EMPRESS OF INDIA
MEMORIAL VOLUMES

VICTORIA
REGINA ET IMPERATRIX
1837 – 1901

Indian Princes' Edition

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INDIAN PRINCES' EDITION

With an Introduction by Sir George Birdwood
M. D. K.C.I.E. C. S. I. LL.D

AND

NINE SPECIAL ILLUSTRATIONS

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Victoria – Queen and Empress

at work with her dispatches

ONE OF THE LATEST PORTRAITS OF THE QUEEN

Victoria the Good

A GREAT reign and a noble life have faded into the shadowland of history. We stand at the end of an epoch, the most glorious, the most fruitful, the most benignant in the annals of the modern world. The Great Queen who, for sixty-four years, has reigned over us, is no more. She has passed "into the insatiate ocean of for ever" whither all that is human must, sooner or later, betake itself. It is at first difficult to realise that this long reign is ended, that the venerable figure which had become a sort of type of all the glories of our national life has been taken from us. We had almost come to look upon her as a part of the imperishable element of the nation whose youth and vigour she had done so much to renew. For the better part of a century her sceptre has guided us. Generations have been born, have lived and have died. The ebb and flow of the ocean of time have dashed impotently at the foot of her glorious throne. Throughout it all her serene figure, bathed in an ever-growing splendour, has watched over us, radiating throughout her matchless dominions happiness and prosperity. And now she is gathered to the long line of her kingly ancestors, the greatest of them all, for she was not only a great Sovereign but she was an exalted character, and she personified the British Empire in an age when its extent, its power, its wealth and its happiness had reached a point beyond the dreams of the most imaginative of its patriots. To sum up in a few words the debt we owe to her is impossible. It is the fashion to believe that a constitutional Sovereign cannot influence decisively the fortunes of the people over whom she reigns. Queen Victoria has proved the shallowness of this theory. In an age when thrones and dynasties have been shaken and broken all over Europe, when the principle of monarchy has been everywhere questioned and decided, England alone among the nations of the world has presented the impressive spectacle of the simultaneous progress of democratic liberty and strengthening of the principle of monarchy. This conciliation of apparently opposing principles is exclusively the work of Queen Victoria. Nor has it been in the nature of a compromise for the advantage of the throne. The monarchical principle wisely and tactfully applied is in reality the sheet-anchor of a stable democratic system. Where this principle does not exist social unrest and political abuses are almost as dangerous as where democratic liberty itself is restrained. In the conflicts of popular Government a guiding hand is essential, and this guiding hand cannot be better supplied than by a monarchy based on historic traditions and administered in a lofty spirit, at once independent of class and dominated by right and duty. Such a monarchy has been realised by Queen Victoria. Above party, above class, above sectional interests of every kind, she has stood always for the people. Her high sense of duty, her inexhaustible sympathy, her tireless industry, her ever-growing store of wisdom, and, above all, the purity and beauty of her life, have won the confidence of the people, and have given her a wise discretion in the crises of government. Hence it is that for sixty-four years the evolution of popular liberty in England has proceeded smoothly, and what in foreign countries has only been achieved by revolution has broadened out in this happy land by a tranquil and normal process. How this has influenced for good every ramification of the national life scarcely needs indicating. While other countries have been either crushed by despotism or ravaged by revolution, England has been free to cultivate her commerce and expand her Empire. The wise constitutionalism of Victoria has been the fertilising fountain of England's greatness and prosperity. At the same time, her noble character has breathed into the national life the breath of high purposes, and has held before the people a lofty level of public and private conduct. She has been a rich source of moral good as well as of political good. These briefly are the services she has rendered the Empire, and which are the foundations on which the unexampled glories of her reign have been built. But it is not only as a great Constitutional Sovereign and as a high moral influence that Victoria the Good will be remembered. She has crept into the hearts of her people as a singularly lovable woman. Throughout her long reign she has been one with them in joy and in suffering. Her gentle heart, her ready sympathy have never failed them. As Girl-Queen and as Mother-Queen she has been the idol of the Empire, and even beyond the wide frontiers of her realm she has won a respect and an affection for which there is no parallel in the record of illustrious lives. To the end of time the age in which she lived will bear her name, and the memory of her goodness will give fragrance and beauty to the pages of its wonderful history. To her own people her life will be a never-ending inspiration akin to some mythos of old time in which the highest virtues of the nation is enshrined and transfigured.

The Queen's Illness

WHEN it was rumoured towards the end of last year that the Queen's health had become somewhat impaired no alarm was caused. It was felt, of course, that the successive deaths of the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Christian, and Lady Churchill must have diminished the resisting power of the Queen's splendid constitution. But full confidence continued to be placed in the complete restoration of her usual health at an early date. Even last week, when her temporary withdrawal from State business was formally announced, the prevailing idea assumed that the illness, although of a more serious character than had been imagined, would soon pass away. But that confident anticipation was quickly dissipated by the subsequent bulletins, and from one end of the kingdom to the other the nation came into perception of a terrible possibility which even the gloomiest minds had not foreshadowed. It was universally recognised that the great and dearly loved Monarch, under whose wise, gentle sway this insular kingdom had expanded into the greatest Empire the world has ever seen, lay sick unto death. People asked one another, wonderingly, whether it could really be the case that the glorious Victorian Era was on the eve of becoming a mere memory. But through all the talk of the nation ran personal emotions as sad and sincere as if the Royal sufferer had been a near and dear relation of each individual unit of the population. They spoke of her goodness, of her kindness, just as if they themselves had been benefited. Still, to the very last, there lingered hope of recovery in the popular mind; the nation revolted collectively from the idea that the illustrious Sovereign, with whose reign more than six decades of its most glorious history were intimately associated, could be on her deathbed. When the Queen passed in age the longest-lived of her predecessors on the throne, the feeling of national pride which showed itself so conspicuously when her reign exceeded all others in length became intensified. One and all gloried in the proof thus afforded that, in the matter of intellectual and physical robustness, the Anglo-Saxon race still holds supremacy whether in the palace or in the cottage.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN: READING THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE ON WEDNESDAY

Colonial Feeling

FOR the first time in the whole history of the world, the shadow of Azrael over a Royal throne has plunged four hundred millions of subjects into the deepest sorrow. From one end of the Empire to the farthest extremity a genuine wail of grief burst forth when the mournful news went forth that the Queen-Empress was stricken down. Every colony, every dependency echoed the note of unfeigned sadness; the "golden link" remained, but the revered ruler whose wise counselling and guidance had smoothed away its first roughness, would, it was feared, never see the complete fruition of her work in the complete unification of the Empire to which she had given such a large measure of solidity. Federated Canada and just Federated Australia felt what they owed to a sagacity of far-sighted statesmanship which, after indicating the immense benefits likely to result from unity, left it entirely to themselves to make the attempt in their own ways. But from far beyond their spacious boundaries came the echo of our national grief; even in South Africa the note of discord has hushed for the moment. India, New Zealand, West Africa, the Straits Settlements, and wherever else Britons are in evidence, bowed down in sorrow at the dread that the wise ruler who united in herself the greatness of an Imperial Monarch with the tenderness of womanhood was about to pass away. As we have said, four hundred millions of human beings were dominated by that feeling at almost the same moment, and this universality of sorrowing sentiment formed an unequalled tribute to the worth of the dearly loved Lady whose personal qualities alone had drawn it forth.

Foreign Sympathy

PERHAPS, the most touching characteristic of foreign comments on the Queen's illness is that, with practical unanimity, they gave the first place to her womanly qualities. They extolled her wisdom and beneficence as a ruler, it is true; neither on the Continent nor in the United States was there any stint of such eulogy. With one voice, too, they praised her never-swerving loyalty to both the letter and the spirit of the Constitution, and also dwelt sympathetically on the many dark shadows which had clouded her long and laborious life. But their admiration, nay, veneration, was still more insistently emphasized for the loving wife, the fond mother, the loyal friend, the tender-hearted woman to whom human distress in any form gave pain. There have been other "great Queens," in the ordinary acceptation of the qualifying adjective, but in grandeur of humanity Queen Victoria receives the palm from all the nations of the civilised world. That she entirely deserved this universal tribute to her flawless womanhood does not need to be affirmed by any paper published in these isles. None the less is it deeply gratifying to have such convincing proof that foreigners rightly gauged the most deep-seated of all the many reasons which caused the Queen to be held so dear personally by all over whom she ruled. She might have added more than two and a-half million square miles of territory to the Empire, and yet have failed to win the love of her subjects. Foreign opinion is entirely right, therefore, when it gives precedence to "Victoria the Good" over "Victoria the Great." It is a grander achievement to win human love than to multiply territorial possessions.

The Prosperity of Her People

OF the many striking aspects of the Queen's reign perhaps none is more remarkable than the way in which her people have passed from poverty to prosperity. When the Queen came to the throne England was seething with the discontent bred of misery. Farmers were ruined by high rents; labourers were starved with low wages; manufacturers were constantly idle for want of an outlet for their products; operatives, in despair of obtaining work, roamed the country smashing machinery. The Parliamentary reports on the condition of the country are pitiful reading. In some counties the children of the poor are described as fighting with the pigs for food and sleeping at night in filthy straw. Education for the masses was practically unknown; the penny post had still to come. When the Queen ascended the throne it cost eightpence to send a letter from London to Brighton, and the rates for other towns were more or less proportional. Steamships, however, were already beginning to become familiar objects, and a few sections of railway had been opened. It was better Government the country needed before all things, and the wise rule of the Queen, aided by the admirable counsel she received from her consort, was one of the main causes in the improvement of the Government. Within ten years of the Queen's accession, the bread of the people was freed from taxation, and the throwing open of our ports, by extending international commerce, gave the needed outlet to our manufacturing industries. The value of our exports in 1837 was only 47,000,000*l.*, last year it was 291,000,000*l.* Similar figures may be quoted with regard to almost every aspect of national life that can be reduced to accurate measure. The revenue, raised by taxes and upon the food and the industry of the people, only reached 50,000,000*l.*; last year, before the new war taxation was imposed, the revenue reached the enormous figure of 120,000,000*l.*, and no one could justly assert that he seriously felt the burden of taxation. Even more significant is the way in which the money was spent. At the beginning of the Queen's reign no less than 27,500,000*l.*, or more than half the total revenue, was spent upon the interest and management of the debt. In the last completed financial year the corresponding sum was only 17,400,000*l.*, or about one seventh of the total revenue. These figures are interesting as giving a statistical measure to the growth in national prosperity, but they do not tell us what the Queen herself and her few surviving contemporaries have been able to see with their own eyes—the change, even in the poorest homes, from squalor to comfort, the immense improvement in health and physique of the poorer classes, and the equally striking, though perhaps less universal, improvement in manners. The people to whom the Queen came were many of them sunk in poverty so appalling that they could only be described as brutish; the people she leaves to mourn her are in full enjoyment of an unexampled prosperity, in which all classes, from the poorest to the richest, fully share.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

THE irreparable loss which has overwhelmed the British nation has been all the more keenly felt through its very suddenness. Until the first alarming rumours became current at the end of last week, the public in general had not the slightest idea of anything being amiss. It is now known Her Majesty had been failing for months past. The strain of the past year, with its wearing public anxieties and its private personal sorrows, had told even on the robust octogenarian Queen, who, since her girlhood, had never known what it was to be free from that heaviest of responsibilities—the burden of a Crown. Indeed, Her Majesty's determined spirit had alone kept her up under circumstances which would have broken down others of far stronger frame. The Queen felt the troubles of the South African War

DRAWN BY J. NASH, R.I. FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, W. G. BURROWS

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN: PRESS REPRESENTATIVES OBTAINING THE NEWS AT OSBORNE FROM SUPERINTENDENT FRASER

most intensely. It seemed to her the most terrible close to her long and glorious reign, and every reverse depressed her spirits. Then came the deaths of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Prince Christian Victor, the serious illness of the Empress Frederick, and finally, the sudden death of her constant friend and companion, the Dowager Lady Churchill, as the crowning stroke. So far back as last spring, those best calculated to judge thought it unwise for the Queen to venture on the fatigue of the Irish visit; and the many exciting functions, such as inspecting the wounded, receiving the troops on their return as the months rolled on, were felt to be beyond the Queen's strength. But Her Majesty was not the woman to spare herself where public duties were concerned, and so her courage carried her through, and she seemed fairly well. The first signs of the end appeared whilst the Queen was in the Highlands. She did not look in her usual health when she came back to Windsor in November, her spirits were bad and there was a suspicious tendency to sleepiness in the day, especially when out driving. Her Majesty was spared as much fatigue and excitement as possible, but was somewhat overcome by the excitement of inspecting the Canadian and Colonial contingents at Windsor. A cold and a slight attack of rheumatism brought on an unusual weakness, and once the Queen kept her room all day, besides several times omitting her usual outings—almost an unprecedented proceeding. Her Majesty the Queen looked better when she left for Osborne, but the improvement was only temporary. Gradually the Queen showed symptoms of failing power, she sank at times into a state of lethargy, went to bed earlier and got up later, and lost her appetite. Sometimes her drives were omitted, and on one Sunday the Queen was not equal to going to the private chapel, service being performed in her own room. Her family and physicians grew more and more anxious about the state of her nerves, which were very strained, and Her Majesty was kept as quiet as possible. Princesses Christian and Beatrice alone remained with their mother, and visitors were excluded, though the Queen twice insisted on receiving Lord Roberts—the last visit being as late as last week. Her Majesty was roused somewhat by meeting the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg for the first time since the Duke's death, but she then suddenly got worse, and by Friday last (18th) it was felt advisable to prepare the nation for the worst. As a proof of how suddenly the change for the worse came on, preparations were being made for the Royal visit to Cimies, the Duke of Connaught was away in Berlin, attending the Prussian bi-centenary festivities, the Prince of Wales visiting at Chatsworth, and there was no idea of danger. But by Saturday morning the public had heard the physicians' careful report of the Queen's condition, and the Royal Family were being summoned to the Queen's bedside.

THE NEWS IN LONDON

Ill news travels apace, so by Friday last various rumours respecting the Queen's health were afloat in London—many often much exaggerated. There was considerable excitement in town throughout the afternoon and evening, while the reports sent to the Continent and New York aroused considerable sensation. The doctors' bulletin of Saturday morning simply announced that the strain of the past year had told on Her Majesty's nervous system, and that the Queen must be kept perfectly quiet and abstain from business for the present. People, however, read between the lines of guarded announcement, and the greatest anxiety and sympathy prevailed. It was a curious coincidence that, on the very day which brought the warning of the Queen's danger, Her Majesty just exceeded the age of the only British Sovereign who in any degree approached the term of the Queen's years—her grandfather George III. So few now living can remember any other Sovereign but Victoria, that for most people it seemed impossible to realise that she could be separated from the national life. Crowds hung about Marlborough House and Buckingham Palace waiting for a bulletin, and anxiety deepened when it was known that the Prince of Wales was going to Osborne.

HURRYING TO THE QUEEN'S BEDSIDE

On Friday night the Queen had slightly rallied, and she was able to sit up in bed and sign a few State papers. This better news reached the Prince of Wales on Saturday morning and he intended to go to Sandringham as arranged. Later intelligence, however, changed all plans, a special train to Portsmouth was hastily ordered, Princess Louise was notified, and early in the afternoon the Prince was at Victoria awaiting his sister. Their departure was quite private, as also the arrival at Portsmouth where the Prince and Princess hurried aboard the *Alberta*, amidst driving rain and had a miserably rough passage across the Solent. Later in the evening came the Princess of Wales, who had hastened from Sandringham, and stayed only a few minutes in town on her way to see the Duchess of York. The Princess did not reach Osborne till ten, bringing the Bishop of Winchester with her. The Duke of York followed his mother from Sandringham to town in the evening, but as he had gone out some distance shooting when the summons arrived, he did not get the news in time to go on to Osborne the same night.

SUNDAY AT OSBORNE

As the Royal watchers gathered together there was a slight improvement in the patient; but a restless night diminished the Queen's strength. Her Majesty lay in her room looking north-east with Sir James Reid and Sir Douglas Powell scarcely leaving her bedside, and one or other of the Princesses constantly with her. There was no professional nurse, only the dressers who had been with their Royal mistress for so many years and who knew her ways so well; while the Princess of Wales and Princess Christian, from experience, are as perfect nurses as any trained experts. In the early morning the Princess of Wales and Princesses Christian, and Beatrice were able to leave the Queen to attend the eight o'clock celebration at Whippingham Church, but none of the Royal Family were present at the later Service when the Rector, the Rev. Clement Smith, asked the special prayers of the congregation for the Queen. Instead of the usual sermon the Rector simply made a brief allusion to Her Majesty's danger. Sunday was the fifth anniversary of the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, and in the afternoon the Bishop of Winchester held a special Memorial Service in Whippingham Church, the widowed Princess and her children, with the Princess of Wales and Princesses Christian and Louise, sitting in the memorial chapel containing the Prince's tomb. Meanwhile the Prince of Wales had gone back to town to meet the German Emperor and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein who had arrived to see the last of the grandmother with whom she was so great a favourite. All day long telegrams and letters of inquiry from all parts of the world poured into Osborne in such numbers that help had to be requisitioned from St. Martin's to cope with the increased work. The whole island was in a state of suspense, and the bulletin which Princess Beatrice issued as Governor did not allay the public anxiety.

ARRIVAL OF THE GERMAN EMPEROR

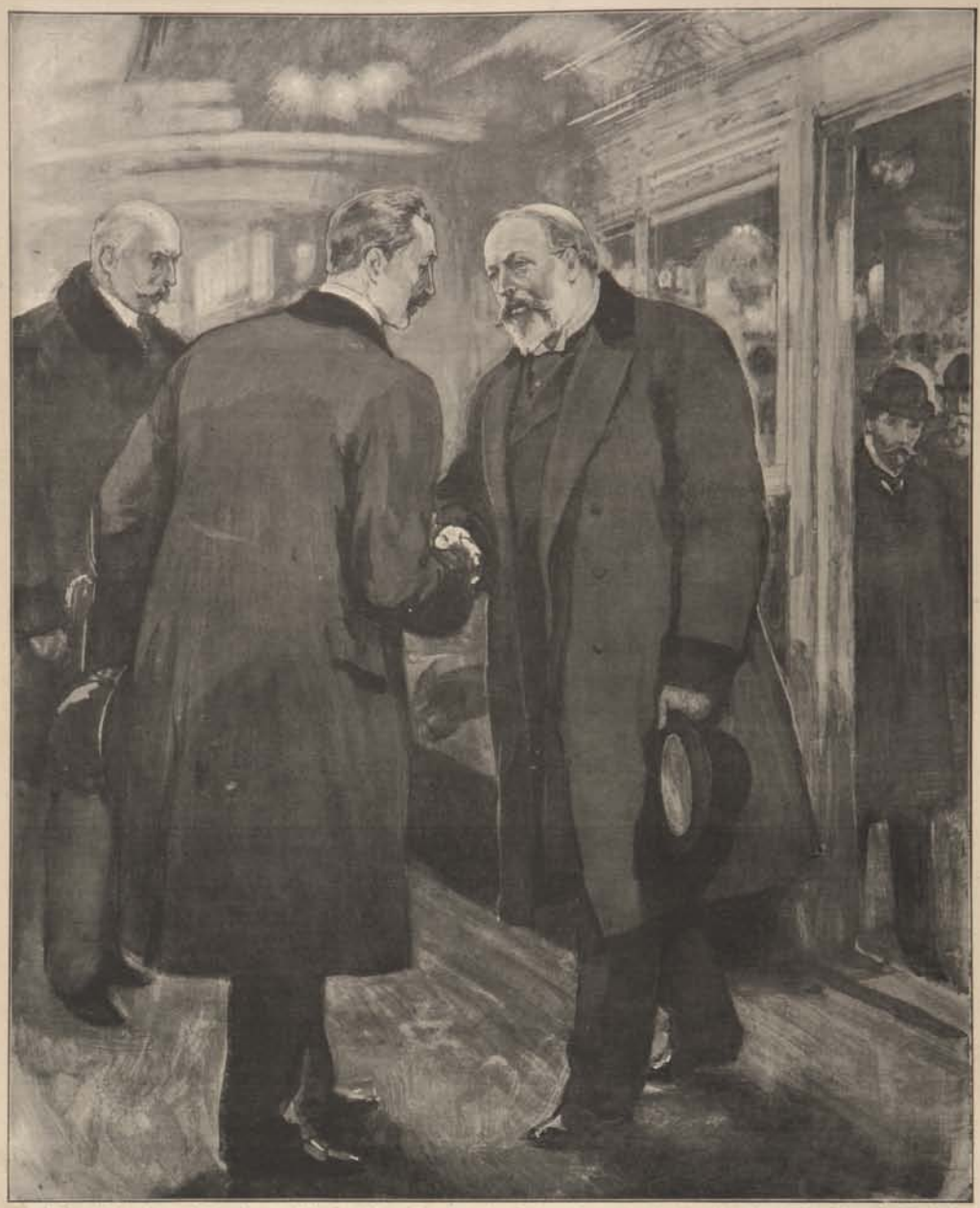
There can be no doubt as to the affection and reverence felt by Emperor William for his English grandmother. It was no slight feeling which led the Emperor to break off the important festivities in honour of the Prussian bi-centenary and to leave his capital at a moment's notice. "I am Her Majesty's eldest grandson," he is reported to have said, "and my mother is unable from illness to hasten to her bedside." Directly His Majesty heard the bad news he decided to come, a special train was kept with steam up, and as soon as he could despatch his State business the Emperor hurried off with the Duke of Connaught, attended by the smallest of suites. So prompt was his departure that although the British Admiralty sent off the British Cruiser *Minerva* to bring him across she could not arrive in time, and the Emperor hastily chartered one of the ordinary Flushing mail steamers, the *Empeland*. It was a boisterous day, and the vessel had a very bad passage, but was only three quarters of an hour late, and a "special" brought the Emperor and the Duke to Charing Cross soon after six on Sunday evening. The Prince of Wales had arrived in town some two hours earlier and was at the station to meet his Imperial nephew, accompanied by the Duke of York, Prince Arthur of Connaught, and Prince Christian and his son, Prince Albert. The public had got wind of the coming arrival and had invaded the station, besides forming a considerable crowd outside. Directly the train stopped the Emperor appeared at the carriage door, wearing civil dress, and looking exceedingly anxious. He asked a hurried question of the Prince of Wales as the latter stepped into the saloon, and uncle and nephew embraced each other warmly. After hearty greetings to the other Royal relatives and various officials, the Emperor and Princes drove off to Buckingham Palace, where the Emperor stayed the night. It was a sign of the stress of feeling animating the crowds who thronged the way from station to Palace that, though every head was bared as the Prince of Wales drove to the station, and then back again with the Emperor, not a cheer or a sound was heard. The people were too grievously moved for words. The Prince stayed a few minutes with the Emperor and then returned to Marlborough House before coming back to dine with His Majesty.

A NATION'S SUSPENSE

It was a strange Sunday in London. People who usually go away for the week's end stayed in town, the clubs were full, and there East was but one topic in West End and East alike—"How is the Queen?" Crowds hung round Marlborough House, Buckingham Palace, the Mansion House, and the newspaper offices, to watch for bulletins, or took excursions to Charing Cross and Victoria to watch the Royal comings and goings. People thronged churches and chapels to join in the special prayers for the Queen, and Christians of every denominations, Jews, and Moslems alike united in sending up petitions for the Sovereign of the land. The Duchess of York was at the service in the German Chapel, St. James's, but no allusion (except in a prayer) was made to the one subject absorbing men's thoughts. Elsewhere, however, scarcely a preacher failed to pass some few words of respect and affection for the Queen. Canon Scott-Holland, preaching at St. Paul's, spoke touchingly of her, whom he called "a very mother to her people." As long as they could remember any thing," continued the Canon, "her name, her presence, had been felt, and in the first staggering alarm it was as if the national life lay stricken with her." Much the same conditions of anxiety prevailed in the provinces, especially in such places as immediately connected with the Queen as Windsor and Portsmouth. At Windsor the Mayor and Corporation attended a special intercessory Service, and there was a continual stream of people throughout the day hurrying to Henry VIII.'s gate at Windsor Castle to read the bulletins. Dublin in particular showed the deepest sympathy for the Queen who had been so lately in her midst.

RETURNING HOPES AT OSBORNE

Hope gradually faded as the Queen grew steadily worse on



The Prince of Wales went to meet the German Emperor at Charing Cross Station on Sunday. The train arrived at 8.20, and all heads were uncovered as the Emperor and the Duke of Connaught were seen standing erect in their saloon, ready to step out as soon as the train came to a standstill. The Emperor, who looked well, but appeared to be very anxious, was in ordinary civilian dress and wore a hard felt hat.

The saloon was drawn up close to the point at which the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family were standing, and the Prince stepped briskly into the saloon and greeted his illustrious kinsman with extreme cordiality.

THE KAISER'S ARRIVAL: THE PRINCE OF WALES GREETING HIS MAJESTY AT CHARING CROSS STATION

Sunday. At night it was thought that the end was near. All the Royal Family assembled round the bedside, and the Bishop of Winchester offered prayer. But once more the Queen's fine constitution won the day, there was a slight rally, and Her Majesty was able to take some food and fell asleep, insomnia having been hitherto one of the greatest troubles. The relief was great and a hopeful bulletin went out to cheer the nation. When the Queen woke again her strength was well maintained, and the chief anxiety of her physicians was caused by symptoms pointing to a local obstruction in the brain circulation. So the eminent specialist on cerebral affections, Sir Thomas Barlow, was summoned and remained to assist Sir James Reid and Sir R. Douglas Powell. Both these gentlemen are disciples of Sir William Jenner, whose rule of life the Queen has followed with such signal benefit. The improved report greeted the German Emperor and the Prince of Wales on their arrival on Monday. They had left town early by special train accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the Duke of York and breakfasted in the train.

Crowds had gathered at Portsmouth but there was no official reception, and the Kaiser and the Princes were in too great hurry even to inspect the guard of honour from the Royal Marines. The *Alberta* left immediately, flying the English and German flags, and was received at Cowes with no more ceremony than the dipping of colours. It was a very different coming to the Island for Emperor William from previous visits. Then he came on pleasure bent, under a summer sun, to find Cowes alive with yachting festivities, the waters crowded with vessels and a happy family circle at Osborne House. Now he came in mid-winter, the skies as dismal as the public feeling, the waters deserted, and Osborne the scene of anxiety and depression. Plenty of people witnessed the arrival, but the loyal crowd felt it was no moment for cheering, and the Royal party soon reached Osborne, to be greeted by the Princesses. Throughout the day the improvement in the Queen's condition continued, and by the afternoon it was safe for the Kaiser, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of York and Princess Louise, to leave the house and stroll over to the Sailors' Home at East Cowes, where they saw the wounded and convalescent home from the front.

SIR JAMES REID, BART., M.D.
Who attended the Queen in her last Illness

With so many visitors Osborne was fairly overflowed. Emperor William had the three apartments known as the Ministers' Rooms, the Prince and Princess of Wales occupied the distinguished visitors' suite, as Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein was at Sir Arthur Bigge's House, the Battenberg children were sent to Osborne Cottage, and the little Princess of Hesse was with Lady Edwards.

THE PASSING OF THE QUEEN

The improvement in Her Majesty's condition was but transient, the last flicker of the candle. She was in no pain and even occasionally recognised one or other of her children, but it was evident that life was fast ebbing away. The physicians did their utmost, keeping up the patient with champagne and brandy and using the oxygen apparatus, but in vain. Early on Tuesday morning the Royal Family gathered at the bedside, expecting the worst, but though the end was temporarily averted no hope remained, and the official bulletin was only too plain-spoken. Throughout the day the Queen remained in semi-unconsciousness, quiet and peaceful, and her family expecting the end at any moment were afraid to stir more than a few yards from the House. Presently came the Duchess of York with Prince Arthur and the Princesses of Connaught, Prince Christian, and as darkness set in, Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg. Mr. Balfour arrived as representative of the Government, for, with characteristic thoughtfulness the Prince of Wales had wished to spare Lord Salisbury the sorrow of coming. The day wore on in mournful watching, and the evil was foreshadowed by the Prince of Wales telegraphing to the Lord Mayor an official intimation of the Queen's danger. About five o'clock it was felt that death was only a question of moments, and once more the Royal Family assembled in the sick-room with the Bishop of Winchester and the Rector of Whippingham, to offer the last prayers. The Queen lay quiet and peaceful, almost as if asleep, thus the last breath was drawn; and Victoria, the well-beloved, passed beyond the veil.

SIR R. DOUGLAS POWELL, BART., M.D.
Who attended the Queen in her last Illness

RECEPTION OF THE NEWS.

The first official intimation of the nation's loss passed from the

READING THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN: OUTSIDE THE MANSION HOUSE NEXT DAY

Prince of Wales to the Lord Mayor of London: "My beloved Mother, the Queen, has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren." The Lord Mayor came out of one of the windows at the Mansion House and read the telegram to the crowd assembled, but the news had spread through the town already. All day crowds had been watching the Bulletins at Buckingham Palace and Marlborough House, and when the fatal announcement was posted up people went away silent and depressed. A shadow fell over the whole town, every place of amusement closed, shops put up their shutters, and the tolling of the great bell of St. Paul's added to the general gloom. This bell is only tolled at the death of Royalty, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and the Lord Mayor. It changed out dolefully for two hours, and crowds gathered to listen. It may be said truthfully that there is but one thought throughout the whole of Great Britain and her dependencies, the sense of a loss which is even more personal than national, for never was a Sovereign more universally beloved. Nor are foreign countries behind in their sympathies—the spontaneous expressions of sorrow and admiration from all quarters of the Globe, being probably unparalleled.

THE NEW KING

There is scant time for mourning where the affairs of the nation are concerned. Straight from his mother's deathbed the new Ruler of Great Britain had to hurry to his capital to assume his responsible office, and receive the allegiance of his people. Tuesday night alone could be devoted to sorrow and on Wednesday the King was in London where the first act of his reign was the holding of a Privy Council at St. James's to transact the necessary formalities. Having taken the usual oath to govern the Kingdom according to its laws and customs, His Majesty received the oath of allegiance from the Royal Family and the State officials, and his proclamation to the nation was framed. Subsequently the King's accession was to be formally proclaimed by a herald, first at St. James's Palace and then at other important points of the metropolis, the Royal Exchange, Charing Cross, and so on. With such a change of situation the pressure of public business is immense, and the new King will have a heavy burden of work for many weeks to come. General mourning is of course ordered, and the theatres will not open till after the funeral. Naturally the Queen had wished to lie by the side of her beloved husband, and so her last resting-place will be in the mausoleum at Frogmore.

In Loving Memory

JANUARY 22, 1901

The days, the years, the centuries decay,
Decease, and pass away;
And we, whose brief lives fleeting seem
No longer than a dream,
Fade and decease as they.
Virtue, nor piety, nor regal State,
Nor all a nation's prayers can delay
The pitiless march of Fate.
We have our dæstined term, both small and great;
We fade, and pass away.

Below'd thin-drawn life, who now at last,
Life's checquered fortune past,
Ceasing from care and labours nobly borne,
Hast entered willing on thy well-earned rest;
Who, longest of all Monarchs of our race,
Unmatched in dignity and grace,
Thy pure, untarnished Diadem hast worn;
Not pitiable thou, but blest,
Such weight of anxious cares thou layest down
With thy sad earthly crown;
A woman vowed to duty, lonely, tried,
Unhelped, with no protecting arm to guide,
Thro' many a civil broil, and storm of war
Thou showest a single star
Shining serene above the gathering strife,
The clouds, the troubles of thy people's life;
For thee to-day thy countless millions yearn
With hearts and lips that burn.
From North to South, from East to West,
Where'er thy gracious Empire is confest,
O'er every subject land, o'er all the Earth;
Thy Austral-Britain newly come to birth;
Thy great Dominion of the snow-clad North;
Thy tropic isles; thy Orient's storied plain;
From the Himalayan peaks to the blue surge-fringed main,
O'er that new realm, scarce won by British blood,
Swept still by hopeless war's retreating flood;
All know and mourn thee, and revere
Their Queen and hold thee dear
Who know in her, as we,
A righteous life unstained, a blessed memory!

But nearer than all their homage, and more dear
To every loyal ear

Than titular splendours or Imperial State,
Sounds thy new name, which loving hearts create,
"The Mother!" this the universal word
By which all hearts, all hues, all creeds are stirred.
"The Mother!" Not from suffering lives alone
Flinging their sorrows down before thy throne
In this sad, toil-worn Britain, but where'er,
In either hemisphere,
By palm, or pine, tropic or Arctic sky,
Our English Standards fly,
Or that great West, thy grandsire's stubborn pride
Lost, by thee re-allied;
This welds the race in one, this name can bind
The peoples, heart and mind,
This symbol of Imperial Unity
Which links, yet leaves men free.

To-day the golden cord is loosed at last
Which long time bound men fast.
The star is set, which in the East, long time,
Men gazing, held sublime!
Ah! be it thine! pure heart and steadfast will!
To guide our Britain still.
The Times are restless, the unquiet Earth
Moves to some new mysterious birth;
The curse of war still vexes, and our race
Seems sinking to disgrace.
For peace the widow and the orphan cry,
With torture-pains Christ's innocent martyrs die.
Thou who hast known so many a piercing pain,
Love, children, children's children, wept in vain,
Friend following friend, and thou still left alone
Upon thy lonely throne;
Who mournedst last, thy people's life blood shed,
Their high, their lowly, manhood, maimed and dead.
Think of us still, if God so wills, and plead!
As daily thou wert wont indeed,
For this thy people which must toil and bleed.
Plead thou for Peace for all the suffering Earth
Till comes at last Man's new Millennial Birth;
Plead, tender, aged voice, till all is well!
Friend! Sovereign! Mother! Oh, Farewell! Farewell!

Louis Mann

THE QUEEN IN HER CORONATION ROBES

THE QUEEN'S PRIVATE SITTING-ROOM AT WINDSOR CASTLE

Tablet recording the date of Her Majesty's birth

THE ROOM IN KENSINGTON PALACE IN WHICH THE QUEEN WAS BORN

The King came to London on Wednesday to attend the special meeting of the Privy Council at St. James's Palace, where he took the formal oath, binding him to govern the kingdom according to its laws and customs

HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S ARRIVAL IN LONDON: ENTERING BUCKINGHAM GATE

"FROM MY HEART I THANK MY BELOVED PEOPLE. MAY GOD BLESS THEM. V.R. AND I."

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE: HER MAJESTY TELEGRAPHING HER MESSAGE TO HER PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE

The Queen in Domestic Life

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE PRIVATE LIFE OF THE QUEEN."

GREAT and glorious as has been the long reign of Queen Victoria, marvellous as has been the progress of her mighty kingdom towards civilisation and power since her accession, proud as she ever was of her unassailable throne and widespread influence, the happiest hours she ever passed were those spent in the comparative simplicity and domesticity of her private life. The greatest joy of her married life was to dine alone with her husband, or to make up a sort of Saturday to Monday party consisting of herself and Prince Albert, two trusted servants and one lady-in-waiting, who effaced their identity and roughed it at a wayside inn or took pot-luck at a solitary Highland "bothie." Such brief holidays were passed in sketching, reading aloud, riding a Highland pony, and during the evening playing a game of cards for threepenny points. The Queen's faculty for hard work was marvellous, but she set apart a certain portion of each day for pure domesticity. The Queen's happiest moments were spent in bathing and dressing her last new baby, in superintending the lessons of her children, in helping them to rehearse little plays in French and German, and to master music, drawing, riding, and spiritual education.

As advancing years modified Her Majesty's pursuits and activity, she still remained as keen in the ordering of her household, as sympathetic to her grandchildren as she had been to her children, and as interested in all the little pleasures and sorrows which were daily laid before her by the vast number of her descendants. She insisted upon her relations and connections writing to her frequently and these letters formed the diaries of half the Royalties in Europe, being carefully docketed and locked away. The Queen herself for very many years answered a vast number of these letters in her own hand, but latterly the failure of her sight forced her to delegate this task to the most trusted of her ladies-in-waiting and maids of honour.

Though the Queen accepted such changes in her daily life as time forced upon her, the essentials of her four-roomed private suite at Windsor and her apartments at Osborne, which had been chosen and coloured by the Prince Consort's taste, remained unchanged in appearance and arrangement.

The rooms were from time to time redecorated, and often articles of furniture were replaced, but everything new was a faithful copy of the old: hangings, carpets, chairs, and tables, as each was removed a facsimile took its place.

The doors of the Queen's rooms at Windsor bore the numbers 212 to 218 graven on small brass plates surmounted by a crown. They were set in an angle of the Victoria Tower at the south-east corner of the Castle and commanded wonderful views over the East Gardens, the Home Park and Frogmore, the Long Walk and the South Terrace, where her grandfather, George III., and his numerous children walked in public over a hundred years ago. The suite consisted of a sitting-room, bed and dressing room, a passage and a wardrobe-room.

The splendid oriel window that lit the sitting-room was draped with curtains of crimson and gold damask, panels of which decorated the white and gold walls, much of the furniture being upholstered to match. Short curtains of snowy muslin tempered the brilliant light, while the blinds were of a clear material called diaphane, through which was woven the insignia of the Garter. The room was very lofty and gave ample space to the large collection of pictures which almost completely covered the silken walls. Numberless portraits of the Royal pair, in every medium and various costumes, were ranged on every side. Many dear friends of the Queen's, cousins and relations, sketches of Balmoral, Osborne, and Rosenau, crayons and water-colour drawings by the Prince Albert and the Princesses were also conspicuous among the Queen's art treasures, the pictures in her suite numbering in all 231.

Not only her large writing-table, which stood in the light of the oriel window, and the top of the grand piano were strewn with photographic mementoes, but the pair of splendid cabinets flanking the white marble mantelpiece, the mantel-board itself, and a great round table of fine inlaid work were laden with beautifully framed portraits of her relations by marriage and their offspring, statuettes in marble, silver, gold, and bronze, not only of the Queen's friends and servants, but her favourite animals.

Most interesting of all the many tables with which the apartment was well filled, was that at which the Queen conducted her personal and private correspondence. The inkstand, a great favourite, was silver, and formed like a fairy boat, which four little boys dragged across a rocky beach. The pen-trays were of solid gold, and filled with the quill pens always used by the Queen. Gold, too, made the seals, paper-cutters, stamp-boxes, and a pen-wiper fashioned like a cock's head with a red cloth comb. Before the table was a writing chair with a footstool beneath it, and a comfortable cushion across the back. At the right hand stood two small tables, one laden with stationery cases and despatch boxes, and the other covered with books of reference uniformly bound in red morocco and stamped with Her Majesty's cypher. One small table was wholly personal, for on it the Queen played many games of "Patience," a pastime to which she was greatly addicted. In every direction were comfortable couches and handsome tables, one of which held the Queen's golden hand-bell, while others were laden with books, music, flowers, needlework of all kinds, and the enormous bound volumes which formed the catalogues of every article, whether of furniture, china, plate or pictures at Windsor.

These wonderful catalogues, which were filled with photographs, descriptions, dates and remarks, were first instituted by the Queen herself. When it became fatiguing for Her Majesty to visit in person her countless possessions enshrined in the old walls of Windsor, it was her habit to send for volumes of her catalogues, and to go through them with method and care. Photographs of new acquisitions were always submitted to the Queen before being inserted in the catalogues, and, not infrequently, she herself wrote the precise descriptions which were to be appended to them.

The Queen's bedroom was finely proportioned, papered with crimson flock and adorned with pictures personal and religious. The dressing-room was panelled in green silk. The large dressing-table always bore a magnificent toilet set of solid gold, worked in most beautiful design. There were many candlesticks, trays, and of gold boxes at least a dozen, ranging from a large square box of many-coloured golds for handkerchiefs to the smallest of patch-boxes. Close by the dressing-table on a very elaborate gold stand were a lamp and "dressing-kettle" of the same precious metal.

The hand basin was of solid gold, and had the Royal arms engraved within it. It was made for the Queen's Coronation Service, but after that event it was lost for over twenty-seven years, when during some structural alterations at St. James's Palace, it was discovered bricked into the hollow of a wall. Her Majesty used it ever after when at Windsor, but it was characteristic of her unostentation that she never had a golden ewer made to match.

Her Majesty's private dining-room, the "Oak Room," as it was called, was a beautiful octagonal apartment, overlooking the great Quadrangle, and outside the Queen's private suite, across a small landing at the head of her private entrance, which was decorated in white and gold, and hung with pictures of Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury and of family christenings and weddings.

The dining-room itself was panelled and furnished in the Gothic style, entirely in oak lightly touched with gold. It contained portraits of the Queen's four daughters-in-law, painted when they were brides, and also a picture of the Queen painted by H. von Angeli in 1877. On either side of the double doors were two fine pieces of Gobelin tapestry given to the Queen by Louis Philippe. Here were served, save on State occasions, the Queen's meals, which, despite their setting of gorgeous gold and wonderful flowers, were most simple and short. Their curious feature was the cold meats, of which, however, Her Majesty never partook. The Queen herself, who, unlike the Guelphs, had a very small appetite, dined chiefly on various kinds of white soup, fish, and chicken, which were served to her by a servant out of livery, who stood behind her chair, and whose sole duty it was to place the portions on his Royal Mistress's plate. Of dainty confectionery at luncheon and dinner the Queen was very fond, and every kind of fruit, notably a rich amber-coloured grape. Though there was a wonderful cellar, famous for marvellous wines of rarest vintages, her rheumatic tendency forced her to drink only Scotch Whisky distilled expressly for her near Balmoral.

Breakfast was, when the weather permitted, always taken by the Queen at the Tea-house at Frogmore. Fish and eggs formed the modest fare on these occasions. The hot dishes and silver appointments from the Castle preceded Her Majesty in a fourgon. When the weather was warm the meal was taken under the shade of two magnificent evergreen oaks, in company with the Princess Beatrice and her children, and, not infrequently, Princess Christian and her daughter. When breakfast was finished, the children played in the verandah surrounding the Tea-house, while mounted messengers and secretaries came down from the Castle armed with despatch-boxes, and Her Majesty devoted two hours to State affairs, getting through an enormous quantity of business before her pony chair came to take her for her hour's drive about the beautiful Frogmore grounds, the dairy, aviary, farms, kennels, and gardens, in all of which the Queen maintained the deepest interest.

When breakfast was taken at the Castle, a very magnificent service of solid gold was used, the only silver articles on the table being a quaint little egg-stand in silver, called the "chicken egg-cup," and an oddly fashioned salt-cellar of Russian silver-work, presented to the Queen by Lady Alice Stanley.

It was a touching trait in the Queen's character that many of the smaller gifts made to her by her friends and faithful dependents, were used on certain special occasions. Thus, every Sunday at Windsor, the Queen's luncheon table bore among more imposing articles, a small pair of silver salt-cellars designed of shells and mermaids, presented to her by John Brown. At Christmas a peculiar little pair of silver saucepans in which brandy-sauce was heated, were brought to table with the plum puddings. When chestnuts were in season, they were served nightly at the Queen's dessert in a pair of exquisitely chased and fretted silver dishes presented by Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugénie. An elegant silver basin, the cover of which is surmounted by a finely modelled setter, was only used by the Queen when at Windsor and Balmoral when she was not well and required soup served to her in her sitting-room. These fancies are peculiar to other members of the Royal Family. Out of the many hundreds of exquisite candlesticks, inkstands and ornaments, every Prince and Princess had favourites, and it was an important duty of the Yeomen of the Gold and Silver Pantries to give out particular articles as either of them visited the Queen. Any neglect of these duties was remarked on by the Queen, who had a marvellous memory for such small matters. The Queen held in great affection a tiny silver teapot, surmounted by a butterfly that had lost his wings. It was given her when she was a child of four, and her numerous grandchildren were only allowed to use it from time to time as a great treat.

As regards her hours the Queen was inflexibly punctual, and her coachman was allowed only five minutes above the stipulated hour of return from however long a drive. In early years the Queen was a very early riser, and when social and State cares pressed, used often to ride with Prince Albert, her ladies and equerries, at six o'clock in the morning. Long after she had passed three score and ten, a cup of chocolate was carried to her bedside at seven a.m., and this when she had not retired till past midnight. Later the Queen was not roused till nearly eight o'clock.

Luncheon was always at two o'clock in the Queen's Household, and tea—a favourite meal with Her Majesty, and always accompanied by a great assortment of cakes and biscuits from the wonderful confectionery kitchen at Windsor—was, whenever possible, taken in the open air.

At least one hour of each afternoon was devoted to family correspondence and the consideration of pressing State matters. Dinner was served at a quarter to nine, and except on extraordinary occasions, a bare hour was deemed sufficient for the meal. Music—of

THE QUEEN IN HER PONY CARRIAGE: A SKETCH AT OSBORNE IN 1891

which art the Queen was a singularly fine exponent for many years—passed an hour of each evening, after which Her Majesty would dismiss everyone save those with whom she wished to discuss business or family affairs. Then followed a little reading, and then the final retirement for a few hours' rest of one, who, though she was a Queen—or perhaps because of it—was the hardest worked woman in the world.

These regular and simple habits largely tinctured in later years her taste in dress, which, after her widowhood, scarcely ever varied in cut or material.

"You must make yourself very smart, mother," urged the Duke of Connaught before the Jubilee day, and the Queen good-naturedly chose lace and diamonds to please her beloved people.

Another fancy of the Queen's was that no horse in her stable should be docked. Her Majesty regarded the practice with as much abhorrence as she did the clipping of dogs' ears and tails.

For many years the Queen never drove on Sunday save to church, but when her health required all the air possible she drove after tea on Sunday afternoons, otherwise she kept the Sabbath quite apart from the rest of the week, and no business was ever mentioned in her hearing or transacted by her unless it were of the most absolute importance. The Queen, as a rule, only attended church once on Sunday. Her devotions at Windsor were practised in the beautiful private chapel which the Prince Consort converted from a music-room to more sacred uses. It is a unique little oratory, severely simple in its Gothic lines, with rows of red-cushioned, oak-backed seats. The panelled walls are broken here and there by memorial tablets to faithful servants and loving friends. An exquisite terra-cotta group of an angel gathering to her arms five little mortals is a memorial to the Queen's five grandsons who died in early infancy. It is the only piece of sculpture in the chapel. The pew used by the Queen was some twelve feet above the level of the floor and was entered from the back by a small white and gold staircase connecting with the famous Holbein room. The ceiling of the pew merged into a Gothic arch decorated in white and gold, and it was lit from the back by a fine window of stained glass. The few chairs it contained were upholstered in red velvet stamped with the Royal cypher. Next to the Queen's pew was another of the same design used by Her Majesty's visitors.

The Prayer-room at Osborne, which the Queen reached from her private rooms by a series of corridors and a single staircase, was far simpler in arrangement than the Chapel at Windsor. It was a long room with windows that overlooked the beautiful Upper Terrace. There was no chancel, and the pulpit and altar were of the plainest. The room was seated with chairs, the front row of which were armed and cushioned, and were used by the Royal Family. Before the Queen's chair was a footstool and a small table for her prayer-book.

The service attended by the Queen began at twelve o'clock, and was over at one o'clock. The sermon, which never occupied more than fifteen minutes, was always preached in a black gown.

The Queen was ever particular that her entire household should attend one of the several services in her Private Chapels, and also that down to the meanest domestic in her employ as little work should be done as was compatible with the ordering of her great establishment.

During her summer residence at Windsor, the Queen frequently had service performed before her in the Mausoleum at Frogmore. This beautiful little place, which, with its its exquisite statuary, its marble walls, chased lamps and stained glass windows, glowed like a rich jewel, was too damp to be used, except in the warmest weather.

It is difficult to believe that in the midst of so busy a life as the Queen led, she had time to keep pace with every social and political event of importance. The greatest mistake the public made was to imagine that the Queen was as old in her sympathies as she was in years. It was the duty of certain ladies in her Court to keep their Royal Mistress accurately informed of even the smallest event that occurred in the worlds of art, society, and finance. Family affairs that were never discussed, events that were supposed to be strictly private, the joys, and sorrows of prominent people were all known and noted by the Queen.

Another source of the Queen's perennial youthfulness was her great love of children and the touching interest she took in all the love affairs of those connected with her by blood or by long service. It was Her Majesty, who, against the wishes of several European Sovereigns, many years ago favoured and helped Princess Frederica of Hanover to marry Baron Pawel Von Rammingen. The Queen, too, rejoiced when Princess Louise of Wales married the Earl of Fife, as he was then. Princess Beatrice's romantic attachment to Prince Henry of Battenberg was ardently supported by her Royal Mother. This tender sympathy was not confined to the love affairs of her own family. The Queen, like a true woman, dearly loved a wedding, and the least of her servants or the tenants on her great estates were certain of kindly advice and cordial good wishes on the occasions of their marriages.

