellows. The Queen has to be painfully particular about whom she asks to play with his Majesty for fear of hurting the feelings of every one else or exciting the arrogance of the favored one. The poor Queen-mother's road is a hard one in many ways, but she treads it bravely and hopefully for the sake of her boy King.

FROM INDIA comes a strange story of wholesale attempts at murder. It is said that at every station on the Eastern Bengal Railway passengers are warned not to accept food or drink offered them by strangers, "as an organized band has been discovered whose plan it is to treat passengers to food, drink and sweetmeats which have been poisoned, and decamp with their booty while the victim is insensible or dead. Many deaths have resulted from these crimes."