

Good Fellowship

Now, upon a certain day King Arthur proclaimed a high feast, which was held at Carleon upon Usk. Many noble guests were bidden, and an exceedingly splendid Court gathered at the King's castle. At that feast sat seven kings and five queens in royal state, and there were high lords and beautiful ladies of degree; and there were a multitude of those famous knights who were reckoned the most renowned in arms in all of Christendom. Of all this great gathering, not one man looked askance at his neighbor, but all were united in good fellowship. Wherefore, when the young King looked about him and beheld such peace and amity among all these noble lords where, aforetime, had been discord and ill-regard: "Certes," quoth he to himself, "it is wonderful how this reign of mine hath knit men together in kindness and good fellowship!" And because of such thoughts as these, his spirit took wings like unto a bird and sang within him.

Howard Pyle, *The Story of King Arthur and His Knights*