For children of all ages the Queen had a perfect adoration, and in the opinion of the younger branches of her family she was an ideal grandmother.

The offspring of Princess Henry of Battenberg, who occupied at Windsor, Balmoral, and Osborne, the nurseries used by their uncles and aunts, had the freest access to Her Majesty's private suite. Their toys, either luxurious or battered, littered her apartments. A broken-nosed doll was often found in Her Majesty's bedroom, a headless horse in the Grand Corridor that she crossed to reach her dining-room. The richest gifts were lavished on the little ones and every pleasure was granted at once. If the children in driving through Cowes or Windsor cast the eye of desire on a dancing bear, a "Punch and Judy Show" or a touring circus, a "command" to perform within sight and hearing of the Queen's apartments was immediately sent out. It was not an unusual sight in the Quadrangle to see an old lady in a black gown and a widow's cap sitting among her laughing grandchildren and showering silver to peripatetic barrel organ minstrels and acrobats, or placing coppers in the tiny red fez of the monkey who had climbed up the pillars to shake hands with the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, and Mother of many millions of people.

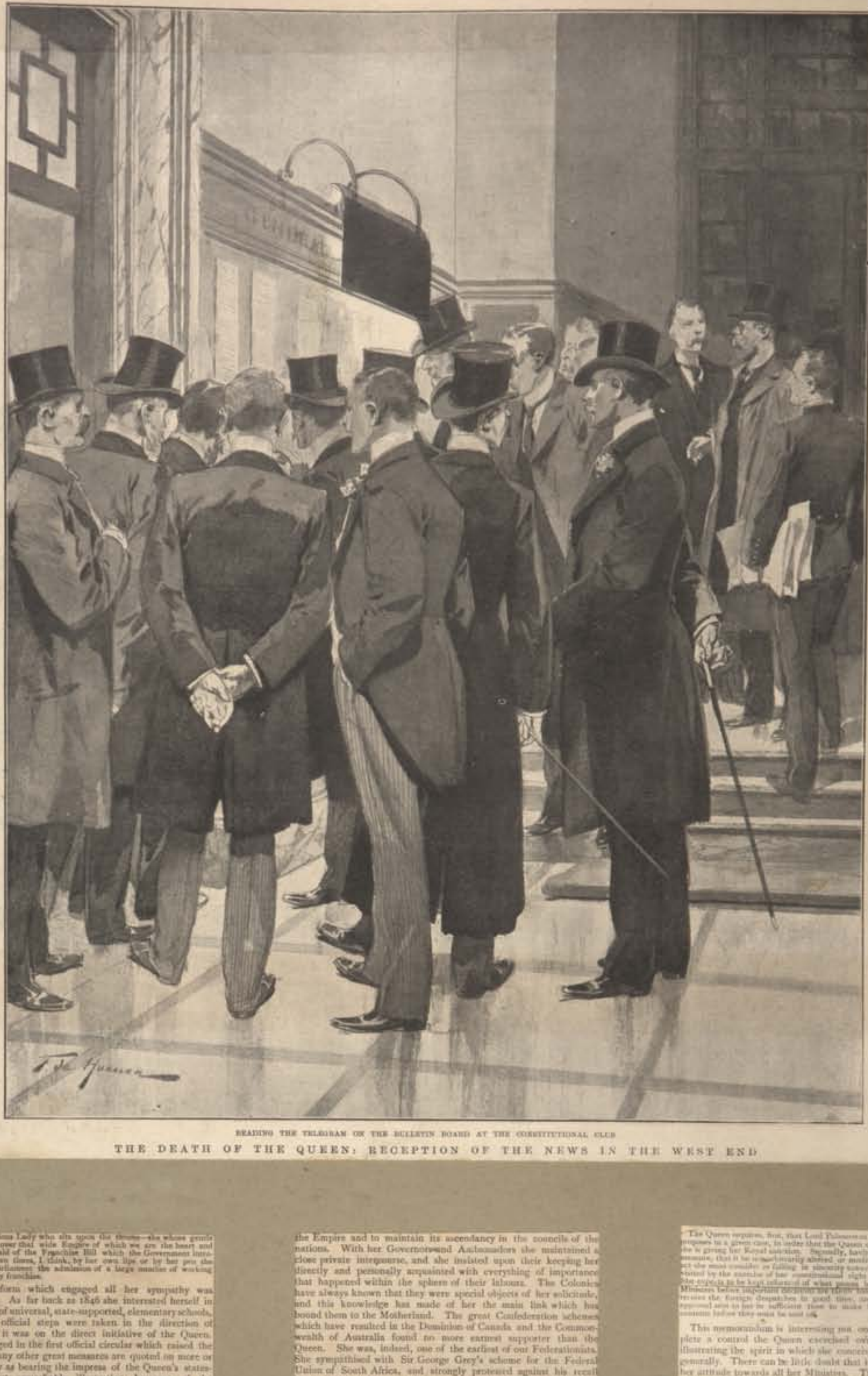
Queen Victoria's Statesmanship

THE popular idea of the throne in a constitutional country like England is that it is a colossal sinecure. Even a political writer like Count Vasili can be so misled by appearances as to write of Queen Victoria that "la Reine a tous les droits et les possible absolus à condition de n'en exercer aucun." It is only of late years that this illusion has been exploded, chiefly through the publication of Sir Theodore Martin's "Life of the Prince Consort," and through scattered revelations in the voluminous reminiscential literature of the concluding quarter of the nineteenth century. Lord Beaconsfield pointed out many years ago that while the triumphs of Democracy were rendering people less dynastic, they were not rendering them less Monarchical, and the reason must be clear to any reflective mind. The dynasty is a matter of tradition and of sentiment, but the Monarch has a large practical sphere of activity in any polity, however broadly based it may be on the people's will. Indeed, the wider the basis of popular liberty the greater the necessity of the Monarch. Rousseau once said: "Le peuple anglais pense être libre; il se trompe fort; il ne l'est que durant l'election des membres du parlement." There is no small measure of truth in this remark. It is one of the defects of the Parliamentary system that once a majority is in power it is free for a period of years to do as it pleases. The chief safeguard against the excesses of such a majority is supplied by a Sovereign, who stands above party and class, and who has no interests except the permanent welfare of the people. A striking illustration of how this essentially modern conception of Monarchy works was afforded in 1852, when the Queen dismissed Lord Palmerston. The Queen was alarmed at Lord Palmerston's Jingoism, and especially at his attempts to commit the country to the policies he had at least by writing despatches and giving assurances to Ambassadors without previously consulting his Royal Mistress or his colleagues. When the Queen dismissed him there was an outcry among the Radicals at the exercise of the Royal prerogative. Meeting Mr. Gladstone one day Mr. George Jacob Holyoake vigorously denounced to him the interference of the Crown as an outrage on the Democracy. "The truth is," answered Mr. Gladstone, "that the Queen has only done in the case of Lord Palmerston what the Democracy would have very quickly done on its own behalf if it had had the chance." It did not have the chance, and but for the Queen, who stood in its place and strove to protect its interests, it might have found itself committed to a course which if not discreditable was certainly perilous.

The great merit of Queen Victoria as a ruler is that throughout her long reign she realised the responsibilities which devolved on her as the supreme guardian of a great Democracy, and that she brought to her exalted position a determination to exercise a ceaseless and vigilant supervision over the acts of her Ministers in that capacity. To completely control those acts was, of course, beyond her power, but she allowed nothing to be done in her name which she had not previously approved after full study and consultation. She was the active collaborator of her Ministers as well as their Constitutional Mistress, and she brought to this collaboration not only a high sense of duty and a keen sympathy with the popular will, but an ever-accumulating store of political wisdom and a laxity of tenure which enabled her to ensure a certain continuity to all the main lines of national policy. The full story of her statesmanship has yet to be revealed to us. So far only glimpses of it, and those mostly incidental, have been afforded us, but we know from the testimonies of successive Ministers that her activity during the whole sixty-four years of her reign was incessant, and that the influence she exercised on the course of affairs was always salutary and not infrequently decisive.

The Queen began life as a staunch Whig; she is said to have ended it as a strong Conservative. It is impossible to say what exact value is to be attached to these definitions. It must be remembered that the Conservatism of to-day is the Whiggism of half a century ago, and the probability is that the Queen remained, so far as abstract principles are concerned, a moderate Liberal all her life. But these principles could scarcely have coloured any party attachment. She stood too far above the rivalries of faction, and held too lofty a view of her duty as a Constitutional Sovereign to invite any party label. As a matter of fact, so far as her activity in domestic politics can be traced, it appears to have been consistently inspired by sympathy with the Liberal evolution of the institutions committed to her care. There seems, for example, to be no question that she strongly approved of the Reform agitation of 1866. While that agitation was in progress, Mr. Bright publicly appealed to the attitude of the Queen in a speech he made at Birmingham.

The Graphic, January 26th, 1901.



READING THE TELEGRAM ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN: RECEPTION OF THE NEWS IN THE WEST END

The noble and illustrious Lady who sits upon the throne—she whose gentle hand wields the sceptre over that wide Empire of which we are the heart and centre—she was not afraid of the Franchise Bill which the Government introduced last Session. Seven times, I think, by her own lips or by her pen she has recommended to Parliament the admission of a large number of working men to the Parliamentary franchise.

Another great reform which engaged all her sympathy was National Education. As far back as 1846 she interested herself in Dean Hook's scheme of universal, state-supported, elementary schools, and when the first official steps were taken in the direction of National Education it was on the direct initiative of the Queen. This was acknowledged in the first official circular which raised the whole question. Many other great measures are quoted on more or less reliable authority as bearing the impress of the Queen's statesmanship. The most remarkable illustration, however, of the important part she played in smoothing the difficulties of the constitutional machine, and in assuring to the people the pacific gratification of their will, is afforded by the secret history of the Disestablishment of the Irish Church, as revealed in the life of Archbishop Tait. This was a question on which the Queen was not in agreement with her advisers, and she had told them so from the beginning, but as soon as Mr. Gladstone had secured a mandate from the country to carry his measure, the Queen set herself to secure its adoption by Parliament in the teeth of the Opposition of the Bishops and of the Tory majority in the House of Lords. The tact and consistency with which she worked can only be realised by a perusal of her letters as printed in Archbishop Tait's biography. It was she who brought Mr. Gladstone and the Archbishop together. It was she again who insisted on the Upper House agreeing to the second reading, and, finally, it was her conciliatory influence, while the Bill was in Committee, which extorted concessions first from one side and then from the other, and thus engineered the Bill through what seemed at one time insurmountable obstacles. "We have made the best terms we could," wrote the Archbishop in his diary on the day the Bill was passed, "and, thanks to the Queen, a collision between the Houses has been averted." Let us imagine how such a crisis would have been dealt with by a Continental Sovereign and we shall have the full measure of the Queen's genius and surpassing usefulness as the ruler of Democratic England. Nor was this the only occasion on which her moderating influence prevented a disastrous Constitutional deadlock. It is, for example, well known that some of the Irish Land Acts which the Lords had vowed never to accept were safely piloted to their places in the Statute Book by similar interventions on the part of the Queen.

In Colonial and foreign politics the activity of the Queen was even more pronounced and decisive than in the domain of domestic statesmanship. Always an ardent devotee of the Imperial idea she laboured incessantly to preserve the peace and unity of the Empire and to maintain its ascendancy in the councils of the nations. With her Governors and Ambassadors she maintained a close private intercourse, and she insisted upon their keeping her directly and personally acquainted with everything of importance that happened within the sphere of their labours. The Colonies have always known that they were special objects of her solicitude, and this knowledge has made of her the main link which has bound them to the Motherland. The great Confederation schemes which have resulted in the Dominion of Canada and the Commonwealth of Australia found no more earnest supporter than the Queen. She was, indeed, one of the earliest of our Federationists. She sympathised with Sir George Grey's scheme for the Federal Union of South Africa, and strongly protested against his recall by the Government of the day. Sir Bartle Frere's policy also met with her unstinted approval. Had she had her way South Africa would have been a united Dominion under the British flag a quarter of a century ago, and the struggle which is now deluging the veldt with blood would have been averted. The influence of the Queen on the Empire has been recently summarised by Mr. Castell Hopkins in the following striking testimony:—

> Of the forces working for union during the past sixty years, the most potent has been the personality and position of the Sovereign. Of those working for disintegration the chief has been the Manchester school of economists and theorists. The Queen has been a rallying point of loyalty throughout all the dark days of early struggles and political disaffection in Canada, and through the later events of American commercial coercion or efforts of annexationist [illegible]; throughout all the gloomy days of South African wars and maladministration and Imperial indifference; throughout the terms of Australian conflict with the transportation system and struggle with a starving and rough mining democracy; throughout the days of West Indian decadence or New Zealand's contests with powerful Maories, and its most recent struggle with the crude wave of Socialism run mad. Everywhere the name and qualities and constitutional virtues of the Queen have permeated Colonial politics, preserved Colonial loyalty, helped the British sentiment of her people, and developed their [illegible] along British lines.

What she did as Empress to conciliate Indian sentiment and to win the loyalty of the Princes and races of the great Asiatic peninsula, need not be dwelt on. It must suffice to say that she consolidated British dominion on a basis of personal love and veneration for herself.

The lives of the Queen already published have had so much to say of her activity in international politics—of which, curiously enough, more is known in detail than of her influence on home affairs—that it would be repeating an already familiar story to deal with it at length here. One or two salient facts must, however, be recalled. In the first place, we know exactly from the correspondence which passed between herself and Lord Palmerston, in 1852 how close was the supervision she exercised over the foreign policy of Great Britain. On that occasion she drew up a memorandum of instructions for the Foreign Secretary, which has been religiously observed to the present day. The terms of this memorandum are worth quoting:—

> The Queen requires, first, that Lord Palmerston will distinctly state what he proposes in a given case, in order that the Queen may know as distinctly to what she is giving her Royal sanction. Secondly, having once given her sanction to a measure, that it be not arbitrarily altered or modified by the Minister. Such an act she must consider as failing in sincerity towards the Crown, and justly to be visited by the exercise of her constitutional right of dismissing that Minister. She expects to be kept informed of what passes between him and the Foreign Ministers before important decisions are taken based upon that intercourse; to receive the foreign despatches in good time, and to have the drafts for her approval sent to her in sufficient time to make herself acquainted with their contents before they must be sent off.

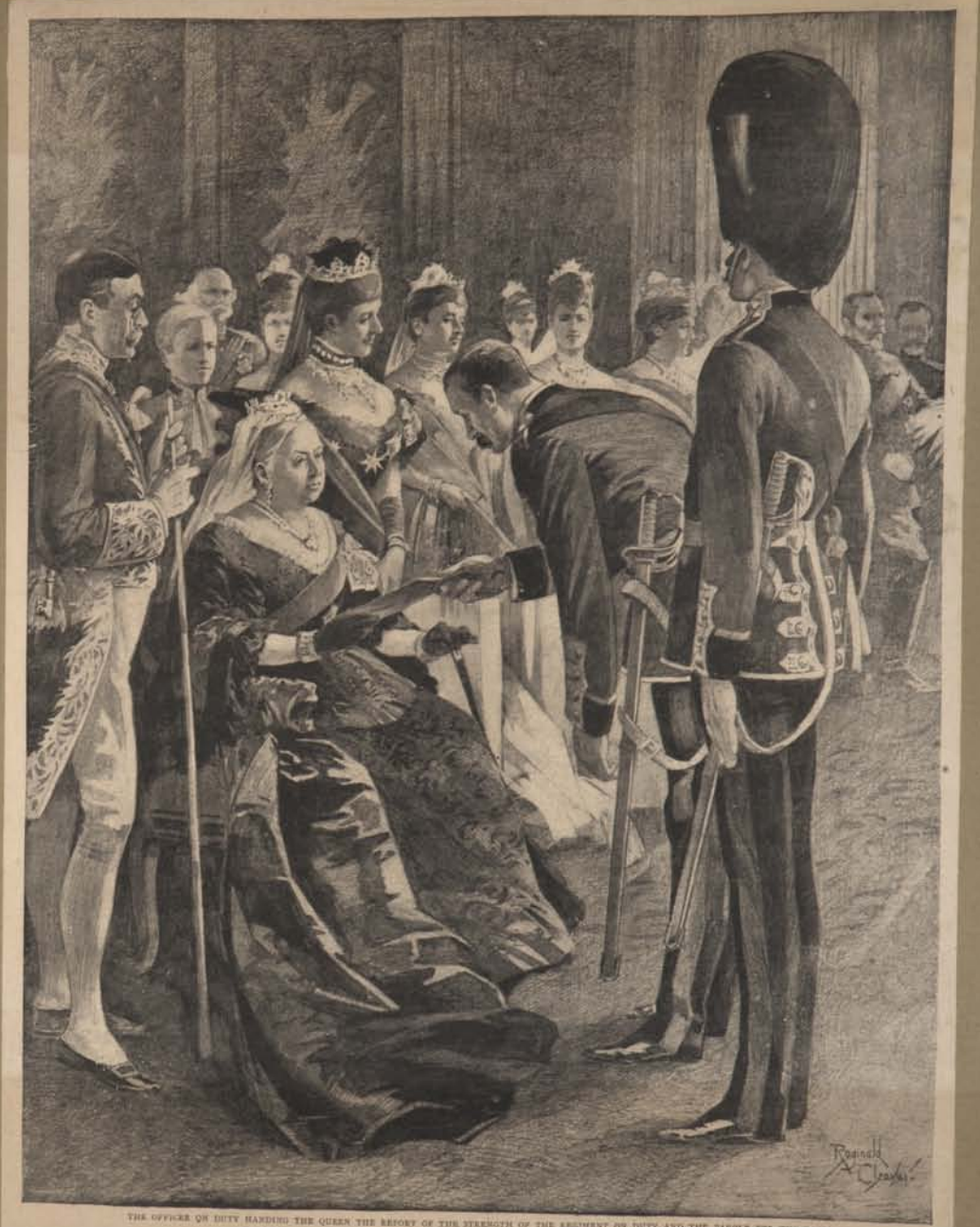
This memorandum is interesting not only as showing how complete a control the Queen exercised over foreign affairs, but as illustrating the spirit in which she conceived her sovereign position generally. There can be little doubt that in substance it represented her attitude towards all her Ministers. The second point to which attention must be called is the consistency and persistency with which she sought to preserve the public peace. Her action in the Schleswig-Holstein question, the Trent affair, and in the Italian problem in 1859, are notable examples. In each and all of these cases she stood almost alone. Her Ministers did not wholly share her views, and the country was more bellicose than the Ministers. But she stood her ground, and time has justified her wisdom. A less-known example of her intervention in favour of European peace was in 1875, when it became known that Prince Bismarck and the war party in Berlin were planning a fresh attack on France. Until recently it was believed that this plan was defeated by the Russian Emperor, who paid a visit to Berlin and declared that he could not remain neutral in such a crisis. It is now known, however, that the plan was first communicated to the Tsar, by the Queen, who not only sought his intervention, but strongly supported it at Berlin herself.

An excellent summing up of the Queen's character as a stateswoman was cited six years ago by Sir Edwin Arnold. It ran as follows:—

> Broadly speaking, it may be fairly said by all her Ministers, Liberal and Conservative, that she has more knowledge of the business of governing nations than any of her Prime Ministers; more experience of the mysteries and intricacies of foreign affairs than any of her Foreign Secretaries; as loyal and willing a subservience to the declared will of the nation as any democrat in Parliament, and as keen and passionate an Imperial patriotism as ever [illegible]

THE QUEEN DUCHESS OF YORK PRINCESS OF WALES
PRINCE EDWARD OF YORK

HER MAJESTY AND HER DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, GRANDDAUGHTER-IN-LAW, AND GREAT-GRANDSON



THE OFFICER ON DUTY HANDING THE QUEEN THE REPORT OF THE STRENGTH OF THE REGIMENT ON DUTY AND THE PAROLE FOR THE DAY

THE FIRST DRAWING-ROOM OF THE SEASON, 1894

PRINCE CONSORT'S MAUSOLEUM AT FROGMORE

DRAWN BY F. DE HAENEN

FROM A SKETCH BY SYDNEY HODGES

The above Illustration, which appeared in our issue of December 8, possesses a particularly pathetic interest, as it represents the last public function in which the Queen took part—a review in the grand quadrangle of Windsor Castle, of the 3rd Canadian Regiment, which had just returned from South Africa. After the troops had marched past, the Queen made her last speech in public, saying: "I am very glad to see you here to-day, and to express my warm thanks for the admirable services rendered in the war by the Canadian troops. I wish you all a safe and happy return to your homes." Colonel Otter, on behalf of his men, thanked Her Majesty. Loud cheers for the Queen brought the impression to a close.

OUR BELOVED SOVEREIGN'S LAST PUBLIC FUNCTION, NOVEMBER 30, 1900

The Graphic, January 26th, 1901.

W. and D. Downey, 57 and 58, Ebury Street, S.W.

Victoria R.I.
1837 1897.

A PORTRAIT APPROVED BY HER MAJESTY.
TAKEN AT THE TIME OF THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Victoria the Well-beloved.

BORN MAY 24, 1819. DIED JANUARY 22, 1901.

The following message has been received this (Tuesday) evening by the Lord Mayor of London from the Prince of Wales:—

OSBORNE, 6.30 p.m.

"My beloved mother has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren.

ALBERT EDWARD."

For sixty-three long years the British nation has had as ruler a Sovereign Lady great in wisdom, conspicuous in virtue, and worthy to rank among the noblest of her peers in history's pages. To-day, suddenly, unexpectedly, she has been taken from among us, called to that long sleep which has no awakening in this world, and the land she loved and illumined mourns her in profoundest grief. One cannot express upon paper the sorrow that has been occasioned, sorrow lessened in no degree, however small, by warning and preparation. So long had the Queen been among us, so bravely had she borne all her troubles, that we had almost forgotten she was a woman, and had quite overlooked the fact that fourscore and odd years exact a severe toll upon the strongest physique.

Now she has been taken from us we may realise more fully what she has really been to the nation. Cast back your minds to the beginning of last century and note into what poor esteem the Throne had been brought by her immediate predecessors, and you will gather some idea of the vast change of feeling wrought by a young girl of eighteen, whose instincts were right, and who knew how to govern constitutionally.

Queen Victoria was great, not only because she was wise, but because she had intense moral force, and a depth of character not easily fathomed. Bismarck, the scoffer and woman hater, came away from her presence with feelings of admiring respect. "Character is a natural power, like light and heat, and all nature co-operates with it. The reason why we feel one man's presence, and do not feel another's, is as simple as gravity. Truth is the summit of being: justice is the application of it to affairs. All individual natures stand in a scale, according to the purity of this element in them. The will of the pure runs down from them into other natures, as water runs down from a higher into a lower vessel. This natural force is no more to be withstood than any other natural force." Thus the great American thinker, who might have had Queen Victoria in his mind when he penned these words. The love of truth inherent in her nature, the contempt for wrong-doing, and her keen feminine conception of what was just, led her to do the right thing at the right time, when opportunists might have recommended another course.

In these few words, however, I do not propose discussing acts of public policy, but merely to place a woman's tribute upon the tomb of a womanly woman. Long will the memory of Victoria the Well-beloved linger in the minds of the vast peoples over whom she had sway, and stranger nations are hurrying to do reverence to a great woman whose influence upon the world was all for good. To her sorrowing sons and daughters our deep and heartfelt sympathy goes forth. Men and women of Britain and British lands over-seas stand with them in thought by the silent grave, and add their tears to theirs.—*Vale atque ave!*

The Closing Days.

Among those who had the opportunity of knowing, it has been evident for some weeks past that Her Majesty's proverbial good health was giving way. Her age, coupled with the personal losses she has sustained in the course of the last few months—first by the death of her son, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, then by the untimely death of her grandson, Prince Christian Victor, at Pretoria, and lastly by the unexpected death of her old and dear friend, Lady Churchill, a few weeks ago, have made those around her anxious for her health, and it is no secret that recent events in connection with the war, its prolongation, and the losses which it has occasioned have been the causes of great grief to Her Majesty.

To those near to Her Majesty these things have been well known, but to the general public the news that the Queen was seriously, nay dangerously ill, came with a sudden shock. As we announced in these columns last week, arrangements had been made by which Her Majesty would make her spring holiday on the Riviera about the third week of February.

On Tuesday the Queen drove out, accompanied by her daughter-in-law, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

There is no record of any drive on Wednesday, and on Thursday no "Court Circular" was received in London.

On Friday, the 18th day of January, the following announcement appeared in the "Court Circular":—

OSBORNE, JANUARY 18.

The Queen has not lately been in her usual health, and is unable, for the present, to take her customary drives.

The Queen during the past year has had a great strain upon her powers, which has rather told upon Her Majesty's nervous system.

It has, therefore, been thought advisable by Her Majesty's physicians, that the Queen should be kept perfectly quiet in the house, and should abstain, for the present, from transacting business.

This announcement, it need scarcely be said, caused deep concern among Her Majesty's subjects, and indeed throughout the world, an alarm which was increased when the following bulletins were issued, by the Court physicians, Sir James Reid and Sir Douglas Powell, from Osborne House on Saturday:—

NOON.

The Queen is suffering from great physical prostration, accompanied by symptoms that cause anxiety.

6 P.M.

The Queen's strength has been fairly maintained through the day, and there are indications of slight improvement in the symptoms this evening.

MIDNIGHT.

The Queen's condition late this evening has

THE LATEST PORTRAIT OF HER MAJESTY TAKEN QUITE RECENTLY.

become more serious, with increase of weakness and diminished power of taking nourishment.

The following bulletins were issued by Sir James Reid and Sir Douglas Powell at Osborne House on Sunday :—

11 A.M.

The Queen has passed a somewhat restless night. There is no material change in her condition since the last report.

4.30 P.M.

Her Majesty's strength has been fairly maintained through the day. Although no fresh developments have taken place, the symptoms continue to cause anxiety.

At midnight on Sunday a bulletin was issued which caused the public to prepare for the worst. It ran as follows :—

The Queen's condition has late this evening become more serious, with increase of weakness and diminished power of taking nourishment.

In the meantime the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family had assembled at Osborne, and the German Emperor, on learning the gravity of the illness, posted at once to England, having countermanded the festivities in connection with the celebration of the bi-centenary of the Prussian kingdom. His Imperial Majesty was met at Charing Cross by the Prince of Wales on Sunday night, and drove to Buckingham Palace, travelling on Monday morning by special train from Victoria to Osborne House.

The following bulletins were issued on Monday, being signed by Sir Thomas Barlow, in addition to the physicians already named.

OSBORNE HOUSE, 11 A.M.

The Queen has slightly rallied since midnight.

Her Majesty has taken more food, and has had some refreshing sleep.

There is no further loss of strength.

QUEEN VICTORIA IN 1850.

The symptoms that give rise to most anxiety are those which point to a local obstruction in the brain circulation.

5.0 P.M.

The slight improvement of this morning is maintained.

MIDNIGHT, MONDAY.

There is no material change in the Queen's condition. The slight improvement of the morning has been maintained throughout the day.

Food has been taken fairly well, and some tranquil sleep secured.

* * *

The following alarming bulletin was issued on Tuesday morning :—

8 A.M.

The Queen this morning shows signs of diminishing strength.

Her Majesty's condition again assumes a more serious aspect.

4 P.M.

The Queen is slowly sinking.

At 6.30, the Prince of Wales informed the Lord Mayor, in the words printed at the head of this page, that Her Majesty had just passed away.

* * * * * *

The Queen's Illness.

THE consternation prevailing in Dublin is simply inexpressible since the news of Her Majesty's illness became known. High and low unite in sympathy and regret, while the only topics of conversation were the chances of a favourable turn. The Queen's recent visit brought her so closely in touch with her Irish subjects that the feeling of the populace can only be compared to a universal heartache, while the feverish anxiety for news amounts to almost a panic. In every church prayers for her recovery were offered on Sunday, and hundreds of thousands of her Irish subjects are hoping with a courage that casts out fear for the restoration of their beloved Sovereign.

Owing to the serious news from Osborne respecting Her Majesty, all functions have been postponed, and no further arrangements will be made for public or private entertainments.

VICTORIA.

BORN MAY 24, 1819; SUCCEEDED TO THE THRONE, JUNE 20, 1837; DIED, JANUARY 22, 1901.

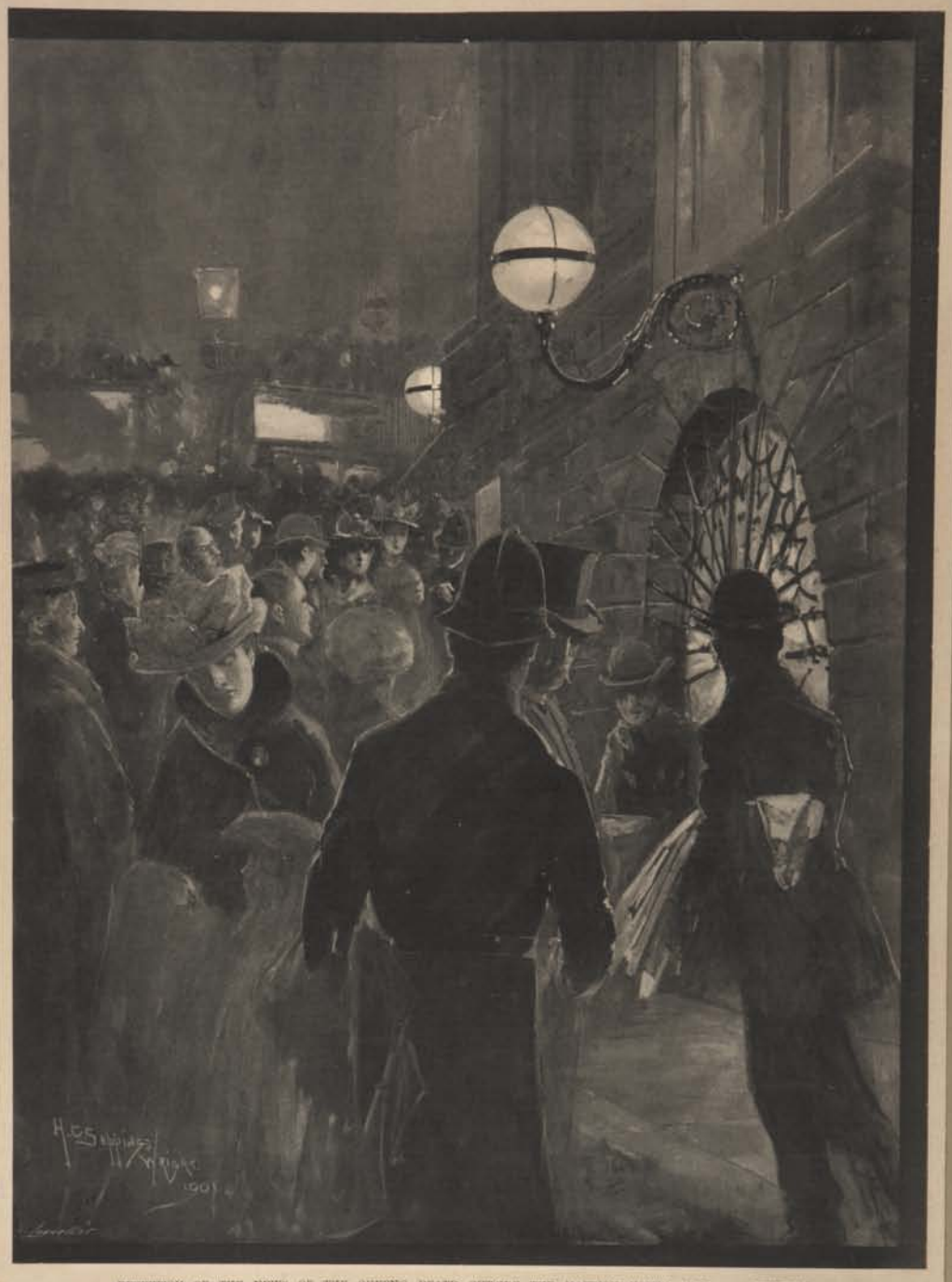
Farewell the Queen! Through all the world's mutations—
Through all the change wrought from its hopes or fears—
The one thing constant 'midst our transformations,
True to herself and us for sixty years.
True to the crown!—Placed high above ambitions
That flatter for a while and then chain down—
The people's check upon the politicians—
Our greatest democrat—True to the Crown!

Farewell the Empress—of the fair dominion
Our fathers fought and bled for in the time
When glory was not merely an opinion,
And empire not a folly or a crime?
Farewell the Empress! Not her fault—all know it—
If traitors sought the record to undo;
Our fame was hers, not lightly to forego it—
Farewell our Empress and first patriot, too!

Farewell the wife, the mother, tender, loyal,
In those bright days bygone when all was joy!
Not less the woman in that heyday royal;
Not less the Queen when sorrow brought alloy.
Shall we who shared the sunshine blame the sadness?
Who could have borne more nobly fate so hard?
For England first, either in grief or gladness,
We felt that she was there—our Queen—on guard.

Who loves the land, the dear old land that bore us—
Who holds her honour as no party scheme—
Who fain would front whatever lies before us,
From foes who plot or fools who only dream—
Who loves his country—for the past a debtor,
And doubtful for the future dark, unknown—
Will join the chorus—where could we do better?—
"Long may Victoria's memory guide the Throne!"

A. CLEMENTS BAKER.



RECEPTION OF THE NEWS OF THE QUEEN'S DEATH OUTSIDE THE MANSION HOUSE AT 7 P.M. TUESDAY.

THE QUEEN.

All classes of society will have heard with a most poignant grief that after a reign extending over the unparalleled period of sixty three years, Victoria, the honoured and revered Queen of England, has departed this life. The announcement of her illness had come upon the Nation like a thunderbolt from the blue, for although it was known that since her visit to Ireland she has been in more or less feeble health, it was not expected that matters would have taken the turn which we are now all deploring. Not only at home, but over the whole civilised world the name of our Queen has been held, it is not too much to say, in affectionate esteem, and the articles in foreign papers have been full of sympathetic references to the aged lady who has been called from our midst. From the time, when as a girl, the crown was conveyed to her at Kensington Palace that she had succeeded to the Crown of England, she has been dear to the people of this country, and the longer she reigned the more was she appreciated by other nations. Whatever opinions may have been entertained by individuals as to the value of the reverse of monarchs, there is not the least doubt that it was the personal popularity of the late Queen which has strengthened the loyalty of this and other nations. The key-note of our departed Sovereign's popularity no doubt was that she was so much of a woman. Her happiest moments have been spent in domestic life, and in no class of society were husband and wife more in accord than were her Majesty and the Prince Consort. In him she found a partner who added materially to her happiness in life, one whose advice she frequently sought, and, as we know from various records, exalted though her position was, not the humblest of her subjects more enjoyed the quietude of his home than did those who were at the head of the State. In Scotland, where of course, the population is more scanty than London or Windsor, it was possible for Her Majesty to mix more with the people about her than she could have done in the south, and the whole of the north country rings with her personal kindness and condescension, when any of those about her were ill or in trouble.

Since the Queen came to the throne, she had to face periods of the utmost anxiety. The Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny, and our various campaign in Africa, in which so many lives were at stake, caused her, as we know, great anxiety, and when she reached an advanced age, it can be easily imagined how the protracted war in South Africa must have weighed upon her mind. When the Queen pinned upon the breasts of the Crimean heroes the medals which had been so gallantly won, she was young in years, and was then capable of withstanding strain which, in the year 1900, proved more than she could bear. To go back to earlier years, those who are scarcely more than middle-aged, will well remember the gaiety, using the term in its best and truest sense, which pervaded the Court of St. James's. Dinner parties and balls were of frequent occurrence. Suffolk-street, Pall Mall, used to be thronged when the Royal equipage drew up at the door of Mr. Backhouse's house, by which her Majesty made her way into the old Haymarket Theatre, before the arrival of Mr. Sothern dispersed the stock company which had for so long ministered to the enjoyment of London and London's visitors. In the happy days before the death of the Prince Consort, the Queen and her husband were wont to patronise the foremost theatres in London, and when it was known that a visit to the old Opera House in the Haymarket was contemplated, there was a tremendous crowd assembled all down Pall Mall to witness the passing of the Royal carriages and the usual escort of the Household Cavalry. Those were assuredly happy days; but they were to be eclipsed by the gloom which fell on the country on December 14th, 1861, when the Prince Consort died; and it was not till many years after that mournful day that we were once more enabled to see in public that noble lady who, after a blameless reign, has just been taken away from us. It is not too much to say that even the humblest dweller in these realms will feel that a personal loss has befallen him or her; and no more eloquent testimony to the affection in which the Queen was held could be adduced than the receptions accorded her on the occasion of the two Jubilee processions of 1887 and 1897. Few of those who witnessed the ceremony of four years ago, will forget how the Queen, then advanced in years, bore herself bravely through what must have been a most trying ordeal, yet that duty, as in all other cases, she faced with her usual courage, and there was not a man or woman in the street but what returned home with additional admiration for the lady who was ruling over them. While arts, sciences, inventions, and education have made great advances under the late Queen's reign, she has followed the example of many of her predecessors in furthering the interests of agriculture and, to a certain extent, of sport. Unlike the last Queen who sat upon the throne of England, Queen Anne, her late Majesty had never particularly identified herself with sport. She was an accomplished horsewoman; but in her younger days ladies did not hunt as much as they do now; and though she has on a few occasions been present at the meeting of her own hounds, she had not the enthusiasm for the chase possessed by "Gracious Anne"; nor had she that Queen's love of racing, though she has been present at some of the more important race meetings, like Ascot. To stock breeding, however, she has ever been a good friend, and the farms, in which the Prince Consort took such interest, have been kept on in great perfection, and prizes innumerable have fallen to the representatives of the Royal herds at the Smithfield Club's Show, Birmingham, and other places. It seems, however, out of place to talk of these moments of victory when the nation is oppressed by the deepest of sorrows. The cordial and respectful sympathy of the people will go out to the bereaved members of her late Majesty's family, and whatever pursuits may be indulged in for some time to come it is certain that they will be toned by the most sincere grief for a Queen whose memory will ever be held in affectionate remembrance.

It will not, of course, be forgotten that the long and happy reign of her late Majesty has bridged over many changes. When the Queen came to the throne, posting for the wealthy, and stage coaching for the general public, were the regular modes of travel; yet the late Queen lived long enough to see railway travelling brought to the highest pitch of perfection. Her own trains, which conveyed her from Windsor or Osborne to Balmoral and back, sufficiently emphasised the progress made in travel. In connection with sport, it should not be left unsaid that the Prince Consort kept up the Royal Harriers, which were started by George II. at the advice of one of his ministers. George III. collected a fresh pack, and George IV. bought another from Mr. Walker, of Beguer, of coaching fame. The father of Charles Davis, huntsman to the Royal Buckhounds, hunted the harriers, and in his early days, Charles Davis himself whipped in to the harriers. After the Prince Consort's death, the Prince of Wales kept on the harriers until he made them over to the late Sir Robert Batson Harvey, and they are now the Berks and Bucks Harriers. The late Queen was an excellent musician and artist, and more than one composer has written in terms of the warmest praise of the manner in which her Majesty interpreted sundry songs. For flowers her late Majesty had a great love, in fact there was not a refined taste to which she did not lean. Her loss will not be forgotten by the present generation.

Our portrait is from a photograph by W. and D. Downey.

THE QUEEN.

WE stop the press, although part of our edition is already printed, in order to chronicle with profound sorrow the death of our beloved and revered Queen. Since Friday afternoon, when, to the deep regret of every one of her subjects, the news first reached London that her Majesty was ill, anxiety increased, the summoning of the Prince of Wales and the Royal family to Osborne, and the arrival of the German Emperor, pointing only too plainly to the extreme gravity of the Queen's condition. Honoured, beloved more than any Sovereign who ever held the sceptre of the British Empire, it is no exaggeration to say that the venerable Queen was the subject of all thoughts and prayers from the moment when it was known that she had been stricken down; and, if the loving sympathy of millions of devoted people could have saved an invaluable life, her Majesty would have been spared. But, at the great age at which the Queen has arrived, it was felt from the first that in all human probability there could be but faint hope. Still, that hope was cherished, and each new bulletin scanned with eager eyes. So long, however, that the reports from Osborne refrained from telling us that what we most dreaded had happened, so long as one sign remained to tell her subjects that life was not yet extinct, her Majesty's people throughout the world-wide Empire, breathed the prayer, "God save the Queen!" Unhappily, the prayers of her millions of subjects were in vain, and the Empire mourns the loss of the greatest Sovereign and the noblest woman the century has known.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO EXAGGERATE THE TENSION felt by the inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies of the United Kingdom, from the time of the first adverse bulletin which proclaimed that the Queen of England and Empress of India was virtually stricken down with fatal illness. The anxiety of the nation carries us back to the time of the sickness of the Prince of Wales, thirty years ago, when each night the streets in London and provincial towns were filled by anxious crowds eager to learn the latest intelligence of the Heir Apparent, who was hovering between life and death, and those who are old enough to remember the country's trouble will not forget the solicitude displayed by the Royal mother concerning her son. Now, after a long lapse of years, not only this country, but others as well, have been called on to bewail the condition of the very Gracious Sovereign Lady who has passed away to the intense grief of all her subjects in every part of the world. Simplicity of life marked the Queen's early years at Kensington Palace, where she was born on May 24, 1819, and simplicity and a deeply sympathetic nature has marked her life from that time to the day of her lamented decease. From the time that the Queen was five years of age her mother, who had previously taken the greatest pains with her education, called in as instructors Dr Davys (afterwards Bishop of Peterborough) and the Baroness Lehzen, a cultivated and devoted woman, to whom the Princess Victoria referred in after years as "my dearest, kindest friend." In order that her tranquility of mind should not be disturbed, it was deemed advisable not to inform the Princess that she was heir-presumptive to the throne of England until she had reached her thirteenth year; and the story goes that on hearing the fact for the first time she burst into tears, and said to the Baroness Lehzen, "There is much splendour, but more responsibility;" and this recognition of the arduous duties devolving upon a sovereign never forsook Her Gracious Majesty to the end of her long life. In every aspect she showed the tenderest of womanly feelings, and this was one of the cords which bound her so tightly to the nation.

In the year 1839 it was that our Queen was betrothed to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and on Feb. 10, 1840, amid general rejoicings, the marriage took place at St. James's Palace, and for a period of twenty-one years the Queen lived a life of supreme domestic happiness, which was only shattered by the death of the Prince Consort in December, 1861. Both during her married life and in her widowhood, however, the Gracious Sovereign lady for whom we are all now grieving, when she was able for a time to throw off the cares of state, lived a truly domestic life. Never was she more happy than when she was surrounded by her family, and there are many records at hand to remind us of how greatly she valued the quiet of domestic life. Indeed, it has truly been said of her that she would have made a good wife for a poor man. Never, perhaps, was her sympathy with other women in trouble more strongly exemplified than in her friendship with the ex-Empress Eugénie, and after the death of the Prince Imperial, who died in the service of our country, the relations between the two became even closer than before. Queen Victoria deeply sympathised with the noble lady driven into exile, and in the hour of her great trouble extended to her that tender kindness which only a woman can afford. The Queen's sympathy, however, was not reserved for the great. Those who once entered the Sovereign's service seldom left it, and, whatever might be their status, the same kindly feeling was extended to them. If a high official met with an accident or died the Royal mistress's message of condolence was ever among the earliest received, while when one of her oldest postboys died she was equally prompt to express her regret and to offer substantial help to his survivors. During her long reign many of her household were called away, and in every case ample provision has been made, by the Queen's special request, for the families, while personal calls have been by no means unknown. In the more populous parts surrounding her dwelling places, the late Queen was necessarily precluded from giving vent to her natural desire to minister to the distressed and afflicted. In London, for example, she could do no more than see on occasions some old and valued dependent, but in the more sparsely inhabited district of Scotland where her Highland home, Balmoral, is situate, she was a frequent visitor at the homes of those who had any claim upon Her Majesty, and nowhere than in the Highlands will her loss be more keenly felt. Her exalted station never caused her to forget those who were less fortunate, and many of her kindest acts were done not to official perfunctoriness, but emanated directly from herself, for numberless instances are on record of her having taken the initiative in relieving many wants and in condoling with those in distress.

Monday last was one of the most mournful days this country has ever known. Reports were circulated that the worst had happened; yet the nation hoped for the best, although the late Queen's people could not disguise from themselves that one of the most valuable lives in the world was on the borderland of eternity. Our late and beloved Sovereign had been granted a longer reign and a longer life than had been vouchsafed to any previous monarch in England, and, in spite of all depressing bulletins, her faithful subjects, knowing that everything which could be done was carried out, still clung to the hope that the wonderful good fortune which had up to the time of her fatal illness marked her late Majesty's reign might yet assert itself, and preserve her to her devoted people for a time, short though it might be. An additional element of distress was caused when it became known that Sir Thomas Barlow was called in on account of cerebral affections having manifested themselves; but on Tuesday morning the heart of the nation was cheered by the intelligence that Her Majesty had been able to take more nourishment, and had enjoyed some refreshing sleep. So matters went on from hour to hour, in alternating hopes and fears, and it is not too much to assert that there was hardly a man or woman in England who did not find the usual course of their daily duties much interfered with by the anxiety they felt for the Queen's health. In business centres even errand boys were running out to learn the latest intelligence; while, like the coach guards of old, the porters at railway stations gave utterance to the latest reports concerning the Queen's health. Owing to her long life, there are comparatively few now alive who can remember her predecessor on the throne, and to almost all of us England without Queen Victoria will hardly seem England at all, esteemed as is her eldest son and successor. By the death of Her Majesty the arts and sciences have lost a generous patron, for as musician, artist, and an admirer of all that was beautiful the Queen stood in the forefront; in her earlier days she patronised all public entertainments of merit, and the performances which have of late years taken place in St. George's Hall, Windsor, showed plainly enough that our Sovereign had not lost her interest in the drama. The private library, numbering about 120,000 volumes, is also an index to the refined mind of the august lady whose death has plunged the nation into sorrow. Just as a country is said to be known by its songs, so is the nature of an individual to be gauged by the books on the shelves. It should not be left unsaid that as a mountaineer the Queen had some experience in her younger days in Scotland. When at Balmoral she ascended Loch-nagar in 1848, Culnagowa in 1859, and in 1861 Her Majesty made her last climb. To go back a number of years, "Queen Victoria's Dolls" were famous, and when in 1862 an article was published in the *Strand Magazine* it was announced that the Queen, in addition to giving every facility for obtaining photographs of the dolls, read and corrected the article, Her Majesty's corrections taking the form of footnotes. No fewer than a hundred and thirty-two dolls were preserved, thirty-two of them being dressed by the Queen herself, the costumes being taken from patterns she had seen in the theatre or in private life. We have it on the authority of a well-known writer that a girl who plays with her dolls is sure to be a "domestic woman," and the Queen played with her dolls until she was about fourteen years of age. As time has passed the nation's devotion has not been diminished. Each moment has served to revive some cherished memory of the good and august lady who must now be numbered with the sovereigns who have gone before. Queens have heretofore ruled over this realm, but not one of them has been so beloved as the good and wise Queen who has just passed away. If the time comes when another Queen may occupy the throne of England, she may esteem herself fortunate if she can be compared with the dead Sovereign, whose memory will be for ever enthroned in the hearts of her people.

QUEEN VICTORIA, THE PRINCE CONSORT, AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.

[Copyright, A. H. Beavan.
THE DUCHESS OF KENT.

THE DUKE OF KENT. [Copyright, A. H. Beavan.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

By ARTHUR H. BEAVAN.

AN ELOQUENT AND WELL-KNOWN LONDON PREACHER recently expressed an opinion that, with one Divine exception, no single person, however wise or eminent, had ever been, or could be, absolutely essential to the general welfare of humanity, that his absence from the Throne, the council chamber, the church, or judicial bench, though apparently an irreparable loss, was not so in fact, for someone, equally gifted, equally capable, invariably took his place, and the great business of life proceeded much as usual.

This may apply with truth to most individuals, but not to the beloved and revered Sovereign of these realms, upon whom the hand of death has fallen at Osborne House.

Stunned as we are by the fact that she who was the source of all authority has been peremptorily summoned by

> A herald stern who knocks at every door,
> Calling some inmate forth into the night
> Alone with him to journey, nevermore
> In mortal guise to breathe and see the light,

we cannot at present realise our loss; still less can we estimate the immense influence for good that our late ruler exercised during her sixty-four years' reign, not only throughout the British Empire, but indirectly over the civilised world.

Time, however, does not admit of any such contemplation, and, with a grief fresh fallen upon us, mourning her as we would a mother, or other near and dear relation, we can for the present only briefly recall the "story of our Queen."

