

30th August 1485

Dear Uncle Jasper,

I'm sure you have heard the amazing news – I am now King of England. My army defeated King Richard III and his troops at Bosworth Field. Richard was so stupid, he wore his crown into battle, it made him so easy to spot. My knights quickly pulled him from his horse and chopped him to pieces. We found the bloodstained crown in a thorn bush and I placed it on my head at the end of the battle. I am now King Henry VII.

I'm quite worried I might not stay on the throne for very long though. I have some serious problems.

I fear that Richard's family, the Yorks, may want revenge. How can I make sure that they accept me as their new King even though I killed one of their family?

Added to that, I'm not even sure if I'll be able to control the barons. They have become very powerful and rich. They also have their own private armies. I need to find a way of reducing their power so that none of them try to control or overthrow me.

I've also got very little money. I need money to buy weapons, armies, large country houses and entertainment. How can I get rich very, very quickly?

My pet monkey is causing mayhem too. Only the other day he managed to open the box which had my diary in it and he proceeded to eat all the pages!

If you have any suggestions uncle I would be grateful to receive them as I fear my time as king may well be quite short.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Henry Tudor