In November of 1817, Princess Charlotte of Wales dying without issue, the succession to the throne of Great Britain became involved in considerable uncertainty, and when the Duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III., married the widowed Princess of Leiningen, and a daughter was born May 24, 1818, nothing stood in the way of the little one becoming Queen but the possibility that the Princess Elizabeth, the fragile child of Queen Adelaide, might survive. She failed away, however, and died in March, 1821, when it became almost a certainty that Princess Victoria would, on the death of King William IV., become the sovereign and ruler of the land.

On April 14, 1819, the Duke of Kent, accompanied by his Royal consort, left Brussels for London, travelling by easy stages to Paris, where they had to wait for a fair wind, and it was not until April 23, at 3 p.m.—so dreadfully slow was travelling in those days—that they arrived at Dover. Unfortunately, they had a very rough passage on board the Royal yacht, and it is recorded that the Duchess suffered considerably, and was "very sick."

Their Royal Highnesses rested for the night at the York Hotel, and started the following morning for Cobham Hall, *en route* for London. At this beautiful seat—Lord Darnley's—they remained that night, and arrived at Kensington Palace the next day at four o'clock in the afternoon.

The Duke of Kent, in his anxiety lest any harm should befall the Duchess, had driven her himself in the phaeton all the way from Dover to Cobham Hall, and thence to the old palace at Kensington. For nearly a month after their arrival, and until Princess Victoria was born, they were frequently seen taking an airing in a phaeton, the Duke generally handling the reins.

On one occasion, after a drive, they had chairs brought out and sat on the walk at the east front of the palace to witness the trial of a "velocimanipede" invented by an eminent coachbuilder. This vehicle resembled a phaeton in miniature, weighing 100lb., and was constructed to carry three persons—one in front to guide it, another, presumably a lady, in the middle, and a third at the back, to work the hind wheels of the machinery. It travelled easily on the palace walk at a great speed, and their Royal Highnesses expressed much interest in a conveyance without a horse that could carry three people, and particularly admired the simplicity of its construction.

In October, when the infant Princess was seven months old, the Duke of Kent went down to South Devonshire to select a residence for his family. After visiting Torquay, Teignmouth, and Dawlish, he went on to Sidmouth, where he inspected several houses, amongst them Woolbrook Cottage in the Glen, the seat of Major-Gen. Bayos, which he engaged for the season.

On Christmas Eve the Duke and Duchess of Kent, with little Princess Alexandrina Victoria and her half-sister the Princess Feodora of Leiningen, arrived at Woolbrook Cottage from London, by way of Salisbury (where they were entertained at the palace by the Bishop), and via Ilminster in Somerset, where they put up for the night at the George, immortalised as the first inn at which our Sovereign ever stayed.

As they entered the little town of Sidmouth in seven carriages an escort of cavalry appeared on the scene, the bells rang out a merry peal, and a band waiting for them at the gates of their residence played some national airs. Everybody made holiday. In the evening there was a grand illumination, and gas was seen in the streets for the first time.

About a fortnight after his arrival the Duke of Kent held a levée, which was attended by the principal inhabitants of Sidmouth, among whom was an individual who, though holding a prominent position, had no very clear idea about the mode of addressing Royalty. Desiring to say something appropriate and civil, he thus spoke to the Duke: "I trust your Lordship and Mrs Kent are quite well?"

This is not unlike the anecdote related of Prince Albert many years later, when, on the occasion of his opening a certain institution, the Queen being absent, a worthy manufacturer said to him: "I hope your wife is well." His Royal Highness, in speaking of it afterwards, pleasantly remarked it was the first time he had heard such a good old-fashioned homely expression applied to his Royal Consort.

The weather was unusually severe for some time after the arrival of the Duke and Duchess. Frost and snow prevailed, consequently Their Royal Highnesses could take few excursions. The Duke was fond of exercise, and disliked being shut up in the house; so as soon as the thaw set in he went out for a long walk with Capt. Conroy, his aide-de-camp, when they both got their boots soaked through with the treacherous snow-water. Although strongly advised to "change" directly he got home, the fond father, attracted by his playful little daughter, delayed doing so until it was time to dress for dinner.

A severe chill was the result. It was reported in the local papers that His Royal Highness was suffering from a bad cold, and that a ball, announced to take place at the town hall under the Duke's patronage, would have to be postponed. Presently, however, inflammatory symptoms supervened, and a London physician was summoned to consult with the local surgeon, Mr Maguire, who had been called in when the Duke was first taken ill.

Every possible remedy was applied, and on the evening of Saturday, the 22nd, the case was not considered by any means hopeless. On the contrary, Prince Leopold, who, on hearing of the Duke's illness, had left Claremont with Dr Stockmar, arriving at Sidmouth at two o'clock the same day, thought it safe to leave His Royal Highness's bedside for a short time to take the air. Hopes of his recovery were sustained throughout the night, but at half-past ten o'clock on Sunday morning the flag was lowered half mast high—the Duke of Kent had expired. The very robustness of his constitution had, in a manner, contributed to his untimely death, the inflammation having so much the more to feed upon; and although a fatal termination to his illness was a surprise to many, certain symptoms had exhibited themselves on the Friday which to an experienced doctor were significant.

On that day the Duke, always very particular about his dress, and careful of his personal appearance, desired to be shaved, and the leading hairdresser in Sidmouth was sent for. When he arrived he was shown into the bedroom, where he found the Duke sitting in an easy chair, and the Duchess by his side, with her hand laid caressingly on her husband's forehead. There were also present the two doctors and the valet. The hairdresser was asked by the Duke if he intended using one of the razors placed ready for him on the dressing-table, but the barber replied that he had brought one of his own. He then proceeded to shave His Royal Highness, but had some difficulty in doing so, because of the spasmodic cough which tormented the Duke throughout the operation.

All through her husband's illness the Duchess assiduously and tenderly watched by his side. The medicines were administered by her hand, and from her alone would the sufferer take anything. For five successive nights she never had an opportunity of attending to her toilette.

In his last moments the Duke was heard frequently to pray for the Duchess, and after several times repeating the words, "I am quite prepared," he breathed his last in her beloved arms.

Hurried was the departure from Woolbrook Cottage for London a few days later, and particularly mournful the scene. In the first carriage was the little Princess Alexandrina—as she was then called—whom her nurse had placed near one of the windows for the gratification of the large concourse of spectators. The innocent unconsciousness of her loss, shown in the openness and cheerfulness of her countenance, as she played with her little fingers upon the glass, deeply touched everybody and moved all to tears. So great was the Duchess's solicitude for her little one that, in spite of her own prostration of body and mind, she held the child in her arms the greater part of the sad journey.

When, after his death, His Royal Highness's bust, by Turnerelli, was delivered to the Duchess at Kensington Palace, the infant Princess was taken by her mother into the room where it had been placed. The likeness must have been excellent, for as soon as the child saw the bust she clapped her hands excitedly, exclaiming, "Papa, Papa!" Everybody present was astonished at the instantaneous perception of so young a child, and the Duchess was so much affected by the touching incident that she had to retire for a few moments to compose herself.

In the summer of the year 1831, when the Princess Victoria was fifteen years old, she and her mother, after paying a visit to Lord Liverpool at Buxted Park, in Sussex, drove to Tunbridge Wells, where they stayed at Calverley House—now the Calverley Hotel. Tunbridge Wells was—as it still is—a favourite watering-place, and its parade but little changed from what it was when Dr Johnson sturdily trod its pantiles, and Harry Warrington, the Virginian, held his own at the White Horse Tavern with my Lords Chesterfield and March.

Approaching Calverley House, a very pretty sight awaited the Royal party. Ranged along the wall in front of the shrubbery at Calverley Terrace were about forty very beautiful little girls, aged between six and twelve, prettily dressed in white, their muslin aprons full of flowers, which they strewed before the Royal carriage as it passed. Princess Victoria was delighted with this charming compliment. In the evening there was a general illumination, which was amusingly detailed in the local papers. A Mr Neal, wine merchant, displayed at his depot at the foot of Mount Sion a well-executed transparency, in whose centre the Imperial Crown appeared with a motto, "Dieu et Mon Droit," and in the hollow of the luminary, in flaming characters, "Hail Gracious Kent and Victoria." A Mr Stock, appropriately a haberdasher of Market Place, had his shop "decorated in a pleasing manner with some well-executed devices in flowers and shrubs, with a plentiful distribution of light."

An important deputation waited upon the Duchess later on to present a Royal address, when Her Royal Highness replied as follows: "I cannot but share with the deepest anxiety in the feelings you express for the Princess. The object of my life is to render her worthy of the affectionate solicitude she inspires; and if it be the will of Providence she should fill a high station (I trust most fervently at a very distant day) I am confident she will be fully aware of the importance of the sacred trust which may be committed to her charge, and be deeply impressed with the conviction that her duty as the constitutional Sovereign of a free people must be the first object of her life." Baroness Lehzen, Lady Florence Hastings, and Sir John Conroy were present on this very interesting occasion.

The fervent and loyal hope that the King might live many years, expressed in the Duchess of Kent's speech, was not destined to be fulfilled, as only three years afterwards her daughter succeeded to the throne.

Meantime the Duchess continued those educational journeys to certain centres of industry whereby the youthful Princess obtained considerable knowledge of her own country, quite unusual in those non-travelling days. She was also taken to many seaports and watering-places, and visited the principal seats of the nobility. Amongst many other places, she went to Oxford and Winchester, Belper, in Derbyshire, with its cotton mills, and Broomsgrove, in Worcester, noted for its nail industry; Portsmouth, Southampton, and Plymouth; Brighton, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs; the Isle of Wight, Weymouth, and Torquay; Malvern, Eaton Hall, Burleigh, Belvoir, Wentworth, Harewood House, Holkham, and Walmer Castle.

Of all these lovely seats—many of them magnificent and most interesting—none seemed to please the Princess so much as quiet Claremont and its quaint little village of Esher. From the tender age of five, when she spent there the "happiest days" of her childhood, Her Majesty always evinced a particular fondness for her Uncle Leopold's former residence. Sixty years ago the society of Esher must have been rather exclusive, for the Comtesse de Ponthieu, an Austrian lady of good descent residing at Esher, described it as a locality where "the neighbours live with each other, speak well of each other, and very seldom meet—a formal dinner once in a year, perhaps—and no possibility of getting any further."

Mme. la Comtesse, writing from Esher to an old friend at Christmas-time, 1836, says: "The Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria are at Claremont, and from all that is said, and the arrangements that are going on, there seems no doubt that it will be in future their chief residence—probably (nominally) the Princess's when she comes of age in May next. She is very fond of the place, but the Duchess is said to like a public place much better. They are very civil to the neighbourhood, giving it to be understood that they wish to be called on, and giving dinners afterwards to their visitors. Of this I shall have experience to-day, being asked to dine there."

In another letter the Comtesse describes the first Drawing Room held by the Queen after her accession, when she and her friend, Lady Isabelle de Chabot, were present. "I dare say it was very well," she writes, "but really the scramble was so great that I hardly saw Her Majesty. It was expected to be a very full Drawing Room, which it was not, so that Lord Conyngham thought proper to pronounce the names to the Queen one after another as fast as possible, and as loud as if she had been deaf. The pages, new and ignorant of their duties, threw the ladies' trains over their arms before they had well made their curtsies, and desired them to 'pass on.' Never was such an awkward business. The hurry was so great that in an hour the Drawing Room was over, many ladies coming after the presence chamber was closed. The sight was very curious, as all were in their deepest mourning, great plumes of black feathers, and long, black crape veils hanging down the back. Everybody looked alike, so that people were quite fearful of losing their party."

By the following year, however, the Palace officials had settled down to their respective duties, and all was in order for the great event—the Coronation.

One of the most curious features on this memorable occasion seems to have been the unrestrained applause within the sacred building, usually so profoundly still. As each distinguished or popular personage paced up the nave he was greeted with hearty cheers, and when the Royal procession slowly advanced towards the altar, and Her Majesty came in sight, the vast audience simultaneously rose and a mighty shout ran through the Abbey.

Of all the coronations since William the Conqueror took the solemn oath to "protect the Church, prohibit oppression, and execute judgment in mercy," that of Queen Victoria was undoubtedly the most intensely interesting and significant, ushering in, as it did, a new era of the nation's history. Her youth was necessarily a feature, though Henry VI. was but nine years old when, on Nov. 6, 1429, he was crowned at Westminster with great splendour, and Edward VI. was barely twelve months older when, with a wisdom beyond his years, he called for the Bible, the "sword of the Spirit," to be carried before him in the Abbey, together with the three symbolical weapons used in the coronation service.

A rather unseemly scramble for the silver commemoration medals while the peers were doing homage to the Queen was the only really undignified proceeding throughout the ceremony.

It required some time to accustom people to the change in the designation of the Sovereign, especially in the country. An amusing example of this was furnished by the following notice, painted over the door of the Three Tuns public-house at Kidderminster, whence the local omnibus started: "Parcels booked and carried to all parts of the Queendom."

Retrospect of married life when death has dissolved the union is not always either pleasant or profitable. Remorse, too, often embitters the thoughts of the survivor—regret for the words said and left unsaid; for the coldness, neglect, indifference, wrong, and cruelty; and for all the sad "might have beens."

To the Queen has been granted the unspeakable blessing of knowing nothing of all this. The intensity of her grief in losing her Royal Consort must have been softened not a little by the precious recollections of her unblemished married life; and to the last she must have found consolation in this fact, though it is fifty-eight years since she plighted her troth to Prince

The Duke of Wellington Presenting his First Birthday Offering to his Godson Prince Arthur, May, 1851. (After Winterhalter.)

Princess Victoria, Aged 4.

The Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria.

(Copyright, A. H. Beavis)

Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, Afterwards King of the Belgians, the beloved uncle of the Queen.

Princess Victoria, Aged 12.

The Queen, January 26th, 1901.

Albert, thenceforth to be for ever identified with the Sovereign of this realm.

It would seem incomprehensible to anybody not of British birth—but that it was so we may infer from the Queen's own remarks to her Uncle Leopold—that the Prince Consort only commenced to be popular in England after his display of bold horsemanship in the hunting fields at Belvoir three years after his marriage. "Much more was made of it," says the Queen, "than if he had done some great act."

Everyone will freely admit that nothing is more calculated to test the patience and endurance of a sportsman than deerstalking, nothing more arduous or that calls for more staying power; and Prince Albert's first essay in the noble sport proved that he possessed all the necessary qualifications in a marked degree.

During the Queen's first trip to Scotland, in the year 1842, a visit was paid to Drummond Castle in the month of September. Lord Willoughby de Eresby had arranged a deerstalking expedition for Prince Albert in the forest of Glenartney. Accordingly, at six o'clock in the morning, the Prince and his noble host started off in an open carriage for the rendezvous, a lodge ten miles distant. As soon as the vehicle drew up, the Prince, full of impetuosity and expectation, vaulted out of the carriage, and, heartily greeting the gentleman who had undertaken to be his guide and mentor for the day, said: "Mr Campbell, I understand you are to show me the forest and how to kill a deer." He then asked whether the colour of his dress was suitable for stalking, and, being assured that it was perfect, the party set off. After a long walk a large herd of deer were discovered on the brow of the Hindsback corry, looking splendid as the sun shone full upon their sleek coats and stately antlers outlined against the clear sky. As it was impossible to get a shot at them from below, a long and fatiguing detour had to be made, involving some smart walking. The herd had become restless and suspicious, and started off direct for the White Hound corry, and it was a race whether they or the stalkers would get there first. In this case the race was to the swift, and all the Prince could do was to fire at the last retreating deer as it bounded past him at a distance of 150 yards, mortally wounding it. A fresh start was then made, and arriving at the place where, over the brow of a hill, deer were expected to be seen not far off, the greatest caution, as well as dead silence, was observed.

At this critical moment Mr Campbell whispered to the forester, "Haud the Prince back, Donald, whilst I creep to the brow to see where the deer are." "How am I to do that?" replied Donald. "Just lay hold of his arm," said Mr Campbell, "if the deer come forward, until it is time to fire." "Haud the Prince! Haud the Prince! I'll no do that. Ye maun just grip him yoursel', and I'll look owre the broo."

Mr Campbell was compelled to consent to this, and when the time arrived took the necessary liberty with the Prince's arm. By this time the Royal sportsman was considered expert enough to stalk by himself. Off he set, quite alone, wading and creeping on his hands and knees through wet moss-hags, every now and again sinking deep into their black depths, and disappearing altogether for some time, until the crack and smoke of his rifle, as he fired at and hit a deer which got off, but was afterwards recovered, revealed his whereabouts behind a knoll. His final success that day was a hind, shot through the shoulder in a very skilful manner, after an exciting rush downhill, running in a most painful fashion, legs straight and back bent, till his face all but touched the ground. Two stags and three hinds—capital show for a beginner—were the result of this exhausting day's sport, throughout whose many disappointments the Prince had shown the greatest good humour. Right welcome to His Royal Highness must have been the glass of champagne in which he drank his host's health on returning to the hunting lodge. Not only did the public, when they heard of the Prince's "moving accidents by flood and field," admit that in manly exercises he could hold his own with any Englishman, but they rapidly began to understand and to admire his noble character. It was discovered that he was an intense admirer of the arts, a ready draughtsman, an accomplished musician, and a graceful poet; and by the time he had created the Great Exhibition of 1851 he had risen to a point of the highest popularity. He did nothing by halves; whatsoever his hand found to do, he did it with his might.

As a scientific agriculturist and as a practical improver of landed property in the shape of planning buildings and planting few could surpass him. Plautus has left us the oft-quoted passage: *Quem diligunt, adolescens moritur, dum valet, sentit, sapit.* But in Prince Albert's case the first qualification was absent. Had he but lived, he would, without doubt, have become the foremost statesman of the day—the Nestor to whose final decision national quarrels would have been submitted, and devastating wars averted.

The hour at which His Royal Highness died exemplified the curious popular conviction, mentioned by the Elizabethan writer, Thomas Turner, that there exists a connection between death and the state of the tide:

Tyde flowing is feared for many a thing.
Great danger to such as be sick it doth bring.

On Dec. 14, 1861, high-water was reached at London Bridge at eight minutes past midnight, but ere this, while the Thames was still flowing, the Prince Consort's spirit was wafted down the cold river of death towards the illimitable ocean of eternity, and the darkness of a great sorrow fell upon Throne and nation.

Fascinated by the Highlands, and no doubt influenced by the opinion of the wise and trusted Court physician, Prince Albert had taken a lease of the Balmoral estate, and in 1852 purchased the fee simple from the trustees of the Earl of Fife. The original castle was in the old Scottish style—a long, steep-roofed, small-windowed gable mansion, whereto had been added a picturesque tower and several irregular buildings. Altogether, it was rather a large place for so remote a spot, and, though boasting of no splendour, was very comfortable.

On Sept. 28, 1853, the foundation-stone of the new castle was laid by the Queen, and two years later, on Sept. 7, the Royal family moved in and took possession.

That it was the Queen's favourite residence there can be little doubt. Not the least of its recommendations, from a Royal point of view, was that—unlike Her Majesty's subjects in the south—the Highlanders were not always troubling her with well-meant but tiresome attentions. They are primitive, true-hearted, and reticent people, and therefore the pleasantest imaginable for sovereigns and princes to live amongst.

It is well known that ever since her first visit to Scotland, before she had a home of her own in the Highlands, the Queen had been in the habit of looking in at the dwellings of the humble peasantry, some of the numerous anecdotes recorded of this subject being highly amusing.

Not long after the Queen came to live amongst these Highlanders a gentleman managed to overcome the natural reticence of a poor family who dwelt amongst the hills, and extracted from them some unsophisticated opinions about the Sovereign. "Many a laird's daughter is mair grandly dressed," remarked the wife; and then continued with the greatest warmth: "Aye, and she has nae pride either, for she enters a' the houses of the pair in the neighbourhood of Balmoral; and should it happen to be diet-time when she visits them she always partakes of a small quantity of their humble fare, no matter how poor it be." "Once when she came here," interrupted the head of the humble

QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER CORONATION ROBES.

THE QUEEN.

THE QUEEN AND PRINCE CONSORT.

THE QUEEN IN HER BRIDAL DRESS.

household, "I had the great honour of handing Her Majesty the bread and cheese—for it chanced as I was in—and she ate it heartily too." As the gentleman expressed a little astonishment at this, the old housewife exclaimed "Aye, and that's no a'! She thinks naething when she's out on her visits o' making purchases in the shape of butter and eggs, and taking them hame hersel'!"

In one of the Queen's walks about Balmoral she called at the hut of an ancient Highland widow, and talked quite familiarly with her about many things. At last the old woman remarked, "Ye ne'er say anything about the Queen. I reckon ye're Mrs Albert hersel'!"

Calling at another "bothy," Her Majesty found a very old dame alone at tea. In the course of a chat the Queen said, "You are very old to be alone." "Oh," was the reply, "I've a wealth o' folk to tak care o' me, but they are out to see the Queen." "Tell them," rejoined Her Majesty, "when they return that the Queen has been to see you."

On another occasion the Queen took shelter late one evening from a heavy shower of rain, in the same bothy, and received from the old dame a very free but well-meant scolding for venturing out so late.

Sometimes the Queen would ramble about the hills, accompanied by Lady Glenlyon, and once they entered a cottage, where the Queen remained upwards of a quarter of an hour, examining with great interest the few implements of husbandry and cooking which lay on the mud floor of the hovel. Its simple inmates proffered their hospitality to their Sovereign, and a bowl of milk—all they had to offer—was graciously accepted, but they had no conception of the exalted rank of their guest. The old woman in the cottage was at her spinning-wheel, with the "rock and wee pickle tow," and explained the use of it to Her Majesty.

Sometimes a more exhilarating beverage than milk was offered. One day the Queen and the Prince drove to the old village of Blair, where sheep-shearing was going on, in which Her Majesty was much amused. They then went on to Glen Tilt, and entered a hut, where the gude wife was spinning. Her Majesty sat down and conversed with her very affably for some time. Here, too, the inmates did not know the rank of their visitors; but in accordance with custom they put a bottle and glass on the table and asked them to taste the "mountain dew."

The Queen's natural kindness of disposition was nowhere so much in evidence as in the Highlands; for there, as I have before observed, she could mingle with the humblest of her subjects with ease and familiarity, knowing that her confidence would never be abused.

It is said that once, while taking a drive, Her Majesty noticed a man on the road carrying a bundle and looking very tired. She entered into conversation with him by inquiring where he came from and whither he was going. He told her he had come from Cromarty, and was on his way to Dundee, intending to cross the Capel, as being the nearest road. Her Majesty then remarked that, as he seemed much fatigued, and his bundle was apparently heavy, if he would put it in the carriage her coachman would take him up on the box. Thus was the wayfarer helped some miles on his way, and was, naturally, greatly affected by the considerate kindness shown to him by his Sovereign.

After Crathie church was rebuilt there was some idea of introducing into the mode of worship certain changes that had become quite general in the Lowlands, and had been adopted even in some of the Highland churches. But when the Queen was consulted she said that she thought it better to make "no alteration," her decision being, no doubt, a little influenced by her own attachment to the old usages, but more so by her desire to do nothing to offend or wound the feelings of her humble neighbours.

When anybody at Balmoral was ill the Queen soon heard of it, and did all she could to mitigate the suffering of the patient. When her head gardener was lying seriously ill she called to inquire how he was; and when he died, although the weather was most inclement on the day of his interment, she attended the funeral service and visited the sorrowing widow, remaining with her for some time, and affording her the consolation that only one who had suffered in like manner could give. Her Majesty frequently visited the graves of her faithful attendants and others, and with her own hands placed wreaths upon their last resting-places.

The Queen had a fine humour and keen appreciation of a joke. Once she observed a man with a camera some distance off, looking at her most wistfully, but not daring to take a "shot." Presently she despatched this message to him: "Her Majesty trusts you will send her a copy;" and no doubt he did.

Many years ago, on returning from a visit to the beautiful falls of Corriemulzie, near Mar Lodge, where the stream precipitates itself into a deep ravine, charmingly clothed on each side with rich evergreen foliage, she met a large drove of cattle coming from the Castleton market. The drover addressed Lady Agnes Duff, who was in attendance on Her Majesty, and said, "Please can you tell me if the Queen is forward to-night?" Overhearing the question, Her Majesty turned round and bestowed upon the stalwart Highlander a most gracious bow and smile; and Sir George Grey, who was also of the party, stepped back and told him who the lady was.

This Isle of Wight retreat is, like Balmoral, full of tender associations with the Prince Consort.

In the autumn of the year 1844 the Queen, who ever since her marriage had desired to possess a private residence entirely her own, went down to the Isle of Wight with Prince Albert to look over a modest estate of some 800 acres, belonging to Lady Isabella Blatchford, in order to find out if it were suitable for the object she had in view.

Quite a family—two sons and two daughters—had by this time sprung up around the Royal couple, and these young people required sea-bathing and a bracing, yet not too keen, sea air. The Queen knew the island well, for, as a girl of fourteen, she had lived with her mother for a short time at Norris Castle—a picturesque embattled edifice in the old baronial style—close to East Cowes, and had explored almost every part worth seeing.

There was then only a plain red-brick manor-house on the Osborne estate, but the surroundings were perfect. It seemed to be just what the Queen wanted, and in the following year became Her Majesty's own property, as free from the supervision of the Lord Chamberlain's "department" as that of any of her subjects.

When the transfer of the Osborne estate had been effected, Prince Albert, with his customary energy, set about building the new mansion and laying out the grounds according to his own taste, and the result was, as we now see it, perfect. The Queen once said in referring to Balmoral, "All has become my dearest Albert's own creation, own work, own building, own laying-out, as at Osborne."

Various acquisitions of surrounding land from time to time have brought up the total area of the Osborne estates to about 5000 acres—a compact block, two and a half miles by two miles wide. Hardly any place in England can surpass it in diversity of hill and dale, woodland, meadow, and seashore. A magnificent lawn slopes down to the water, and the house, approached by a succession of terraces, and standing on high ground, commands unique views in every direction. First of all, that portion of the house called the "Pavilion," containing the Royal apartments, was built, together with the east front, and later on the north and the east wings. The garden was laid out

under the personal direction of the Prince. Choice shrubs and conifers were planted, shady walks and drives formed, terraces, lawns, and flower-beds arranged, and the place became absolutely charming as a retreat from the heat and noisy excitement of the great metropolis.

Osborne is quite in contrast with the stately magnificence of Windsor, the simplicity of Balmoral, or the palatial grandeur of Buckingham Palace. It is built in the Italian style, and is, appropriately, the home of art. The corridors are adorned with most beautiful specimens of the sculptor's skill, the rooms are filled with exquisite cabinets and treasures in china and the precious metals, while the pictures are gems of modern art. Lightness, elegance, and cheerfulness are the characteristics of all the apartments. White and the light tints of green, azure, gold, and vermilion predominate in the colouring. Most of the rooms open upon corridors, and the lofty windows overlook terrace and lawn. Furniture, curtains, carpets, &c., all harmonise with their surroundings. The Queen's private sitting-room, drawing-room, and bedroom, and the apartments of any of the Princesses who might be staying with Her Majesty, were on the first floor.

Noblest of all is the Indian Room, a superb hall in Eastern style, composed of light cedar, the work of the famous Indian artist Ram Singh, of the Mayo School of Art. Its floor is covered with the finest and largest carpet ever made, and the ceiling is about the most perfectly designed in the world.

In everything pertaining to the navy or to yachting Her Majesty took the keenest interest, and when she was at Osborne a trustworthy "look-out" man was stationed in one of the towers—so prominent a feature of the house—whose sole business was to ascertain the name of every craft that passed by, so that, if the Queen desired it, information could at once be given her. During the month of August this individual and his assistant had enough to do, for then the little bay at Cowes is absolutely filled with fairy yachts of every class and build, and the Solent is white with their wings of snow.

At one time the Home Service messengers conveyed all official documents from the Foreign Office to the Court, and in the discharge of this highly responsible duty Mr B—— had travelled to Osborne from London with some important documents for the Queen's perusal. Before returning home, after taking his leave, he strolled through the lovely grounds, and found himself in one of the beautiful drives contrived by the late Prince Consort. It was springtime, and the "rath primroses" thickly studded the borders. To pick them was strictly forbidden, but the pale blossoms were "pleasant to the eyes," and—like Eve in another and distant garden—Mr B—— plucked. At that moment the Queen came suddenly round a corner of the drive in her pony carriage, accompanied by her Highland attendant, John Brown. The Queen's messenger, bouquet in hand, managed to back to allow her to pass; but, alas! he could not conceal the evidence of his guilt. The Queen, entering at once into the situation, smiled, and quietly said: "Gathering flowers, B——, to take back to your wife? That's a good man!"

It was in the oak-room, or Queen's private dining-room, leading out of the grand corridor, and used as a family *salle à manger*, that the smaller parties of guests were entertained; a comparatively plain apartment, light and cheerful, overlooking the quadrangle, where in the summer the band played while the Queen was dining. Over the fireplace hangs Angeli's well-known picture (1877) of the Queen holding a handkerchief in her hands—said to be Her Majesty's favourite portrait of herself. On the walls are also four very interesting portraits of Her Majesty's daughters-in-law, and two fine pieces of Gobelins tapestry. The table is a round one, at which the Queen usually sat with her back to her own picture.

The privileged *invitées* to these dinners generally assembled in the grand corridor, and, as the dinner hour approached, they were directed by the Master of the Household to arrange themselves in two rows—the ladies on one side, the gentlemen on the other—the more important guests being near the door through which Her Majesty passed on her way to the dining-room. Dinner over, the Queen adjourned to the corridor, where she received her other guests. Her Majesty, as a rule, occupied a chair immediately outside the dining-room, having by her side a charming little table of unique design, the top made out of a section of Norwegian pine flagstaff that stood on the Round Tower from 1829 to 1892. As her guests came before her in turn Her Majesty said a few words to some and conversed with others, as the case might be. Sometimes, but rarely, she walked round, saying a few kindly words of recognition to all. The Queen then retired to her own apartment, and was not seen again. Formerly Her Majesty used to leave the dining-room with the Prince Consort, and, by way of the corridor, entered the suite of large drawing-rooms, where music, and sometimes dancing, filled up the remainder of the evening.

Though dining with the Queen for the first time was necessarily something of an ordeal, the feeling of nervousness soon passed off, and the agitated guest was astonished to find himself feeling at ease under the influence of the really tact of Her Majesty and the Princesses. This was exemplified many years ago, when a British peer, dining with the Queen, was challenged by a Royal Duchess to take wine with her. His Lordship politely thanked Her Grace, but begged to be excused, as he never took wine. The Duchess immediately turned to the Queen and jocularly said, "Please, your Majesty, here is Lord ——, who declines to take wine at your Majesty's table." Every eye turned to the Queen, and no little curiosity was evinced as to what she would say to the bold teetotaler. Smiling graciously, she simply replied, "There is no compulsion at my table." Some of Her Majesty's experiences, however, have been of a most amusing character, especially with children.

Laughter always seemed to excite the Queen's curiosity. Once Miss H—— and her companions (ladies in waiting) were heard by the Queen laughing immoderately in an apartment close by. Her Majesty sent to inquire what it was all about, and the intelligence was brought that "Miss H—— was dancing a jig." "Oh," said the Queen, "I should like to see Miss H—— dance a jig." So she was sent for, and, of course, did as Her Majesty wished. "Now," said the Queen, "you must select a present. No one ever dances before Royalty without being rewarded. What would you like?" For a moment Miss H—— hesitated; then, archly putting her hands behind her back in schoolgirl fashion, replied, "Mr ——'s head in a charger!" The Queen was much amused, and answered, "That is a request I can hardly comply with." But the next day a splendid black horse arrived from Her Majesty for Miss H—— with a message to the effect that the utmost she could do towards gratifying Miss H——'s wish was to send the "charger" minus the politician's head.

The private chapel at Windsor was constantly used by Her Majesty. It was formerly the music room, and is full of solemn memories of Prince Albert, for here Her Majesty used to sit by her beloved husband's side, while

> . . . His vibrant touch
> Instinct through all proportions, low and high,
> Fled and pursued transverse the resonant fugue.

Before partaking of the Sacrament they often played sacred pieces together on the organ, or spent the time in solemn meditation. Both Sovereign and Consort were alike in their deep reverence for sacred things.

Princess Victoria, Aged 8.

Princess Victoria, Aged 10.

The Queen, as she appeared when Reviewing the Troops at Windsor in September, 1837.

The Queen in the Royal Pew, St. George's Chapel, Windsor, 1840.

The Queen with the Princess Royal and the Prince of Wales.

At one time, *circa* 1852, the Queen held classes at Windsor, both on Sundays and weekdays, for the children of her domestics, and gave unremitting attention to them. She systematically taught her own sons and daughters the elements of our common faith. On one occasion the Archdeacon of London was engaged in catechising the young Princes, and, surprised at the accuracy of their answers, said to the Prince of Wales, "Your governess deserves great credit for instructing you so thoroughly," whereupon the Royal boy replied, "Oh, but it is our mamma who teaches us the catechism."

Her Majesty was quite a horticulturist, her knowledge of botany extensive, and her ideas of laying out shrubberies, &c., most correct and up to date. Lilacs were the Queen's favourite flowers, and laburnums, magnolias, and honeysuckles.

There are capital facilities for outdoor exercise all round the Castle, and in fine weather Her Majesty's pony carriage was a familiar object on the lovely slopes that extend for nearly a mile on the margin of the lawn and Home Park, and constitute one of the most delightful features of the Royal gardens. Along the upper margin is a broad walk leading to the Royal kennels and to Frogmore, and known as Queen Victoria's Walk. The lower part of the slopes is intercepted with walks, and, like those on the higher ground, wide enough to admit of the Queen driving along them.

Close to Adelaide Cottage is the Roundabout Garden, for years a favourite resort of the Queen. It is inclosed by a belt of trees and shrubs, and contains some glorious rhododendrons, a fine breadth of turf, and a rustic summerhouse. Further on, in a southerly direction, is the Jubilee Walk, so called because it is flanked on either side by trees of the evergreen oak, planted by the Queen and the members of the Royal family in 1887. In warm weather Her Majesty frequently retired to shady, cool, and peaceful Frogmore, where she had afternoon tea in a little kiosk close to the Prince Consort's mausoleum.

In the more prosaic, but highly necessary, reform of the domestic arrangements at the Palace in Her Majesty's early married years Prince Albert's wisdom was strikingly manifested. The most ludicrous "red-tapeism" existed amongst the Palace officials, of which Baron Stockmar gives the following amusing instance:

Having been sent one day by Her Majesty to the Master of the Household to complain that the dining-room was always cold, that high official gravely answered, "You see, Baron, properly speaking, it is not our fault, for the Lord Steward *lays* the fire only, the Lord Chamberlain *lights* it."

From the year 1840 to 1860 Buckingham Palace was the scene of very many grand entertainments, banquets, balls, State concerts, &c., for which functions its spacious salons are well adapted; but when, after 1850, the south wing was added, containing a splendid ball-room with a promenade gallery adjoining, and a lofty supper-room, the facilities for entertaining large numbers of guests were much increased. When the Queen was present at the concerts she sat in the front chair close to the platform, and a lady who had the honour of singing an ode before her in the Jubilee year of 1887 told me that she observed that Her Majesty followed every note with the careful attention of a professed musician.

A story is related illustrative of the Queen's appreciation of excellence in a vocalist. It refers to Lablache, the great operatic singer. During the conversation that he once had with the Queen, she said, "Is it true that you have a large collection of snuff boxes?" "Yes, your Majesty," replied Lablache, "I have one for every day in the year—three hundred and sixty-five." "Nevertheless," rejoined the Queen, "your collection is not quite complete. Here is another for leap year!"

As a traveller Her Majesty had many curious experiences, and sometimes dangerous ones. She had been in a railway accident, had been lost on mountains in the Highlands, had encountered several storms at sea, and had met with many serious carriage mishaps. Once, at the sequestered village of Horton, four miles from Windsor, Her Majesty was driving a small phaeton, which somehow or other turned over on its side, almost throwing her into a ditch. The situation was awkward, but a lady who happened to be passing in a pony chaise solved the difficulty by offering her vehicle to the Queen, who gladly accepted it, graciously acknowledging the kindly assistance the following day by a kind letter accompanied by a present of a beautiful pair of camelia-sticks bearing Her Majesty's initials. She over and over again took shelter in cottages from the rain, and several times, when caught in a shower, accepted the loan of an umbrella.

Parisians still record the incident connected with Her Majesty when she was the guest of the Emperor Napoleon III. in 1855. The Queen was surprised by the rain and put up her *parapluie*, whereupon one of the crowd, thinking that it looked hardly large enough to shelter her, offered his own, which was accepted with a gracious smile. The next morning he received his property back, and with it a splendid gold snuff box on which were engraved the Royal Arms.

During this memorable visit a room was fitted up in the Palace of St. Cloud to resemble in every detail the Queen's favourite apartments at Windsor Castle. One day Her Majesty said to the Empress: "If my little dog were lying on that chair I should most certainly feel that I was at Windsor." On the following morning there lay the sleeping dog in the chair. The Emperor had telegraphed for the animal, which, being sent off by express, arrived in time, to the surprise and delight of his Royal mistress.

Her Majesty met with a very amusing adventure on the Continent many years after the above occurrence. It was in March, 1879, when, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, she went to Northern Italy and passed four weeks near the Lago Maggiore. Although the weather was abominable Her Majesty walked out, accompanied by Lady Churchill, to do some shopping at Baveno. They sheltered themselves as best they could by keeping close to the houses, and at last entered a pin and needle factory. On their way back to the Villa Clara they went into a shop where carved wood was sold. The carver began by turning his shop upside down to show it to the illustrious occupant of the Villa Clara, and it so happened that his assistant let slip a ladder which caused a number of things to fall to the ground. Unfortunately, the Queen was standing beneath, and quite an avalanche of carved wood came pouring on to her august head and shoulders, as well as on Lady Churchill. Luckily, neither lady was hurt. The unfortunate shopkeeper nearly fainted at such a contretemps, and for a few minutes lost the use of his tongue. Her Majesty, however, laughed, and jokingly said to Lady Churchill as she went out that she supposed people would say it was one more attempt on a Sovereign's life.

The Queen has also been in some curious places, notably when, accompanied by Prince Albert, she was dragged in a truck by the miners along the galleries of the Bestorrel mine, in Cornwall, vivid recollections of which event still linger amongst the loyal and simple-minded people of the district.

During this visit to the land of the West Britons the Royal Yacht put into Falmouth Harbour, and, thinking that it would afford Her Majesty some diversion, it was proposed that the Royal party should witness the shooting of a seine for pilchards. Her Majesty and Prince Albert embarked in the barge, which was steered by Alfred Fox, a prominent Quaker of Falmouth, who related the incident to me many years ago.

seated in the extreme stern-sheets of the boat, he had the privilege of being in close proximity to the Queen. After rounding Pendennis Castle, at the entrance of the lovely harbour, when they began to encounter the swell of the open channel, he noticed that the lively movement of the barge seemed to affect Her Majesty to some extent. But the Queen was not to be daunted, and the long row was continued until the fishing-ground at Gyllyngvase—a small bay on the seaward side of Falmouth town—was reached. Here the net was shot, but, alas! not even for the edification of Royalty did a single pilchard condescend to be caught. Mr Fox noticed that Her Majesty was unusually silent all the time, which he attributed to the effect of the waves.

For the sufferings of others, especially children, Her Majesty felt intensely. When she visited the London Hospital in 1876 she spoke to a boy eight years of age, who had had his leg broken in a carriage accident. After he left the hospital the child, of his own accord, and without his father's and mother's knowledge, wrote a letter to the Queen, and posted it with no other address than that of "Lady Queen Victoria." The letter was delivered to the Queen, and when, upon inquiry, she found that the idea of sending the letter was the boy's very own, she sent him a gift of £2.

Of a like kind is the following incident. The little daughter of Dr Smith, Dumfries, who had been for several years an invalid, was so interested in what she heard about the Queen's long reign that she expressed a strong desire to send a letter of congratulation to Her Majesty. At last she was allowed to write a note of her own composition, which was sent to Balmoral. "Dear Queen," she wrote, "I write to say how glad I am that you have reigned so long, and I hope you will still live for many years to come. I do not think you have ever been in Dumfries, the place I am writing from. This is my home, and I am nine years old. I have been an invalid for nearly three years, and for the last twelve months have not been able to sit up, so please excuse the writing. With much love and best wishes, believe me, dear Queen, your affectionate friend, CATHERINE M. SMITH."

Three days later the little invalid received a portrait of the Queen and the following letter:

"Balmoral Castle,
"Sept. 28, 1896.

"Miss Phipps is desired by the Queen to thank Catherine M. Smith for her nice little letter, and to forward the accompanying photograph, which Her Majesty thinks she might like to have in her room, as she is, unfortunately, an 'invalid.'"

A simple but touching incident arose after the Queen's visit to Derby in 1891 to lay the first stone of the new infirmary. Ten months previously a poor crippled woman had been busy working at a rug which she was going to give to that institution, and her great ambition was that the Queen should stand upon it during the ceremony. Her wish was conveyed by the Mayor to Sir Henry Ponsonby, and Her Majesty at once ordered a telegram to be sent, saying how pleased she would be to gratify the poor invalid's wish, and that she would use the rug when she laid the foundation-stone.

Lastly, I must relate an act of the Queen, simple in itself, and one that any other true lady would doubtless have performed, but which shows how womanly feeling with Her Majesty predominated over all thought of a Sovereign's dignity. Many years ago, when the gold discoveries in Australia—especially in Victoria—created such a sensation, and nuggets of almost pure gold were being constantly reported, one of the largest discovered up to that time was sent home, and the bank to which it was consigned thought that such a novelty ought to be submitted to Her Majesty and Prince Albert for their inspection. Permission being obtained, a gentleman connected with the bank took charge of the weighty mass of precious metal, which was packed in a handsome mahogany box made for the purpose. On arriving at Buckingham Palace, Mr ——, who was in extremely delicate health—in fact, in a decline—was only too glad to hand his precious charge to the custody of one of the Royal servants, by whom it was conveyed to the antechamber adjoining the Queen's audience chamber. To his dismay, he was then told that etiquette demanded that he should carry the heavy box into the Queen's presence himself. The door was opened, and he advanced tottering, his own weakness and the weight of the nugget almost causing him to faint. The Queen instantly comprehended the situation, and, not waiting to summon a servant, advanced towards Mr H—— saying, "Oh, I am sure you are not able to carry it"; and with Prince Albert's help she took the precious burden out of his trembling hands and conveyed it to the nearest table, where they examined it with the deepest interest.

To the sorrows of others the Queen was ever keenly alive. But did we sufficiently realise how great were Her Majesty's own personal sorrows? How terribly during her long reign she suffered from the loss of friends! "The saddest of all losses, for"—to quote the late Bishop Thorold—"it is irremediable; the commonest, for it is the lot of all in turn; the most abiding, for the resurrection seems far away. It is the loss by death which long ago made the army of the dead outnumber the army of the living, and which is ever impoverishing us with a deeper poverty."

Anecdotes of our late Sovereign as Princess and as Queen abound; and some, though pretty well known, may now with sorrowful love be tenderly recalled and treasured up still more fondly in our memory.

Harriet Martineau tells us that when the Queen was a child, staying at Tunbridge Wells, she had been unable to buy a box at the bazaar because she had spent all her money. At the bazaar she had bought presents for almost all her relations, and had laid out her last shilling, when she remembered one cousin more, and saw a box priced half a crown, which would suit him. The shop people, of course, placed the box with the other purchases, but the little Princess's governess admonished them by saying, "No, you see the Princess has not got the money, therefore, of course, she cannot buy the box." This being perceived, the next offer was to lay by the box till it could be purchased, and the answer was "Oh well, if you will be so good as to do that." On quarter-day, before seven in the morning, the Princess appeared with her donkey, to claim her purchase.

(Photograph by Bedford.

THE CORRIDOR OSBORNE.

(Photograph by G. W. Wilson and Co., Aberdeen.

BALMORAL CASTLE FROM THE DEE.

THE QUEEN IN THE ROYAL BOX, DRURY LANE, 1838.

THE PRINCE CONSORT.

Long, long ago an old sailor, who was watching Her Majesty's yacht cruising in the Solent, was heard remarking to a friend "I mind how that brave lady ever from her childish days has had a kind heart for poor Jack Tar. Why in her walks about the coast years agone with the Duchess of Kent many's the time she's listened to a poor sailor's yarns about his shipwrecks, his troubles, aye and his joys, for there's fair weather as well as rough. My old comrade, Timber Tough as we call him, now in Greenwich Hospital, told me that once upon a time, when the Princess Victoria was at Dover, and used to walk about the cliffs, he and his son Jim, the fisherman, were mending their nets in a sheltered cove, when all of a sudden a grand lady and a bright-looking little missy and another lady, and two men servants at a distance, came round the point of the cliff right afore them. A camp stool was brought for the lady with the grand look, and Timber Tough, who knew a bit of manners, made a sign for his son to gather up the nets, and meant to go away; but the lady said, very sweetly, 'Don't let us disturb you'; and the little missy added, 'You need not go away'; and somehow they got to asking about nets and fishing, and then about the sea, and perhaps the young lady had been reading about the perils of the great deep, for she asked, 'Have you ever been shipwrecked?' 'Yes miss, that I have,' says Timber Tough, 'upon a desolate island too.' 'Indeed!' says the little miss, 'Where?'" And the old sailor went on to state that Timber Tough had told the story of his shipwreck to the wondering child, not discovering until the following day that she was the Princess Victoria.

Soon after she ascended the throne the young Queen began to show the results of her early training, which was particularly evinced in her respect for the Lord's Day. One of her first acts was to refuse to examine on a Sunday some State papers which Melbourne had brought for her inspection. They were of importance, but the Premier had arrived too late on Saturday night for the Queen to go into them then, and requested that she would give them her attention on the following morning. "To-morrow is Sunday, my Lord," replied the Queen. "But business of State, please your Majesty," urged the Premier, "must be attended to." "I know," answered the Queen, "and as, of course, you could not get down earlier to-night I will, if these papers are of such vital importance, attend to them after we come from church to-morrow morning." Next day the Queen went to church, and Lord Melbourne went too. The sermon was on the obligation of the Christian Sabbath, and the statesman was taken rather by surprise. After the service the Queen asked him how he had liked the sermon. "Very much, your Majesty," he replied. "I cannot conceal from you," returned the Queen, "that last night I sent the clergyman the text from which he was to preach. I hope we shall all be the better for his words." The day passed without anything being said of the papers, but at night, as the Queen was about to withdraw, she said, "To-morrow morning, my lord, at any hour you please, we will go into these papers, at seven o'clock if you like." His lordship replied that nine o'clock would be quite early enough.

Once it came to Her Majesty's knowledge, through the then Bishop of London, that two Wesleyans belonging to the Royal band had been summarily dismissed for refusing to attend at Sunday rehearsals. Sending to the leader, the Queen inquired what had become of the two handsmen; and on being told that their "absurd religious scruples" were the cause of their dismissal, she commanded that they should be at once reinstated, adding with emphasis worthy of the occasion, "I will have no more persecution in my service for conscience's sake, and I will have no more rehearsals on Sundays."

Her Majesty's quickness of wit was shown about this time in connection with a sermon preached before her by Dean Hook, who held extreme High Church principles. In the course of his homily the Dean "told the Queen that the Church would endure, let what would happen to the Throne." On her return to Buckingham House, Lord Normanby, who had been at the chapel, said to her, "Did not your Majesty find it very hot?" She said, "Yes, and the sermon was very hot too."

When the Queen was first married she was the soul of fun. We hear of her polking with the Countess of Wratislaw, and making that lady give her a regular dancing lesson; of her getting all her ladies to dance a reel, laughing heartily while she looked on. Once the Prince and one of her Maids of Honour amused her greatly by spinning rings and counters. "The Queen," said the maid in question, Miss Liddell, "supplied me with her different rings, and gave the history of each. One a small enamel, with a tiny diamond in the centre, the Prince gave her the first time he came to England, when he was sixteen. Another beautiful emerald serpent he gave her after they were engaged. The next, the Queen said, was my 'wedding ring,' which she has never taken off, and yesterday, when a rent was taken of her hand, Her Majesty was in an agony lest the ring should come off with the plaster."

During the first Royal progress the Queen and Prince Albert made, an amusing incident occurred. Lady Canning and Miss Liddell absented themselves in a sheltered place on deck, protected from the paddle box, when presently the Queen came on deck and remarked what a comfortable place they had chosen. Her Majesty sent for her camp stool and sat down beside them. They all three were composedly working away at some plaited paper bonnets, when a commotion among the sailors attracted their attention. The men had gathered in little knots, and were talking together in a somewhat mysterious manner. Presently an officer came up to the Queen and her companions, looking rather puzzled, but his courage seemed to forsake him, and he went away again. Then another officer approached with the same puzzled look; but he also appeared to lose heart, and walked away as the first had done. At last the captain, Lord Adolphus FitzClarence, drew near, whereupon the Queen inquired what was the matter, adding with a arch smile, that she hoped there was not going to be a mutiny on board. Lord Adolphus laughed, but remarked that he really did not know what would happen unless Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to move her seat. "Move my seat," said the Queen, "Why should I, what possible harm can I be doing here?" "Well, ma'am," said Lord Adolphus, "the fact is, your Majesty is unwittingly closing up the door of the place where the grog tubs are kept, and so the men cannot have their grog!" "Oh, very well," said the Queen, "I will move on one condition—that you bring me a glass of grog." This was accordingly done, and after tasting it, the Queen said, "I am afraid I can only make the same remark I did once before, that I think it would be very good if it were stronger."

One day when Her Majesty returned to Portsmouth from Osborne, it happened to be Oct. 21, the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar, and the Victory was adorned with wreaths and garlands of laurel. The Queen expressed a wish to go on board, and was at once taken alongside the ship in the Royal barge, which was waiting to convey the party to the shore. Her Majesty went on to the quarter-deck to see the spot where the great admiral fell. It is marked by a brass plate, on which, in the centre of a wreath of laurels, are inscribed the words "Here Nelson fell." While reading this inscription the Queen shed tears, and remained silent for some moments. She then addressed a few words to Prince Albert, and, plucking a couple of leaves from the wreath, expressed her desire to see the cabin in which

Nelson died. Lights were immediately ordered to be taken down into the cockpit while Her Majesty inspected the poop of the Victory, and read aloud, with marked emphasis, the inscription thereon: "England expects every man to do his duty." She then went below, followed by Prince Albert and members of the suite. The main deck was at this moment in great confusion consequent upon the firing of a Royal salute in honour of the Queen's arrival, and whilst descending the ladder Her Majesty was run against by a powder-monkey, who was bringing up a fresh supply of gunpowder wherewith to salute her on her departure; Her Majesty was almost overthrown by the concussion, but bore it with gracious affability. She had no difficulty in identifying the exact spot where Nelson breathed his last, for it is indicated by a funeral urn emblazoned on one of the knees of the ship, surmounted by the words, "Here Nelson died." The Royal party remained in the cockpit for several minutes, and everybody appeared to be deeply moved by the pathetic associations of the place.

In the year 1843, when Her Majesty and Prince Albert commenced a Royal progress in France, Belgium, and England, she embarked at Southampton, where an incident occurred of quite the Elizabethan order. When the Royal party arrived at the pier, from some cause or another—probably the state of the tide—the yacht had not been brought close up; and in order to get on board, the Queen had to step into a barge and be pulled some two boats' length. The scarlet baize over the landing stage, ready to be run upon the yacht, was taken off to cover the steps leading direct to the boat, thus leaving the stage itself so wet and dirty (for it was raining at the time) that the Earl of Haddington exclaimed, "We must get some covering for the stage," which had been placed between the Queen's carriage and the pier steps. Nothing suitable could be obtained at so short a notice. But the members of the corporation, equal to the occasion, like so many Raleighs, stripped off their splendid robes of office; those of the mayor and aldermen, being scarlet, were selected, and a dry, comfortable pathway was made for Her Majesty, who had all this time been waiting to alight. She appeared much pleased and amused at the gallant action, and thoughtfully contrived to avoid stepping upon the velvet collars of the official robes.

While a children's ball was being prepared for at Buckingham Palace a carpet merchant, whose men were laying down some new carpets in the State apartments, got into the Palace in a workman's smock, and had a very unexpected interview with his sovereign. The gentleman in question was a connoisseur in art, and had resorted to this disguise in order to get a quiet view of the Royal pictures. In the midst of his inspection, the Queen, very plainly dressed, came tripping in, followed by two or three of her younger children. Approaching the supposed workman, she inquired, "Pray can you tell me when the carpet will be put down in the Privy Council Chambers?" "Really, Madam, I cannot tell, but I will inquire," said the disguised carpet merchant. "Stay," said Her Majesty, abruptly, but not unkindly. "Who are you? I perceive that you are not one of the workmen." The carpet merchant confessed the truth, pleading his love of art as an excuse for having practised such a ruse. The Queen, who seemed much amused, readily forgave him, and said, with a smile, "I knew for all your dress that you were a gentleman, because you did not 'Your Majesty' me. Pray look at the pictures as long as you will. Good morning. Come chicks, we must go."

In the earlier days when the Queen first went to Balmoral she regularly attended old Crathie Church, an unpretentious little building upon whose site the new one now stands; and it is said that she used to set a salutary example to many of the visitors who came only to stare by her devoutness and close attention to the service, always finding with her own hands the passages of Scripture quoted from, and joining heartily in the singing.

The worthy minister had a large Newfoundland dog that invariably escorted him to the kirk, gravely following him up the pulpit stairs, where he lay down and remained perfectly quiet until the service was over. One of Her Majesty's attendants, thinking it unseemly for a big dog to be seen in church, remonstrated with the minister for allowing his four-footed friend to come, and possibly annoy Her Majesty. The minister asked if the Queen had complained of the dog. "Oh, no," said the attendant, "I should not like Her Majesty to need to complain." "Very well," said the minister, "the dog will remain at home." Next Sabbath, of course, the dog's place was vacant. Not long afterwards the minister dined at the Castle, when the Queen, in her pleasant way, said to him, "What has become of your dog?" The minister explained that he understood it annoyed Her Majesty, and had therefore kept it at home. Her Majesty smiled, and said the dog was no annoyance, and she hoped "its church-going habits would not be interfered with in any way." So the following Sunday the dog occupied its usual "sitting" at the top of the pulpit stairs.

During the Crimean war—as during the Boer war—Her Majesty's feelings were stirred to the utmost depth. In 1855 the Queen and Prince Albert visited Chatham for the purpose of examining the invalided soldiers returned from the war. Her Majesty particularly noticed one who had lost an arm. "What is your name?" said the Queen, addressing him. "Breeze, your Majesty." "Where did you lose your arm?" "At the battle of Balaclava." "Poor fellow! I hope they will behave well to you. What regiment did you belong to?" "Prince Albert's 11th Hussars, where I have served as sergeant for the last twelve years," was the soldier's reply. Her Majesty instantly turned round to the Prince, saying, "My dear, you must do something for him." And, nodding to Sergt. Breeze in the most gentle manner, said, "You shall not be forgotten."

Shortly after Her Majesty's return to Windsor she gave orders that Sergt. Breeze should receive five shillings a week out of her private purse, and had him appointed one of the Yeomen of the Guard, with a pension of two shillings a day for life.

The Queen, at her own private expense, also commanded an expert to construct artificial arms and legs for nine men whose severe mutilation attracted her notice during her visits to the hospitals of Portsmouth and Chatham; and a tenth man, suffering from an injured vertebræ, was presented by Her Majesty with a spinal instrument. To such an extent were the Queen's sympathies evoked that she forbade all fancy work at Court in order that she and her attendants might devote all their leisure time to the making of comfortable articles for the use of the brave men of the Crimea.

On one occasion handkerchiefs and neckties, hemmed by the Queen and the ladies of the Court, were sent to thirty sick and wounded soldiers at Portsmouth—an example of kindness which her subjects were not slow to follow. One private, James Cobb, of the 93rd Highlanders, belonging to Brechin, who was wounded in the trenches on the day that Sebastopol was taken, wrote to a friend: "I had a present from Her Majesty the Queen since I wrote to you last. It consists of a silk handkerchief, and the letter accompanying it stated that it was hemmed by the Princess Royal."

Anything that had to do with the sea, and with Her Majesty's mercantile marine and her magnificent navy, possessed a charm for the late Sovereign of our sea-girt land, evinced from the earliest period of her reign, as shown by the following incident picked up at random from a multitude of similar ones.

In 1848 a terrible shipwreck took place, that of the Ocean Monarch, and it came to the Queen's knowledge that a child had been rescued, only to be cast upon the world without a friend or relation to look after it. Quietly and unostentatiously Her Majesty gave orders that the poor little orphan should be maintained and educated at her own cost, and started in life in the position to which it belonged.

Forty-eight years later the Queen's grief at that awful disaster, the loss of the Drummond Castle, and her appreciation of the humanity and kindly feeling of the Breton islanders was evinced in a manner which is still fresh in everybody's memory.

Nine children, whose careers will be treated of in a future article, have been born to the Queen, five daughters and four sons. One daughter, the Princess Alice, is dead, also two sons, the Dukes of Coburg and Albany. Surviving are the Empress Frederick of Germany, the Prince of Wales, Princess Christian, the Duchess of Argyll, the Duke of Connaught, and Princess Henry of Battenberg.

Innumerable events, political, social, and domestic, happened during the Queen's long reign, and during that period, with but brief intervals of quietude, there have been many wars, great and little, a sad commentary on the well-known fact that the Queen was ever opposed to them except under the strongest provocation, and earnestly desired to end her days in peace with all the world, a hope not destined, alas! to be fulfilled. There have been forty-one campaigns in all, viz.:

A war against Russia, 1854.
Three wars against Afghanistan, 1838 and 1878.
Four wars against China, 1841, 1842, 1856, 1860.
Two wars against the Sikhs, 1845, 1846.
Three Kaffir wars, 1846, 1851, 1877.
Three wars against Burma, 1850, 1852, 1885.
Nine wars in India, 1857, 1840, 1842, 1843, 1865, 1878, 1880, 1887.
Four Ashantee wars, 1864, 1873, 1896, 1900.
One war against Abyssinia, 1867.
A war against Perak, 1875.
A war against the Zulus, 1879.
One war against the Basutos, 1879.
Two wars in Egypt, 1882, 1884.
Three wars in the Soudan, 1885, 1896, 1899.
A war in Zanzibar, 1896.
A war against the Matabele, 1896.
Two wars against the Transvaal, 1881 and 1899.

It will be noted that, with the exception of the Crimean war and the wars against the Boers, all these expeditions of bloodshed were organised against savage or semi-savage nations or small tribes.

Her late Majesty ascended the throne June 20, 1837, was crowned June 28 the next year, and was united to Prince Albert Feb. 10, 1840.

That same year, on June 10, an attempt, the first of such dastardly outrages, was made upon her life by Oxford, and on Nov. 21 the Princess Royal of England first saw the light of day.

Taking them chronologically subsequent years were thus noted:

1841. Birth of the Prince of Wales.
1842. The massacre at Cabul, fancy dress ball at Buckingham Palace, and the Queen's first visit to Scotland.
1843. Birth of Princess Alice, and the Royal visit to King Louis Phillippe at Treport in the new yacht Victoria and Albert.
1844. Birth of Prince Alfred, and opening of the Royal Exchange.
1845. The Royal visit to the Continent.
1846. The Sikh war, the building of Osborne House, and the birth of Princess Helena.
1847. The Prince Consort elected Chancellor of Cambridge, and the great famine in Ireland.
1848. Birth of the Princess Louise, the French Revolution, and the Chartist Riots.
1849. Attempt on the Queen's life by Hamilton, opening of the London Coal Exchange, first appearance in public of the Prince of Wales, and the Royal visit to Ireland.
1850. Building of the Great Exhibition, death of Sir Robert Peel, and birth of Prince Arthur.
1851. Opening of the Great Exhibition, and grand ball at the Mansion House.
1852. Death of the Duke of Wellington, and discovery of gold in Australia.
1853. Birth of Prince Leopold, and marriage of Napoleon to the Empress Eugenie.
1854. The Russian war.
1855. Royal visit to Paris, visit of the Emperor and Empress of the French to London, the Great Frost, and the death of Lord Raglan.
1856. Proclamation of peace at Charing Cross, and review of the Crimean troops.
1857. Birth of Princess Beatrice, distribution of the Victoria Cross in Hyde Park, and the Indian Mutiny.
1858. Marriage of the Princess Royal, Royal visits to Birmingham and Cherbourg, birth of the present German Emperor, and the Royal visit to North Wales.
1859. The Great Eastern built.
1860. The Great Civil War of America, the Volunteer movement, visit of the Prince of Wales to Canada, and the death of Lord Aberdeen.
1861. Death of the Prince Consort, and the death of the Queen's mother, the Duchess of Kent.
1862. Marriage of Princess Alice, and the cotton famine in Lancashire.
1863. Marriage of the Prince of Wales.
1864. Birth of Prince Albert Victor of Wales, and Garibaldi in London.
1865. Birth of Prince George of Wales, assassination of President Lincoln.
1866. Marriage of Princess Helena, marriage of Princess Mary of Cambridge, visit to Wolverhampton, the Albert Medal created.
1867. The Reform Riots in Hyde Park, birth of Princess May of Teck and the Princess Louise of Wales.
1868. Birth of Princess Victoria of Wales, first visit to Switzerland, the Abyssinian war, and the attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh in New South Wales.
1869. Opening of the Holborn Viaduct and Blackfriars Bridge, and birth of the Princess Maud of Wales.
1870. The Franco-Prussian war and the downfall of Metz. The death of Charles Dickens.
1871. The Thames Embankment opened, marriage of the Princess Louise, serious illness of the Prince of Wales, the Albert Hall opened, and the Tichborne trial.
1872. Thanksgiving Day (Feb. 27), Dr Livingstone discovered by H. M. Stanley, and the Alabama claims.
1873. Visit of the Shah of Persia, death of Napoleon III., and opening of the Victoria Park.
1874. Marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh.
1875. Visit of the Prince of Wales to India.
1876. The Queen proclaimed Empress of India, Mr Disraeli created Earl of Beaconsfield, and the Albert Memorial finished.
1877. Visit to Lord Beaconsfield at Hughenden and war between Russia and Turkey.
1878. Death of Princess Alice and result of the Berlin Congress, "Peace with Honour."
1879. Marriage of the Duke of Connaught, the Zulu War, and the death of the Prince Imperial.
1880. War in Afghanistan, Roberts's march to Candahar, grand review in Windsor Park, and death of George Eliot.
1881. Death of Lord Beaconsfield, assassination of the Emperor of Russia, the Transvaal war, and marriage of Prince William of Prussia.

The Queen, aged 18.
Probably the first portrait after her Accession.

The Queen in 1855.

The Bridal Morn—the Queen and Prince Albert at Buckingham Palace after the Ceremony.

The Queen.

1882. Marriage of the Duke of Albany, the Phœnix Park murders, the Egyptian war, and the death of John Brown.
1883. The dynamite scare and the war in the Soudan.
1884. Death of the Duke of Albany.
1885. Marriage of the Princess Beatrice, death of Gordon, and visit to Darmstadt.
1886. Opening of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition, and Royal visit to the Liverpool and Edinburgh Exhibitions.
1887. The Jubilee Year.
1888. Silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, death of the Emperor William, and death of the Emperor Frederick of Germany.
1889. Marriage of the Princess Louise of Wales, visit of the Shah of Persia, and the Parnell Commission.
1890. Unveiling the Women's Jubilee Offering in Windsor Park.
1891. Engagement of the Duke of Clarence, illness of Prince George, visit to the Emperor and Empress of Germany, death of Mr Parnell, and launch of the Royal Sovereign.
1892. Death of the Duke of Clarence, death of Lord Tennyson, and death of Cardinal Manning.
1893. Marriage of the Duke of York, opening of the Imperial Institute, and the loss of Her Majesty's ship Victoria.
1894. Birth of Prince Edward of York, death of Alexander III. of Russia, and marriage of Nicholas II.
1895. Visit of the Shahzada.
1896. Death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, marriage of Princess Maud of Wales, the Transvaal Raid, and the Derby won by the Prince of Wales.
1897. The Diamond Jubilee Year.

Since the Diamond Jubilee there have followed in rapid succession, in Great Britain and in every quarter of the globe, a series of events of great import, far too many to enumerate here, and causing much anxiety to the Queen, culminating in the outbreak of the South African war. Her Majesty also suffered a deep family sorrow in the death of her son, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and recently experienced the gravest anxiety concerning the health of the Empress Frederick. Though noted beyond precedent for her powers of endurance, Her Majesty's health finally broke down under the continuous strain upon the nervous system.

The Queen's physician reported that during the past year the strain upon her powers had been great, and yet until Jan. 18, 1901, there was no intermission of the regular duties of the Sovereign. For the last three months especially Her Majesty, with characteristic fortitude, battled with increasing physical weakness and mental anxieties. Just prior to that date she had received unfavourable news regarding the Empress Frederick, but, happily, on Oct. 19 satisfactory reports came to hand. All London was then waiting to give hearty welcome to the City Imperial Volunteers, and the Queen, who followed everything relating to the South African campaign, and especially the doings of the volunteers, with the profoundest interest, immediately on the Aurania reaching Southampton Water, telegraphed to Col. Stackpole that she was glad to hear of the safe arrival of the ship, trusting that all were well on board, and inquiring what sort of passage they had had. On Oct. 29 the City Imperial Volunteers made their memorable march through London, and on that very day Her Majesty received tidings of a terrible bereavement. By the Queen's command the Royal sorrow was not made known until the next day, so that no cloud should overcast popular rejoicings. Then the *Court Circular* reported that Her Majesty "had the grief of receiving from Lord Roberts the intelligence that her beloved grandson, Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, had succumbed to the attack of malaria and enteric fever from which he had been suffering since the 10th of that month." The Queen, it was added, "deeply mourned the loss of so dear a grandson and brilliant officer of great promise." She did, indeed, feel poignantly the death of this gifted "soldier-grandson," who had been born in Windsor Castle, was in the prime of life, only thirty-four years of age, and "to whose happy return the Queen and all her family were looking forward." Her Majesty attended the memorial service in Crathie parish church, held simultaneously with that solemnised in the Chapel Royal, St. James's.

On Nov. 6 last year the Queen left Balmoral for Windsor, and three days later the Prime Minister had an audience of Her Majesty at the Castle. On the 12th a council was held, the outgoing and incoming ministers rendering and receiving respectively their seals of office.

On Jan. 3, 1901, Lord Roberts returned from South Africa, landed from the Canada at Cowes, and received a right Royal welcome from Her Majesty at Osborne, where, in the drawing room, after an audience, the Queen handed him the insignia of the Order of the Garter.

It was some weeks before the Queen left Windsor for the Isle of Wight that a perceptible change in Her Majesty's condition was noted. There was no ailment, however, of any definite character, and it was deemed inadvisable to refer to it officially. These first symptoms were followed by a cold, from which the Queen recovered in two or three days. This was succeeded by a slight attack of rheumatism, which also rapidly passed away; but it was observed that Her Majesty, who had been so remarkable for regularity in all things, was changing the routine of her life. The Queen retired to rest much earlier at night than had been her custom, and rose later in the morning. Her sleep was broken and fitful, and the sleeplessness brought a lack of appetite. Her Majesty before leaving Windsor kept to one room throughout the entire day, a circumstance entirely opposed to her usual procedure, and sometimes the morning airing in the donkey chaise in the Royal gardens would be missed. These breaks in the routine in Her Majesty's life were regarded with anxiety by many of the Royal household, but it was hoped that the removal to Osborne and the projected holiday to Cimiez would induce a return of strength.

At Osborne the crisis came that has plunged the nation into deepest grief. Day after day went by in bitter fear and agonising suspense. Hope alternated with utter despair, as the extraordinary tenacity of Her Majesty's constitution enabled her to hold out even against the fatal cerebral symptoms that supervened; but at last the end came, and peacefully and painlessly and, with nearly all those most near and dear to her around her deathbed, our beloved Queen sank to rest on Jan. 22 at 6.30 p.m.

The Queen has outlived a host of friends. In the last three months, indeed, scarcely a week passed in which she did not lose some old and devoted friend, some trusted life-long servant, or some valued acquaintance. To take note only of those mentioned in the *Court Circular*, we find the names of the Hon. Mrs Eliot, Professor Max-Müller, Major-Gen. Sir Charles du Plat Jequerry to the Prince Consort from 1854 and to Her Majesty from 1861 to 1893), Mr Kirby (for fifty-six years in the Royal service), officers of the Life Guards who had fallen in the war, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Baroness Schroder, the Dowager Lady Churchill, and the late Bishop of London. At the funerals of all these the Queen was represented, and wreaths were sent from Balmoral, Windsor, or Osborne. The death of Lady Churchill took place suddenly at Osborne on Christmas Day. For nearly fifty years Lady Churchill had been the devoted and intimate friend of the Queen, and her passing away deeply affected Her Majesty.

One of Her Majesty's very latest characteristic acts was to send, through Princess Christian, a telegram "of deep and heart-felt sympathy" to Mrs Creighton, deploring the death of the Bishop of London "not only on her own account, but also that of the Church to which he was so valuable." This gracious message was despatched on Jan. 16, the day on which the Queen took her last drive, accompanied by the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg.

Queen Victoria during her long life has in every direction witnessed changes that have completely revolutionised human existence. In the matter of feminine dress she has seen the fashions of the last three-quarters of a century change like the patterns of a kaleidoscope. Compare the costumes that delighted the ladies of her earlier years with those of to-day—the flounced skirts and the full draperies, the double shawls and the loose sleeves, the V-bodice and the poke bonnet, and the double crossover, which no woman felt happy without. This latter was usually made of some fine fabric edged with frills of lace, embroidered crape being most popular, and fringe being sometimes used in place of the lace. Most of the skirts were double frilled, the fulness of the flounces being put on with a heading, and trimmed on the edge, while the outline of the sleeve was almost tight to the elbow, and fulled below it into the wrist. The bonnet was invariably of the large poke order, the spoon brim setting right up from the face, and trimmed beneath with ruches of lace, ribbon bows, or wreaths of flowers. The milliner bestowed all her attention upon the inside of the brim, adorning it with quillings of muslin, lace, or ribbon, while feathers tied with ribbons decorated the crown, which possessed a little curtain at the back tied again with ribbon.

All through the thirties the hair was worn in loops under the ears. The front hair was braided, and the loops taken to the back, where they were twisted in with a knot below the crown of the head. A centre parting was always seen, and for evening tufts of roses were worn above each ear.

Domestic life amongst all classes of society was at the accession of the Queen simplicity itself, compared with what it is now. The sunrise breakfast, the noonside repast, the twilight pillow of repose, were common enough, and the luxury of 1901 was unknown even in palaces.

In an ordinary household, the best bedroom, where the births and deaths for generations past had taken place, was almost reverenced, and the beds throughout—chiefly four-posters—together with their linen, were regarded with great pride. The sheets were religiously kept in lavender, one being specially reserved for the funeral purpose of "laying out." Feathers and flock, of course, were extensively used in the bedding, but chaff was almost universal among the poorer classes. Brass warming-pans filled with hot cinders, and worked up and down between the sheets, were always used from November to March. Towels, large in size, were chiefly of Scotch brown linen. Common yellow soap—always used—was much dearer than it is now, being 6d. a pound; and, it may be added, the luxury of washing in hot water was seldom indulged in. All the bedroom appointments, dressing-tables, looking-glasses, &c., were smaller. There were few ornaments about, and no attempt was made at decoration; everything was strictly utilitarian. Oak chests held the bed linen, and the furniture was, as a rule, of oak, probably because it was cheap. Staircases were by no means always carpeted; often as not the uncovered stairs were to be seen, cheap oilcloth and linoleum being unknown. There were no hall lamps, so that when anyone called after dark the servants opened the door, tallow candle in hand, thrusting the light into the face of the visitor to ascertain who he was.

Mistresses of households helped with the domestic work to a much greater extent than now. Indeed, it was requisite for them to possess practical knowledge on all kinds of subjects; nearly everything happened to go made at home. Even if well-to-do they had to be adepts at baking, brewing, pickling and preserving, &c., how different from the present day, when every conceivable thing can be purchased in shops, even plum-puddings and mincemeat (the final lapse from old-fashioned ways). It need hardly be said that all kitchen ranges were open—the day of stoves and baked meats not having arrived—and joints were admirably roasted before the open fire by means of the jack. Wood was used wherever practicable, as coal, except near the pits, was very dear. Washing was seldom or never "sent out," the washerwoman, shod in pattens, doing her work by the aid of what was called the "dolly-tub." That highly important article of male attire, the shirt-front, was, however, sent out to be frilled and clear-starched.

It was a common practice—still lingering here and there—for even wealthy farmers to have their meals in the delightful old kitchen instead of in the state dining-room, with its ugly furniture, its wax flowers under glass shades, its oil paintings of departed relatives staring from the walls, and its crochet-covered table in front of the window supporting the seldom-opened, much-bethumbed family Bible. In the oak-panelled kitchen, with dressers, cupboards, and tables, all scrupulously clean, with windows looking out upon orchard or garden, the good folk used to sit down to an early dinner, sometimes commencing with pudding—or rather with the dumplings that had been boiled in the broth—followed by a plain joint, and using two-pronged black-handled forks and large round-ended knives, the latter employed as a sort of spoon for the conveyance of gravy, peas, &c., to their destination. Beer was the staple drink, but wine (sherry and port) was always offered with cake to afternoon callers, though it was etiquette for visitors to consume only about half of what was given to them.

Our beloved Sovereign lived to witness and to thoroughly understand—for her intelligence was remarkable—the most marvellous achievements and discoveries in science, surgery, mechanics, locomotion, aerostatics, methods of illumination, &c.

Greatest of all discoveries of the century in which she lived, in immediate, and possibly in ultimate, effect, were those in organic life. The first was the cell theory in physiology, which we owe wholly to Germany. Leiden showed in 1838 that plants were made of cells. Schwann followed, and proved that animal tissues were only aggregations of cells. From the little structureless disc of jelly, the amœba, all living things were built up unicellular or multicellular. To this, in 1857, succeeded Pasteur's ever-famous discovery that fermentation was caused by plant germs. A few years later Lord Lister showed that inflammation and putrefaction were of microbe origin, and from these beginnings there has grown up the doctrine that all infectious diseases are due to these infinitesimal bacteria, and bacteriology is to-day the basis of preventive medicine and scientific sanitation.

But the crowning gift and glory of the century was the discovery and application of anæsthetics in medicine and surgery; and, as if science intended to bestow a particular boon upon the Queen, Simpson in Edinburgh, simultaneously with Wells and Morton in the United States, performed those merciful experiments with chloroform which robbed even war of its worst features, and commenced the present blessed era of anæsthetics. A renowned surgeon, Dr Brudenell, writing about that discovery, says: "The use of anæsthetics has changed the whole aspect of surgery. Prior to 1847, operations were few in number, and were almost limited to the

The Queen on the morning of her Accession

The Queen, 1859.
After Winterhalter. This picture hangs at Buckingham Palace and was usually copied for presentation to Ambassadors.

Queen, 1866.

Statue of H.M. The Queen for Art Gallery, Bath.

amputation of limbs, the removal of cancers and other tumours, the resection of a few of the larger joints, cutting of stone, and the ligature of main arteries for aneurism. The pain suffered by the patients was so horrible as to tax severely the endurance of the bravest and strongest, and to depress seriously, and often beyond record, the powers of life."

An engineer would probably hold that the Queen's reign was chiefly signalised by the improvement of machinery and labour-saving appliances. Yet, except in the introduction and universal use of steam, it can boast of nothing like the printing-press and spinning-jenny. But steam is in itself a vast subject, and the past period will take its name from the new agent, just as the next is likely to be styled the era of electricity. Steam has helped us to mighty engines on sea and land, and has everywhere revolutionised workshops. Railways belong almost entirely to the reign of Victoria. Much the same may be said about steamboats. The earliest examples of these did exist before the Queen's accession, but it was not until one year afterwards that the Great Western, a vessel of 1340 tons, crossed to New York from Bristol under steam, and in fifteen days, to the astonishment of humanity. That was the beginning of an era which has linked all coasts and ports together, and has made of the globe one market. When the Queen came to the throne the mail coach, the post chaise, the cart and the waggon, or the saddled horse were the only means of moving from place to place. Journeys were reluctantly undertaken; families broken up by migration were seldom reunited. The lonely roads were infested by robbers, and country folks starting for London committed themselves to the protection of heaven.

Now the entire kingdom is tied together with a lace-work of rails, and the iron-horse steams over all the civilised earth, while railway travelling has been brought to marvellous speed, and to such luxury, for those who can pay for it, that elaborate meals are served while we fly through deserts.

In place of the old-fashioned sailing ships, which took months for a voyage to India, magnificent steamers traverse the ocean at a pace equal to that of trains, and are fitted up with such convenience and splendour that they resemble floating hotels.

Another invention of the strictly Victorian age has been the perfected bicycle, which has so increased the power and enjoyment of pedestrians and added to the healthy exercise of the times; but the motor car threatens to revolutionise this means of conveyance. The Queen has not lived to witness that conquest of the air which was confidently looked for by many mechanicians, for a practical flying machine has yet to be invented.

Our postal system lies well within the Queen's reign. We have now an Imperial penny post, and we shall soon have a universal penny postage.

The telegraph in its astounding development has been the glory of the Victorian era, for the first electric wire was stretched in the year 1837; and now the subtle thread, along which millions of messages thrill, pierces the air in every land and dives under every sea.

But even this, with all its wonder, is little compared with an illustration of aerial telegraphy which Her late Majesty saw not long ago at Osborne. Wires were dispensed with, and visible dots and dashes were the results of trains of intermingled electric waves, rushing with the speed of light across intervening spaces, catching on one and the same aerial wire, and disentangled and sorted out automatically by two machines into intelligible messages, in different languages.

Perhaps the greatest change which the Queen experienced was in the means of illumination. In her childhood there was nothing less barbaric than the flint and steel and the tinder box. Torches, cressets, rush and wax candles, and oil lamps furnished all the illumination, public and private, and the lucifer match was not even invented until John Walker, in 1834, showed how to make one with phosphorus and chlorate of potash. The electric light, coming more and more into general use, has turned night into day for half the cities of the earth, and has given safe illumination to the sea traveller and to war ships. In private abodes, public institutions, factories, and workshops this fairy lamp has saved more lives than all our wars have cost by the improvement made in the air we breathe. Many of our cities already have their electric tramway, and, under the guidance of the County Council, the metropolis is soon to follow suit.

The earliest rudiments of an Educational Department appeared in the second year of Queen Victoria's reign. At Her Majesty's command, Lord Russell wrote as follows to Lord Landsdowne, President of the Council:

"My Lord,—I have received Her Majesty's command to make a communication to your lordship upon a subject of the greatest importance. Her Majesty has observed, with deep concern, the want of instruction which is still observable among the poorer classes of her subjects. All the inquiries which have been made show a deficiency in the general education of the people which is not in accordance with the character of a civilised and Christian nation."

Before the Reform Bill was passed, taking the Lancashire town of Oldham as an example, there were not a hundred children altogether at school; but now, in England and Wales, there exists some 30,000 day schools, with accommodation for 6,000,000 pupils.

During the Queen's reign there has been a marvellous cheapening and diffusion of general literature, due largely to the repeal of the duty on paper, which also contributed to the uprise of the cheap press, which, set free from burdens and obstacles, has been teaching consistently to the public lessons of loyalty, and justice and fair play to all.

It is impossible in this slight retrospect to treat with anything like completeness "the history of literature during the period, the catalogue of illustrious men and women who have adorned it, the extensions of commerce, the aggrowth of our colonies, the peace given to India, the march of philosophy, the phases of religious thought, the course of politics, the changes of public opinion, and the army and the navy."

A writer on Royalty has observed somewhat to the following effect, that in—as a matter of speculation—comparing Queen Victoria with the four Queens regnant who have preceded her on the English throne, Mary and Elizabeth, and the two Stuarts, Mary and Anne, it is manifest that the four earlier Queens were petty potentates in comparison with our late Sovereign. At the time that Mary Tudor had lost Calais, her kingdom consisted of England, Wales, Ireland, and certain unoccupied lands in the new world. If the times of "Great Elizabeth" were spacious, her kingdom was petty in comparison with that of Queen Victoria. It is true she was Queen of England, Wales, and Ireland, but not Queen of Scotland; and although a few of her subjects were concerned in the Newfoundland fisheries, she never possessed in the West any settlement worthy of being called a colony.

To realise the insignificance of the Tudor queens, one should think of the difference between Elizabethan and Victorian London—between the small untrained town, with a population of about 200,000 souls, and the vast capital numbering six millions of people in 1901—between the port of small vessels and the enormous modern docks crowded with shipping. He should try to realise the difference between Elizabeth's England, unfeignedly much more picturesque, with its wide extents of swamp and wilderness, and the trim and fertile farms of Victorian England. Then he should compare the second-rate cities of old England with the same class of cities and ports in modern England. He should note the difference in address and equipment between Elizabeth's militia and the soldiers of our late Queen's army. He ought to contrast the warships of our navy with the cock-boats with which our forefathers destroyed the Spanish Armada. The Stuart queens were greater potentates than their sisters of the Tudor dynasty. The former were sovereigns of Scotland as well as of England, Wales, and Ireland.

Comprising the West Indies, they had dependencies on the American mainland, largely indebted for their prosperity to the primitive planters of that great continent. But though the realm that came to them in sovereignty had grown largely from an early year of the seventeenth century, and though the famous companies of London merchants were extending the area and government of a nation destined to develop into a mighty empire, one of them at least, Queen Anne, hardly imagined that she might be succeeded by a Queen of Great Britain who would assume the title of Empress of India.

In all other respects Queen Victoria showed to infinite advantage when compared with earlier Queens. Mary Tudor was not wanting either in energy or shrewdness, and she had been so well trained that we may even think of her as a scholarly woman. But it must be admitted she was darkly superstitious, narrow minded, and a bigot. Elizabeth's endowments were naturally of a higher order; she was clever and witty, and possessed a lively sense of humour. Both sisters had received a learned education; but it was distinctly inferior to that given to our late Queen by the Baroness Lehzen. Coming to the Stuarts, Queen Mary possessed a sound judgment, and from the little that is known of her personality, it seems probable that, had she survived King William III., she would have become an able ruler; but she occupied so subordinate a position in the dual sovereignty, and was so oppressed by her husband's strong will, that every historian has forborne to extol her undoubted intellectual power. As to Queen Anne, she is a somewhat unsatisfactory person in history, and, though called the "Good Queen," she was in many respects an uninteresting and commonplace gentlewoman. In moral qualities the Queens were widely different. Mary was a fanatic, and in matters not connected with her religious belief she was implacable and ruthless. Queen Elizabeth had noble qualities, strong will, intrepidity, and devotion to the highest interests of the nation, but she was sadly deficient in the softer graces of her sex. She was overbearing, hard, and sometimes cruel. Though not wholly devoid of generosity, she was so far from being generous as to be accused of being actually mean. Tenderness was quite absent from her nature, and she was more of a man than a woman. Mary of Orange was a good woman, a good wife, religious, and conscientious; but she suffers in the opinion of posterity from her unpleasant, though presumably justifiable, treatment of her father. Reviewing her career, we think of a daughter who turned against a devoted father in his adversity, and benefited by his misfortunes. As regards Queen Anne, it must be admitted, even by her greatest admirers, that, in fact, she was capricious, selfish, and unreliable in her attachments.

It is interesting to remind ourselves how Great Britain has been favoured in the length that the Victoria reign attained. We are told that Newton made a calculation that the average duration is but nineteen years, while, if we confine ourselves to English sovereigns, we reach only twenty-three and a half years. Queen Victoria's reign was nearly three times as much as the average. Every schoolboy knows that up to our present era George III.'s rule was the most prolonged, but the late Queen passed all her English predecessors in reign, being several days older than George III., and exceeding her Hanoverian ancestor's reign three years ago. Among living sovereigns the King of Denmark is the oldest, and the German Emperor Wilhelm I. had attained at the time of his death a greater age than the Queen. Louis IV.'s sovereignty is the longest in history, occupying seventy-two years, but he ascended the throne when a child of four, Anne of Austria being Regent. It is evident, therefore, that nothing so remarkable as the Victorian era has ever before been realised in the annals of Great Britain. On May 20, in the present year, Her Majesty would have been eighty-two, and on June 20 would have reigned sixty-four years, in which time she has exhibited to us the example of a great woman's life—a life pure and noble, humbly religious and self-denying, and altogether good—her name being the synonym for all that is lovely and of good report. Abroad the idea of a constitutional sovereignty, which the longer it lasted was the more firmly based on the affections of a united people, has filled other nations with admiration and generous envy. Victoria of England has been for more than half a century the great "capital fact of Europe."

There is an absolute unanimity in the leading articles on the Queen in regard to the respect which she has inspired throughout the world. It is pointed out that international jealousies are hushed, and that England is receiving the sympathy of all civilised mankind.

The *Times* called attention to the "unparalleled exhibition of public sentiment" among the subjects of the Queen, but pointed out that it ought to create no surprise among the generation which has witnessed the passionate enthusiasm of 1887 and 1897. "Even more striking, perhaps, was the reception given to Her Majesty when she appeared among her people last year, at the most critical period of the war, to give encouragement to her brave soldiers and to show her sympathy with the families of those who were fighting under the British Flag. Throughout her long life the Queen has possessed and exercised the royal quality of displaying the right feeling, and, what is more, of saying the right word, at the right time. It is not in England alone that she has exhibited this power. . . . Beyond the bounds of the Empire, the dignity, the purity, and the real greatness of her character are recognised, with a half-acknowledged sense of compunction, in countries where the power and policy of this nation are regarded with dislike and distrust. . . . It is a great achievement to have won this reputation in the teeth of animosities engendered by international ignorance and racial jealousy. The Queen has passed of late through private griefs and public cares that might have broken down even the strongest constitution. Losses in her own family, and among those closely connected with her by blood and marriage, have been aggravated by concern for the health of others very near and dear to her. It is no secret, moreover, how acutely she has felt the losses inflicted upon her army and her people in the course of the war in South Africa. . . . Unlike not a few of those who attain to a great age, while preserving their clearness of thought and their capacity for work, the Queen's sympathies were never dulled. She has kept to the end a warm heart, which always throbbed responsively to the joys and the griefs, the hopes and the fears, of her people. But emotions such as these are not cherished with impunity. The painful stress of the past eighteen months must have drawn heavily upon the vital powers of the Queen."

The *Standard* remarked: "We have often enough had to protest against the tone of influential papers in France, Germany, Russia, and the United States. Let us gratefully acknowledge that our contemporaries everywhere are offering touching and generous tributes to our Sovereign. There is no enemy of England too bitter, no professing contemner of Crowns and Thrones too fanatical, to admit the virtues and the services to

[Photograph by Bedford.

[Photograph by Chancellor, Dublin.

THE FOUR GENERATIONS.

[Photograph by Lombardi and Co.

THE QUEEN.

[Photograph by Downey, Ebury-street.

UNIQUE PORTRAIT OF HER MAJESTY WITH DOG.

mankind of Queen Victoria. . . . The Emperor William's subjects thoroughly appreciate the feelings which have induced their Sovereign to place himself at the side of his English kinsmen in their affliction. The moral support which he has lent, not only to our Royal family, but to the nation as a whole, in this period of anxiety, is invaluable. It is not the first token of friendship which the Kaiser has displayed; but there is none which appeals to us more nearly or shall we treasure more greatly in our memory."

The *Telegraph* stated: "If the unity of the Empire has been manifested in struggle, it is now consecrated in sorrow. History has never seen a spectacle so wonderful as that which was offered yesterday of unnumbered millions in the most far-spread Empire of all time absorbed by one thought, oppressed by one solicitude, waiting for one word, breathing one prayer, harbouring one hope, and dreading one fear. Compared with the completeness, the majesty, the tenderness of such unity as this, even the highest emotions evoked during the war must yield place to a new sentiment that never was reached before and never can be surpassed. . . . To-day all international animosities are hushed and stilled as they have not been before by any other single event in the records of the world; and in the presence of that sympathy and understanding and respect by which the Empire is surrounded there is something which seems to elevate mankind and make the world a better place."

The *Advertiser* considered that the Queen has stood in no ordinary sense as "the embodiment of a conscience of the nation in public affairs, as in the purity of her Court, the simplicity of her private life, and the example set as wife, mother, and friend, she has stimulated and sustained all that is most worthy in social relations. Truly may it be said of the Queen that, having chosen wisdom, all other things have been added unto her."

For the American people the character of the late Queen has always been the conservation of the Anglo-Saxon ideal. They have regarded her as belonging hardly less to the United States than to us, and this feeling has gone far to soften the effects of political differences of the two countries. The other day in the American Senate Dr Milburn, its blind chaplain, offered up the following prayer: "With a multitude which no man can number, we come with tremendous anxiety and the profoundest awe to the bedside of the great and good Queen who lies on the border of two worlds. Living for more than three-score years in 'that fierce light which beats upon a throne,' by her conduct and character she has won not only the loyalty of her own people, but the veneration and homage of all true-hearted men and women around the world, and now, as it seems, she is to depart from earth crowned with the blessings and love of countless myriads of the human family. Let Thy heavenly grace cheer and sustain her in this supreme hour. Likewise minister Thy tenderness and sympathy to all members of her bereaved family and to the people of her realm, who feel as if their mother were departing from them. We confide her, her children, and her people to the Almightly Care and Providence, through Jesus Christ our Saviour."

What can we, the bereaved subjects and sorrowing children of Victoria the Well-Beloved, add to this touching petition, save the one word "Amen"?

JAN. 22, 1901.

Sleep sweetly, noble Queen!
Good angels sing thee to thy happy rest.
These long, long years have been
Through thee for thy vast realm so trebly blest,
That even in our sorrow we can say
"Thanks be to God who gave such loving sway."

C. M. PAINE.

The German organ, the *Vossische Zeitung*, says: "An unusually fruitful life has come to an end. When the subjects of the Queen, wherever the Union Jack waves throng to-day in spirit around her bier in sincere sorrow, they not only bid farewell to a period of British history to which posterity will give the name of the departed Sovereign, but they thank her for having in her family life and as a Queen set them an example of purity and truth which will endure for all times. A richly endowed life has reached its term. At the bier of the Queen we extend our hands in sincere sympathy to the British people."

COURT CHRONICLE.

THE following appeared in the *Court Circular*, dated Osborne, Jan. 18:

"The Queen has not lately been in her usual health, and is unable for the present to take her customary drives.

"The Queen during the past year has had a great strain upon her powers, which has rather told upon Her Majesty's nervous system. It has, therefore, been thought advisable by Her Majesty's physicians that the Queen should be kept perfectly quiet in the house, and should abstain for the present from transacting business."

ON SATURDAY, the Prince of Wales and Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll, arrived at Osborne. The Princess of Wales arrived later in the evening.

ON SUNDAY morning, the Prince of Wales left Osborne for London to meet his Imperial Majesty the German Emperor. The midnight report stated: "The Queen's condition has late this evening become more serious, with increased weakness, and diminished power of taking nourishment."

ON MONDAY morning His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Duke of York, arrived at Osborne. In the afternoon the German Emperor, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of York, and the Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll, walked in the grounds, and visited the James Home for Convalescent Soldiers and Sailors at East Cowes. It was reported in the morning that the Queen had slightly rallied, had taken some food, and had had some refreshing sleep. At five o'clock it was announced that the improvement was maintained, and at half-past eleven an unofficial statement was that Her Majesty's strength was fairly maintained.

ON TUESDAY, Jan. 22, the Queen gradually sank during the day, and died at 6.30.

A *London Gazette* Extraordinary issued on Tuesday night contained the following notification:

WHITEHALL, Jan. 22, 1901.

A Bulletin, of which the following is a copy, has been received by Mr Secretary Ritchie:

OSBORNE, 7.8 p.m.

Jan. 22, 1901, 6.45 p.m.: Her Majesty the Queen breathed her last at 6.30 p.m., surrounded by her children and grandchildren. (Signed) JAMES REID.
R. DOUGLAS POWELL.
THOMAS BARLOW.

The Lord Mayor of London received the following from the Prince of Wales:

OSBORNE, Tuesday, 6.45 p.m.

The Prince of Wales to Lord Mayor:

My beloved mother, the Queen, has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren.

ALBERT EDWARD.

The passing away of Her Majesty was painless and peaceful. Towards the last she suffered no pain, and assured those around her that she felt quite comfortable. All the members of the Royal family then at Osborne were with her at the end. Beside the German Emperor, whose desire to be with his beloved grandmother has so touched the hearts of the English people, there stood by the side of the dying Queen the Prince of Wales, who has now assumed the crown and sceptre of the great monarch who has gone to her rest. There were also the Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Princess Christian, Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll and the Duke of Argyll, Princess Henry of Battenberg, Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg, Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein. The members of the household were also summoned to take the last look of their Royal Mistress while life yet remained to her. The Bishop of Winchester offered up a prayer, and soon the physicians announced that the spirit had fled. At the end Her majesty was unconscious, passing calmly from sleep into death.

THE QUEEN'S FIRST COUNCIL.

THE QUEEN'S CORONATION.

THE QUEEN'S MARRIAGE.

HER MAJESTY'S RESIDENCES.

THERE ARE MANY PICTURES extant of Her Majesty, taken amid the varied surroundings of the three beautiful Royal residences which appear on this page. From such illustration a mostly due to photographic art, we are able to picture to ourselves much of the daily occupations of the august lady in the palatial homes where, at each season of the year, Queen Victoria used to pass her time. The old records, written by many of those who were privileged to take part in the Court life of the early days of Her Majesty's long reign, have given graphic descriptions of many brilliant State ceremonies, gala days, and social entertainments carried out on a scale worthy of the Court of the great Empire. The terrible bereavement which befel Her Majesty in the prime of life naturally changed the whole aspect of the English Court routine. For many years the Queen was quite unable to take any part in State ceremonies, while the utter shipwreck of that home happiness for which the Queen and Prince Consort were proverbial completely ended the brilliant social entertainments at Court. But the Court life at Windsor, Balmoral, and Osborne must be considered. Windsor Castle in all its majestic grandeur, and with all its historical traditions, must ever be surrounded with ideas of state and ceremony, as the Royal standard floated from the summit of the Round Tower.

The private apartments used by the Queen are a beautiful suite of rooms opening out of the corridor which is one of the features of the Castle, connecting all the principal apartments. With windows on one side overlooking the Castle yard a good light is obtained for the interesting and valuable collection of pictures which hang on the opposite walls, while there are cabinets filled with magnificent china on either side. Being within such easy distance of London, it was at Windsor that the Queen received numerous distinguished guests during her residence, and of late years there have been several dramatic performances given by "Her Majesty's Servants" before the Court, while many musicians have been honoured by a Royal command to attend at Windsor. The routine of the Queen's private life at Windsor varied little from that at Balmoral or Osborne. Wakened at a comparatively early hour, Her Majesty's dressers were in attendance until the breakfast hour. This meal was laid in the Queen's private room, and was only shared by one of the Royal Princesses. In summer days Her Majesty preferred taking breakfast at Frogmore, and drove there in her little donkey carriage, remaining on in the grounds of this place, to which she was much attached. State papers were brought for perusal and signature, and the Queen often transacted a great deal of business before leaving Frogmore. Visitors passing towards the Castle from the town often caught a glimpse of the Sovereign in her pony carriage, with some of the Royal Family walking beside her. The private correspondence of Her Majesty, in addition to the grave public affairs which occupied so much time, was so great, that of late years two Ladies of the Household were appointed for the purpose of secretarial duties. On returning to the Castle, the Queen remained in her own private apartments until the luncheon hour arrived, which was served in the Octagon Dining-room, also used for dinner, unless a large party demanded the use of the State Dining-room.

Guests were often invited to dine and sleep at Windsor, and these were generally members of the Cabinet or officials of high rank, besides others whom the Queen honoured by such invitations. The dinner hour was always late, and the guests having been received by the Master of the Household and shown to their apartments, assembled in full evening dress in the grand corridor to await Her Majesty's appearance. It was sad of late to miss that marvellous graceful, regal dignity of carriage with which the Queen was so remarkable as she entered a room and moved among her guests, but advancing years brought a great change in Her Majesty's activity, and latterly she joined the circle in a wheel chair and led the way to the dining-room. Dinner did not last very long, and at its conclusion the Queen spoke to her guests and remained a short time among them before retiring to her private apartments.

Upon the occasion of the arrival of any distinguished visitors at the Castle, such as the Emperor of Germany or any other crowned heads, the reception at Windsor was a State ceremonial. A guard of honour was mounted at the station, and an escort of cavalry was in attendance. The Queen's own hand has described such arrivals in years gone by, when the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress visited Windsor, and we picture the Royal family watching the arrival from a window commanding a view of the route, and then the quick descent to the grand entrance, where the Queen greeted her Royal visitors. On one or two occasions of later days Her Majesty had thus welcomed some important guest, but latterly, of course, it would have been impossible. The great Banquets in St. George's Hall at Ascot time, are no more, and on the occasion of some Royal marriage the large parties have assembled for dinner in the State dining-room. On ordinary occasions it was the duty of the Lord Steward to propose the toast which is given after a Royal marriage or some great event, but at times the Queen herself proposed the health in that sweet voice for which she was remarkable. On Sunday Her Majesty sometimes had service said in the beautiful Memorial Chapel at Frogmore, or else Divine service was held in the private chapel of the Castle, special preachers being "commanded" to officiate before Her Majesty, and those who preached in the morning were invited to join the Royal circle at dinner in the evening.

When the Court moved to Osborne, that ideal marine residence so dear to Her Majesty as having been planned and laid out by the late Prince Consort, carriages and horses were taken across to the Isle of Wight. The Queen travelling to Portsmouth embarked on the Royal yacht which steamed away, flying the Royal Standard of England.

A few very interesting events in the Queen's life are connected with Osborne. It was there in the early days of her great sorrow that the Queen was present at the marriage of Princess Alice and Prince Louis of Hesse, a strictly private ceremony performed in the saloon, which was transformed into a temporary chapel. A more brilliant marriage solemnised during the Queen's residence was that of Princess Beatrice, now, alas! but a sad memory of shattered hopes; and yet those who were present must always regard it as one of the most interesting events in Her Majesty's family life.

One or two important entertainments have been given at Osborne of late years. When the Emperor of Germany was at Cowes a grand banquet was given in the beautiful Indian room lately built, and among other additions a chapel has been completed, and was used on Sundays when the Queen was unable to attend at Whippingham. On the walls of the chapel three of Sir Noel Paton's beautiful pictures have been hung, and quite a large congregation assembled when the Queen was in residence with her large retinue. State affairs had to be attended to wherever the Queen was living, and a messenger passed daily to and from London and Osborne with despatch boxes and letters. When the business of the day was over, the Queen took a long drive, and generally arranged to have afternoon tea served in some attractive but secluded spot. To the simple country folk about the Queen's presence was an every day occurrence, and they never intended on her privacy.

There is little doubt that the months passed by Her Majesty in her Highland home were the most enjoyable of the year. The bracing climate of Scotland had such a beneficial effect on the Queen's health, and there were such tender reminiscences connected with Balmoral, that every part of the Deeside was inexpressibly dear to Her Majesty, and the words in "Leaves of a Journal in the Highlands" tell their own tale of the loving hand which planned and made this ideal Highland home.

The Royal journey to Balmoral was a serious matter of consideration all along the lines. The sleeping saloon, the dining car, and all the required carriages for suite and luggage were taken to Windsor; and when the Queen started one of the directors accompanied the train to the journey's end. Stoppages were made for refreshment, and Perth was the station where Her Majesty took breakfast, and where one or two of the important personages over the Border greeted Her Majesty if permitted to do so.

The daily routine of Court life was seldom broken at

THE QUEEN'S DINING ROOM, OSBORNE. [Photograph by Broderick.

OSBORNE HOUSE. [Photograph by J. Wilman Brown, Bloomfield

WINDSOR CASTLE. Photograph by Frith and Co. Reigate

THE FIRST PRAYER OF H.R.H. ALBERT EDWARD PRINCE OF WALES, DUKE OF CORNWALL, &c.
"O Lord God Almighty, graciously condescend to hear my first prayer. May old England, my beloved and noble country, be always powerful and happy."—Engraved by Hyatt from a painting by Gallait.

Balmoral. The Queen was out both morning and afternoon, visiting many of the cottages, and also making longer expeditions in Scotland than elsewhere. Visits to the Duke and Duchess of Fife, calls upon any of the neighbours whom Her Majesty deigned to honour, and a drive to some remote and beautiful spot where a hut had been erected, came into the programme.

Some well known theatrical companies have been bidden to perform at Balmoral, and these took place in an impromptu theatre to which the Queen and her guests repaired after dinner. The Royal tenants and servants were always allowed to witness the performance.

The Queen up till lately always attended the service at the Kirk at Crathie, and visitors have described the picturesque scene of the little Kirk—the Highland lads and lassies and the arrival of the Queen, so simple and yet so dignified, as she took her place and worshipped with her neighbours, until sightseers seemed to become almost unbearable in their intrusion.

The Court life of the Queen at Windsor, Balmoral, and Osborne has been uneventful of late, but from that home life Queen Victoria's children and her grandchildren have gone forth to other countries and to other homes, carrying with them happy recollections, even though surrounded by the necessary etiquette of State which their rank demands, and yet with the principle firmly instilled into their minds that Royalty need be no isolated position, but that the secret of Queen Victoria's undying popularity has ever been her sympathy with her people in joy or sorrow, and that the Court of England has been a bright example to the generation in which she was its head.

THE ACCESSION COUNCIL.

THE NEW KING arrived at Marlborough House at a little after one o'clock on Wednesday, escorted from the station by cavalry. His Majesty had left Osborne with the Duke of York, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Christian, and the Duke of Argyll. Crowds lined the roadway opposite Marlborough House, and he was warmly cheered. Meanwhile St. James's Palace was the spot round which the interest of the moment centred. In the Ambassadors' court the Ministers, some of the bishops, and other members of the late Privy Council were alighting, all in full uniform; and befeathered cocked hats, gold laced and embroidered coats, recalled a Levée day. Lord Salisbury and Mr Chamberlain were among the earliest arrivals, quickly followed by Mr Ritchie, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen in their State carriages and robes. Many privileged ladies in deep mourning gathered round the courtyard and under the arcade facing the German Chapel. Punctually at two o'clock some mounted police heralded the way, followed by a mounted escort of the Blues and the State carriage, in which the King sat with two others in red uniform. He was looking very well but sad, and loud cheers heralded his approach. There were many troops in the vicinity of the Palace and by the garden entrance where His Majesty alighted. There were no bands, and the officers had crape on their arm, so had all who attended this first Privy Council, Levée dress being the order of the day. The new King, Edward VII., took the formal oath first, binding him to govern the kingdom according to its laws and customs. It was a very imposing ceremonial. The Duke of York and the Duke of Connaught were the first to take the oath of allegiance, and then the Prime Minister, followed by all the other councillors present, and much necessary business was settled, the meeting lasting till a quarter past three, when the Sovereign was again cheered as he passed into Marlborough House.

The proclamation was to take place in St. James's Palace at ten o'clock on Thursday morning.

The members of both Houses of Parliament repaired from the Council to the face of St. Stephen's in order to take the necessary oaths enjoined on a new reign. The neighbourhood of the clubs during the afternoon was one dense block, and the traffic was for a while stopped. Many had anticipated that the Proclamation would be made on Wednesday in Trafalgar Square by the Charles I. statue and Temple Bar, and here dense crowds also assembled.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA IN 1828.

IN THE "TWENTIES" of the last century, when George IV. was King, the public who frequented Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens were accustomed to see a little lady driving about in a pony phaeton, with a small boy as postillion, whom they recognised as the daughter of the Duchess of Kent, the widow of one of the younger brothers of the King, one of the thirteen children of George III. The Duchess resided at that time in Kensington Palace. Her only daughter, the Princess Victoria, was universally regarded not as one likely to succeed to the Throne of England, but esteemed for her pleasant character and amiability. Thanks to the courtesy of Sir Walter Gilbey, we have the opportunity of presenting to our readers a most interesting engraving of a drawing of the Princess in her pony phaeton, driving in Kensington Gardens, the palace being seen in the background. This was drawn by the celebrated artist J. Doyle, better known as "H. B.," the draughtsman of the large series of powerful political caricatures which were being published at that period, and the father of the artist of the same name who was on the first volumes of *Punch*. This drawing was reproduced in a wood engraving made for Sir Walter's practical volume entitled "Ponies, Past and Present." It is most characteristic as showing the dress of the period, the broad brimmed hat with its dependent veil, the large muff which was carried at the time, and the style of wearing the hair. Doyle was a most truthful artist, and the engraving was not only valuable artistically, but also from its fidelity in the details of the dress, the fashion of the phaeton, and even the character of the pet dog which was portrayed running by the side of the carriage. The pleasant face of the child is an agreeable souvenir of the early days of one who has been for so many years endeared to the nation, and whose illness and death have been so severely felt by all her subjects.

It may be interesting to state that the drawing which was published in 1828 was entitled, "A Sketch of Her Highness the Princess Victoria in her pony phaeton, dedicated, by express permission, to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. Drawn from nature, and on stone, by J. Doyle. Printed by Hullmandel."

PRECEDENTS.

HAPPILY FOR THE NATION, it is so long since we lost the last of the ruling Sovereign of England that there are very few people alive to remember what happened when England bewailed the death of her sailor King, described at the time as "the most patriotic and most British monarch that ever sat on the throne." His illness was not of long duration, but sufficient to allow of prayers being offered in the churches for the King's recovery. He died at Windsor on June 20, 1837, and between two and three o'clock on the following day the heralds proclaimed the news from Windsor Terrace. The Lord Chamberlain and his officers took charge of His Majesty's body, and the funeral did not take place till July 11. He was buried in the mausoleum which George III. had prepared for his family, under Cardinal Wolsey's tomb, the Princess Amelia being the first to be buried there, on Nov. 14, 1810.

Previous to the funeral of William IV. the body was laid in state within the Waterloo Chamber at Windsor Castle, people being admitted by the Winchester Tower. The Lord of the Bed Chamber, the Gentlemen Ushers, and the Grooms of the Chamber surrounded the body, over which was thrown a beautiful blue velvet pall.

Though England had loved her sailor King well, the affection of the young Queen Victoria to the throne hallowed grief, and on July 20 Her Majesty held her first Drawing Room, having previously received the civic dignitaries and high officials at two Courts. As was the custom in those days, William IV. was buried by torchlight, and the procession was a very imposing one. The cortège was preceded by the bands, and the various officers of the household and State, and the eldest sons of Earls, Marquises, Viscounts, and Dukes took part in it. The Imperial Crown was placed on the coffin. The galleries running round St. George's Chapel were filled, and a special platform had been raised to the level of the tomb.

George IV. died on June 26, 1830, also at Windsor. The doctors who issued the bulletins of his condition were Henry Halford and Matthew John Tierney. Prince Frederick of Prussia had journeyed specially over to this country to see him, and his end was very peaceful, at the age of 68. The King being dead, it was necessary at once to proclaim his successor, and we read of the new monarch's edict that the name of William should be inserted in all the liturgy prayers and collects in which the King's name appears, and "His Majesty does strictly charge and command that no edition of the Common Prayer be now printed without this amendment." The news of the Royal demise was first forwarded to the Ministers, and was announced as follows: "It has pleased Almighty God to take from this world the King's most excellent Majesty. His Majesty expired at 3.15 this morning, without pain." The Duke of Wellington at once proceeded to Windsor and then on to Bushey, where William IV. was staying. A cabinet council was summoned at St. James's, and the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London were quickly on the spot.

The Lord Chancellor administered the oaths to the new King, one appertaining to the Church of Scotland. Sir George Naylor was the Garter King at Arms, and July 9 and 10 were fixed for the lying in state in St. George's Chapel. The funeral was preceded by the firing of guns, and was overcrowded with spectators, accommodation only having been provided for 2000 people. Queen Adelaide did not, as was expected, attend, the small gallery prepared for her and her ladies being occupied by gentlemen officials. The funeral procession included the drum and fife bands, the King's Master of the Ceremonies, the Poor Knights of Windsor, the curates and vicar of Windsor, the surgeons and physicians, the Equerries, the Grooms in Waiting, the high officers of the realm, the

Solicitor-General and Attorney-General, the Lord Chamberlain, the eldest sons of the peers, who carried the banners of Hanover, Scotland, Brunswick, and the United Kingdom, &c., the Royal Standard, and the Royal Arms. No ceremonial was spared on these occasions. The funeral of George III. cost £76,000.

George III. and the Duke of Kent, the Queen's father, died almost the same time: they were lying dead simultaneously, and both were buried at Windsor, the Duke of Kent dying at Sidmouth. He was buried before the King, more than three weeks intervening between the death of the monarch on Jan. 29, 1820, and the interment on Feb. 16.

When the Prince Consort died, on Dec. 14, 1861, at ten minutes to eleven, the nation was plunged into absolute grief, and his funeral, and that of the Duchess of Kent, which had preceded it by only a short period, were carried out in accordance with the ideas of our time. The theatres were closed on the day of his death and the day of the funeral, by order of the Lord Chamberlain; and he was buried at midday in St. George's Chapel, the body being placed not in the vault, but by the entrance to it until directions. His widow went to Osborne before the ceremony, which took place on Monday, Dec. 23; the ceremonial was as simple as his high rank would admit. The body was accompanied by a guard of honour of the Grenadiers, and his personal attendants, the high officials of the realm, and the marriage of the Queen, the Prince of Wales being chief mourner. On the leaden coffin was a silver plate engraved with his name and title, and the day of his birth, and of his death. On the stately coffin was a crimson velvet pall. At the head was fastened the massive silver crown he was entitled to as Prince Consort, resembling the Imperial Crown of Austria. At his feet were the star and insignia of the Garter.

Queen Anne died between seven and eight o'clock on Aug. 1, 1714, her age 50, and the wax effigy that remains of her shows her to have been a very tall and large woman. She was buried by night in torchlight in the same vault of Henry VII.'s Chapel as Charles II. and William III. The ladies of her household were all presented with heart shaped mourning rings containing a lock of the Queen's fine silky hair; this was in crystal surmounted by a gold crown, the ring itself in massive gold, engraved at the back with Anne Regina and her age and the dates of her birth and death.

James II. died at St. Germains in 1701, and his remains were laid in the Church of St. Jaques certainly until 1705, for we hear that the St. Calottes then broke open his coffin, when his body, which had been embalmed, as all sovereigns then were, was in the most perfect state of preservation, even to the bloom on the cheek.

Queen Elizabeth died at the age of 70, on March 24, 1603 and was not buried at Westminster Abbey until April 29, when her subjects collected in great multitudes and her wax effigy was laid upon her coffin, dressed in Royal robes with the crown on her head, and the orb and sceptre in her hands, and this effigy, still remains at Westminster Abbey.

We know there is perpetuity in sovereignty. However much we mourn, the king never dies. No sooner is one reigning ruler at rest than the successor assumes the royal dignity. By law there is no interval. No sooner is the breath out of the dead sovereign's body than the rite is invested in the successor. *Le roi est mort, vive le roi.* The event is notified by heralds to the sound of trumpets from one of the windows of the palace or castle. "The king is dead, long live the king." No sooner had William IV. expired than the Lords of the Privy Council proceeded to Kensington Palace to proclaim Queen Victoria, and a fresh Privy Council was at once sworn in, for their act is first called into requisition, being reserved *ipso facto* by the demise. Who does not remember hearing of that first council in June of 1837 at Kensington Palace, when Queen Victoria showed so much discretion, notwithstanding her youth. I am sustained by the hope that Divine providence has called me to this work and will give me the strength to perform it. I place firm reliance upon the wisdom of Parliament and the loyalty and affection of my people, was the gist of her speech.

It is generally thought that on the death of the sovereign Parliament is dissolved. This used to be so, but is not now. A statute was passed in the time of George III. to enable the Lord Steward to administer the oath within twenty-four hours, and the Parliament then constituted lasted for six months or until dismissed by the reigning sovereign. But when George IV. died great inconvenience was caused because the Marquis of Conyngham, who was then Lord Steward, did not arrive in time, and it was consequently decreed that the First Clerk of the House should administer the oaths to members of both houses, and the Reform Bill of 1867 permitted the existing parliament to enjoy its usual term. Her Majesty was proclaimed on June 21 at St. James's Palace at ten in the morning, being accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, the Master of the Horse, Lady Flora Hastings, &c., and escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards; she passed into the Presence Chamber, the windows of which looked into the courtyard, and salutes were fired as Her Majesty appeared at the window; she was warmly cheered when she was seen, surrounded by the officers of State. In the courtyard were the Queen's Marshal men, the trumpeters, the Sergeant at Arms, the Herald, and pursuivants, and Sir W. Woods, Garter King at Arms. It was a brilliant sight when the Duke of Norfolk, as Earl Marshal, read the Proclamation. The procession, leaving the Queen, then returned, and, accompanied by trumpeters and Life Guardsmen and heralds, proceeded to Charing Cross, where by Charles I.'s statue Her Majesty was proclaimed, also at Temple Bar, where the Lord Mayor made his appearance, and elsewhere. How full of pathetic sadness all these details are now!

The Queen receiving a Company of Guards (Heroes of Crimea) at Buckingham Palace, Feb. 26, 1855.

Buckingham Palace, from the Garden

[PHOTOGRAPH BY LAFAYETTE LTD., DUBLIN.

THE LAST PORTRAIT TAKEN OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA,
ON THE OCCASION OF HER VISIT TO IRELAND, APRIL, 1900

THE SECRET OF ENGLAND'S GREATNESS. (After the Picture by Barker.)

QUEEN VICTORIA.

The Queen's death, though always a contingency, comes as a shock. The monarchy goes on; yet, all the same, we appear to have lost in Victoria not only a personage, but almost an institution. The century seemed to belong to her. Hers was the glory of an era great in the sciences, in many branches of invention, and in some of the arts. The Army was specially hers—soldiers of the Queen. Her Majesty's Judges and Queen's Counsel, under their new masculine nomenclature, will be as impartial and learned as before, but they forfeit one element of their appeal to men in their titles—that which indicated that they gave their strength to the service of a woman. All round, the nation loses something of that romance, or seems to do so. Yet in a sense it may now be said that a double loyalty is England's. For the first time in the public memory we have King and Queen ruling together; and his Majesty's subjects are the subjects of a woman—of Queen Alexandra as well.

Queen Victoria suffered little during her last illness—an illness known to the inner circle of the Court for the last six weeks. The dignity of her life has been borne out by the dignity of her death. Anybody familiar with the vulgar lobbyings of politicians, the club rumours, the city speculations, that marked the passing away of some of her Majesty's immediate predecessors will have cause for gratitude that her own sun set in profound domestic calm. A great war had given a year's grief to the Queen; but, in her immediate environment, no sound of discord stirred. She had seen stormier social times in the years long gone, when the Chartist and other agitations extorted from even experienced politicians black foreboding that the monarchy might not outlive the Victorian reign. Hints of a Republic she had heard a generation ago from lips that later kissed her hands when the seals of office were given and accepted. In religion and politics she had witnessed the welding together of men and women of goodwill; so that the forces of disintegration, destructive elsewhere, became in her realms a name rather than a terror. How much she herself did to bring about this calm and content no contemporary can tell. Perhaps she was not aware herself of the influence she exerted; for even the extent of the affection of her people came as something of a surprise to her at the time of her first Jubilee. The Crown had not always been a symbol of peace and goodwill before it devolved on the young Queen; and she inherited some of its traditions of discord in the social and political worlds. Ministers did not easily accustom themselves to the new state of things. The wrangles over her Majesty's Bedchamber-women, over the Prince Consort's allowance and precedence—these could never have occurred during the latter half of the reign. The Queen made new traditions. She accomplished that great work. She is dead, and they survive.

The enormous addition at home to the prestige of the crown Victoria wore has its answering enlargement in the vast area added to the sphere of its influence. She found a Kingdom and left an Empire. When Lord Beaconsfield added the august title of Empress to that of Queen, he was a strict symbolist. The word was no emptiness, still less an aggression, as the heated politics of the day heard it called. The knitting of India to England became a further great reality, when Indian troops were for the first time summoned, by the same Minister, to a European station. The threat was needed at the moment, and it sufficed. Behind these acts of her Government her Majesty stood. The hands of her Ministers included hers. They were the Government of the Queen, not only in name. In every crisis of the country's history she had her part, often a predominant one. The record of her personal industry in affairs of State is a commonplace of contemporary history. Her own preferences in the matter of her Prime Ministers have been made known with extraordinary candour, especially of late years. But these Ministers, whether they felt that the Queen gave them, or withheld from them, her full favour, all united together in their strenuous tributes to her unselfish devotion to the public weal. The Greater Britain beyond the seas rendered the Queen a loyalty without stint. Among the many regrets which her death now newly associates with the war in South Africa, there are redeeming consolations. That war gave to the Colonies an opportunity which they took; and their taking of it must remain now among their memories the most sacred as well as the most heroic.

The Queen's devotion to duty was no mechanical habit; still less was it a calculated policy of ingratiation. It had its roots in the piety which never failed her. Each record of the great events of her reign bears the same mark of her fealty to the King of Kings. The Indian Mutiny and the Crimean War—every episode of stress and strain—found her with that double confidence, which did not fail her either at the time of her supreme personal sorrow. The death of the Prince Consort left her with no heart for the ordinary routine of the world's gaieties. Her great station enforced a loneliness which added to the desolation of a widowhood that seemed in itself a lifetime, enduring for forty unforgetting years. The death of Princess Alice, of the Duke of Albany, and of the Duke of Coburg were acts in that long martyrdom of motherhood which she, who was the Mother of Peoples, most obediently endured. These losses were also the penalty of that long life which saw also the death of her eldest grandson, in the direct line of succession to the Crown. A procession of her statesmen had gone like ghosts before her eyes: Lord Melbourne, for whom she entertained something of a daughter's feelings for a father; Sir Robert Peel, whose Repeal of the Corn Laws she almost passionately supported; the Duke of Wellington, who had fought England's battles abroad, she sometimes thought, with more skill than he fought her own in the arena of home politics; Lord John Russell, for whose Reform policy she had a sympathy inherited from her father; Lord Derby, Lord Beaconsfield, who was not her Minister only, but her friend; and Mr. Gladstone. In this great pageant of history she moves as the most serene figure. Her rule was the longest, as well as the wisest, England ever knew; and, living to the age of eighty-one years and 243 days, she exceeded by three days the longest life of any previous monarch, which was that of her grandfather, King George III.

THE LAST ILLNESS.

Only at the close of last week were her Majesty's subjects made aware of the grave illness with which she had been threatened for some weeks. On Saturday, Jan. 19, the Court Circular described the Sovereign as in need of rest; her weakness being set down to the anxieties of the preceding twelve months. Later on that same day a more definite and alarming bulletin was issued. "The Queen," it said, "is suffering from great physical prostration, accompanied by symptoms that cause anxiety." The midday bulletin on Sunday said that the Queen's strength had been fairly maintained, but added that there was "no material change." On Monday morning the bulletins contained no word that was reassuring. Princess Beatrice's telegram was the most to the point: "The Queen's condition is very grave, but not entirely without hope."

THE QUEEN'S LAST ILLNESS: THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE GERMAN EMPEROR ARRIVING AT OSBORNE, JANUARY 21.

THE RECTOR OF WHIPPINGHAM, THE REV. CLEMENT SMITH, WHO WAS SUMMONED TO OSBORNE DURING THE QUEEN'S LAST ILLNESS.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER, WHO ATTENDED HER MAJESTY IN HER LAST MOMENTS.

As soon as the gravity of the Queen's illness became known the Prince of Wales proceeded to Osborne in company with the Princess Louise. The Princess of Wales and the Duke of York followed rapidly; and the Emperor William, in response to a message from his mother, arrived in London on Sunday evening with the Duke of Connaught, and on Monday proceeded to Osborne. The Archbishop of Canterbury was not then summoned; but the Rector of Whippingham, close to Osborne House, was called to the bedside of his illustrious parishioner.

During Monday and on Tuesday morning bulletins succeeded bulletins, varying in their gravity. News that the illness was a comparatively painless one was thankfully heard; and every report of the ups and downs of the malady, generally described as failure of powers from old age, accompanied by a serious difficulty of circulation in the region of the brain, was anxiously scanned. London saw its crowds gathered at every vantage-ground for the gaining of early news—outside Buckingham Palace, at the Mansion House, round the "tapes" in the great clubs, before the windows of the publishing offices of newspapers like our own. At Osborne itself a great company of journalists assembled; and the telegraph-wires were taxed to the utmost by their demands. There was little to report as to detail; but each journalist knew that he was present at a great episode of English history. Each entry in the Visitors' Book at Osborne seemed to have a hitherto unknown importance; and the inquirers at the Lodge came and went with the air of men who were engaged on an affair of no ordinary solemnity. Nor were the writers for news upon the spot more anxiously insistent than the great outer public with whom they were in instant communication. Every town and hamlet in the United Kingdom showed its deep concern for the monarch in the hour of her need. Prayers were offered for her on Sunday in the churches of every creed—by Jew and Christian, by Roman Catholic and by Protestant alike. "I pray to my God and her God for her restoration to her people's love," said Leo XIII. The Quirinal and the Vatican had one anxiety in common, and were both of them the recipients of special telegrams from the Court. The Presidents of the American Republic and of the French were not less moved than were the Emperors of Russia and of Austria; while the King of Denmark was described as being plunged in deep grief. The Colonies were brought once more into close touch with the Motherland; British South Africa's message spoke the grief of our kindred in that distracted region; while in the Far East strange prayers were offered to strange gods for England's Queen.

On Tuesday afternoon the news became more and more disquieting. "The Queen is slowly sinking" was the message delivered to the nation at dusk. Then, dated from Osborne at 6.45 p.m., came the message sent by the Prince of Wales to the Lord Mayor: "My beloved mother, the Queen, has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren."

For two hours the great bell of St. Paul's tolled the news to the grief-stricken citizens of London; and the wires carried it to the farthest ends of the earth.

THE QUEEN'S DOCTORS.

The physicians at Osborne on whom so great a weight of responsibility fell this week had the assistance of members of the Queen's family, as well as of her customary dressers, so that it was not found necessary to call in the aid of professional nurses. Of Sir James Reid we announced last week that arrangements had been made for his taking up his residence at Windsor within the precincts of the Castle on the return of the Court thither. An Aberdonian by birth and education, he became a Resident Physician to the Queen twenty years ago, when he was only thirty-two years of age. He had his Baronetcy four years ago; he wears the Red Eagle of Prussia, and he married a daughter of Lord Rivelstoke, who once served as Maid of Honour to the Queen. Sir Richard Douglas Powell, whose Baronetcy also dates from the Diamond Jubilee, was born at Walthamstow in 1842, educated at the University of London, married in 1873 Juliet, daughter of Sir John Bennett, and became, comparatively recently, a Physician-in-Ordinary to the Queen. Sir Francis Laking, who was Surgeon to her Majesty, was born in 1847, and was educated at Heidelberg. Physicians-in-Ordinary to the Monarch are persons whose social reticence has to be on a par with their medical skill. Physicians Extraordinary hold only a less responsible post; and their utility received an eminent illustration in the summoning to her Majesty's bedside of Sir Thomas Barlow, who was educated at London University, was Professor of Clinical Medicine at University College Hospital, and had his Baronetcy at the New Year.

THE QUEEN'S FIRST COUNCIL.

It is not generally known that after the demise of a British Sovereign there are, for the time being, no Privy Councillors. The Lord Mayor of London, *ex officio*, is summoned to the first Council. In the case of Queen Victoria, her Majesty's first Council was held at Kensington Palace on the very day after William IV. died. The new Sovereign's extreme youth and inexperience, and the nation's comparative lack of knowledge concerning her nature and disposition, naturally aroused the greatest curiosity in those distinguished personages who found themselves in the position of her new Privy Councillors. Henry Greville, who was the Clerk of the Council, carefully explained to Lord Melbourne all that would have to be said and done; and then the Prime Minister, in his turn, transmitted the instructions—for they were little else—to the young Queen, who, notwithstanding the fact that she was suffering from great excitement, showed extreme self-command and dignity, answering to the question as to whether she would prefer to enter the room alone or accompanied by her great officers of State, that she preferred to adopt the former course.

After the Queen had read her Speech and taken and signed the oath for the security of the Church of Scotland, the new Privy Councillors, headed by the two royal Dukes, were solemnly sworn; and it is on record that the young Queen, when seeing her two old uncles kneeling before her and kissing her hand, blushed deeply, evidently feeling the contrast between their civil and their natural relations. She embraced them warmly, rising from her chair; and in the case of the Duke of Sussex, who was too infirm to reach her, she herself went forward to him.

THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT REIGN: QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER CORONATION ROBES.

Photo. Frith, Reigate.

OSBORNE, ISLE OF WIGHT: A GENERAL VIEW

MR. BALFOUR, REPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN, SUMMONED TO OSBORNE: THE FIRST LORD'S DEPARTURE FROM VICTORIA.

THE QUEEN PRESIDING AT HER FIRST COUNCIL UPON HER ACCESSION TO THE THRONE, JUNE 20, 1837.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA IN KENSINGTON GARDENS, 1828.

THE QUEEN'S ILLNESS IN 1901: THE PRINCE OF WALES LEAVING PORTSMOUTH FOR OSBORNE ON BOARD THE ROYAL YACHT "ALBERTA," ON JANUARY 19.

OSBORNE HOUSE FROM THE GARDENS.

THE CORRIDOR.

THE BILLIARD-ROOM.

THE DRAWING-ROOM.

Illustrated London News, January 26th, 1901.

THE QUEEN AND HER INFANT SON, THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Ten years had elapsed, a week to a day, since the announcement of the Prince Consort's fatal illness, when the dread news became known that the Prince of Wales lay stricken down with typhoid fever in his Norfolk home. All too soon the country learnt that the Prince's state was becoming terribly critical, and on Nov. 29, 1871, the Queen journeyed to Wolverton in order, as Her Majesty firmly believed, to bid good-bye to her eldest son; indeed, on many occasions during the last thirty years the Queen has alluded to that journey as having been filled with the most anxious moments of her life. Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, and three of her children were at Sandringham, and the Queen's first action after she had seen the Prince of Wales, who at the time was quite unconscious, was to arrange that her grandchildren should quit for Windsor, their mother remaining to assist in the arduous nursing demanded by the nature of the Prince's illness. As the fever appeared to be somewhat abating, the Sovereign left Sandringham, but the improvement was only temporary, and once more the Queen journeyed to Norfolk, where were soon assembled

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S ILLNESS IN 1871: THE QUEEN AT WOLVERTON STATION ON HER WAY TO SANDRINGHAM.

all the members of the royal family. Not till Dec. 14, the anniversary of the Prince Consort's death, did a real amelioration take place; four days later the Queen returned to Windsor, and on the 20th, the day after a joyful Christmas, her Majesty wrote perhaps the most touching and characteristic of her many noble "messages" to her devoted people. In it she expressed, as she alone could do, her deep sense of the universal sympathy evinced during the "painful, terrible days" through which the royal family had passed: and surely some such feeling must have animated the Prince of Wales when he also set out on the saddest and most anxious journey of his life, that which followed so soon on the news which last week plunged the whole Empire in deep sorrow. History sometimes curiously repeats itself. His Royal Highness is said to have remarked the day following, when quitting Osborne, "You see they have allowed me to leave." But his absence was, as we all know, only of a few hours' duration, and H.R.H. was, on his return, accompanied by the German Emperor and the Duke of York—a fact full of sad significance

OUR NOTE BOOK.

BY L. F. AUSTIN.

When the Nineteenth Century faded out, nobody was heart-stricken, for the world does not grieve over an imperceptible point of time. But at the end of the Victorian Era, who is not conscious of a great blank? Death has taken from us the Sovereign who, in a sense that has no precedent, mothered not only her own subjects, but even other nations. With no attribute of autocracy, she had given to the Crown of England a prerogative more commanding than any absolute power, a prerogative that made Victoria a magical name throughout the earth. It was not simply that her reign was coincident with the widest spread of British rule, but that her character endowed the principle of monarchy with a moral authority it had never before possessed. Amidst all the strife of politics, and even of international conflict, "The Queen" was a watchword that had in it a calm, a dignity, an ideal of reverence, acknowledged in every clime.

Under this great name has been begotten all that we citizens of the British Empire know of civilisation in the range of our daily lives. The passing of that name from the symbols of our allegiance, from the forms of worship, from the current speech, is a shock to the imagination of which we have no parallel. Think what it means that we can never again sing the National Anthem in its present wording. The point is rather delicate, but I cannot help asking whether public sentiment can sanction the restoration of the anthem to Henry Carey's original composition? Its associations are so solemnly woven with the great personality that has been taken from us that propriety may, to many minds, seem to demand a new anthem rather than the exact strain that Carey is believed to have written in the time of George II. This is but one illustration of the way in which the national loss bruises our tenderest fibres. The very depth of the affection inspired by the Queen makes the simple change of title nothing less than a domestic revolution. Popular as the Prince of Wales most justly is, "Our King" is a phrase so strange upon our lips that it almost makes a stranger of him. Within the last few days I have heard men murmuring "The King," as if they were groping in their memories for some ancient and unfamiliar charm. It needs a Jacobite fervour to make the title stir the blood, as when Sir Walter Scott, with his blend of Jacobite sentiment and Hanoverian loyalty, drank the health of George IV., put the glass in his pocket, and, as Thackeray sardonically noted, "sat down on it and broke it before he got home."

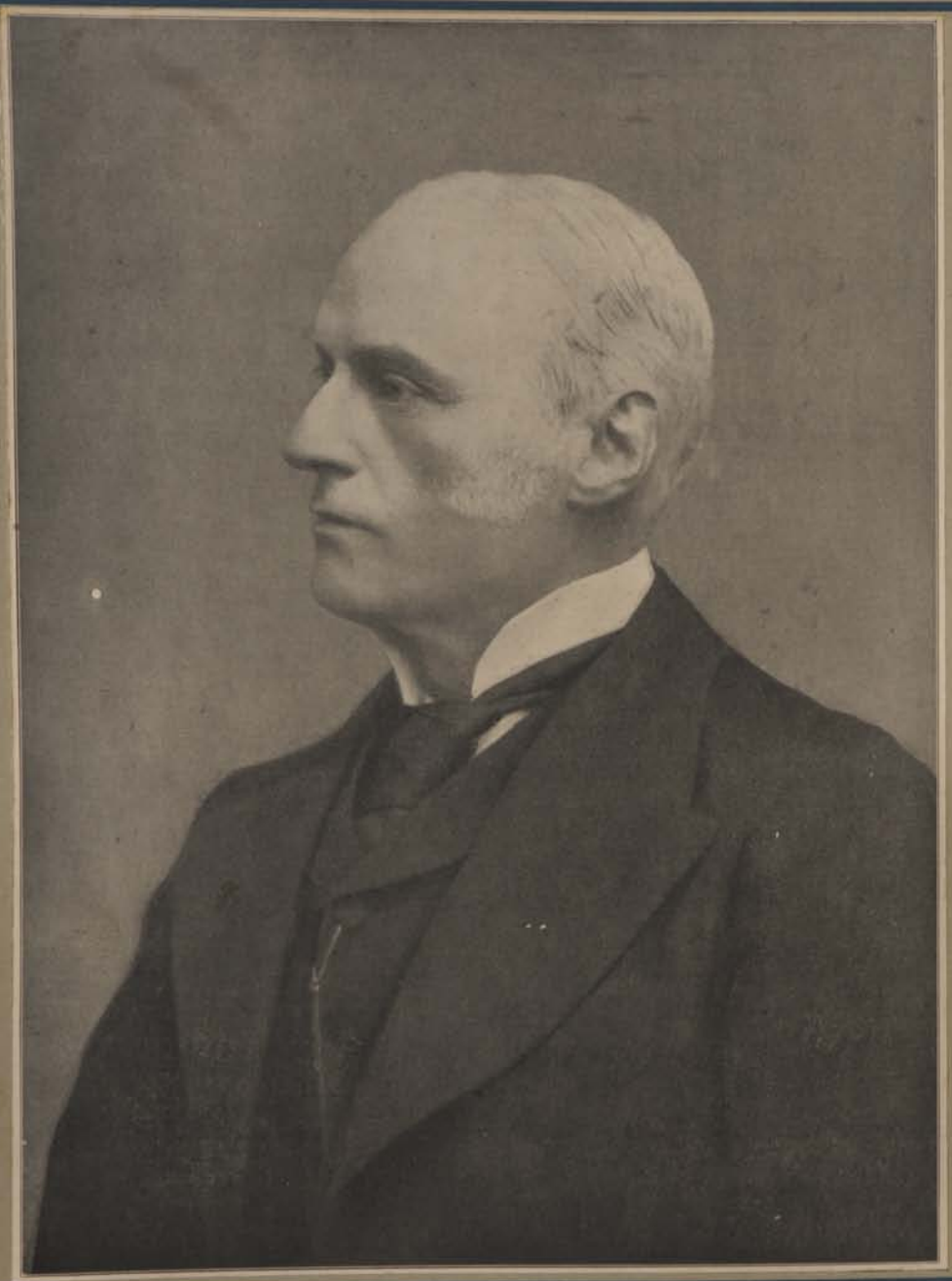
Our English sentiment will weave its tendrils again around "The King," but it would be well to give the title an English tradition. On this account I venture to hope that our new Sovereign will be styled Edward VII., and not Albert I. Personal reasons, which must be deeply respected, made the name of Albert very dear to the Queen; but in the roll of British monarchs it would have a foreign ring. Of our six Edwards, the first and third were great rulers; and if Longshanks made himself odious to the Scots, they had their compensation in Bannockburn at the expense of his immediate successor. Moreover, it was Longshanks who brought Wales into the formal dignities of the dynasty; so that in Edward are conjoined the historical susceptibilities of the three nations of Great Britain. No Irish feeling can be hurt, as it would be if, by some incredible mischance, we had a King who was christened Oliver. The plea for Edward is further strengthened by the circumstance that the Duke of York's son is an Edward in the direct line of succession; so that the perpetuation of Albert in the dynastic names seems unlikely.

"THE GREAT WHITE QUEEN," JULY 1900: HER MAJESTY'S FIRST APPEARANCE OUT OF MOURNING SINCE THE DEATH OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.

THE QUEEN AND HER INFANT GRANDCHILDREN, THE FAMILIES OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE PRINCESS ROYAL

THE ARRIVAL OF THE GERMAN EMPEROR AT OSBORNE, JANUARY 21.

THE QUEEN AND HER INFANT GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN. THE FAMILY OF THE DUKE OF YORK.



SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, BART.
Physician-in-Ordinary to the Queen.

SIR FRANCIS HENRY LAKING, K.C.V.O.
Surgeon to His Majesty.

Illustrated London News, January 26th, 1901.

SIR JAMES REID, BART.,
PHYSICIAN-IN-ORDINARY TO THE QUEEN.

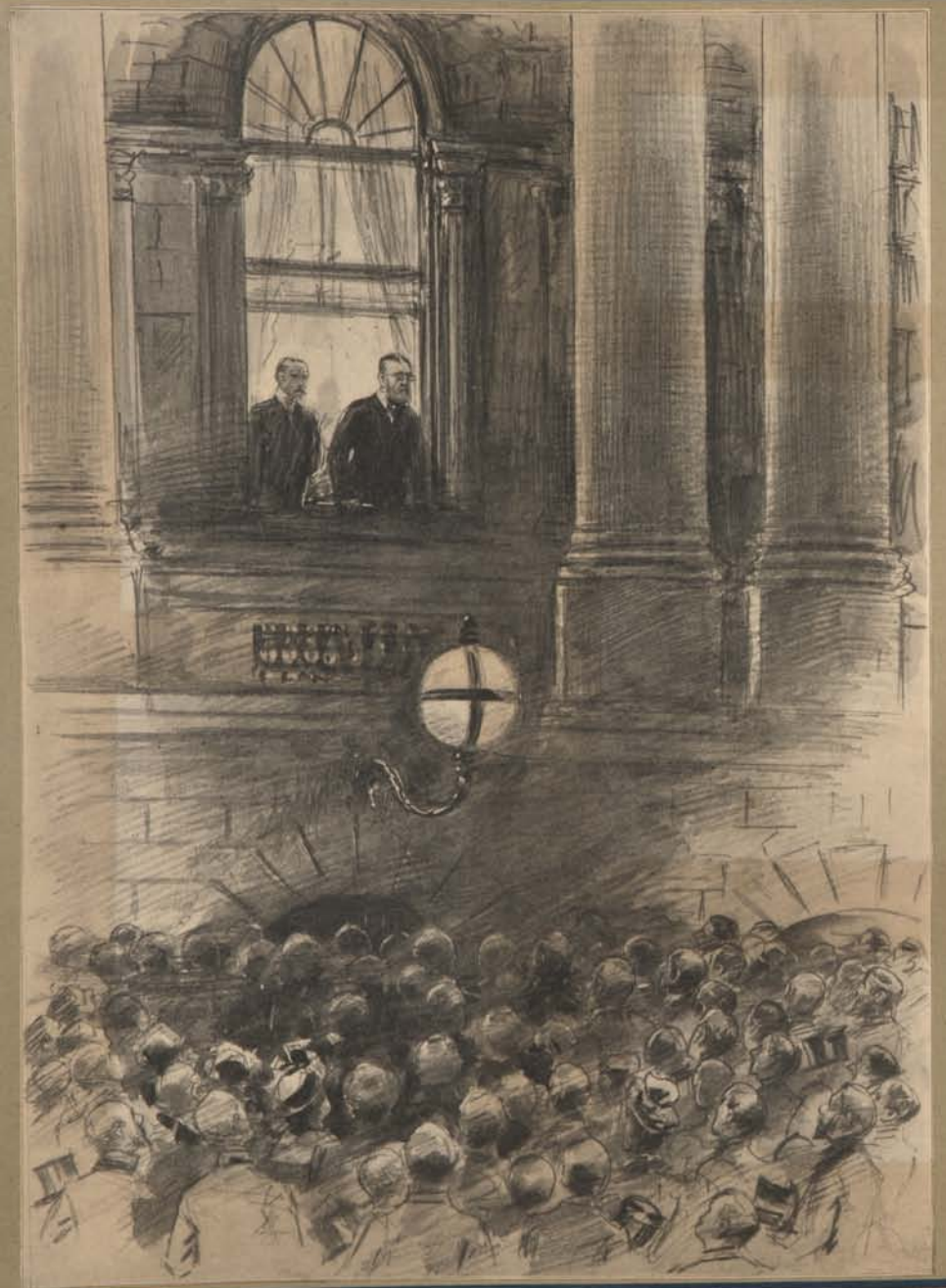
RECEPTION OF THE KAISER BY THE PRINCE OF WALES AND DUKE OF YORK AT CHARING CROSS STATION ON JANUARY 22.

THE QUEEN'S KINDNESS TO HER SOLDIERS' CHILDREN: CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE GUARDSMEN SERVING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE QUEEN AND HER GRANDCHILDREN IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.

Illustrated London News, January 26th, 1901.

THE QUEEN'S LAST DRIVE BEYOND THE GATES OF OSBORNE, JANUARY 15.



THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEWS AT THE MANSION HOUSE: THE LORD MAYOR READING THE PRINCE OF WALES'S TELEGRAM TO THE CITIZENS.

Prince of Wales. Duke of York. Duke of Connaught. Duchess of Argyll. German Emperor. Prince of Wales.

ROYAL WATCHERS AT OSBORNE: AN INTERVAL OF THE LONG VIGIL BY THE QUEEN'S SICK-BED.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT'S MAUSOLEUM.

THE ROYAL MAUSOLEUM: INTERIOR, WITH EFFIGY OF PRINCE ALBERT.

Before the death of the Duchess of Kent, Frogmore signified to the royal family one of the most charming of royal residences and estates situated within a walk of Windsor Castle, and endeared by many memories of former members of the reigning House. So closely associated with the Queen's mother had Frogmore become that it was decided that there also, in the lovely grounds of her former home, should be erected her mausoleum. The Queen and Prince Albert took great interest in the design and building of the Duchess of Kent's last resting-place; and on Aug. 20, 1861, Prince Albert, writing to his eldest daughter, observed, "The mausoleum has become very beautiful, and just what it should be—appropriate, pleasing, solemn; not doleful or repellent (schrecklich)."

Less than four months later the bereaved Sovereign was choosing the site where all that was mortal of the Prince Consort should be laid to rest, and her Majesty naturally selected a spot already endeared to her by such tender associations, and within a short distance of her principal home. Accordingly, no time was lost in preparing the plans for a mausoleum which, from its nature, might fitly symbolise the character and rare nature of him to whom it was to be dedicated; and the work was proceeded with so rapidly that within a year it was ready to receive the Prince's remains. Various designs, belonging to every period, were submitted to the Queen, and that finally chosen was exceedingly fine and original, not, as has been suggested, copied from any Continental model. As for the splendid marble sarcophagus on which Marochetti's beautiful recumbent statue of the Prince Consort now rests, it was not added till some time later, a temporary stone sarcophagus occupying, on the day of the opening ceremony, Dec. 18, 1862, the centre of the building.

The Prince Consort's mausoleum is naturally of a more imposing and splendid character than that of the Duchess of Kent. The memorial edifice is cruciform in plan, with a cell in the crossing lighted by three semicircular windows in the clerestory. The copper roof is octagonal in shape, with a square tower surmounted by a gilt cross. The whole exterior of the mausoleum is faced with Aberdeen and Guernsey granite and with variously coloured building-stones.

Beneath the dome of the cell is placed the splendid sarcophagus supported by bronze angels, the Prince's recumbent figure being of white marble. Over the altar is a large painting of Christ coming out of the tomb, and the Roman soldiers falling down under their shields, overcome by His triumph over Death. In one of the recesses is a lovely monument,—two recumbent figures, that of the royal mother and child so strangely united in death—to the Princess Alice. The Queen and her children frequently visited the mausoleum; and once each year, on Dec. 14, all those members of the royal family then in the kingdom attend a memorial service held in remembrance of the Prince Consort, and on that one day the public are admitted to walk through the mausoleum, cards being issued for that purpose.

As is well known, the Queen generally spent her mornings when at Windsor in the grounds of Frogmore House, in a verandah-surrounded bungalow built close to two fine evergreen oaks said to date from the days of the Crusades; but the two mausoleums are so embowered in foliage that they are quite hidden from the gardens, and only glimpses of either edifice are discernible from the Long Walk in Windsor Great Park. An out-of-door life was habitual with the Queen from the time of her earliest years, when at Sidmouth she grew and prospered, to the delight of her parents; and again later, when at Kensington Palace with her mother, the young Princess frequently in summer breakfasted in the open air.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT'S MAUSOLEUM: DOME AND PERISTYLE.

THE QUEEN'S TEA-PAVILION.

THE PRINCE CONSORT'S MAUSOLEUM.

Princess of Wales. Duke of Connaught. Prince of Wales. The Queen. The Empress Frederick. The Emperor Frederick. Duke of Clarence.

THE ROYAL GATHERING ON THE OCCASION OF THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE, 1887.

READING THE BULLETINS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

THE KAISER.

PRINCE OF WALES.

PRINCESS OF WALES.

DUKE OF YORK.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG.

DUCHESS OF YORK.

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES.

PRINCESS MAUD OF WALES.

DUKE OF FIFE.

DUCHESS OF FIFE.

DUCHESS OF ALBANY.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

ROYAL PERSONAGES AT OSBORNE DURING THE QUEEN'S LAST ILLNESS.

WHIPPINGHAM CHURCH, WHERE THE QUEEN WORSHIPPED DURING HER VISITS TO OSBORNE.

The Rector of Whippingham on Sunday asked the prayers of all present for the Queen, and later was summoned to the bedchamber. At Whippingham Church Princess Beatrice was married to Prince Henry of Battenberg.

THE SCENE OUTSIDE BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

INQUIRIES AT THE GATES, OSBORNE.

A GLIMPSE OF THE QUEEN'S HOME LIFE: THE QUEEN AND PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG.

THE QUEEN IN HER DONKEY-CARRIAGE.

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

LONG LIVE THE KING!

Loss and gain, ebb and flow—such is the law of life. The Empire fervently laments the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, whose name will be revered for her many splendid qualities of head and heart so long as history shall continue to be written, but the Empire is the richer by reason of the high standard and the noble example she has set for her successors. And if there is one thing more than another which the British race, even in the midst of its mourning, is confident of at this time, it is that in her son, so long honoured as the Prince of Wales, so long esteemed as the first of English gentlemen, she has left behind her one who will not only occupy but adorn the Throne.

His Majesty, who assumed the title of Edward the Seventh at his first Council, held on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at St. James's Palace, inherits something infinitely more precious than the Crown and Sceptre of the mightiest monarchy of the world. He enters upon a magnificent heritage of loyalty such as has never fallen to the lot of any other Sovereign, and long may His Majesty live to enjoy it! His illustrious father, Albert the Good, endeared himself to the people of these Islands by his love for their Queen and his whole-hearted devotion to the public welfare. Queen Victoria has left to her son the Throne far stronger than it was when she ascended it. Truly it is "broad-based" upon the will and affections of every liegeman, and it is no wonder, therefore, that His Majesty is receiving the congratulations of all nations and peoples and tongues.

From his childhood onwards, "the Prince," as he was affectionately called, has been universally and deservedly popular. Kind and generous, amiable and sympathetic, absolutely without affectation, yet dignified, gifted with unfailing tact, able in administration, energetic, and, at the same time, methodical in affairs, a true friend, a keen sportsman, His Majesty has stood as the best type of the English gentleman.

His Majesty's early training was carefully supervised by the Queen and the Prince Consort, by whom he was placed under thoroughly competent tutors. His father, Prince Albert, conceived that it was proper for the Heir-Apparent to be given a thorough but diversified education, and to this end His Majesty became a student first at Edinburgh, where he was a pupil of Lord Playfair's, next at Oxford, where he was entered at Christ Church, and then at Cambridge, at Trinity College. As a lad, His Majesty travelled and saw the great world, in walking tours in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Germany, and also shared in some of the visits of ceremony made by his Royal parents to Paris and elsewhere. Under the guidance of the Duke of Newcastle, he visited Canada and the United States, where he received an enthusiastic welcome. As a soldier, he served in the Army at the Curragh.

It was on one of his tours abroad that the King met his future wife, the Princess Alexandra of Denmark, though her father at the time was not Sovereign of that country. In 1863, when the bridegroom was in his twenty-second year, the marriage took place amid national rejoicing, and it is not too much to say that it has been a subject of national rejoicing ever since. From the moment the beautiful Princess, "the Sea-King's daughter," landed upon our shores, she took all hearts captive, and "our Princess" has held them willing captives during the years which have passed. Her grace and beauty, the sweetness of her disposition, the charming simplicity of her character, the catholicity of her gentle sympathy with the distressed and the suffering, which made us love her as Princess of Wales, will, we rest assured, cause us to love her more and more as Queen Alexandra. Nor will Her Majesty, as gracious as beloved, fail to follow in her Court the high traditions upheld by Queen Victoria.

His Majesty's union with Queen Alexandra has, in addition to his own personal qualities, added materially to his hold upon the Empire. How great that hold is was manifested abundantly at the close of 1871, when for several weeks the nation hung in anxious suspense, almost despair, over His Majesty's sick-bed. On the announcement of his recovery, expression was everywhere given to the most unbounded joy and gladness, while the Thanksgiving at St. Paul's, with which his escape from death was celebrated, was a national demonstration surpassed only by the Jubilees of 1887 and 1897.

In 1875, His Majesty undertook a tour of the highest political importance. With Sir Bartle Frere as his guide, he visited India, where he met the native Princes, by whom he was received with all homage and reverence as the son of the "Great White Queen," the Empress of India. Undoubtedly this visit did much to consolidate the power of the British rule in the East.

Since those days, His Majesty and his Consort have been increasingly active in every public work, in all manner of beneficent and charitable effort. As Most Worshipful Grand Master of British Freemasons (appointed 1875), he has been foremost in good works designed for the benefit of the less fortunate members of the Brotherhood. Both the King and Queen are the Patron or Patroness of all the chief English charities, and have given ungrudgingly a great deal of time and trouble in support of them. What His Majesty did for the "Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund," and what Her Majesty has achieved for such funds as her much-cherished "Soldiers and Sailors Fund," redound to their credit.

No Sovereign ever ascended a throne with warmer wishes from his people for a great and glorious reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

AS THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF FREEMASONS.

THE CLUBMAN.

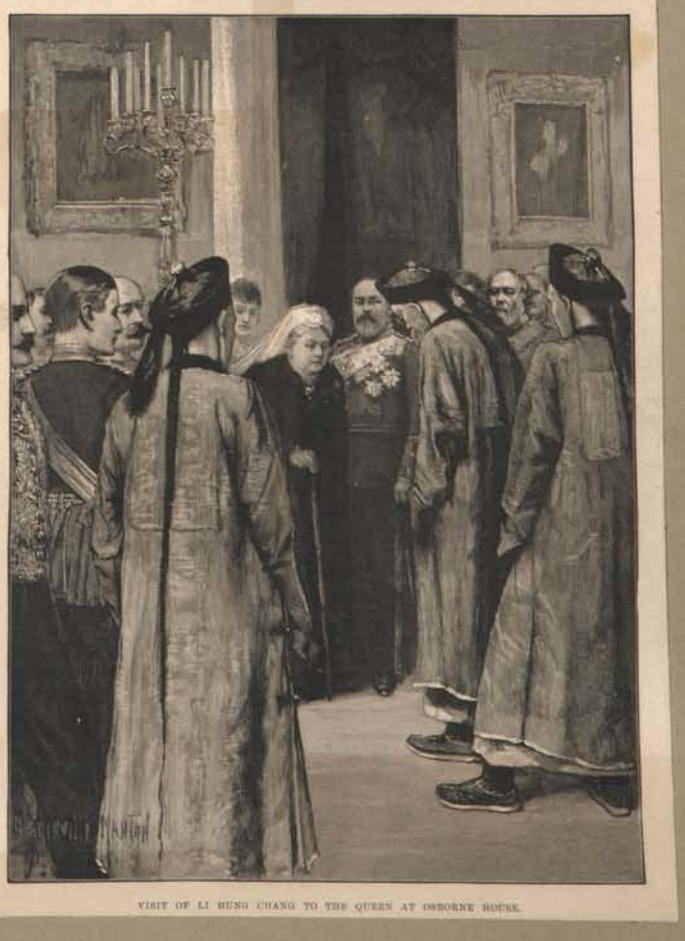
Her late Majesty and the Army—The Royal Badges and Arms—The King and the Rulers of Europe.

THAT Her Majesty the late Queen should have expressed in writing a wish that her funeral should be a military one was very natural, for the connection between the Sovereign and the Services, Naval and Military, has always been of the closest, and Her Majesty, as the head of an Army which was devoted to her, found one of the keenest pleasures of her life in the inspection of her land forces. The burden of age in her latter years prevented her from visiting Aldershot and commanding reviews on a large scale; but when it was possible to parade at Windsor any battalion of the Guards about to go on foreign or active service, or any detachment of Household Cavalry under similar orders, it was done by Her Majesty's orders. Smaller bodies of troops passing near any residence at which the late Queen might be staying were often surprised at receiving a command to parade before her. The Highlanders who formed the Guard of Honour at Ballater knew that an eye as critical as that of any General would note the smartness of their turn-out, and time and time again, when a review had been concluded, the troops marching home would find that somewhere on the road to camp or barracks Her Majesty had ordered her carriage to come to a stand-still, in order that she might once again see the regiments pass.

The messages which Her Majesty sent to her Army, her sympathy with the wounded, her visits to Netley, and her New Year's gift of chocolate to her men in South Africa, seemed to bring the Queen, as a sympathising woman, very close to the private soldier. Fine words count for little with Thomas Atkins; but that, if he was wounded, the Queen would interest herself as to the progress he made, that in hospital she might speak some words to him, that a personal gift might come from her to him—this meant that he was not mere food for powder, to be used and thrown away. I have heard the men talking at their camp-fires of their Sovereign, and it was always with a gentleness and with an affection that the rough-and-ready soldier, who scorns the exhibition of emotion, shows but rarely.

Her Majesty had a quick eye not only for her own troops, but for those of other nations as well. When the late Queen took up her residence on the Riviera, a crack regiment of French troops formed the Guard of Honour, and the officers and men felt highly complimented by the appreciative message which was always conveyed to them. Driving along the Riviera roads, Her Majesty would often meet one of the Alpine battalions, a corps of hardy mountaineers, on the march. The battalion would always halt, and, being "fronted," present arms to the Queen, who directed her coachman to drive at a foot-pace in order that she might see the men individually.

One of the marks of the close connection of the Sovereign with the Army is the extent to which the Royal Cypher is used in the ornamentation of weapons, colours, clothing, and accoutrements. The senior Service, the Navy, will have to make but few changes. "H.M." stands for His Majesty as well as Her Majesty, and the anchor is the universal emblem and badge. In the Army, all the First Colours, now King's Colours, carry the "V.R.," and it is to be found on hits and breast-



VISIT OF LI HUNG CHANG TO THE QUEEN AT OSBORNE HOUSE.

plates, on buttons and sword-hilts and sabretaches, which will all have to be gradually renewed. The flags of honour which the Guards regiments carry are personal gifts from the Sovereign, and, if precedent is followed, those presented by her late Majesty will be no longer used, but placed in honourable places of safe keeping, and the King, on his Coronation, will present his Household regiments with others.

The Royal Cypher must, of necessity, be changed, but His Majesty need not, and probably will not, change the Royal Arms. Those he bore as Prince of Wales were "surcharged" with the Arms of Saxony, besides, of course, bearing his "label" as eldest son; but as a change from the Royal Arms borne during the last reign would necessitate a vast amount of re-chiselling and re-painting, and as the King is the sole arbiter in this matter, it is likely that he will save many of his subjects from a considerable expense.

Whether the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has a distinguishing cockade, I do not know; but should there be one, I hope that the King will order his servants to wear it in place of the sombre black cockade of the House of Hanover which now decks the hats of the servants of such people as are entitled to the honour and of many who are not.

Her Majesty the late Queen was on the most cordial terms with all the Sovereigns of Europe, and the same may be said of his present Majesty. At the Coronation of the Czar, it was noticeable what dependence he placed on the then Prince of Wales. If ever there was a cloud between His Majesty and the Kaiser, that has now absolutely passed away, and uncle and nephew are on most affectionate terms. The Parisians really view the King with greater favour than any Royal Prince who has ever been in their midst, and have even a greater personal liking for him than for the head of the "allied nation" whom they never tire of toasting. It was at one of the *Figaro's* wonderful musical afternoons that a witty Frenchwoman — Madame Judic, if my memory does not play me false — said to his present Majesty, "Your Royal Highness, you should be the Prince des Gaules, and not the Prince de Galles"; to which the Prince laughingly replied that the French changed their rulers too often.

THE GRAVES OF ENGLAND'S MONARCHS.

Royal Graves at Westminster and Windsor, and French Burial-Places of English Kings.

At a moment like the present, when everyone's thoughts are naturally inclined to the funeral of our late beloved Sovereign, a melancholy interest attaches to the subject of the last resting-places of Her Majesty's predecessors on the Throne of England.

QUEEN VICTORIA,

devoted to the memory of the Prince Consort, desired to be buried in the sarcophagus in which repose the remains of her revered husband in the Frogmore Mausoleum, which has for so many years been the scene of the infinitely pathetic commemorative service on the part of our Royal Family on each sad December anniversary. Accordingly, after the grand historic funeral, which, beginning next Friday with the conveyance of the Queen's coffin in the *Alberta* from Cowes through the long avenue of British and German Ironclads in the Solent to Portsmouth, and the solemn procession on Saturday from Victoria Station to Paddington, culminates with the Royal Service in St. George's Chapel in the afternoon, the remains of Her Majesty will find a last resting-place in the beautiful Chapel at Frogmore.

Of sixteen out of the six-and-thirty Kings and Queens who have reigned in this country since the accession of William I., Westminster Abbey has formed the burial-ground. The first of these was a Plantagenet, Henry III., who died in the year 1272. Three others of his race sleep in the same spot also — the first and second Edwards and the second Richard. Among the remaining monarchs

INTERRED IN THE HISTORIC ABBEY

are Henry V., Henry VII., Edward VI., Mary, and, lastly, that greatest of all the House of Tudor, Queen Elizabeth.

With the accession of the Stuarts, Westminster lost its distinction of being the burial-place of none but English monarchs, for four members of this House and one Hanoverian now came to be laid to rest there. These were, in order of their interment, James I., Charles II., William III., Anne, and George II. In several instances, the deaths of the Sovereigns who are buried in the Abbey took place at a considerable distance from London. Henry V., for instance, died at Vincennes,

ON FRENCH SOIL,

in 1422, while the death of Edward I. occurred at Burgh-on-Sands, 1307, and that of Richard II. at Pontefract, ninety-three years later.

AT WINDSOR

the number of buried Sovereigns is seven, the first being the unfortunate Henry VI., who was cruelly done to death in the Tower of London on June 20, 1471. The next King to be interred in this same place was Edward IV., in 1483. More than sixty years elapsed before another Royal funeral (that of Henry VIII.) took place at Windsor. A hundred and two years after this monarch's obsequies the vault containing his coffin was re-opened, for the purpose of receiving that of Charles I. The last three Sovereigns to be buried at Windsor were all Hanoverians — George III., George IV., and William IV.

In addition to Henry V. (whose death, as has been mentioned, occurred at Vincennes), five other Kings of England have

DIED IN FRANCE.

William the Conqueror, Henry I., Henry II., Richard I., and James II. Only one of these (Henry I.) was buried on English soil. William I. being interred at Caen, and Henry II. and Richard I. at Fontevrault. As will doubtless be remembered, the heart of the last-named was specially bequeathed by the gallant "Cœur de Lion" to the town of Rouen. The place of interment of James II. was Paris. The only other Sovereign who died abroad was George I., whose decease occurred at Osnabrück in 1727.

AT WINCHESTER

lie the remains of two of England's Kings, William II. and John. The first-named of these was killed while hunting in the New Forest, and the latter died at Newark.

Henry IV., the first monarch of the House of Lancaster, was

BURIED AT CANTERBURY.

A victim to epileptic seizures in the later years of his life, he died of an attack of this nature while transacting official business in the "Jerusalem Chamber" at Westminster. His sudden demise at this place was widely considered as the fulfilment of a prophecy that he would die at Jerusalem, to which town he had paid a visit in his younger days.

In the churchyard of Grey Friars, Leicester, lies the body of Richard III., the last of

THE NOBLE PLANTAGENET LINE.

A brave soldier, and one who died, crown on head, in the thick of battle, the indignities heaped upon his corpse before it received its sepulture reflect lasting disgrace upon all concerned. According to the historians of the period, it was actually exposed for two days prior to its interment.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN PHOTOGRAPHED AS A DOCTOR OF MUSIC

"GOD SAVE THE KING!" PROCLAMATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII. AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE ON THURSDAY, JAN. 24.

Lord Roberts and the Headquarters Staff of the Army, a brilliant cavalcade, attended to witness this impressive ceremony.

THE MAN IN THE STREET

The Death of Queen Victoria—When the News Reached London—The World in Mourning—A Hurried Proclamation—King Edward VII.—A Good Sportsman—Why not the Police?—In the Streets of London.

THIS has been a week of mourning, and even now it is almost impossible to realise the enormous changes which have taken place between Sunday and Sunday. It was really on the Sunday before last that "The Man in the Street" grasped the fact that the Queen was seriously ill, for, though in Saturday's morning papers there was an announcement that the Queen was not in her usual health, it was only in Saturday's evening papers, or, for most of us, in Sunday's paper, that we saw how serious the case was. And then on Tuesday evening the bad news came that all was over, and that the great Queen who to most of us seems always to have reigned in England had passed away.

The first news that "The Man in the Street" got of the sad event was by the rush of the paper-boys along the Strand with special editions soon after seven. It had been expected all the afternoon after the bulletin published a few hours before, which said that the Queen was sinking. To show how sound is swallowed up in the general roar of London, I never heard a sound of "Big Paul," although he was tolling soon after seven and I was not far off. A little later, I rode on a bus from Ludgate Circus to Piccadilly Circus, and as we passed each church we could hear the bell tolling, but as soon as we had gone even a few yards the sound was lost in the London roar. But what struck me most was the silence of the theatres and music-halls. Every one of them was shut, and on the doors were great black placards with "Closed" on them. The streets were full of silent crowds. There was a sort of stunned feeling all over the centre of London that evening.

It was remarkable how spontaneously everyone went into mourning on the Wednesday for the Good Queen, and, as the day wore on, the number of black ties and black hat-bands steadily increased, till on Thursday it was rare to see anyone in colours, and black coats and black dresses were almost universal. It needed no request from the Earl Marshal to remind "The Man in the Street" to put himself into mourning. I did not see the King (how strange the title sounds even now!) when he came to London on Wednesday, for "The Man in the Street" has his living to gain indoors, like other people, and very few of us saw anything of the Proclamation on Thursday. The papers were quite out of it in saying that the troops began to line the streets about eight o'clock, for they were on the route soon after five, and some of them had been entrained at four. The shadow of "C.I.V." Day still seemed to be with the police authorities, for not only were the streets lined with soldiers, but the ceremony was put forward an hour, so that when the King was proclaimed at Temple Bar there were only a few hundred people looking on. By the time people had gathered in any number, all that there was to be seen was the return procession of the Trumpeters and Escort of the Horse Guards. I saw that, but I was much disappointed at not seeing Rouge Dragon in his war-paint.

I heard a funny thing in the crowd. After the last of the procession had gone by, an old woman said, "Well, that settles one thing. The German Emperor ain't coming to King here!" I suppose she had a sort of idea that the Emperor, as the eldest son of the Queen's eldest daughter, might, by some legal quibble, have been put on the Throne—and so she was relieved that, after all, the most popular Prince of Wales England has ever known had come to his own. Of the personal popularity of the new King there can be no doubt. Everybody knows what a difficult task he had as Heir to the Throne, and how wonderfully hard he had to work at his public duties, and yet never to obtrude himself or to look like pushing the Queen aside. For this, consummate tact was needed, and, as it is the greatest quality of a modern Constitutional Sovereign, we may be sure that the King will, as he promised, follow in the footsteps of his mother. We all recognise His Majesty as a good sportsman, one who has won the Derby, raced a splendid yacht, and is a first-rate shot. It is, perhaps, hard on him that he should follow a Sovereign so good, so great, and so universally beloved as Queen Victoria; but we know that he has great experience and great tact, and look forward with perfect confidence to a glorious reign.

I wonder why the constables of the Police Force are not allowed to wear crape on their left arms as a sign of mourning for the Queen. I hear that only the Superintendents, Inspectors, and Sergeants are to wear it. This seems very hard on the policemen, who will thus be the only decent men in London who have no sign of the national sorrow about them! I hope that, if this has been decided upon, the authorities will see their way to let all the police share in the nation's expression of grief. Considering the arduous nature of their duties, this is only their due.

Nearly all the shops in the great thoroughfares have put up black shutters, and, in some cases, crape has been draped across the windows. Romano has hung a handsome festoon of black cloth fringed with silver from each storey, and farther up in the West-End there are signs that, in a day or two from the time of writing, the fronts of some of the great shops will be worthy of the occasion. The gutter-merchants have given up their usual wares, and are selling portraits and biographies of Queen Victoria by the hundred. Nearly every hansom and cabman has a crape bow on his whip, and all the porters on the railway lines have been given black bands to wear on the left arm. Truly, we are a nation in mourning!

GROUP OF QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE PRINCE CONSORT IN WINDSOR CASTLE.
"*Allured to brighter worlds and led the way.*"

QUEEN VICTORIA AND TENNYSON.

AFTER Wordsworth's death, on April 23, 1850, there were many names mentioned for the vacant Laureateship, such as Leigh Hunt, Dr. Charles Mackay, and "Barry Cornwall," as well as Robert Browning and Mrs. Browning. Samuel Rogers was approached, but declined on account of his age. The Queen knew the early work of Tennyson well, and had been much impressed with the idyllic beauty of "The Miller's Daughter," and Prince Albert had a profound admiration for "In Memoriam," and his letter, written long after the appointment, on the "Idylls of the King" is well known. Tennyson had a dream, the night before the appointment was offered to him, that Prince Albert had come and kissed his cheek. It was doubtful at first if Tennyson would accept, for he said: "I have no great passion for Courts, but a great love of privacy. It is, I believe, scarce a hundred pounds a-year, and my friend R. M. Milnes tells me the price of the patent and Court-dress will swallow up all the first year's income." When he had the offer, he wrote two letters, one accepting and the other refusing, and for a time he was undecided which to send. He used to say: "I accepted the honour because during dinner Venables told me that, if I became Poet Laureate, I should always, when I dined out, be offered the liver-wing of a fowl." He was presented to the Queen at the Buckingham Palace Levée on March 4, 1851. He wore Rogers's Court-dress, which had been borrowed for the occasion, and this was the same suit that Wordsworth had also worn on his installation.

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.
Photographed by T. F. Langhans during the Prince's visit to Marienbad.

THE QUEEN AND CHARLES DICKENS.

A writer in the *Quarterly Review* once gave a sketch of the Queen's taste in literature, from which we learn that Heine was amongst her favourites, and that Thackeray and Dickens seemed to rank even below Edna Lyall. Her favourite poets were Shakspere, Walter Scott, Tennyson, and Adelaide Procter. Her favourite novelists were all women—Jane Austen, Charlotte Brontë, Mrs. Oliphant, Mrs. Craik, George Eliot, and Edna Lyall. Amongst German authors, Schiller, Goethe, and Heine stood first with her. At her request, Charles Dickens attended at Buckingham Palace on April 9, 1870. Arthur Helps, Clerk to the Privy Council, introduced Dickens to Her Majesty. The interview lasted for some time, during which the Queen expressed her admiration of his works, and she presented him at parting with a copy of "Our Life in the Highlands," with the autograph inscription, "Victoria R., to Charles Dickens." In return, Dickens sent an edition of his collected works, which the Queen placed in her private library. It became known after his death that the Queen at one time wished to bestow some titular distinction upon him.

HORS D'ŒUVRES.

"La Reine est Morte!"—Silent Eloquence—Ill News—The Queen's Fortune—The Magic of Her Name—Royal Telepathy—"Vive le Roi!"—An Annus Mirabilis.

THE Victorian Era is at an end. Avowedly *The Sketch* loves the bright side of life. It keeps in the background the sorrows which the world bears of without the aid of illustrated papers. But this moment is supreme; there is only one subject. True, it has been said that the English Press has not risen to the occasion, that we must look to the Continental newspapers for eloquent expressions of sorrow and regard. What greater proof is needed of the agony which has thrilled us? This is the eloquence of silence. Only on the stage do the words of those in acute suffering bear the tests of dramatic and literary criticism.

Fas est ab hoste doceri. It has been declared in the House of Commons that the name of Royalty paralyses criticism in this country. Sometimes, perhaps, the courtier gets the better of the impartial historian. But that our opinions of Queen Victoria as woman, if not as Queen, are unbiassed, we have unanswerable proof. The passionate Anglophobe journal, the Socialist "yellow newspaper," have vied with our ablest leader-writers in acclaiming her virtues. An objectionable third-rate French paper refuses to discuss the political consequences of the Queen's death as "impertinent" at such a time.

How suddenly it has come! When Louis Quatorze, passing a cemetery, observed, "Remember, gentlemen, that I too am mortal," his courtiers laughed together, and vowed that Monsieur would have his joke. Yet had we not almost lived as if Queen Victoria were immortal? All through the Saturday night on which the first alarming telegram aroused London, great writers sat up—some of them till late on Sunday—working at the biographies and "special editions" which only then were seen to be urgently wanted. Horace Greeley, the great journalist, said that the public gradually assimilated news; it wanted the same news day after day. The truth about the Queen had been purposely held back till the last moment; it broke upon us so suddenly that we are only grasping it now.

Only now probably will the late Queen's liberality be known. Rumours that twelve millions or twenty millions had been saved were mythical—three or four should be nearer the truth. Only for wise investments at the beginning of the reign (largely directed by the Prince Consort), little could have been saved from the Civil List and the other sources of the Royal income, considering the endless expenses of a Sovereign of England and the enormous number of family connections. Those Members of Parliament who, under oath of secrecy, examined into the Queen's fortune, have admitted that it was nothing like the popular estimate.

Courtiers of the Sovereigns of the House of Orleans affected to believe in a divine effulgence from the Royal eyes which paralysed all who looked upon them. To pay tribute to the electric world-influence of the person of the Queen is but to relate the history of England for the past sixty years. At this moment, the earth is heralding the dawn of the inventor's latest triumph—that aërial telegraphy with which the very air around us is throbbing. Yet the greatest telegraphy of all has been the magic magnetism of the Queen, which has not merely linked Empires together, but has, perhaps, kept intact the United Kingdom itself.

Wondrous telepathy! It stands pre-eminent above the boasted marvels of the nineteenth century, for the grand feature of the Victorian Era has been Queen Victoria herself. Intangible, invisible, it has stood the test of distance, climate, storm, and war. Statesmen have been but the electricians to guide the mystical influence to great ends. Like most great and good things, it is above scientific explanation. "I have never seen a soul," says the Doctor in "The Physician." He might have said the same of that loyalty which has made "Queen's Birthday" the fête-day of the year to Colonists who could not hope ever to see either England or the Queen.

It may console us—if consolation is possible—not only to feel that the Queen has died well stricken in years, covered with glory and beloved and respected by every nation in the world, but that her place will be ably filled and that the direct succession is in no danger. Necessarily, the *entourage* of the King must be, to a great extent, different from that of her late Majesty; Court ceremonial under the new *régime* will be modernised and the bestowal of patronage changed. Happily, the King inherits that tact and statecraft which have done so much to build up the Empire, and his influence will still be for peace. His daily life will, of course, be largely affected by the strict rules of Court etiquette and the "majesty which doth hedge a King."

The dawn of a new century, the Transvaal War, the Federation of a Continent, and now the close of the Victorian Era, make this for England an *annus mirabilis*. We have to speak of the twentieth, not the nineteenth century; the Australian Commonwealth, not Colonies; the Vaal River Colony, not the Transvaal; and lastly, of the King, not the Prince of Wales. It is a sensational moment in our history. HILL ROWAN.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S FATHER: EDWARD, DUKE OF KENT AND STRATHEARN, K.G., K.T., K.P., ETC.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S MOTHER: H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT.
After a Picture by F. Winterhalter.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA.

H.S.H. THE PRINCESS OF HOHENLOHE-LANGENBURG, STEP-SISTER OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

Duke of Connaught. Duke of Saxe-Coburg. The Kaiser. The Prince of Wales.

Queen Victoria. Empress Frederick.

AN INTERESTING ROYAL GROUP.

Lord Melbourne. Duke of Wellington. Sir Robert Peel.

Duke of Cumberland. Duke of Sussex.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S FIRST COUNCIL AT KENSINGTON PALACE ON JUNE 20, 1837.

QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER DONKEY-CARRIAGE.

QUEEN VICTORIA PROCEEDING IN STATE TO OPEN HER FIRST PARLIAMENT, NOV. 20, 1837.

God Save the King! Those who had the privilege of witnessing the new Sovereign's arrival in his good city of London last Wednesday could not but be touched to the heart by the peculiarly sympathetic and affectionate nature of his reception. Fortunate indeed is the nation which, while weeping a departed Monarch, can yet greet with such heart-felt confidence and love its new Ruler. Paraphrasing a famous line, it may well be said that His Majesty has a thousand claims—aye, and far more than a thousand claims—to his people's affection and trust. Who among the exalted, with the one exception of his revered mother, has worked harder during the last forty years, and that, be it noted, while placed in a most difficult and delicate position? All that he whom many of us still think of as the "Prince of Wales" has achieved in the way of solid amelioration of the lot of all ranks and conditions of Englishmen and Englishwomen will probably never be known, for His Majesty was always one of those who did good by stealth and blushed to find it fame. None worthier to be Most Worshipful Grand Master of British Freemasons—the greatest and most liberal charitable brotherhood in the world!

H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT AT THE AGE OF FORTY-TWO.
From an Old Engraving.

Edward VII. It may be recalled that the last Edward who reigned over this realm ascended the Throne at a more youthful age than any other British Sovereign has ever done, before or since, while Edward VII. is at the present moment, with one exception—that of William IV.—older than were any of his predecessors at the time of their Accession. But the Seventh Edward looks many years younger than his real age, while his beautiful Queen is noted all the world over for her wonderful youthfulness of appearance. Edward is a thoroughly national name, and although the British Empire has only too much cause to love and revere the name of "Albert the Good," it will be universally felt that the King made a wise choice in carrying on the great and glorious line of Royal Edwards.

The King's First Privy Council. His Majesty's first Privy Council was held on Jan. 23, in the Banqueting Hall of St. James's Palace, and formed a striking contrast to the historic scene when the maiden Queen diffidently advanced to meet for the first time those who were to be her guides and advisers during the first half of her reign. The Sovereign's short extempore speech was, alike in feeling, in tone, and in delivery, very admirable, and the nation will respond to the trust expressed by our new Ruler that it would support him in the arduous duties which have now devolved upon him by inheritance, and to which, as he said, he was determined to devote his whole strength during the remainder of his life.

After the demise of a Sovereign, an interregnum, generally of only a few hours, takes place, in which there are no Privy Councillors with the solitary exception of the Lord Mayor of London, who, however, does not enjoy, excepting on this one unique, solemn occasion, the full rights appertaining to the great position of Privy Councillor. The successor of Dick Whittington has the right of attending the new Sovereign's first Privy Council, and remaining until he has heard the Proclamation read by the Monarch. Among His Majesty's new Privy Councillors there is scarcely one but is intimately known to King Edward. Included among the Privy Councillors of the new reign are the Duke of York, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Duke of Fife. Literature, as was the case in the last reign, is fully represented by Mr. John Morley, Sir Richard Temple, Mr. Lecky, and Sir Herbert Maxwell.

Queen Victoria and her Knowledge of Languages. As is pretty well known, directly our great Queen became also Empress of India, she set to work, though no longer a young woman, to learn Hindostani, and attached the Munshi Abdul Karim to the Royal Household. But it is not so generally known that

QUEEN VICTORIA AT THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.
From a Painting by Sir George Hayter, R.A.

the Queen was also proficient in other tongues. German and French, of course, she knew, but few are aware that she was also acquainted with the Arabic, Greek, Russian, and Hebrew languages—I do not say perfectly, but certainly far better than nine hundred and ninety-nine of her subjects. I am also told that the Queen could read Dutch and

HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

THE WEDDING OF PRINCE ALBERT AND QUEEN VICTORIA IN THE CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S PALACE, FEB. 10, 1840.

Spanish, and that she applied herself to these languages after reading "Motley's History of the Rise of the Dutch Republic." If so, it is a curious fact that the man who declared war against her should fly to Holland just before her irreparable passing away. One other great Queen, Elizabeth, was also a proficient linguist.

The Queen as a Musician. As a musician the Queen was about the most appreciative judge of the voice to be found within her own realm, and her ear was so delicately framed that she became, as someone tersely put it, "the composer, when a concerted piece or song was being sung." Unfortunately, many of our most gifted singers have, through nervousness, when commanded to appear before Her Majesty, been somewhat out of register, not to say tune. The Queen, of course, never gave evidence of noticing the discrepancy between the vocalisation and the score, but she has never failed to note the fact, and she has been known, after a State Concert at Buckingham Palace, to request the singer to repeat the air on a subsequent occasion in private, for the purpose of ascertaining whether her ear or the vocalist's voice was at fault. In her domestic circle, Her Majesty delighted in the pleasant harmony afforded by Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, Miss Minnie Cochrane, and Miss Rutland, a talented violin-player, daughter of the organist of Trinity Church, Cowes.

Kensington Palace. As the birthplace and early home of the Sovereign whose loss hundreds of millions of people deplore, Kensington Palace, so recently thrown open to the public by a characteristically gracious act of Victoria, Queen and Empress, will become the Mecca of loyal Anglo-Saxons from all quarters of the globe and an object of deep interest and attraction to the world. Yet, in an elaborate "Picture of London," published when Her Majesty was more than seven years old, the quaint building was thus briefly mentioned: "Here is a range of apartments occupied by the Duke of Sussex. The late Duke of Kent was likewise at one period an occupant, and *his widow and child* are still resident here." Once more "the whirligig of Time brings in his revenges."

Queen Victoria's Rule of Life. Nowadays, when the laws of health are so much better understood than they were, it is interesting to consider those rules which made the Queen so physically and mentally healthy a woman during a life of which at least sixty years were spent in the arduous performance of public and private duties. The great Jenner laid down certain simple rules for the Sovereign's guidance. These may be summed up in a few brief words: "Live as much as possible in the open air. Get through as much of your heavy mental work in the morning as is possible. Take your meals at strictly regular intervals. Never work while the digestive operation is in process; and be most moderate in the use of tea, coffee, and alcohol"—while, to men, Jenner always added, "tobacco." Jenner was also a great believer in change, and this was the one thing which he could not ensure for his Royal patient. Of late years the Queen's greatest relaxations were her sojourns in the South of France.

The Queen and the Camera. The Queen was photographed many hundreds of times, but, curiously, few sun-pictures exist of Her Majesty and of her late husband, for the Prince Consort did not much care for the photographs or daguerreotypes of the 'forties and the 'fifties, and he much preferred sitting to a painter of mark. He was, however, taken in the June before his death, the photographer being the well-known veteran, Mr. H. N. King, whose admirable pictures have always been so much appreciated by the Royal Family. It was about this time also that Her Majesty and the Prince were taken together, the Queen (as will be seen in the print here reproduced) regarding her husband with a look of affection and

THE PRINCE CONSORT AND QUEEN VICTORIA IN 1860.
From an Old Engraving.

trust. Of late years, Her Majesty preferred to be taken in a group with some of her loved ones about her than alone. In 1848, Prince Albert took the lease of Balmoral Castle, and, with the Queen and the Royal children, much enjoyed the freedom and absence of restraint in which they could indulge. The Queen put off all State, ran in and out of the house all day long, and visited the old women in the cottages unattended. The Royal children, too, took long rambles by themselves, and played with the other children on the estate.

A Romantic Sovereign. It would probably surprise people to hear that the Queen was very romantic. Hence her deep interest not only in the love, joys, and sorrows of those dear to her, but also in the more striking and picturesque incidents of both War and Peace. Although our late Sovereign early made it a rule never to accept presents, save, of course, under very exceptional circumstances, from a subject, she could not resist making an exception in the case of those good people who have at various times dowered the Sovereign with personal relics of the ill-fated Stuarts. When any really authenticated souvenirs of "bonnie Prince Charlie" came into the market, among the bidders was invariably some trusted friend or servant of Queen Victoria.

Her Majesty as Sponsor. With the single exception of the Empress Eugénie, no Royal lady living had so many god-children as had Queen Victoria, and during the last twelve months Her Majesty numbered among her new god-children many poor little orphans born after their soldier fathers' gallant deaths. Whenever a child was born to any member of the Royal Household, the Queen always graciously signified her intention of "standing" to the lucky infant; but not for many years did the Sovereign appear in person at the christenings—indeed, the Queen was present at comparatively few Royal baptisms, though she made a point of assisting at the touching little ceremony which took place shortly after the birth of the present Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Claremont Chapel being the scene of the function.

The Queen was also present in person at the christening of Lady Alexandra Duff, who at the time of her birth stood considerably nearer the Throne than did the Sovereign when she first gladdened the eyes of the Duke of Kent. It need hardly be said that Her Majesty was also present in person, and, indeed, held the baby, at the christening of Prince Edward of York. The Queen's god-children belong to every

VIEWS AT OSBORNE HOUSE, WHERE THE QUEEN DIED.

THE INDIAN DURBAR-ROOM.

THE CORRIDOR.

OSBORNE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT, WHERE QUEEN VICTORIA DIED.

rank and every clime, among her god-daughters being the daughters of her favourite dressers, among her god-sons several Indian Rajahs, as well as Prince Victor Duleep Singh. As to the number of Princesses who have the Queen as god-mother, there must be at least fifty, of whom the most important is the present German Empress, who, besides being the Sovereign's granddaughter by marriage, was also her great-niece.

The Queen as a Writer.

Her Majesty was for a long period the only Royal lady living who could write as well with her left hand as with her right. The Duchess of Kent had during the course of her life been intimately acquainted with two individuals who had only one arm, and she early determined that her children should be taught to write as well with the one hand as with the other. Accordingly, both the son and daughter by her first marriage, as

QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER BRIDAL DRESS.

well as her youngest child, were taught to do a variety of things with their left hand. The Queen sometimes said that it was owing to this fact that she owed her immunity from writer's cramp, for, though she, of course, always wrote with her right hand, when she felt it getting tired she was able to effect a change without a moment's hesitation.

During the last twenty years the Sovereign has dictated her letters, but, till a few weeks ago, there were certain of her correspondents, notably the Prince of Wales and the Empress Frederick, to whom she always wrote herself; the Royal notepaper having been now for upwards of thirty years white edged with black. The Queen, who wrote a clear, legible hand, was very fond of interlining any documents submitted to her, and rarely indeed was the Court Circular sent without a Royal emendation or addition. On the other hand, the Queen remained faithful to certain old-fashioned rules. She always declined to even glance at an official letter unless it was put before her unfolded and without a single crease, and every letter read by the Sovereign was always opened and glanced through beforehand, an exception being made only in the case of strictly family letters. It is a touching fact that the Queen's handwriting quite curiously resembled that of her husband.

A Good Story.

The Queen was a very good speller, and nothing annoyed her more than to find the names of foreign Royal personages incorrectly or wrongly spelt. During one memorable time, of which the date will be familiar to my sporting readers, the late Sir Henry Ponsonby was deputed by his Royal mistress to draw the attention of the Foreign Office to the fact that the words "Czar" and "Cesarewitch" were frequently wrongly spelt. Her Majesty would probably have been surprised had she seen the way in which Sir Henry conveyed the message, namely, with the dry remark that, if the Foreign Office clerks could not spell the word "Czar" properly, they should go to Newmarket.

To Tea with the Queen.

Her Majesty evinced the deepest interest in all those private individuals whose conduct had been marked by heroism, or who by circumstances were placed in positions of exceptional horror or difficulty. Many private individuals having no actual claim to such distinction owed to their having been the hero or heroine of some wonderful adventure the inestimable privilege of an hour face to face with their Sovereign. Grace Darling was, perhaps, the first woman so honoured; and what shows that the Queen was particularly moved by any tale of peril by sea is the fact that the last lady so honoured was Miss Becker, the only woman saved from the awful wreck of the *Elbe*. Mrs. Grimwood, whose exciting adventures in India will be remembered, was also received, not only by the Queen, but by the Princess of Wales as well, and many an Army nurse must have been more than rewarded for all her arduous labours at home and abroad by the fact that she was personally received and thanked by Queen Victoria.

The Royal Children.

Perhaps the most touching feature in Her Majesty's home-life was the genuine and unostentatious affection that existed between all the members of the Royal Family. In glancing through Mr. Frith's "Reminiscences," I chanced upon the description of his experiences at Windsor when engaged on his picture of "The Prince of Wales's Wedding." Says the famous artist: "I don't think I ever was more surprised than I have been with the Royal Children: the most unaffected, genial, pleasant creatures, without the least pride of place about them." Later on, in a letter to his sister, Mr. Frith writes: "The Queen came to see me just before she left, and all the Princesses came to say good-bye. Little Princess Beatrice was most affectionate. . . . She showed me the present she had prepared for Lady Augusta Bruce"—who was on the point of marriage with Dean Stanley—"a little ring made of forget-me-nots in diamonds, of which she was very proud."

"We Think it Perfect."

Mr. Frith was not quite satisfied with his likeness of the Queen, which, though he considered it satisfactory, he feared would not be acceptable to the public. He thought it was, perhaps, too faithful, and, considering the pretty things people had become accustomed to, "not in the least flattering." He said as much to the Princess Helena, whose reply reassured him: "The public? Well, you may say to the public that Mamma's children are delighted with it, and beg you never to touch it again. *We* think it perfect."

Foreshadowed.

Some superstitions will be strengthened by the occurrence of a strange and ill-omened incident on the Queen's last departure from Windsor, the scene of her greatest affliction, from which, according to annual custom, she was fleeing to

From the Diamond Jubilee Photograph by W. and D. Downey, Ebury Street, S.W., with the Queen's Autograph.

Victoria R
1837-1897.

QUEEN VICTORIA READING A SPEECH FROM THE THRONE TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS IN AN EARLY YEAR OF HER REIGN.

THE QUEEN, WITH THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, PROCEEDING TO ST. PAUL'S ON THANKSGIVING DAY, 1872: THE ROYAL PROCESSION AT TEMPLE BAR.

avoid the most painful associations of her troubled life. Delay most unusual and quite at variance with Her Majesty's habitual punctuality took place in the start, and, just before the Royal carriage came through the great gates, the crowds waiting to offer their loyal greetings were horrified to see a hearse passing down the hill from Henry the Eighth's Gateway. It was no dread phantom, but the conveyance bearing the body of the Usher of the Servants' Hall, Mr. Stokes, to whose widow the Queen had sent a message of sympathy; yet its appearance at that moment produced a weird and disquieting effect. When Her Majesty drove past, it was noticed that she and the Princess Beatrice and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, who accompanied her, were attired in black. At the end of the journey, the Queen crossed the Solent for the last time under a dark and threatening sky, and on reaching Osborne Her Majesty showed signs of great depression and fatigue.

I understand, "under all reserves," that, while Osborne will probably pass to Princess Henry of Battenberg, Governor of the Isle of Wight, Balmoral Castle will most likely be for private sale, and that the Duke of Fife may become the possessor. Neither Osborne nor Balmoral is a paying estate.

The Queen and Lighting Arrangements.

The Queen had a great objection to gas, and was very constant to the use of wax-candles and oil-lamps; but, nevertheless, long before she sanctioned the installation of electricity elsewhere, Her Majesty allowed Sir John Cowell to put up an apparatus at Osborne. This was installed on the east of the Palace, in a specially constructed little house, and caused great interest in the Royal circle. When Sir John, who was an enthusiast on the subject, declared everything to be ready, the electric-light house was visited by all those in residence. That same evening, everybody's watch went wrong, and nobody laughed so much as did the Queen when she knew the cause of the mistakes which necessarily followed. She is said to have observed to Sir John Cowell, "Your new light has done an extraordinary thing, Sir John. It has beaten Time."

Why the Queen was so Beloved.

I think the most touching answer which I have ever heard to a simple question was made by a little American girl now in London. Her mother, who was crying—it was just when the dreadful news was confirmed—said to her daughter, "I am shedding tears, dear, because the Queen of England has passed away. Do you understand why?" "Yes," replied the little girl; "because she was the only Queen we ever *knew*."

Edinburgh and the Queen.

In no part of the Kingdom did the news of the death of the Queen strike home with a more overshadowing sense of personal loss than in Edinburgh, which she first visited in 1842, and afterwards recorded that "the impression made upon me by Edinburgh is very great." On hearing the news, the Lord Provost telegraphed a message of condolence to the Prince of Wales. The University, schools, and places of entertainment showed their sense of public loss by closing on the day after the announcement of the death. Much the same procedure was adopted in the Proclamation of the King as was gone through in 1837, when Her Majesty ascended the Throne. There was a procession of local bodies to the Mercat Cross, High Street, where the Proclamation was made, and afterwards to the Castle Esplanade and to Holyrood Palace. The reason why the Proclamation is thus repeated is because the Castle and Holyrood are regarded as Royal residences. It is stated that, before leaving Balmoral for the last time, Her Majesty made several calls, and bade adieu to some of her most intimate acquaintances. She seemed greatly moved at parting, as if she had a presentiment that this would be her last visit to Balmoral. The Queen's annual railway journeys to and from Scotland cost alone £6000. The Great North of Scotland Railway stops short several miles from Balmoral, to which the Royal party had always to drive; it remains to be seen whether the King will sanction the wish often expressed to carry the line past Balmoral to Braemar. Between 1850 and 1860, the Queen frequently halted at Edinburgh, and slept at Holyrood, while passing to and from Balmoral. It was when on her way to Balmoral, in August 1860, that the Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort, held her first review of the Scottish Volunteers in the Queen's Park. There was a muster of 21,500. Towards the end of October 1861, a halt was again made in Edinburgh, when the Prince Consort laid the foundation-stone of the new General Post Office and Industrial Museum, the last public function he was to perform in Scotland. It was eleven years later ere Her Majesty was again in Edinburgh; and she visited it also in 1876, at the unveiling of the Albert Memorial in Charlotte Square. She was in the capital again in 1881, at the Volunteer Review, which had anything but "Queen's weather," and she visited the Exhibition of 1886 and some of the nobility in the neighbourhood.

The Order of the Bath.

A Jersey correspondent takes me to task for stating that the Order of the Bath "*as now known* dates from the Napoleonic Wars," and refers me to "Whitaker's" (by which I suppose he means "Whitaker's Titles Persons"). Very well, I will quote "Whitaker"—simply promising that he is not infallible. The Jersey gentleman contends that the Bath was founded in 1399. Sir Bernard Burke states no "Order" existed at that time. The Jersey gentleman goes on to say, "It was enlarged upon (*sic*) in 1725." Quite true; after a long lapse of years, the last Knights of the old Order of the Bath being created by Charles II. at his Coronation. In 1725, however, it consisted only of the Sovereign and thirty-seven Knights. But, in 1815 (let me quote "Whitaker"), "upon the close of the long wars" (I take leave to call these "Napoleonic") "it was greatly enlarged and modelled almost into its present arrangement with its three Classes, but only the highest of these comprised as yet a Civil Division, and this limited to one-sixth of the Class." In 1847 the Order was again enlarged, but surely "Whitaker" bears me out in my assertion.

The Prince of Wales.

During the last few unhappy days, I have on many occasions had to state in private a fact which is apparently so unknown to most of the King's subjects that I venture to repeat it here. The Prince of Wales is not born Prince of Wales. He is given this title by the Sovereign. The eldest son of the Monarch of Great Britain is by birth Duke of Cornwall in the Peerage of England, Duke of Rothsay, Earl of Carrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles, and Great Steward of Scotland, also Earl of Dublin in the Peerage of the United Kingdom. He is by the Sovereign's pleasure created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, but neither of these titles is hereditary. Six Dukes of Cornwall by birth were never created Princes of Wales, notably Henry VI. and Edward VI. On the other hand, Charles I. was created by his father, James I., Prince of Wales after the death of his elder brother, Henry. George III. was never Prince of Wales. It will be interesting to see if Edward VII. will create his eldest son, the Duke of York, Prince of the Welsh nation.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S VISIT WITH PRINCE ALBERT TO THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH AT THE TUILLERIES, AUGUST 1855.

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

QUEEN VICTORIA IN 1876.

Many touching stories survive from the days of the Crimean War. The Queen felt most deeply the sufferings of her gallant troops, and it was currently told at the time that the Prince of Wales naively remarked to the then Minister of War, "I do hope you will stop the War soon, for otherwise Mamma's heart will be quite broken."

It was owing far more than the nation has ever known to the Queen's personal efforts and generosity that, immediately after the close of the Eastern campaign, the magnificently equipped hospital now known as Netley was built—a permanent and glorious memorial of the Sovereign's love of her people.

A Touching Story. Just forty-five years ago, a Member of Parliament moved his more susceptible colleagues to tears by telling of how, while at Scutari, he had seen a wounded soldier, after hearing one of the Sovereign's personal messages to her troops read out, propose her health in a glass of bark and quinine. "That 's a bitter cup for a loyal toast," the visitor had feelingly observed. "Yes," said the man; "and if it hadn't been for the words of the Queen, I could never have got it down."

The Prince's Serious Illness. In the autumn of 1871, the Queen, and, indeed, the nation, went through a period of terrible anxiety. The Prince of Wales had a particularly bad attack of typhoid-fever, and twice the whole of the Royal Family were summoned to what it was believed would be the Heir-Apparent's death-bed at Sandringham. But the Prince had youth on his side, and from the anniversary of his father's death—that is, from Dec 14—he began to mend slowly. But not till Dec. 26 did the Queen indite that touching letter to her subjects in which reference was made to "the universal feeling shown by her people during those painful days." Late in the following February, the Sovereign and the Prince and Princess of Wales proceeded to St. Paul's in order to take part in a national Thanksgiving Service. It is impossible to forget the spontaneous demonstration of affection for Queen and Prince and for the true and loving Princess who was his most assiduous Sister of Mercy. A sketch of the Royal Procession at Temple Bar is given here.

QUEEN VICTORIA, WITH HER FAVOURITE WALKING-STICK.

FROGMORE MAUSOLEUM, WHERE QUEEN VICTORIA WILL BE LAID TO REST BY THE SIDE OF THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT.

QUEEN VICTORIA: AN ANECDOTAL MEMOIR.

At the present moment, when the whole world mourns with the British Empire the loss of her who was at one and the same time the greatest of Sovereigns and the most tender Mother of her People, it appears not unseemly to try and give an anecdotal and therefore intimate sketch of the beloved Queen whose splendour as Monarch was so often, if not overshadowed, then merged in gracious womanliness.

Tennyson was, perhaps, never more happily inspired than when he wrote the famous lines, "A thousand claims to reverence closed in her as woman, wife, and Queen."

The whole life of our beloved Sovereign could not be summed up in more simple and touching language. It is impossible to estimate too much what the whole English - speaking world owes to the example which Queen Victoria consistently set of unswerving devotion to duty. Her own early training was singularly sensible, at a time when children were too often apt to be tyrannised over, ostensibly for their own good.

Her Parents.

Her father, the Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III., had a high place in the affections of the English people, who were delighted when he wedded the widowed Princess of Leiningen, and still more delighted when the Princess Victoria was born, on May 24, 1819, "as plump as a partridge." Although there were several lives between the infant and the Throne, her father had, as will be seen, a prevision of her destiny.

"She will be Queen."

Looking eastward over Kensington Gardens is a spacious chamber, on the walls of which, plainly inscribed on a gilt plate, run the memorable words, "In this room Queen Victoria was born, May 24, 1819." But it was in the room next to the birth-chamber that the Duke of Kent, presenting the new Princess to his assembled friends, exclaimed significantly, "Look at her well, for she will be Queen of England." Words the more remarkable when it be remembered that at the time a great number of lives stood between the unconscious babe and the Throne.

QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER CORONATION ROBES.
After the Painting by Sir George Hayter, R.A.

A Choice of Names.

Few of us realise how nearly our late beloved Sovereign reigned under the name of Charlotte. The luckless daughter of the Regent had been adored by the nation, and, had it not been that "Charlotte" was supposed to spell ill-luck, there is no doubt that the infant Princess would have received that as her first name. The Duke of Kent wished his daughter to be another "Elizabeth," and the Regent—it was said, to annoy his brother—insisted that the un-English name of "Alexandrina" should be chosen; but, at the christening ceremony, the Duke of Kent, ever mindful of his Duchess's claims to respect, asked firmly that his child should be "given her mother's name also." And it was to this happy after-thought that the Queen owed the name she made so greatly revered wherever the English language is spoken.

Wonderful Escapes from Death.

Few of us realise that, even as a child, guarded from every rough wind by the most devoted care and love, the future Sovereign of these realms ran some terrible dangers. She was only a year old when a careless youth let a pistol off through the window of the room where the Princess was sitting on her mother's knee, and the bullet only just missed her little head. Some years later, when driving in her pony-carriage in Kensington Gardens, another vehicle collided violently with it, and the Princess would almost certainly have been killed had not a passer-by, an Irish soldier named Maloney, snatched her out of harm's way. His action was munificently rewarded by the Duchess of Kent. Again, some years later, when Princess Victoria was fifteen, she and the Duchess of Kent were yachting off the Isle of Wight, when the mast fell, and, had it not been for the presence of mind of the pilot, who quickly pushed her on one side, the Royal yachtswoman would infallibly have been struck dead.

Her Early Education.

The Princess was only about eight months old when her father died, and the death of George IV., which followed immediately afterwards, placed the little Princess so near the Throne that her mother resolved to bring up the child in England. The Princess was brought up in the strictest seclusion, and was never seen or heard of in public except in association with her mother. The tender love which subsisted between the two was cemented during those years of childhood and youth passed in the stately old Kensington Palace, yet with no Royal state, but with extreme simplicity and natural home-life. So resolved was the Duchess of Kent that her daughter should be in every way an English Princess, that she never once took her abroad—indeed, it was not until Queen Victoria had been several years upon the Throne, and was both wife and mother, that she left the soil of Great Britain. King William IV. was childless, and the relations between him and the Duchess of Kent were at one time not very pleasant, but Queen Adelaide always showed the tenderest consideration and regard for her little niece.

The Queen's Sister.

Although there were many years between the Duchess of Kent's elder and younger daughters, the future Queen was from the first quite devoted to Princess Feodore, and the affection continued till death broke the bond between them. This fact is strangely little realised in this

PRINCE ALBERT AT THE AGE OF FOUR.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA.

country, and yet there exists a most interesting volume, privately printed for distribution among Her Majesty's friends, containing extracts from the daily letters which passed between the Queen and the Princess Feodore, who, after a happy married life, died comparatively recently.

The Queen's Favourite Tutor.

The Queen was exceedingly fond of her tutor, Dr. Davis, afterwards Bishop of Peterborough. The Dean, as he then was, told his Royal pupil that he would prefer to see her good than great, and it is pleasing to think that he lived far into the first half of Her Majesty's great and good reign. The story goes that on one occasion, the Dean having preached from the text, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," the Princess inquired of him, "Do not men reap anything but what they sow?" "Yes," replied the Dean, "if they allow someone to come and sow tares among the wheat." "I know who that someone is," said the Princess; "and I must keep him at arm's-length." "At arm's-length only, your Royal Highness?" asked the Dean gravely. "If I keep him there, he won't be able to do much harm," was the quick answer.

The Queen and her Dolls.

Princess Victoria seems to have been, in the best sense of the word, a thorough child, devoted to her toys, and especially to her dolls. In this she was encouraged by her governess, the Baroness Lehzen, who hit on the happy idea of initiating her little pupil into the forms and ceremonies of a Court by means of her beloved dolls, now shown in Kensington Palace.

She Wept to Wear a Crown.

The story of how the Princess was informed of her Accession to the Throne has often been told, and the fact that the youthful Sovereign did, in very truth, "weep to wear a Crown" was immortalised in some fine verses by Mrs. Browning—

> God save thee, weeping Queen!
> Thou shalt be well beloved:
> The tyrant's sceptre cannot move
> As those poor tears have moved.
> The nature in thine eyes we see,
> Which tyrants cannot own—
> The love that guardeth liberties.
> Strange blessing on the nation lies,
> Whose Sovereign wept—
> Yea, wept to wear its Crown.

The Queen's Own Account.

Dean Stanley has left on record the Queen's own account of what occurred on this most memorable morning. "It was about six a.m. that Mamma came and called me and said I must go and see Lord Cunningham alone. I got up and went into a room, where I found Lord Cunningham, who knelt and kissed my hand, and gave me the certificate of the King's death." And, after that, there seems no doubt that the young Queen turned to the Archbishop, who was standing by, and said, with much emotion, "I ask your Grace to pray for me."

A Memorable Day.

That same afternoon she held her first Council. "Had she been my own daughter," said the old Duke of Wellington, "I could not have wished to see her play her part better." Thus early in her life the Queen decided to be a working Queen, and she was most fortunate in her first Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, an old courtier who regarded his Sovereign with fatherly affection.

The Sovereign's First Suitor.

There were naturally many suitors for the hand of the lovely young Queen. The Prince of Orange was among them, and the story goes that, after his final dismissal, the Queen gazed through the window at his retreating figure and remarked, "How like a radish he looks!"

First Meeting with Prince Albert.

The Queen first saw her future husband a year before her Accession, when he paid a visit to Kensington Palace and made a very favourable impression. It was then that the Prince gave his cousin a small enamel ring with a tiny diamond in the middle, a gift of no great value, but one which the Queen wore all her life, together with her engagement and her wedding rings.

The Queen's other Suitors.

Probably few people are aware how nearly this country had a French or a Danish Prince-Consort—indeed, from the then State-reason point of view, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was by no means an ideal husband for the Queen of England. The first Royal wooer who dared to aspire to the hand of the maiden Monarch was a certain Prince of Holstein, and he had a powerful rival in the good-looking and charming Duc de Nemours, the chivalrous son of Louis Philippe, whose wife afterwards became so dear and intimate a friend of Queen Victoria. Her Majesty, however, declared herself wholly fancy-free; but it is said that the astute King of the French was much disappointed, and at one moment really believed that his favourite son was going to become in fact, if not in name, King of England.

Yet another now forgotten Royal suitor was the clever and eccentric Prince de Solms, a son of the then Queen of Hanover. It is, however, said that he was never given a fair chance, for his step-father, the King of Hanover, had naturally a great interest that the young Queen of England should die childless. Just now, it appears strange that British nobles should ever have aspired to the position of Prince Consort, but it is an undoubted fact that more than one good-looking Peer was singled out for special notice and favour by the maiden Queen; those, however, who were intimately associated with the Court were aware of the Queen's long affection for her first-cousin.

Coronation Day.

Coronation Day may be said to have opened very auspiciously Her Majesty's great and glorious reign. Notwithstanding the vast crowds which gathered in the smaller London of that time, not a single accident occurred. The ordeal must have been no slight one, for the various ceremonies lasted something like five hours; and one really disagreeable incident occurred, for the Coronation-ring was several sizes too small, having been made to fit the little finger instead of the third finger. It was characteristic of the Queen's bright, simple nature that, on her return to Buckingham Palace, she immediately set about giving her favourite dog, a spaniel named "Dash," his bath.

A Delicate Question.

Not long after the Coronation, the Queen presided for the first time over a Chapter of the most noble Order of the Garter, for Her Majesty was very anxious to bestow one of the greatest honours in her gift on her much-loved half-brother, the Prince of Leiningen. Just before the ceremony was about to take place, an urgent message was sent by the Sovereign requesting the immediate presence of Earl Marshal the Duke of Norfolk, of whom the young Queen, with pretty embarrassment, inquired, "Pray tell me, Sir, how I am to wear the Garter." Fortunately, there existed at least one precedent—that of Queen Anne, who always wore the Order as Her Majesty has now done for upwards of sixty years.

The Queen's Betrothal.

The Queen's marriage was eagerly looked for by the nation, and, when it became known that she had given her heart to her handsome cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg, great joy was expressed, and the fact that the maiden Monarch had herself had to take the initiative touched the heart of the British people as nothing else could have done.

The Queen's Wedding.

On Feb. 10, 1840, the Queen's marriage to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was solemnised in the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, and it is on record that Her Majesty informed the Archbishop of Canterbury that she desired to be married as a woman and not as a Queen. The Crown, which was worn by all her Royal predecessors on their wedding-day, was replaced in her case by a wreath of orange-blossoms. It is said that the Queen always much regretted the fact that her own mother did not give her away, and that is why Her Majesty has performed that ceremony in the case of more than one bride to whom she has been much attached. Instead of the Duchess of Kent playing this important rôle in the case of her daughter, the Duke of Sussex represented the bride's late father; and, apropos of this, it was observed that "the Duke of Sussex is always ready to give away what does not belong to him."

The Queen's Bridal Dress.

The Queen's bridal-gown was not only entirely of English manufacture, but all the lace on it was British, and this in spite of the fact that her beloved uncle, King Leopold, had presented her with the most marvellous collection of old Brussels. The Sovereign's bridal-veil was of Honiton, and it has, of course, been carefully preserved, having been worn by only one of Her Majesty's daughters, namely, the Princess Royal. One of the most valuable books in the world is the register

which contains the original record of Her Majesty's "marriage lines"; this attestation-book is always kept by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and it contains the records of innumerable other Royal ceremonies, as well as that of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's marriage.

The Queen's First Child.

On Nov. 21, 1840, the nation heard the joyful news of the birth of the Princess Royal. It is on record that Prince Albert was for a moment sorry that the baby was not a Prince of Wales; but the Queen, noticing this, said brightly, "Never mind; the next one shall be a boy!" adding archly that she hoped she might have as many children as her grandmother, Queen Charlotte, who presented George III. with sixteen.

The Birth of the Prince of Wales.

The future King of these realms was born almost exactly a year after the Princess Royal, and the Queen, as often happened when subsequent great events occurred, received literally thousands of letters from unknown people all over the Kingdom congratulating her on the happy event.

The year 1842 was a memorable one in the Queen's life—she took her first trip by rail from Windsor to Paddington; two attempts were made upon her life, by John Francis and a hunchback named Bean; and Her Majesty paid her first visit to Scotland. It was the beginning of a permanent affection for the "Land o' Cakes." The Queen and Prince Albert's home-life was remarkably simple, and the Royal children were brought up in the same natural, simple manner which had proved so successful in the Queen's own case.

A Pretty Story.

A charming little story, which exemplifies the Queen's ready wit, used to be told by Signor Lablache. On one occasion, after the Queen had had her usual singing-lesson, the great singer's Royal pupil observed, "I am told, Signor, that you have a wonderful collection of snuff-boxes." "Yes, Madam," was the reply; "I possess three hundred and sixty-five specimens—one for every day in the year." The next time Lablache arrived at Buckingham Palace, the Queen met him with outstretched hand, in which lay a charming little gold snuff-box. "I have been thinking that your wonderful collection is not really complete, for no allowance is made for the extra day in Leap-Year."

"Prince Patrick."

It was in 1849 that the Queen paid her first visit to Ireland, and from one of the triumphal arches erected at Queenstown a live dove fluttered into her lap; and it was then that an old Irishwoman cried, "Och, Queen dear, make one of them Prince Patrick, and all Ireland will die for you!" The hint was taken, for, when the Duke of Connaught was born, in the following year, Patrick was duly included among his names.

The Fifty-One Exhibition.

The Queen's happiness reached perhaps its height in the year of the Great Exhibition of 1851, the overwhelming success of which was peculiarly gratifying, for it was Prince Albert's own creation. Not long after the Great Exhibition, a gentleman named Neale, an old miser, left Her Majesty a legacy of a quarter-of-a-million. At first, the Queen refused to accept it; but, on finding that Mr. Neale had left no relations, she consented, after making full provision for his executors and for his old housekeeper.

The Queen and the "Iron Duke."

The death of the Duke of Wellington was a terrible blow to the Queen; and only two years afterwards followed the storm and stress of the Crimean War. Many now living can remember how deeply Her Majesty entered into this national struggle. Prince Albert started the

Patriotic Fund; the Royal children drew and painted pictures which were sold in aid of it; and in six months a round million had been collected. The two elder Princesses longed to go and join Florence Nightingale and her noble band of nurses. The mismanagement of the commissariat was also a great trouble to the Queen, who interfered actively with a view to remedying it. During the war, Her Majesty opened Parliament in person, and she read the Speech from the Throne in a voice broken with sobs. When the wounded began to come home, the Queen constantly visited them in the hospitals, and presented medals with her own hand.

The Second Greatest Day of the Queen's Life.

The Queen often said that the second greatest day in her life was that which saw the marriage of her beloved eldest child, the Princess Royal, to the then Prince Frederick of Prussia. The Sovereign touchingly said that she felt as if she were herself being married over again, and within the year the birth of the present German Emperor made the Queen a grandmother before she was forty.

A Terrible Year.

In 1861, the first great sorrow which overshadowed the life of Queen Victoria was the death of her adored mother, the Duchess of Kent. The feelings of the Queen were eloquently set forth in her Diary: "Her gentle spirit is at rest, her sufferings over! But I—I, wretched child, who have lost the mother I had so tenderly loved, and from whom for these forty-one years I have never been parted except for a few weeks—what was my case? My childhood—everything seemed to crowd upon me at once. I seemed to have lived through a life and to have become old." And yet, in the autumn of that same year, an even greater sorrow befell the Sovereign, for, after a very short, sudden illness, the Prince Consort passed away on Dec. 14 at Windsor Castle.

An Interval of Seclusion.

The present generation cannot remember the dark days which followed the death of the Prince Consort. For a while the Queen herself seemed in danger of death—indeed, it may be doubted whether the whole truth about those terribly sad days will ever be known, for the Sovereign was surrounded by devoted children and friends, and Parliament publicly thanked Princess Alice for the assistance she had rendered her bereaved mother in carrying on the affairs of State. Lord Shaftesbury wrote at this time, "What a desolation of the Queen's heart and life, the death-blow to her happiness on earth!" But, as we all know, the Queen rallied from her awful sorrow, and, after a certain period of seclusion, came forth once more among her loyal people, to spent forty more years of not unhappy existence.

Some Memorable Dates.

On Dec. 14, 1878, just seventeen years after the death of the Prince Consort, the Queen had the terrible grief of losing her second daughter, Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, who caught diphtheria as a result of her devoted attention to her husband and children, one of whom, Princess May, died just a month before her mother. And so strangely have joys and sorrows mingled in the Sovereign's life that when, in the following March, the Duke of Connaught's marriage to Princess Louise of Prussia took place, again within a very few days came the news of the death of one of the Queen's favourite grandchildren, Prince Waldemar of Prussia.

Her Son in Battle.

The Queen was fond of saying that she thoroughly realised how those parents felt whose sons were engaged in actual warfare, for, when the Egyptian War broke out, the Duke of Connaught responded to the call of duty, and his wife and mother together waited in suspense and anxiety till the news came both of the Duke's safety and of his brilliant part in the great Battle of Tel-el-Kebir.

Yet Another Bereavement.

The death of the Duke of Albany was a terrible blow to his mother, the more so that in character, though not in personal appearance, he strongly recalled his gifted father. But many years were to go by before the Queen was to suffer a similar blow by the death of her second son, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and in the interval Her Majesty spent many happy, peaceful days, ever becoming more and more deeply enshrined in the hearts of her people.

The Queen's Last Opening of Parliament.

The last time the Sovereign opened Parliament in person was in the January of 1886, and a pretty little scene took place when Her Majesty actually entered the House of Lords. As she appeared, the Prince of Wales stepped down from his State-chair and raised his mother's hand to his lips.

The Golden Jubilee.

Many touching stories have been told concerning the first of Queen Victoria's two Jubilees, in 1887. Only three Sovereigns had up to that time reigned over the Anglo-Saxon race for fifty years, and not only all the Sovereign's descendants, but many Royal personages, among whom were all the Heirs-Apparent of Europe, made a point of being present at the great function which took place in Westminster Abbey on June 21, 1887. The Queen observed to one of her intimate friends that what she most enjoyed on that great day was her drive through the thirty thousand school-children who were entertained in Hyde Park in honour of the occasion, and Her Majesty also recalled with particular pleasure the fact that one old lady present at the Jubilee festivities had actually assisted at George the Third's Jubilee.

The Diamond Jubilee.

The Diamond Jubilee in 1897 is still present to all our minds, and how little can those who had the privilege of seeing how well and how vigorous the Sovereign looked on that great day have thought that in little more than three years she would have disappeared from their midst! The great procession through the streets of London was entirely the Sovereign's own wish, and, indeed, her own suggestion, for she realised how eagerly thousands of her poorer subjects would look to see her on the sixtieth anniversary of her Accession to the Throne. "My dear," the Queen is said to have remarked to the Princess of Wales, when the long, trying ordeal was drawing to a close, "I seem to feel less and less tired as we go on; by this time we are home again I shall feel eighteen."

The South African War.

The last twelve months of our beloved Sovereign's life were undoubtedly darkened by the Transvaal Campaign. From the very first the Sovereign identified herself closely with her Army and with the nation. All military news from "the Front" was instantly transmitted to her, and she felt with an almost too painful intensity the first reverses to our arms; while in innumerable instances she communicated directly with the parents and friends of the dead and wounded. The death of Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein was not only a personal grief, but a wholly unexpected blow, and it is said that the Queen never quite recovered from the sorrow caused her by the loss of one of her favourite grandsons.

"Empress of India."

Her Majesty's deep interest in and affection for her Indian Empire was, perhaps, scarcely realised by many of us. As long ago as 1857—indeed, just after the terrible Mutiny—the Queen warmly commended the then Viceroy for those actions of his which earned for him the opprobrious nickname of "Clemency Canning," and, of late years, as we all know, the Sovereign has been constantly surrounded by native attendants, with whom she had many opportunities of practising the really excellent knowledge of Hindostani acquired by her only comparatively lately. Many interesting examples might be given showing how sincere and how personal was the Queen's interest in her Indian subjects. On one occasion, when driving out near Datchet, Windsor, the Royal carriage passed an Indian ayah. The Sovereign noticed that the poor woman had no shoes on, and was wearing very thin clothing, although the weather was bitterly cold. Stopping the carriage, she desired one of the attendants to ask why this was so, and, on learning it was lack of means which prevented her being suitably attired, the Queen had her brought up to the Castle and provided with warm clothing, and put in connection with one of the great Missionary Societies, through which she finally obtained a good post as nurse.

However busy or tired the Vice-Reine might happen to be, she never missed a mail in writing to the Queen, and it is to be hoped that some day the letters of Indian Vice-Reines, ranging from those penned by Lady Canning to those lately indited by Lady Curzon, will be published, for they will form an invaluable mine of information for the historian of the future. Curiously enough, the only one of the Queen's children who knows Hindostani is the Duke of Connaught, who mastered the language during his stay in India.

"Last Scene of All."

It was the general opinion, which *The Sketch* assuredly shares, that the Emperor William performed an action characteristically kind-hearted

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

and gracious in interrupting the Prussian Monarch's Bicentenary Fêtes on purpose to travel to England with the Duke of Connaught to be present at the bedside of the dying Queen at Osborne. The presence of His Imperial Highness on the melancholy occasion doubtless helped to nerve the Prince of Wales throughout the greatest ordeal of his life.

The public could not help reading with profoundest sympathy the two simply and beautifully worded telegrams in which the Prince so soon to be acclaimed as King Edward VII. informed the Lord Mayor of London, on Tuesday, Jan. 22, of the gloomy news which has thrown a whole Empire into mourning, and elicited expressions of heartiest condolence from the entire civilised world. Those historic telegrams are worth quoting—

Osborne, 4 p.m.

My painful duty obliges me to inform you that the life of the beloved Queen is in the greatest danger.

Osborne, Tuesday, 6.45 p.m.

My beloved mother, the Queen, has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren. (*Signed*) *ALBERT EDWARD.*

ROYALTY AND THE TURF.

Royal Ascot. Our beloved Queen Victoria often attended race-meetings when the Prince Consort was alive, and the State processions to Ascot in the 'forties were very big functions. Although the Queen did not go to Ascot after the death of her husband, I could never help noticing that the servants at Windsor Castle were allowed to visit the meeting each year, and that the accommodation provided for their comfort was of the best. As the majority of visitors to Ascot might have noticed, the Royal servants always watch the racing from the top of the Royal Stand, which is, I should say, the best place on the course to get a good view of the running and of the finish; so that, in the case where Royal personages have a voice in the arrangements for a race-meeting, they take care that their servants are able to see the sport as well as themselves. For many years past, the luncheons for the Royal visitors to Ascot have been prepared in the Royal kitchen at Windsor Castle, although I cannot recall a single year when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales stayed at Windsor Castle for the meeting on the Royal Heath, and, I may add, it is very many years since a single member of the Royal Family attended a meet of the Buckhounds.

Since '37. It is wonderful how the sporting world has moved on since Queen Victoria ascended the Throne in 1837. In that year golf was unknown south of the Tweed; cycling, except on the hobby-horse, had not come into fashion. By-the-bye, the late Lord Sherbrooke, better known as "Mr. Robert Lowe," had arranged an interview to give me his experiences on a race on the hobby-horse against the Brighton Coach just before his last illness, and I have ever since regretted that I did not get the details. Football was not indulged in in 1837; cricket was played, but such cricket! Steeple-chases were ridden in top-hats and smock-frocks, billiards was not introduced, lawn-tennis was not discovered, and, seemingly, the cock-pit, the rat-pit, the card-table, and the prize-ring formed the chief amusements of the people. True, horse-racing was in full swing, but two races per day was considered at many places to be a full dish. The horses had to be carted or walked to and from the courses, and the results of the races were not known in the country districts until a week after they had been run. Now, if a race is started at Manchester at one o'clock the "Off" is printed on the tape in the London Clubs a minute later!

CAPTAIN COE.

THE ROYAL PHYSICIANS.

THEIR WORK AND RECORDS.

A VERY important department of the Royal Household is the medical one, and, as may be imagined, the greatest care is exercised in the selection of its members. Upon their professional skill and knowledge depends almost entirely the bodily

WELL-BEING OF THE SOVEREIGN.

Consequently, when—as during the sad days through which the nation has just passed—this is in jeopardy, the anxieties ever inseparable from their work as physicians are increased a hundredfold. Until the crisis be over, they cannot know a moment's respite from the combat between the noble art they follow and the Pale Enemy that preys upon all humanity—Royal and simple alike.

As at present constituted, the medical department of the Royal Household consists of two main classes. These are (1) "Physicians in Ordinary" and (2) "Physicians Extraordinary." Immediately after these come the "Sergeant Surgeon," the "Surgeons Extraordinary," and the "Surgeons and Apothecaries in Ordinary." Altogether, the staff (including those holding the positions of Oculist and Chemist) numbers twenty-three individuals, every one of whom is a "specialist" in his own particular line. At the head of the "Physicians in Ordinary" is

SIR EDWARD HENRY SIEVEKING, M.D.

One of the foremost medical men of the day, he has held many of the highest offices open to members of his calling. Among these have been those of the Presidencies of the Royal Chirurgical and Harveian Societies, and Examiner and Lecturer at the Royal College of Physicians. He received his education chiefly at the Universities of Edinburgh (where he graduated "M.D." in 1841), Berlin, and Bonn. From time to time he has published valuable works on professional subjects, the best-known of these, perhaps, being his "Manual of Pathological Anatomy."

The medical man who has loomed largest in the public mind of late, however, is the second of the three "Physicians in Ordinary." This is

SIR JAMES REID, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D.,

who was appointed a resident physician to the late Queen so long ago as 1881. A Scotsman by birth, Sir James was sent, at an early age, to the famous Grammar School at Aberdeen, proceeding afterwards to the University of the same town. Here he carried all before him in the way of medals and diplomas, and left the "Granite City" as one of her most distinguished *alumni*. After practising for a couple of years in London, he spent some time in Vienna, with a view to perfecting himself in hospital work there. He eventually visited other European capitals with the same object. His reputation on the Continent is no less high than it is in this country, and among the honours he has received on this account are the Red Eagle of Russia, the Imperial Order of the Crown of Germany, and the Ernestine Order of Coburg. Among all his decorations, however, Sir James is said to prize above any the medal conferred upon him in token of his twenty years' service as an officer of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders. In 1899 he married the Honourable Susan Baring, a daughter of the first Baron Revelstoke.

The third and last of the "Physicians in Ordinary" is

SIR RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, BART., M.D.,

who was appointed to the position in 1899. He has a large hospital practice, and is on the staffs of the Middlesex, Brompton, Charing Cross, and Ventnor Hospitals. Heavy as are the calls that the performance of the duties of these positions make upon him, he contrives, nevertheless, to also find time to act as Deputy-Chairman of the Clerical, Medical, and General Life Assurance Society, and to be a frequent contributor to the professional journals. He is considered one of the first living authorities on diseases of the organs of respiration.

The "Physicians Extraordinary" to the Royal Household are five in number. These are, in order of seniority as such, Sir Alfred Garrod, M.D., Sir Samuel Wilks, Bart., M.D., Sir William Broadbent, Bart., M.D., Mr. James E. Pollock, M.D., and Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., M.D. The first-named of these is a former Vice-President of the Royal College of Physicians. Sir Samuel Wilks is an ex-President of the same institution. In addition to his present appointment, he holds that of Physician to the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Sir William Broadbent is on the staffs of several London hospitals, and is a member of the majority of the leading medical societies. Mr. Pollock was appointed to his present position in 1899. He graduated "M.D." at King's College, Aberdeen, in 1850, and "F.R.C.P." in 1864. The junior member of the "Physicians Extraordinary," Sir Thomas Barlow, is an "M.D." of London University.

In the person of Lord Lister, F.R.C.S., the Royal Household has for its

"SERGEANT SURGEON"

one of the foremost members of the medical profession living, and a man whose fame for his discoveries in the antiseptic treatment of diseases is world-wide. He received his appointment in 1900. Among the numerous Professorships which he holds are those of Surgery at King's College, London, and at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh. Lord Lister is also President of the Royal Society.

Of the "Surgeons Extraordinary" to the Royal Household, the best-known, perhaps, is Mr. Frederick Treves, F.R.C.S. He was appointed last year, on his return from active service with the forces in South Africa. Under the title of "A Tale of a Field-Hospital," he has lately published a volume embodying his experiences while thus engaged.

HE IS ONE OF THE FINEST OPERATING SURGEONS

of the day, and he greatly helped the Prince of Wales (Edward VII.) to recover the use of his leg after the serious injury to his knee. The other "Surgeons Extraordinary" are Sir Thomas Smith, Bart., F.R.C.S., and Mr. Thomas Bryant, F.R.C.S.

Among the remainder of the medical department of the Royal Household, the chief positions are occupied by Sir Francis Henry Laking, K.C.V.O., M.D. ("Surgeon Apothecary"); Sir Edwin Saunders, F.R.C.S. ("Surgeon Dentist"); and Mr. George Lawson, F.R.C.S. ("Surgeon Oculist"). Sir Francis Laking has also the honour of being attached to the Household of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. His medical training was chiefly carried out at Heidelberg. On returning to this country, he entered the school conducted in connection with the St. George's Hospital, and graduated there with the highest distinction. He is a great authority on diseases of the eye.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES — H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA AND PRINCE EDWARD OF YORK.

FOUR GENERATIONS: A HISTORIC PICTURE.

AFFECTION OF THE FRENCH FOR THE QUEEN.

BY "THE SKETCH" PARIS CORRESPONDENT.

THE QUEEN was loved in France; loved deeply. She was to the French mother and wife all that was good, pure, and womanly. I remember on one occasion, when I was in the neighbourhood of Trepott, turning into a cottage and asking for a glass of water. I saw there the portrait of the Queen; and the simple peasant assured me that she had put it up to give to her children a perfect ideal of a perfect woman. It is possibly natural that she should have been misunderstood. One day, the French find that they are governed by a tanner, like Félix Faure, and, before the warmth is out of his body, by a barrister like Loubet. Forty-eight hours is all that is allowed between the "Roi est mort" and the "Vive le roi!" In heart, the French, who are the most aristocratic nation in the world, have looked on and wondered, and envied England's possession of the most Sovereign lady that ever graced a Throne. And when the end came, there was a gloom that almost equalled that which prevailed in London. Again and again, the newsboys, who, by the Constans law, are prevented from crying any news, rushed through the streets like so many ravens, shouting "Mort! Mort!! Mort!!!"; but we were all too young to believe it possible that she who was mother when the world were children could die. A stupid illusion, if you like; but when an Irishman came to me and said on Monday—and he has been associated with every Hibernian movement—"By God! O'Connell said he could raise a hundred thousand men to defend her when she mounted the Throne. All I have to say"—and this with a thick and tear-strewn brogue—"is that the Almighty may take the years off my life that remain and give them to the Queen." It was beautiful in its savage sentiment. I assure you that, when doubt was out of all question and the fatal truth was recorded at the Embassy, there was hardly a dry eye in the crowd. The heart of Paris ceased to

SIR FRANCIS LAKING, M.D.,
SURGEON APOTHECARY TO HER LATE MAJESTY AND TO KING EDWARD VII.

SIR JAMES REID, M.D.
IN ATTENDANCE AT OSBORNE WHEN THE QUEEN DIED.
Photo by Hughes and Mullins, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

SIR R. DOUGLAS POWELL, M.D.
IN ATTENDANCE AT OSBORNE WHEN THE QUEEN DIED.
Photo by Elliott and Fry, Baker Street, W.

throb. And they were courteous. In the cafés where there are orchestras, the most favoured English tunes were played, not in any noisy or jocund form, but in the sad strains that suggested a *leit motif*. It was a beautiful tribute to a race that had lost its mother that was paid on all sides.

Idolised by Nice.

Her Majesty—the Countess of Balmoral when she visited France—was idolised by the inhabitants round Nice, Villefranche, Cimiez, and so forth. In her mind—and I may have told it before in these columns, for I was at Nice at the time—the automobile was destined to be the future curse of quietude. Evil-smelling and noisy machines frightened her horses, and it was her pride to have the finest horses and probably the most ramshackle carriage in Nice. It is permissible to remember a little, even on so sad an occasion. Lord Salisbury had come down to visit the Queen at Cimiez. He strolled up to the gaming-rooms at Monte Carlo afterwards, smothered in dust, and Gustave (I think it was Gustave) pointed out to him that he was too dusty to enter. His Lordship bowed and retired. When, a few minutes later, it was notified to Blanc the man to whom he had refused admission, attendants were sent in all directions to find the Prime Minister and apologise. His Lordship told the story to Her Majesty afterwards, and I heard that, breaking into a merry laugh, she said, "Really, my Lord, you do want a new silk-hat." I mention this little incident because it only instances how human she was, and his Lordship enjoyed the joke. She gloried in the simplicity of the French life. I heard on one occasion that she had visited a little hostelry and had taken a cup of tea on the terrasse. "The lady wanted to see the Queen go past, I fancy; but Her Majesty was not out yesterday," said the hostess. That was all, but she was surprised that the lady, who, as she explained, was evidently an American, had given pence to the little kids that had come round to sing as they left the school-house. She was loved and adored on the Littoral. When some wretched parvenu went to the hotel-keeper at her favoured hotel at Cimiez and told him that he had promised his wife that they should pass the honeymoon in Her Majesty's *appartement*, he was flung out of the hotel without reply. These are perfectly dislocated notes; but I remember so much of Her Majesty that I could keep on for hours. On one occasion in Nice, she passed an English bar and saw the English standard flowing—the English Standard, not the Union Jack—and in her kindly hearted way she said, "I did not know that I slept in that tavern last night. And yet the Royal Standard can fly only over a Royal residence." And, again, by hazard, the Queen drank a cup of exceptionally good coffee. She said at once, "These English grocers at Nice shall in future supply me with coffee," and till her death that order prevailed; and if the Queen could have only seen the care—the positive medical nicety—that was employed, she would have in her noble heart felt the happier. I have seen the jockeys down for the race-season obeying orders like heroes when it was the question of fetching one or more bits of charcoal to roast the coffee to its very nicety. It was a slight tribute, if you like, but the King of to-day loves the Turf, and probably the Queen never knew the simple and unobtrusive love that all Englishmen abroad had for her. I paraphrase Tennyson, your Majesty: "God's finger has touched you, and you sleep"; but among all your citizens were there none more loyal and saddened than those in Paris.

The King.

It is many years ago—thirteen, I think—when I, for the first time, saw the Prince—it is hard to say "King"—enter the Hippodrome with the Duke of Clarence. The spectacle was in full swing; but the moment the Royal party entered their box, the orchestra received the signal, and, with the audience on foot and bareheaded, ringing cheers were given for His Majesty, while the band played "God Bless the Prince of Wales." In every way His Majesty is loved by the French people. They respect him as a splendid sportsman—and that goes a longer way with most Frenchmen than the English imagine; they know him to be a fine-art connoisseur; they appreciate his qualities as a student of the theatre; in fact, they see in him the worthy and glorious successor of a woman to whom glory had become a mere byword.

MORE ANECDOTES OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

The Queen at Home.

A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT of *The Sketch* writes: It was my privilege to visit the Queen's Household under many conditions. I was the personal acquaintance of both Sir Henry Ponsonby and Sir John Cowell, and, no doubt, they were very friendly in obtaining Her Majesty's permission for me to record many of those doings which are not always made public in the Press. On one occasion, there were *tableaux vivants* at Osborne, and the Managing Director of the paper on which I was then engaged asked me to go down to the Isle of Wight and give an account of the entertainment. I told him that I thought the matter impossible, but, as he left the arrangement to me, I arrived in Cowes on a snowy day in January with faint hope of success. I was one of the two journalists—the other, Mr. Webster, of the Press Association—allowed to pass the lodge-gates of Osborne without challenge from the police, thanks in a great measure to Mr. Charles Fraser—"the Guardian of the Queen," as he has been called. On arrival at the House, I was confronted by Sir Henry Ponsonby—one of the most genial men in the world. "I know what you have come for," he said; "but I'm afraid you're out of it this time. However, I'll ask Someone." I knew what he meant. Just then, Sir John Cowell, a kind and exquisite gentleman, came in and suggested a bowl of mulled port in the billiard-room, where we were joined by Admiral Fullerton, Captain of the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*, who had on that very day obtained his promotion. We drank the health of the Queen and the new Admiral. Meantime, I waited in anxiety.

Someone's Permission.

About three hours after my arrival at Osborne House, Sir Henry Ponsonby appeared in the billiard-room. "It's all right, Mr. X.," he said, with one of his fleeting smiles; "Someone gives you leave, *relying on your well-known discretion*." He emphasised the words which I have italicised. I need scarcely say that I was overjoyed at the communication, and that, in order to get my account well in hand, I asked permission to inspect the stage in the Durbar-Room. Major (as he was then) Bigge accompanied me, and almost the first person I encountered was Mr. Clarkson, the eminent costumier and perruquier, to whom I had vainly applied for some information with regard to the dresses before leaving London, and whom I had told we should meet at Osborne. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and Princess Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg) were discussing some momentous points of costume when Mr. Clarkson caught sight of me. I could not help smiling at his surprise, nor did I in my telegraphed *précis* forget him, as he wished to be remembered to the public; but as I told him, Someone was the cause of my being present, Mr. Clarkson could only gasp, "Please don't forget me." I did not. The other daily papers were not so pleased as was the Queen's Perruquier.

BRITANNIA MOURNS OUR IMMORTAL QUEEN

DRAWN BY A. PEARSE

THE GERMAN EMPEROR GREETING HIS UNCLE, THE PRINCE OF WALES, AT CHARING CROSS STATION ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

The Prince had been to Cowes on Saturday afternoon, but returned on Sunday to meet the Emperor.

THE NEWSLETTER. *The Death of the Queen.*

Osborne House,
January 22, 6.45 p.m.

My beloved mother the Queen has just (6.30) passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren.

(Signed) ALBERT EDWARD.

This was the message, the saddest and the most melancholy in the memory of any living Englishman, that the Lord Mayor of London received on Tuesday evening from Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, now King of Great Britain and Ireland and Emperor of India.

It was only on Friday morning that the published announcement was made that the Queen was in dire danger of death. We had all known, indeed, that she had not been in her usual health for some little time; but the arrangements which had been made for her visit to the south of France had been announced so publicly that for a time anxiety was quenched. With the Friday issue of the *Court Circular* (January 18), however, all such hope was dispelled, and the condition of Her Majesty became suddenly very serious. So strange would seem to any contemporary the cessation of such a life that it is no wonder that the news created a profound sentiment of sorrow, and as one may almost say of universal tragedy.

On Saturday there was, indeed, some slight improvement, but when the midnight bulletin was issued from Osborne to the effect that the Queen's condition had become more serious with increased weakness and diminished powers of taking nourishment it was felt that the end could not be far off. Indeed, some weeks before the Queen left Windsor for the Isle of Wight it had been observed that her Majesty was not in the enjoyment of her customary health, although it was impossible to diagnose very carefully what the ailment was. It was therefore considered inadvisable to make any public reference to her illness. Unfortunately a cold, which otherwise would have been absolutely trivial, was added to these dangerous symptoms, and with the addition of a rheumatic attack it became clear that even her robust health could not contend against the accumulated forces of nature.

It is a pathetic fact that only at the close of this wonderful career did the Queen make any intrusion upon the regularity of her habits. "Signs," a great poet has said, "are more than proofs." It was of love that he was speaking; but far more touching are the signs of illness, particularly when they are concerned with one towards whom all eyes are turned. For example, on the Friday night the Queen retired earlier than her customary hour, and she slept till later in the morning. The fact would be altogether of no interest were it not that it was little events as these, but they all point the same way, all in the same direction. There was the road to travel; and the dust of the journey (as it were) came back to blind human eyes with tears.

On Saturday the Prince of Wales went by special train from Victoria to Portsmouth. He waited for some time at the station on a notification that his sister, Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, would accompany him. Their Royal Highnesses reached Portsmouth at 3.30, and thence journeyed in the royal yacht *Alberta* to Osborne, which they reached at 5.30.

The Princess of Wales was at Sandringham when the news of the Queen's serious illness reached her. She came by special train to London, alighting at Marlborough House, and received a brief visit from the Duchess of York. She then drove to Victoria and caught a special train for Portsmouth, and thence to Osborne.

The Prince of Wales returned to London on Sunday to meet the German Emperor, who, throwing aside all the festivities connected with the bicentenary of the Prussian Monarchy, had travelled with all speed by special train in the company of the Duke of Connaught, landing at Port Victoria from the mail steamer, the *Engeland*. Thence the Emperor came by special train to Charing Cross, where he was met by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and by several members of the German Embassy. The Emperor, who was in mufti and wore a hard felt hat, exchanged very cordial greetings with the Prince of Wales. The party drove to Buckingham Palace, where the Emperor spent the night.

On Monday morning the Emperor and the Prince of Wales left Victoria Station at eight o'clock for Osborne, crossing from Portsmouth on the royal yacht *Alberta*. Soon after his arrival the Emperor was admitted to see the Queen, some slight improvement in Her Majesty's condition making this possible: a stimulant, however, was given in order to strengthen her for the interview. There was, it is said, a return to consciousness at the sound of her grandson's voice.

The numerous bulletins dealing with the Queen's illness have been signed by Sir James Reid, Sir Richard Douglas Powell, and Sir Thomas Barlow. I have not been able to obtain a portrait of the last mentioned. Sir James Reid is a Scotsman, who was educated at the University of Aberdeen. He is fifty-one years of age, and was created a baronet in the Jubilee year. Sir Richard Douglas Powell was born at Walthamstow. He was a student of University College Hospital, and is a consulting physician of Middlesex Hospital.

DOCTORS WHO ATTENDED UPON THE QUEEN

Russell

SIR JAMES REID, M.D.

Elliott & Fry

SIR R. DOUGLAS POWELL, M.D.

THE SCENE OUTSIDE THE MANSION HOUSE DURING THE QUEEN'S LAST ILLNESS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES LEAVING VICTORIA STATION WITH HIS SISTER, THE DUCHESS OF ARGYLL, FOR OSBORNE ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 19

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN

The Emperor at Osborne.

THE ROYAL PARTY AT OSBORNE AS SEEN BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. SIDNEY PAGET, ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1901

An atmosphere of intense gloom enveloped London on Tuesday evening. Even the physical atmosphere took on the colour of the times, for there were no stars, and as the night deepened a drizzling rain fell silently on streets that quickly emptied themselves. All places of amusement, finding themselves completely out of touch with the hour, closed their doors. Gaunt black boards covered many windows, and blinds were drawn on every hand.

It is a very strange fact that ten English sovereigns have begun and ended their reigns on the same day of the week:—

Henry I. and Richard III. on a Sunday
Richard II. on a Monday
Edward IV., Anne, and George I. on a Wednesday.
Mary on a Thursday.
George III. and George IV. on a Saturday
and
Queen Victoria on a Tuesday.

It is scarcely less remarkable that the official announcement of the Queen's illness was made public on the very day (January 18) on which she had equalled the age of the longest-lived British sovereign, her grandfather George III. He lived 81 years and 239 days (dying on January 29, 1820). The Queen lived 81 years 243 days.

The swiftness with which we pass from yesterday to to-day was vividly brought home to us all by the Royal proclamation, written in the quaint old language of another age and bearing the unfamiliar *finis*, "God save the King"—a hope which every one of us must cherish. The proclamation, printed by the printers of THE SPHERE, opened and closed in the following stately terms, so redolent of the elaborate circumlocutions of the past:—

By the KING.
A Proclamation.

Requiring all persons being in Office of Authority or Government at the decease of the late Queen to proceed in the Execution of their respective Offices.

WHEREAS by an Act made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty, Queen Anne, intituled "An Act for the Security of Her Majesty's Person and Government, and of the Succession to the Crown of Great Britain in the Protestant Line," it was enacted [etc.] . . . . . .

We do hereby require and command all Our loving Officers and Ministers in the Performance and Execution of their respective Offices and Places, as they and every one of them tender Our utmost Displeasure and will answer to the contrary at their peril.

Given at Our Court at St. James's.

God save the King.

WOMAN'S SPHERE

EVERY woman's heart has been beating with anxiety during the week, and the news that has flashed across the wires from Osborne at the moment I write, that our beloved Queen has died, makes all gossip concerning the details of fashion quite out of place. We can, indeed, have but one thought in the presence of the great tragedy with which we are all concerned. For sixty-three years the Queen has reigned over these islands, and we can think of nothing but her goodness, her womanliness, and the place that she has asserted for her sex during that period. The Victorian epoch will always have its significance for women above all, and the opening of the twentieth century is marked by a cleavage greater than is afforded by stepping from one century into another through the death of the Queen, who was certainly the best, and probably the greatest, woman that the world has ever seen.

HUGHES AND MULLINS

THE SCENE OUTSIDE THE GATES OF OSBORNE HOUSE. REPORTERS WAITING FOR NEWS

1837. 1901.

VICTORIA, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, QUEEN, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, EMPRESS OF INDIA

This portrait of the Queen in her crown medallion by Russell

DRAWN BY R. M. PAXTON

THE SCENE OUTSIDE THE GATES OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE DURING THE QUEEN'S LAST ILLNESS

1837—"YOUR MAJESTY IS QUEEN OF ENGLAND."

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chancellor informing the Princess Victoria of her accession to the throne in the early morning of June 20, 1837. They had ridden from Windsor to Kensington Palace, and had to arouse the Princess to inform her of her accession. The picture is by Mary L. Gow, and is the copyright of the Berlin Photographic Company

THE QUEEN'S FATHER
EDWARD, DUKE OF KENT, 1767-1820

Tunbridge Wells
11th August.
1836

My dear Uncle

I offer you many affectionate congratulations on your birthday — very many with my best love — for all your kindness to me, — and it has been a great pleasure to me, to be able to write this year, to my Uncle, the King and to you.
We hope to hear that Brighton does you a great deal of good

Believe me, my dear Uncle, your very affectionate Niece

Victoria

THE QUEEN'S MOTHER
DUCHESS OF KENT, 1786-1861

Buckingham Palace was besieged day after day by people reading the bulletins on the gate, and at Osborne the utmost anxiety prevailed. The strictest guard, however, was kept on the grounds of Osborne House, and no strangers were allowed to enter. On Monday the Emperor and the Princess of Wales went to the hospital, where some wounded soldiers from the front are recovering, and the Kaiser showed the keenest interest in a gunner who had been wounded. His military instincts were also aroused by his encountering a regiment of infantry carrying out a route march.

The Kaiser's coming has struck a note of warm gratitude throughout the nation, all the more so because his own mother lies in such need of his presence at this moment. In his absence he has left his brother, Prince Henry, to watch over the Empress Frederick at Kronberg, from which she has been unable to move.

London knew in an instant by the arrival of the Emperor that the case of the Queen was quite hopeless. Seven or eight of the royal carriages with footmen behind and preceded by mounted policemen awaited the Emperor at Charing Cross Station on Sunday evening. The handsome big coaching horses of the royal stables are familiar at all times, but it is very rarely that the carriages appear with footmen behind. The Prince of Wales has a preference for a single-horse brougham, which might often be seen waiting for him at the British Museum when he attended the meetings of the trustees. Frequently when he has been running down to the country he has gone to Charing Cross in a hansom. But with the German Emperor there is far more state. It will be interesting to watch whether the Prince as King will retain his old simple habits or fall back on the stateliness of a sovereign.

From all parts of the world—from Lord Hopetoun on behalf of the Australian Confederation, from New Zealand, from Canada, from every corner of the British Empire—telegrams of deepest sympathy have been forthcoming. America, with all its quick perceptions alert to the magnificent career of the Queen, waited anxiously on every bulletin flashed across the seas which were untraversed by electricity when the Queen came to the throne. On the Continent the tone of the newspapers has been most sympathetic. This has been the case with Germans, who have recognised the pathos of the Dowager Empress's illness which kept her from her mother. In France the Queen's great qualities have been recognised. The thoughts of Austria, with its own ageing monarch in view, have been of the kindliest. Russia, bound to us by many ties, has turned towards us. Indeed, on every side our loss has emphasised the essential unity of the civilised world in the midst of many differences of opinion and aspiration.

As these pages go to press everything for the future remains more or less unsettled. We can think for many a day only of the great Queen, while not forgetting that the son, who has endeared himself to us by his great good humour and invariable tact, has come to reign over the Empire which his immortal mother did so much to consolidate.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

THE QUEEN'S DOLLS' HOUSE

At Kensington Palace

THE QUEEN AS A SWEET LITTLE MAIDEN

WHERE THE QUEEN WAS BORN

In Kensington Palace

Our Queen's childhood has in itself possessed a glamour for many generations of boys and girls throughout the British Empire. It abounds in anecdotes of a simple and calm domestic life with an honourable father, a good and much-loved mother. The Duke of Kent of all the sons of George III. was by far the most respected. He married in 1818, when fifty-one years of age, Victoria Mary Louisa of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. The married couple lived first in Germany, but they came to England in the spring of 1819 in order that their child might be born on English soil, and thus it was that the Princess Alexandrina Victoria first saw the light in Kensington Palace on May 24, 1819. The Duke died when his daughter was but eight months old, and the Princess Victoria's life was henceforth fatherless, but with a mother who lived for her child, ever hoping and believing that she would one day be a Queen, although at the time there were children of elder branches of the family in the direct succession. Mrs. Oliphant, who wrote by far the best account of the Queen's childhood, says:—

> Perhaps some mother may be amused to hear not only that the Princess was successfully vaccinated but that she was the first of the Royal Family to undergo that salutary operation; or that the royal child was so much like other babies that, being taken up into his arms by a bishop, she seized hold of his wig, shaking forth clouds of powder, and had torn handfuls of hair out of it before the prelate could be released from her hands. A little later it was her delight to ride on a donkey which one of her uncles had given her, and on which she proceeded solemnly through Kensington Gardens, attended by her nurses, while the donkey was led by an old soldier who had been a servant of her father.

Sir Walter Scott records in his diary that he had dined with the Duchess of Kent and had been presented to the little Princess Victoria. The Princess was then nine years of age, and Sir Walter surmises that she may have already known of the great destiny in store for her:—

> "I was presented," he said, "by Prince Leopold to the little Princess Victoria, the heir apparent to the throne as things now stand. This little lady," he adds, "is educated with much care and watched so closely that no busy maid has a moment to whisper, 'You are the heir of England.' I suspect that if we could dissect the little heart we should find that some pigeon or other bird of the air had carried the matter. She is fair like the Royal Family."

This, we are informed, however, was not the case, and it was not till three years later that she became aware that she might succeed her uncle, William IV., on the throne.

The intervening years are full of delightful stories that we owe to the many friends who surrounded the Duchess of Kent and her child—the German governess, for example, Baroness Lehzen, who arrived when the little Princess was twelve years of age:—

> "I was instructed," she said, "not to use the term 'Your Highness,' but to say simply 'Princess.' My little Princess will be twelve years old to-morrow. She is not tall, but very pretty; has dark brown hair, beautiful brown eyes, and a mouth which though not tiny is very good-tempered and pleasant. Her whole bearing is so childish and engaging that one could not desire a more amiable child."

The same German governess tells the story of having first initiated the Queen into the knowledge of her proud position through a genealogical table and the Princess Victoria's reply. The whole passage is worth quoting:—

> When the Regency Bill was in progress I said to the Duchess of Kent that now for the first time your Majesty ought to know your place in the succession. Her Royal Highness agreed with me and I put the genealogical table into the historical book. When Mr. Davys (the Queen's instructor, afterwards Bishop of Peterborough) was gone the Princess Victoria opened the book again as usual and seeing the additional paper said, "I never saw that before." "It was not thought necessary you should, Princess," I answered. "I see I am [illegible]

THE QUEEN AT THE AGE OF FOUR

THE QUEEN AT THE AGE OF EIGHT

> nearer to the throne than I thought." "So it is, madam," I said. After some moments the Princess resumed, "Now, many a child would boast, but they don't know the difficulty. There is much splendour, but there is much responsibility." The Princess, having lifted up the forefinger of her right hand while she spoke, gave me that little hand, saying, "I will be good. I understand now why you urged me so much to learn even Latin. My cousins Augusta and Mary never did, but you told me Latin is the foundation of English grammar and of all the elegant expressions, and I learned it as you wished it. But I understand all better now," and the little Princess gave me her hand, repeating, "I will be good."

Then came the scene which several artists have attempted, but which, we think, the picture by Mary L. Gow gives the finest realisation, that of the arrival of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chamberlain at Kensington Palace at a very early hour on June 20, 1837. King William had died at half-past two that morning, and they had ridden the twenty miles from Windsor, for there was, of course, no railway:—

> They were even kept waiting "thumping" at the gates, though they came to bear a crown, before anyone heard or opened to them. Even when admitted they had difficulty in performing their mission; they were hastily introduced into a small sitting room and left there while the startled servants, half awake, went in search of the Princess's maid—probably a person more difficult to disturb than the mistress of the house. She was aroused, however, at last, and came informing to the impatient gentlemen below to say that Her Royal Highness was in "so sweet a sleep" that she had not the heart to wake her. The maid was sent off overawed in haste with the astounding message that the visitors had come to wait upon the Queen on business of state. And shortly afterwards there came hurriedly into the room the little figure, half dressed, in a white dressing-gown and slippers, her pretty hair falling on her shoulders, her eyes but hardly awakened in the drowsy brightness of wonder and emotion—no more than a little girl who yet an hour or two ago had already become one of the greatest monarchs in the world.

There is some difference of opinion as to the actual garb of the young Princess on the occasion. Disraeli is said to have been responsible for the story of the night-gown through a reference in one of his novels, but it is asserted that she wore a white cambric dressing-gown, over which her maid had thrown a shawl as a protection against the cold night air. In any case this was the first recognition of the Sovereign, the greatest monarch in our annals, of whose life story and glorious reign of sixty-three years so many accounts and descriptions are now before the public; and it was also the first recognition of her womanhood. Henceforth the Princess was a Queen and she had also ceased to be a child.

THE QUEEN AT THE AGE OF ELEVEN

THE QUEEN AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN

HOW PRINCESS VICTORIA CAME TO BE QUEEN.

JAMES (STUART) I. OF ENGLAND AND VI. OF SCOTLAND

PRINCESS ELIZABETH MAR. FREDERICK, PALATINE OF THE RHINE

PRINCESS SOPHIA MAR. ERNEST, ELECTOR OF HANOVER

GEORGE I. CROWNED OCT. 20, 1714

GEORGE II. 1727–1760

FREDERICK, PRINCE OF WALES, 1707–1751

GEORGE IV. 1762–1830

WILLIAM IV. 1765–1837

GEORGE III. 1738–1820

EDWARD, DUKE OF KENT *died* 1820

The Queen's uncle, Duke of Cumberland, became ruler of the late King of Hanover, which was then lost to us

ERNEST, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND, *died* 1851

QUEEN VICTORIA

1838

Coronation of the Queen, Westminster Abbey, June 28
Rebellion in Canada; consequent deficit in budget, £2,000,000
War with Persia
First screw steamer crosses the Atlantic in 19 days
Mails first sent by railway
Electric telegraph between Paddington and West Drayton

THE QUEEN TAKING THE SACRAMENT IN THE ABBEY
After her coronation, June 28, 1838

THE QUEEN IN 1838

Wheatstone's stereoscope made
Nasmyth invents the steam hammer
National Gallery opened
Works by Carlyle, Macaulay, Browning, Pusey, Newman, Dickens, Tupper, Lover, &c.
Henry Irving born, Feb. 6

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

THE QUEEN AT THE GREENWICH WATER FÊTE

MR. C. P. VILLIERS (BORN 1802)
Father of the Commons (died 1898)

The Queen at the Beginning of Her Glorious Reign.

This picture, which you will see in the collection at Hertford House, was painted by Thomas Sully. It shows the Queen as a young girl of eighteen after her accession to the throne of her uncle

P.K.

1839

The Queen informs Prince Albert of her intention as to her marriage, October 15
The Queen's intended marriage publicly announced, Nov. 23
Aden bombarded and taken
Afghan War: Cabul taken, Aug. 7
China regards England as a "subject country"
Chartist Riots in Newport, 10 killed
Rowland Hill's postal reform
Great Eastern Railway opened
Fourpenny post introduced
Publications by Darwin, Carlyle, Disraeli, Lever, Ainsworth Moore, &c.
John Galt and W. M. Praed die

THE THRONE-ROOM AT WINDSOR

THE QUEEN IN 1838

DANIEL O'CONNELL
A caricature of the Irish Liberator

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY BROAD-GAUGE ENGINE, "NORTH STAR"
Built 1837. Ran until 1870

ROWLAND HILL
Who made the Penny Post

1840

Marriage of the Queen to Prince Albert, St. James's, February 10
An insane pot-boy attempts to shoot the Queen, June 10
Birth of the Princess Royal (Empress Frederick), Nov. 21
Hostilities between Great Britain and China. Canton blockaded
Treaty between Great Britain, Russia, Austria, and Prussia for expelling Egyptians from Syria
Rising in Afghanistan suppressed, November 3
Employment of boys as chimney sweeps prohibited
Penny postage came into force
292 Acts sanctioning 3,000 miles of railway passed

THE MARRIAGE OF THE QUEEN TO PRINCE ALBERT OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA AT THE CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S, FEBRUARY 10, 1840

THE QUEEN IN 1840

THE PRINCE CONSORT AT THE TIME OF MARRIAGE
He was born August 26, 1819, and died December 14, 1861

THE FIRST CHINESE WAR
The "Volage" and the "Hyacinth" engaging twenty-nine Chinese junks

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK
Born Nov. 21, 1840. Married in 1858 the Crown Prince of Prussia, Frederick III.

1841

Birth of the Prince of Wales, November 9
General Election, Con. majority
Sir Robert Peel forms a ministry
Anti-Corn Law agitation
Hong Kong ceded to England
Renewed rising in Afghanistan
British force surrenders at Cabul
Population of England and Wales, 15,911,767; Scotland, 2,629,184; Ireland, 8,175,124
First big railway accident, Sonningbill, December 24
Ross's Antarctic Expedition reaches 78 deg. 4 min. south lat.
Francis Chantrey, sculptor, David Wilkie, R.A., and Theodore Hook, novelist, die

THE CHRISTENING OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL, 1841

THE QUEEN IN 1841

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY
Painted by G. F. Watts, R.A., 1801-1865

HER MAJESTY OPENING PARLIAMENT, 1841
Scene in the House of Lords

ALBERT EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES, AS A BABY
Born November 9, 1841

1842

Prince of Wales christened at Windsor, January 25
The Queen presents Kew Observatory to the British Association
John Francis attempts to shoot the Queen on Constitution Hill
A deformed youth levels a pistol at the Queen

THE QUEEN'S FIRST VISIT TO SCOTLAND
This year also saw Her Majesty's first railway journey

THE QUEEN

DR. THOMAS ARNOLD (1795-1842)
Head Master of Rugby

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE

1842

The Queen visits Scotland
Peel's Corn Importation Bill passed
Chartist petition, 3,317,000 signatures
Afghanistan evacuated
Disturbances with Boers
Distress in England; food riots
The Fleet and Marshalsea closed
Maclise made R.A., Sir Charles Bell, anatomist, dies

1843

Birth of Princess Alice
The Queen and Prince Albert visit the King and Queen of the French at Tregort
They visit Sir Robert Peel, Drayton Manor; afterwards Chatsworth and Belvoir
John Bright's maiden speech in Parliament
Scinde incorporated with Bombay Presidency
Dr. Pusey suspended
Father Mathew in London
"Great Britain" steamship launched
Nelson monument completed
"Bohemian Girl" produced
Death of Southey

THE QUEEN'S FIRST VISIT TO THE CONTINENT
Arrival at the Château d'Eu

THE QUEEN

SIR CHARLES JAMES NAPIER
(1782-1853)
Conqueror of Scinde

THE QUEEN'S FIRST DRAWING-ROOM

PRINCESS ALICE
As a child

1844

First public statue of the Queen unveiled, Edinburgh, Jan. 24
Czar Nicholas I. visits London, June
Birth of Prince Alfred, August 6
Louis Philippe visits the Queen, October 6
The Queen opens the Royal Exchange, October 28
Gladstone President of the Board of Trade
Dimenters' Chapels Acts passed
Young England party becomes prominent
O'Connell found guilty of conspiracy
War with the native New Zealanders

THE QUEEN RECEIVING LOUIS PHILIPPE
King of the French at Windsor Castle, October 8, 1844

THE QUEEN

EARLY TELEGRAPH INSTRUMENT
From Paddington Station

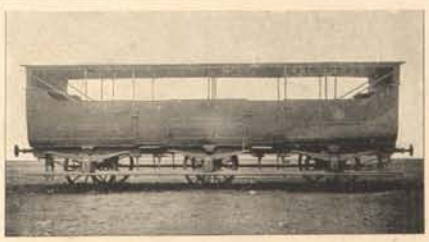
A most instructive comment on the great age to which the Queen had lived is found in the fact that she was visited this year by the present Czar's great-grandfather, Nicholas I. (who died in 1855). The Czar landed at Woolwich on June 1, and on June 4 he and the King of Saxony and Prince Albert went to Ascot. On June 6 the Queen also accompanied them to Ascot. On the 8th the two visitors honoured the Duke of Devonshire at Chiswick, and then went to Her Majesty's Theatre in the evening. The Czar embarked at Woolwich on his way home on June 9

HOW THE CZAR'S GREAT-GRANDFATHER VISITED THE QUEEN

PRINCE ALFRED
The future Duke of Coburg

1845

The Queen inspects the "Great Britain"
Naval review before the Queen
The Queen prorogues Parliament in person, August 9
Gladstone retires from the Ministry
Maynooth Endowment Act
The Corn Laws abolished
End of the war in Scinde
Continued fighting in New Zealand
Sikhs invade our territory: War
Franklin starts on his last voyage
Manchester and Sheffield Railway opened
Lunatic destroys the Portland Vase
Sydney Smith and Tom Hood die



OLD GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY CARRIAGE

THE QUEEN IN 1845

LORD ROSSE'S GREAT TELESCOPE

NAVAL REVIEW AT SPITHEAD, JULY 16, 1845
From the picture by G. E. Gilbert in the royal collection

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN
The future Cardinal

1846

Princess Helena born, May 25
Three weeks' voyage by the Queen in the English Channel
Irish Coercion Bill
First Sikh War ended
4,500 miles new railway sanctioned
Great depression in railway shares
Potato famine in Ireland; rioting
Wheat fetches 88s. a quarter
Gun-cotton invented by Schonbein, Basel
North British Railway opened
Neptune discovered by Galle
Ether as an anæsthetic introduced
Sewing machine introduced into England
Robert Browning married
"Daily News" established

Where the Queen Died

HER HOME AT OSBORNE

THE QUEEN

The top view gives a general view of the house, and the bottom is the Oriental Chamber

1847

The Queen gives £2,000 to the Irish Famine Fund
The Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament telegraphed at 55 words a minute, Nov. 24
£10,000,000 granted to Ireland
General Election, Liberal majority
Paraffin procured from mineral oil
Trent Valley Railway opened
Chloroform used as an anæsthetic
Jenny Lind appears in London
Part of Westminster Palace opened
Many commercial disasters, Consols 84
Books and poems by Tennyson, Dickens, Thackeray, Disraeli, and the Sisters Brontë
W. Collins, R.A., dies

THE QUEEN IN SCOTLAND

THE QUEEN IN 1847

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN
The Arctic discoverer

THE GREAT MEN OF THE DAY
Gladstone, Disraeli, Palmerston, Dickens, and many others

CHARLOTTE BRONTË
Who became immortal in this year by writing "Jane Eyre"

1848

Birth of the Princess Louise
The Queen and Prince Albert visited the ex-Royal Family of France at Claremont, May 9
The Jews admitted to Parliament
Chartist demonstration on Kennington Common
Orange River territory annexed
Great Britain recognises French Republic
Second Sikh War
French Revolution, flight of Louis Philippe
The Franklin Expedition desert their ships
George Stephenson, Isaac D'Israeli, and Captain Marryat die
Ellen Terry born, February 27

THE ROYAL FAMILY: A TYPICAL GROUP

THE QUEEN IN 1848

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK
In 1848 he was on the eve of returning to England from India. Died in 1857, seven days after the relief of Lucknow

HOW OUR NAVY WAS DRESSED

PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF ARGYLL
Born March 18, 1848

1849

The Queen was fired at by a man named Hamilton, May 19. He was transported for seven years

Queen visited Ireland, August 1–14

The Corn Laws abolished

Annexation of the Punjab, March 29

End of the second Sikh War

Rioting at Montreal

Cholera in England, 13,000 people dying in London

Livingstone reaches Lake Ngami

Steam plough patented

Derby won by Flying Dutchman

The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood attract attention

Brunel (engineer), Hartley Coleridge, Maria Edgeworth, and the Countess of Blessington die

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

WM. THACKERAY (1811-1863)
Famous novelist

The equestrian statue which for many years surmounted the arch at Hyde Park corner was first set up on October 1, 1846. It weighed forty tons, and was chiefly constructed of gun metal obtained from guns captured during the veteran general's campaigns. The statue was taken down in 1883 and removed to Aldershot, where it was set up in 1888. In 1849 Wellington was occupying for the second time the position of commander-in-chief. About this time the Queen remarked, "How powerful and how clear the mind of this wonderful man is, and how honest and how loyal and kind he is to us both"

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S STATUE ON THE ARCH AT HYDE PARK CORNER

THE DUKE OF FIFE
Born Nov. 10, 1849. Married to Princess Louise of Wales, July 27, 1889

1850

Duke of Connaught born, May 1
The Queen attacked with a stick by Robert Pate, a retired lieut.
Charles Kean gives theatrical performance at Windsor
Roman Catholic Hierarchy established in England
First submarine telegraph between England and France
Faraday's researches in atmospheric magnetism
The Queen presented with the Koh-i-noor diamond
Voltigeur wins the Derby
"Household Words" established
Tennyson's "In Memoriam" published
Tennyson Poet Laureate

IN THE GROUNDS OF WINDSOR
The Royal Family at play

THE QUEEN

WM. WORDSWORTH (1770-1850)
Poet Laureate

PRINCE ARTHUR
Duke of Connaught

1851

The Queen opens the Great Exhibition, May 1

The Ecclesiastical Titles Act

Jewish Disabilities Bill rejected by the Lords

Window tax abolished

Bloomer costume worn in England

Electric telegraph between London and Paris

WELLINGTON AS A COURTIER

Collodion invented

Gold discovered near Bathurst, Australia

Macready's farewell at Drury Lane, February 26

Thackeray lectures at Willis's Rooms

Joanna Baillie, Mary Shelley, and J. M. W. Turner, R.A., die

LORD TENNYSON

Published "In Memoriam," 1850, and appointed Laureate same year

The year 1851 is known to everyone as the year of the "Great Exhibition." Industrial exhibitions on a smaller scale had been held in England during the earlier years of the century, but they had not been very successful. The first man to originate the idea of a national exhibition in England is understood to be Mr. F. Whishaw, secretary of the Society of Arts in 1844. His idea, however, was not taken up until Prince Albert, the president of the society, actively interested himself in the project. At a meeting in 1849 the Prince declared that now was the time to prepare for a great exhibition, "an exhibition worthy of the greatness of this country, not merely national in its scope and benefits, but comprehensive of the whole world: and I offer myself to the public as their leader if they are willing to assist in the undertaking." A royal commission was appointed in January, 1850, and the Queen headed the subscription list with £1,000. The building operations commenced in September. The greatest number of visitors in one day was 109,760. At one time 93,000 persons were assembled (2 p.m., October 7), a record number of persons gathered together in what may be considered as one room. Larger crowds have assembled under the open sky in amphitheatres, but there is no record of any larger crowd assembling under one arched roof

THE YEAR OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION IN HYDE PARK

MR. JOHN BRIGHT

In 1851 is seen representing Manchester

1852

An eccentric barrister, J. C. Nield, leaves the Queen £250,000

Militia Bill introduced

Lord John Russell resigns

Lord Derby forms a Cabinet

General Election, the new Government defeated

The Transvaal Republic granted independence

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

"cost £3,000,000. Opened November 4, 1852

THE QUEEN IN 1852

WELLINGTON'S TOMB IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

THE STATE DRAWING-ROOM AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Second Burmese War: Kaffir War

Wreck of the "Birkenhead"

Submarine telegraph between England and Ireland

Metropolitan Burial Act

First submarine telegraph message between London and Paris

Free public libraries opened, Manchester, Liverpool, &c.

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO IRELAND

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO LONDON

The Queen's Highland Home: Balmoral Castle.

1853

Birth of Prince Leopold, April 7
The Queen and Prince Albert with the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred visited Ireland
The Queen laid the foundation stone of Balmoral Castle, Sept. 29
Gladstone's first budget. Income tax 7d.
Income tax extended to Ireland
The Jewish Disabilities Bill again rejected by the Lords
The English and French fleets pass the Dardanelles
End of the Kaffir War
Cholera again rampant in England
North-west passage discovered
Livingstone crosses Africa from the Zambesi to Loanda
The Queen received the Victoria gold nugget, January 7
Hunt's "Claudio and Isabella" exhibited
Charlotte Bronte's "Villette" published
Amelia Opie, novelist, dies
A parliament given to Cape Colony by an order in council
F. D. Maurice dismissed from his professorships at King's College, Strand, on account of certain statements he made concerning the duration of the punishment of the wicked, October
Founding of Wellington College with Dr. E. W. Benson as first head master

A birdseye view of Balmoral Castle taken from the surrounding hills

1854

The Queen received addresses from both Houses of Parliament in connection with the declaration of the Crimean War, April 3
The Queen opened the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, June 10
War vote of £1,250,000
Income tax doubled, other taxes increased
Declaration of war, March 28
Bombardment of Odessa, April 22
Florence Nightingale arrives at Scutari, November 5
Orange River territory given up to the Boers
Christopher North, James Montgomery, and J. G. Lockhart die

THE BATTLE OF THE ALMA
September 20, 1854

THE QUEEN

THE HOSPITAL AT SCUTARI

THE BATTLE OF BALACLAVA
September 25, 1854

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE (b. 1820)
Famous Crimean nurse

1855

The Queen was visited at Windsor by the Emperor and Empress of the French, April 16
The Queen visited the Emperor and Empress of the French in Paris, August 18
The Queen distributes Crimean War medals
Newspaper duty repealed
The last Bartholomew Fair at Smithfield
The first Jewish Lord Mayor of London elected
R. Wagner conducts in London
Charlotte Brontë, Copley Fielding, R.A., Sir Henry Bishop, Mary R. Mitford, Julius Hare, and Samuel Rogers die

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO PARIS
The Queen and Napoleon III. at the Opera

THE QUEEN

PRINCE ALBERT AND THE QUEEN

THE QUEEN IN PARIS
The review in honour of Her Majesty

CHARLES KINGSLEY (1819-1875)
Famous novelist

1856

Death of the Prince of Leiningen, the Queen's half-brother, Nov. 12
Total cost of the war, £77,000,000
The Victoria Cross instituted
Education debates, a salaried Minister for Education appointed
Palmer, poisoner, convicted
Livingstone again crosses Africa
Bessemer iron and steel patents
Perkins discovers aniline dyes
Covent Garden Theatre burned
The Government allows bands in the public parks on Sundays, but the Archbishop of Canterbury and others protest successfully
John Braham, Madame Vestris, and Westmacott, R.A., die

DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS BY THE QUEEN TO THE RETURNED HEROES OF THE CRIMEAN WAR

THE QUEEN

DAVID LIVINGSTONE (1813-1873)
Discovered Victoria Falls of the Zambesi, 1855

THE RETURN OF THE ARCTIC SHIP, "RESOLUTE"
The Queen's visit to the explorers

LORD LISTER
Born in 1826. Fellow of Royal College of Surgeons, 1851. Photo by Elliott & Fry

1857

Birth of the Princess Beatrice
The Queen makes an Order in Council granting to Prince Albert the title of Prince Consort
End of the Persian War
The Indian Mutiny begins
Massacre at Cawnpore, July 15
Capture of Delhi, November 20
Chinese War, Canton captured by the English and French, Dec.

THE INDIAN MUTINY: THE CASHMERE GATE AT DELHI
Which was blown up by the British

Suez Canal scheme opposed by English public opinion
National Portrait Gallery formed
British Museum Reading-room opened
South Kensington Museum opened
Rubinstein and Charles Santley first appear in London

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

SIR JAMES OUTRAM (1803-1863)
The "Bayard of India"

THE INDIAN MUTINY: THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 17, 1857
The meeting of General Havelock, Sir James Outram, and Sir Colin Campbell

PRINCESS ALICE
As a child

1858

The Princess Royal of England married to Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Jan. 25
The Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Prince of Wales present at inauguration of Cherbourg docks and harbour, August 4
The Queen proclaimed Ruler of India, November 1
Jews admitted to Parliament, Baron Rothschild member for the City of London
Lake Victoria Nyanza discovered by Speke
Diphtheria scientifically diagnosed
Darwin's doctrine of evolution
Crinolines of enormous size
London divided into postal districts

THE SECOND CHINESE WAR
An engagement with the Taiping rebels at Nankin

THE QUEEN

THE CRINOLINE IN ITS HIGHEST GLORY

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL TO PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA IN THE CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S, JANUARY 25, 1858

THOMAS CARLYLE (1795–1881)
Published "Frederick the Great," 1858

1859

Birth of present Kaiser
The Queen opened the new Glasgow waterworks, Oct. 14
General Election—Liberals, 348; Conservatives, 305
Inauguration of the volunteer force
Armstrong gun adopted in English Army
First Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace
"All the Year Round" and "Macmillan's Magazine" established
De Quincey, H. Hallam Leigh Hunt, Lord Macaulay, David Cox, C. R. Leslie, R.A., James Ward, R.A., I. K. Brunel, and Robert Stephenson died

H.M.S. "WARRIOR," THE FIRST ENGLISH IRONCLAD
The building of an ironclad vessel for the British Navy was decided upon at this time. The "Warrior" was laid down and constructed at a cost of £376,000. Photo by Symonds

THE QUEEN

ISAMBARD BRUNEL, 1806–1859
Built the "Great Eastern" steamship

CHARLES DARWIN, 1809–1882
Published the "Origin of Species," 1859

1860

The Queen accepted an invitation for the Prince of Wales to visit the United States, June 4
The Queen reviewed 21,000 volunteers in Hyde Park, June 23
The Queen reviewed 18,000 Scottish volunteers at Holyrood Park, August 7
150,000 volunteers enrolled
New bronze coinage issued
On Christmas Day in London the temperature fell 14 deg. below zero
Dion Boucicault's "Colleen Bawn" produced
Mrs. Jameson, G. P. R. James, and Sir Charles Barry, R.A., died

The volunteer movement, which had commenced in 1859 under the spirit of the possibility of invasion, took very definite form in 1860, when the Queen reviewed her citizen soldiers in Hyde Park and also in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, and before the year had ended we had an army of 150,000 volunteers. The year was one of great parliamentary activity, Mr. Cobden having persuaded Napoleon III. to accept a commercial treaty with England. Mr. Gladstone simplified taxation, and the duty on paper was all but abolished amid much excitement, the House of Lords passing the measure for repeal the following year

THE HISTORY OF THE YEAR 1860

THE QUEEN

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN 1860
With Cobden, Bright, Gladstone, Disraeli, and other great men

ROBERT BROWNING

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

1861

Death of the Duchess of Kent, mother of the Queen, March 16
The Queen and Prince Consort paid their third visit to Ireland
Death of the Prince Consort
Outbreak of Civil War in America
The great Tooley Street fire
Spurgeon at the Tabernacle
First appearance of E. A. Sothern in London
Shakspere's house purchased at Stratford-on-Avon for the nation
"Tom Brown at Oxford," "Silas Marner," "The Cloister and the Hearth," and "East Lynne" published
Mrs. Browning and William Farren died

In this year the Queen lost her mother and her husband. The Duchess of Kent died in March universally regretted, but the death of the Prince Consort in December was even more keenly mourned. He died of typhoid fever at Windsor Castle, aged forty-two, and was interred in the mausoleum at Frogmore, near Windsor, where the Queen has expressed a wish also to be buried. After the death of the Prince Consort the Queen walked out into the grounds of Windsor to select a site for the mausoleum, and chose one in a woody glade near the last resting place of her mother, the Duchess of Kent.

Space was left beside the Prince Consort to receive the body of his widow

THE HISTORY OF THE YEAR 1861

THE QUEEN

THE DUCHESS OF KENT
The Queen's mother

THE LAST DRAWING-ROOM IN WHICH THE PRINCE CONSORT APPEARED

THE PRINCE CONSORT
Died December 14, 1861

1862

Princess Alice married to Prince Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt, July 1

The remains of the Prince Consort transferred from St. George's Chapel, Windsor, to Frogmore, December 18

Great cotton famine in Lancashire

Garrotting becomes prevalent

Several balloon ascents to great heights

THE QUEEN

JOHN RUSKIN
*The great Art Critic of the century. Born 1819, *ed. 1900*

THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS ALICE TO LOUIS IV., THE GRAND DUKE OF HESSE
The ceremony took place at Osborne, 1862

Kirk's refrigerating process patented

Copyright in photographs secured

The second International Exhibition opened by the Duke of Cambridge

New Westminster Bridge opened

Sheridan Knowles died

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

1863

Prince of Wales married to the Princess Alexandra, March 10
The Queen returned from a visit to Germany, September 10
The Albert Memorial at Aberdeen inaugurated in the presence of the Queen, October 13
Dr. Colenso attacks the authenticity of the Pentateuch
Marquis of Hastings fined for cock fighting
The source of the Nile discovered
Gounod's "Faust" produced in London
"Aurora Floyd" and "Romola" published
Thackeray, Archbishop Whately, and W. Mulready died

THE QUEEN

PRINCESS OF WALES AS A BRIDE
Alexandra Dagmar of Denmark

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA OF DENMARK IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR, MARCH 10, 1863

SIR HENRY IRVING
The Lyceum was opened this year by Pacheo, but Mr. Irving did not manage it until three years later

The Good Prince Consort.

"A MAN HE WAS TO ALL THE COUNTRY DEAR."

1864

Birth of the Duke of Clarence
Garibaldi in England
The Briggs murder on the North London Railway
Lake Albert Nyanza discovered
The electrophone invented
Destructive fire at Chapel Royal
Thames Embankment foundation stone laid
Newman's "Apologia," Swinburne's "Atalanta in Calydon," and Tennyson's "Enoch Arden" published
Adelaide Proctor, W. S. Landor, W. Dyce, R.A., T. P. Cooke, F. Robson, John Leech, and David Roberts, R.A., died

THE QUEEN

The memorial of Prince Albert at Windsor Castle. Statue by W. Theed, entitled "Allured to Brighter Worlds and led the Way"

1865

Birth of Prince George of Wales

Death of Leopold, first King of the Belgians

Australian tinned meat introduced into England

First ascent of the Matterhorn

The "Great Eastern" lays the second Atlantic cable

Rinderpest broke out in London

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

It used to receive many of our convicts, but in this year the system was stopped

Trials and convictions of Fenians

Opening of the Dublin International Exhibition

Dr. Manning succeeds Wiseman

"Alice in Wonderland" published

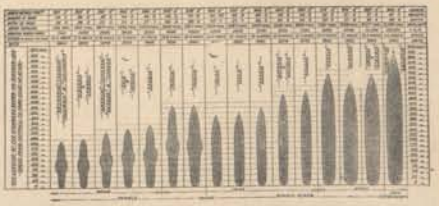
The "Fortnightly Review" established

Cobden, Mrs. Gaskell, and Vincent Wallace died

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

GENERAL GORDON

Made C.B. in 1859



THE GROWTH OF THE CUNARD LINE FROM 1840 TO 1893

A new record was established by the "Scotia" crossing in 8 days 15 hours

RICHARD COBDEN

Economist: died April 2, 1865

1866

The Queen wrote to George Peabody, the American philanthropist, thanking him for his gifts of £350,000 to the London poor, March 28
Marriage of the Princess Mary of Cambridge to the Duke of Teck
Marriage of the Princess Helena to Prince Christian
Gladstone, Leader of House
The third Atlantic cable laid
Cholera epidemic, 1,000 deaths a week in London alone
Wreck of "London," 200 lives lost
Colliery explosion at Barnsley, 340 lives lost
First appearance in London of Hy. Irving and Charles Wyndham

PRINCE CHRISTIAN
Married Princess Helena. He was created H.R.H. in 1868

PRINCESS HELENA'S MARRIAGE TO PRINCE CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN
The marriage took place at the Windsor private chapel, July 5, 1866. The Princess's daughter, Princess Victoria, has been the Queen's constant companion during recent years

THE QUEEN IN 1866

PRINCE CHRISTIAN VICTOR
Son of Princess Helena. Died in South Africa, 1900

1867

Birth of the Princess Louise of Wales (the Duchess of Fife)
The Queen laid the foundation stone of the Albert Hall
The Dominion of Canada established
Antiseptic methods of surgery introduced by Lister
Electro-magnetism applied to the smelting of metals

THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL LAID

THE QUEEN

NELSON'S LIONS
Landseer at work

THE CONFEDERATION OF CANADA. THE OTTAWA PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Fenian attempt on Clerkenwell Prison, &c.
Landseer's lions at the base of the Nelson Column unveiled
First appearance in London of Nilsson and Edward Terry
Michael Faraday, Smirke, and Clarkson Stanfield, R.A., died

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

1868

Birth of Princess Victoria of Wales, July 6
The Queen publishes "Leaves from a Journal of Our Life in the Highlands"
Prince of Wales in Ireland
Disraeli becomes Prime Minister
Gladstone's resolution for Irish Church disestablishment carried
Attempt to murder the Duke of Edinburgh in Australia
Abyssinian Expedition
Spectroscope used during eclipse
Dynamite first experimented with
The last public execution, May 26
Lord Brougham, Samuel Lover, Milman, and Kean died

In this year Mr. Disraeli—he was made Lord Beaconsfield in 1876—became Prime Minister, succeeding Lord Derby, but he resigned in December. The successful conclusion of the Abyssinian Expedition was, however, the great event of the year. The expedition was led by Sir Robert Napier, who was made Lord Napier of Magdala for having, as Mr. Disraeli said, "planted the flag of Great Britain on the mountains of Rasselas." King Theodore of Abyssinia had imprisoned the British envoys in 1864, and after much futile negotiation a British army of 16,000 men was despatched in 1867. Magdala was stormed, and Theodore was found dead when it was taken, he having shot himself. The expedition cost the country £9,000,000.

In this year an Act was passed forbidding public executions and directing that all executions should take place within the walls of the prison in presence only of the officials. The Act further ordered that execution should take place "at 8 a.m. on the first Monday after the intervention of three Sundays from the day on which sentence is passed." The year was an important one to the Established Church and great activity characterised the various bodies of Nonconformists. The anti-ritual decision by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of Martin v. Mackonochie was of great importance. In the previous month (November) Dr. Tait became Archbishop of Canterbury, ascending the chair of St. Augustine on the death of Dr. Longley. Mr. George Peabody, the American philanthropist, still well remembered through his Peabody Buildings, gave a further £100,000 to the improvement of the mode of living of the London poor, making the total of his gifts £350,000. In June the Radicals were strongly supported by the Nonconformists in a renewed effort to bring Governor Eyre to trial for his measures against the blacks in Jamaica while quelling the rising of 1865

THE QUEEN

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. DISRAELI
Rival Politicians, by Sir John Tenniel in "Punch"

THE HISTORY OF THE YEAR 1868

LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA (1810–1890)
Leader of the Abyssinian Expedition

1869

Birth of Princess Maud of Wales, November 26
Prince Arthur in Ireland
Sir S. Baker sent to Equatorial Africa to suppress the slavers
Suez Canal opened, November 17
The Royal Academy removes to Burlington House
Thames Embankment, Westminster to Vauxhall, opened
Blackfriars Bridge opened by the Queen
Blackmore's "Lorna Doone" and Reade's "Foul Play" published
Alex. Dyce, Giulia Grisi, Thomas Creswick, R.A., and Dr. John Epps, died

FREDERICK GREENWOOD
Suggested journeys of the Suez Canal

The opening of the Suez Canal for vessels was the great event of 1869. It had cost altogether about £20,003,030. It connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, and thus affords a quicker route to India, China, and Australia. The scheme was due to the genius of Ferdinand de Lesseps, a French engineer. In 1875, acting on the suggestion of Mr. Frederick Greenwood, a distinguished journalist then editing the "Pall Mall Gazette," Lord Beaconsfield purchased the shares in the canal that were the property of the Khedive of Egypt for the sum of £3,976,582. The purchase not only gave Great Britain a preponderating influence in the canal but has proved a profitable financial speculation. In this year the Queen opened Blackfriars Bridge, thus making another splendid communication between the north and south of London. The Thames Embankment from Westminster Bridge to Vauxhall (on the south side of the river) was also opened. Both were great additions to the appearance and the internal communications of London. It was not until the following year that Sir J. Bazalgette's embankment design was fully completed. Many of London's public buildings were approaching completion at this time, and the next three years saw the formal opening of the London University buildings, Burlington Gardens, Sir Charles Barry's buildings at Dulwich College, the Albert Hall, designed by General Scott, St. Thomas's Hospital buildings, and the Bethnal Green Museum. Five sculptors were at this time busy working the Sicilian marble for the Albert Memorial, Hyde Park. The design for the memorial, an Eleanor cross with a spire 150 ft. high, had been passed by the Queen in 1863 and the work was commenced in 1864. The memorial was completed but for the statue of the Prince Consort in 1872. The completion of the gilt statue by Foley was delayed by the sculptor's illness and was not placed beneath the cross until 1872. It was unveiled on March 9 of that year

THE HISTORY OF THE YEAR 1869

THE QUEEN

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL
Begun 1864, completed 1872

1870

English travellers captured by Greek brigands, several murdered
War between Prussia and France, July 15
Battle of Sedan and fall of the Empire, September 1
The State acquires the telegraphs
London School Board first meeting
Huxley popularises the germ theory
Halfpenny postage for newspapers
Thames Embankment completed
Books by Dickens, Disraeli, Huxley, Newman, Reade, D. G. Rossetti, and Tyndall
Charles Dickens, Daniel Maclise, R.A., and Halle died

VICTOR HUGO (1802-1885)
Great author and opponent of the Second Empire

The year 1870 was a most momentous year in the history of Europe, for it was the year that saw the fearful conflict between Germany and France. War was declared on July 15, when it was discovered that the Germans had a well equipped army of 518,000 men as against the French badly equipped army of 270,000 men. A succession of defeats at Worth, Spicheren, and Gravelotte culminated in the surrender of Metz and the defeat of the Emperor and his surrender at Sedan in September. Meanwhile at Paris a Republic had been proclaimed with M. Thiers as first President. That winter saw the German armies encamped round Paris with their headquarters at Versailles. The unhappy city did not surrender until January of the following year, after a four months' investment. In March, 1871, peace was declared, France having to surrender Alsace and part of Lorraine and to pay 5,000,000,000 francs to Germany

THE RIGHT HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN
Elected Chairman of Birmingham Education League 40 this year. Photo by Russell

THE QUEEN

EMPRESS EUGENIE OF FRANCE
Escaped to England, September 9, 1870

A Reminiscence of the Queen's Childhood.

(BY HER GOVERNESS.)

The Baroness Lehzen, the Queen's governess, thus describes the environment of the Princess in her childhood, in Mrs. Oliphant's *Life*:—

"Our apartments," she said, "consisted of four rooms, the one room, the living room, the bed chamber, the dressing closet. I sleep with the Princess in one of the rooms which contains two beautiful large upholstered beds resembling small boiters. One maid waits on us both.

"The furniture in the rooms is mahogany with gilding, the sofas and beds are covered with pretty chintz, the floor with pretty carpets.

"I had been informed that the whole circle breakfasted at 8.30, but that the Duchess of Kent desired that we were myself on the following morning and breakfast alone. Notwithstanding this, I rose early [illegible] that the Duchess lived [illegible] that she was impatient to see me. She was standing

THE QUEEN AND HER INDIAN SECRETARY

at the breakfast table, and in a moment between [illegible] and forty, rather a tall, with brown hair and [illegible] eyes. Without being beautiful, she has an expression of extreme goodness. She said something about being [illegible] fatigued by my rapid journey, to which I replied that I had but consulted my own interests by so coming. She then gave me her hand, which I kissed, receiving in return a kiss upon my cheek.

"At breakfast we seated ourselves at a round table. Soon afterwards the Duke of Sussex arrived. The Duke speaks German with me, but the Duchess speaks French. The latter wishes me to converse in French with the Princess because my pronunciation pleases her; and really, for the most part, although I am associated with royalty I cannot call the treatment I receive other than friendly.

"At one o'clock luncheon is served; at six we dine. The company at table consists of the Duke of Sussex, the Duchess, the lady-in-waiting, the Princess, the domestic physician, and myself.

"The Duchess sings, draws and plays well. She is a most affectionate mother. I have requested permission to give the Princess lessons in French and Italian myself; in other subjects the most excellent painter, and musician will instruct her. As we did not go to church on Sunday morning the Duchess read a sermon aloud and commented on it pleasantly to her little daughter. The little Princess is a charming child and resembles the Princess Charlotte, as they say. After dinner we remain together till nine o'clock, when tea being over I retire with my Princess, who goes to bed, and I am then master myself."

OUR BELOVED QUEEN: THE LAST PORTRAIT

An Unfinished Picture by Solomon J. Solomon, A.R.A.

The Queen's State Palaces.

1871

The Queen opened Albert Hall
The Prince of Wales ill from typhoid fever, November 22
The Queen visits the Prince at Sandringham, Nov. 29, Dec. 8
The Queen and the Princess of Wales issue a letter of thanks to the nation for its sympathy for the Prince, December 26
Marriage of the Princess Louise to the Marquis of Lorne, Mar. 21
Colony of Griqualand founded
Small-pox prevalent in London
Diamonds discovered at Kimberley
T. W. Robertson, G. Grote, Paul Bedford, Sir George Hayter, and Sir John Herschel died

THE QUEEN

Frith, Reigate

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, LONDON, FROM ST. JAMES'S PARK

Frith, Reigate

WINDSOR CASTLE FROM THE RIVER

1872

The Queen attends the thanksgiving service at St. Paul's for the recovery of the Prince of Wales, February 27

Death of Princess Hohenlohe-Langenburg, Queen's half-sister

The Queen was assaulted by a boy of 17 named Arthur O'Connor

Lord Mayo, Governor of India, assassinated by a convict

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN 1872

THANKSGIVING FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE PRINCE OF WALES

H.R.H. was seized with typhoid fever in November, 1871, and had a most trying illness. A thanksgiving service was held in St. Paul's, February, 1872. This picture shows the procession in Ludgate Circus.

The "Challenger" deep-sea exploration expedition starts

Bethnal Green Museum opened

Briton Riviere's "Daniel in the Lion's Den" exhibited

Richard Westmacott, George Mason (painter), and Charles Lever, the novelist, died

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

HERBERT SPENCER

Published his "Principles of Psychology," 1870-2

1873

The Queen visited the Empress Eugenie at Chislehurst, Feb. 20

The Queen received the Shah of Persia at Windsor

The Sultan of Zanzibar agrees to abolish the slave trade

Ashanti expedition under Sir G. Wolseley

Wreck of the "Northfleet," emigrant ship, 300 lives lost

AN INCIDENT IN THE ASHANTI WAR

This was the camp-sign in which Lord Wolseley made his move

Wreck of the White Star liner "Atlantic," nearly 600 lives lost

Crookes discovers the radiometer

The Alexandra Palace and Owens College, Manchester, opened

Lord Lytton, J. S. Mill, Charles Knight, W. C. Macready, and Dr. Livingstone died

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

SIR RICHARD OWEN

Great Zoologist. Made K.C.B., 1883

THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM AT SOUTH KENSINGTON

To this year a testimonial was proposed to Sir Henry Cole for his services with regard to the new work

THE FIRST EARL OF LYTTON

Succeeded his father, the novelist, in 1873. Was portrayed by by G. F. Watts, R.A.

1874

Marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh and the Grand Duchess Marie at St. Petersburg

The Queen made a state journey through London, March 12

The Czar visited the Queen

Sir G. Wolseley enters Kumasi

The Tichborne perjury trial, which lasted 188 days, resulted in claimant being sentenced to 14 years' hard labour

Farrar's "Life of Christ," Hardy's "Far from the Madding Crowd," and Swinburne's "Bothwell," published

Irving as Hamlet at the Lyceum

Agnes Strickland, S. Dobell, B. W. Proctor, and J. H. Foley died

MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH TO PRINCESS MARIE OF RUSSIA AT THE WINTER PALACE ST. PETERSBURG, JANUARY 23, 1874

The Queen gave a party to her grandchildren at Windsor

The Queen visited Inverary Castle as the guest of the Duke of Argyll

The Prince of Wales visits India

Amendment of the labour laws

First cabman's shelter in London

Eighty-ton gun completed at Woolwich

Boyton crosses the Channel; Captain Webb swims across it

Ellen Terry appears as Portia

Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, Alfred Sievers, Frederick Walker, C. Kingsley, Bishop Thirlwall, Sir Charles Lyell, and Sir Charles Wheatstone died

1875

It was on January 23, 1874, that Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, and afterwards Duke of Coburg, made a great alliance by marrying the daughter of the Czar, the Grand Duchess Marie, and by a strange coincidence the bride of that day, the widow of to-day, was at the house of mourning at Osborne on the anniversary of her wedding day. The wedding took place in the chapel of the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg, the Prince of Wales, the Crown Prince Frederick, the Duke of Connaught, and the Duke of Coburg (whom the bridegroom was yet to succeed) being present

The Queen had first to mourn the death of Prince Alfred, the only son of the Duke of Edinburgh, and only last July she had to lament the passing away of her son. Such blows became familiar to the ageing Sovereign, but they never became less poignant, and there can be little doubt that their recurrence during the past year or two, ending with the death of her gallant grandson, Prince Christian Victor, told very heavily on the Queen.

ENTRY INTO KUMASI BY SIR GARNET WOLSELEY, FEBRUARY 4, 1874

1876

The Queen proclaimed in London as Empress of India, May 1
Parliament opened by the Queen in person, the first time for many years, February 8
The Prince of Wales returns from India
Disraeli becomes Lord Beaconsfield

1877

The Empress formally proclaimed Empress of India at Delhi, Jan. 1
The Queen received General Grant at Windsor, June 25
The Queen visited Lord Beaconsfield at Hughenden, Dec. 16
Russia declared war on Turkey

FULL-DRESS UNIFORMS OF THE HOME ARMY

THE QUEEN IN 1877

TYPES OF OUR INDIAN CAVALRY

PROCLAMATION OF THE QUEEN AS EMPRESS OF INDIA AT THE IMPERIAL DURBAR AT DELHI, JANUARY 1, 1877

Lord Lytton, the Viceroy, is seated on the dais. The chief herald standing on the steps is Major Burne. A group of heralds stand below him in the centre. The wife and daughter of the Viceroy stand behind him

1878

Death of Princess Alice of Hesse, December 9
The "Princess Alice" excursion steamer run down near Woolwich, 700 drowned
The "Eurydice" training ship capsizes, 300 boys drowned
The City of Glasgow Bank suspends payment
Tay Bridge completed
Cleopatra's Needle arrived
Electric light adopted in public buildings
Dr. Doran, G. H. Lewes, Whyte-Melville, George Cruickshank, Sir G. Scott, R.A., Sir F. Grant, P.R.A., Charles J. Mathews, and Samuel Phelps died

THE MASSACRE AT CABUL, SEPTEMBER 3, 1879

The massacre occurred on September 3. General Roberts, now Earl Roberts, rapidly advanced and entered the town with his victorious force on October 12

1879

Marriage of the Duke of Connaught to the Princess Louise of Prussia, March 13
Birth of the Queen's first great-grandchild, daughter of the Princess Charlotte of Saxe-Meiningen, May 12
The Prince Imperial killed in the Zulu War, June 1
The Queen visited the Empress Eugenie at Chislehurst, July 12
Defence of Rorke's Drift
Zulus routed at Ulundi
Destruction of the Tay Bridge
Dr. Newman created a cardinal
Professor W. K. Clifford, Sir A. Panizzi, E. M. Ward, R.A., and J. B. Buckstone died

1880

The Queen in person opened Parliament, February 5

The Queen was visited at Windsor by the Empress of Austria

The Queen was presented with the Order of the White Elephant

General Election; Gladstone again in power

Lord Ripon made Viceroy of India

THE SMALLS LIGHTHOUSE
Erected in [illegible]

THE FAMOUS MARCH OF GENERAL (NOW EARL) ROBERTS FROM CABUL TO KANDAHAR, AUGUST 9–31, 1880

This picture, by Chevalier Desanges, represents General Roberts crossing Zamburak Kotal. In the course of his famous march 313 miles were covered in twenty-three days—a record. By nursing his men at the finish he was enabled to rout Ayoub Khan on September 1, the day after his arrival at Kandahar. This completed the Afghan War, which cost the nation nearly £[illegible]

Sir Hercules Robinson made Governor of the Cape

Roberts's famous march from Cabul to Kandahar

The Transvaal Boers revolt

Swan's incandescent lamp invented

Old Temple Bar replaced by the Griffin

Guildhall School of Music opened

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

THE EDDYSTONE LIGHTHOUSE
Built in 1880-2

THE MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND PRINCESS LOUISE MARGARET OF PRUSSIA IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR, MARCH 13, 1879

The father of the bride, Prince Frederick Charles, is on her left. The Queen is seen standing a little to the left of him in the background

1881

The Queen reviewed 56,000 volunteers at Windsor

The Queen reviewed 40,000 volunteers at Edinburgh

The Queen was present at a dramatic performance for the first time in twenty years given by the Prince of Wales at Abergeldie

THE AGRARIAN OUTRAGES IN IRELAND
A view in Sackville Street, Dublin, showing the base of O'Connell's statue to the right

British troops defeated by the Boers at Laing's Nek and Majuba Hill

Peace made with the Boers

Czar Alexander II. assassinated

President Garfield assassinated

Population of England and Wales, 25,968,286; Scotland, 3,734,370; Ireland, 5,159,839

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

LORD LEIGHTON, P.R.A.
In 1881 he exhibited his "Idyll." Picture by Hollyer

THE GROWTH OF BRITISH SHIPBUILDING
The view represents the marine engines in the erecting shop at Clydebank, which covers an area of [illegible] acres

SIR JOHN MILLAIS
In 1881 he exhibited his "Cinderella." Picture by Russell

1882

The Queen erects a memorial "To the dear and honoured memory" of Lord Beaconsfield in Hughenden Church, Feb. 27
Marriage of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, and Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont, April 27
The Queen dedicated Epping Forest to the use of the people for all time, May 6
The Queen received Cetewayo
The new Law Courts were opened by the Queen, Dec. 4
Battle of Tel-el-Kebir
Murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke in Dublin
Koch's discovery of the bacillus tuberculosis
Darwin and D. G. Rossetti died

The Queen Reading.

THE QUEEN

W. and D. Downey, Ebury Street, S.W.

A thousand claims to reverence closed
In her as mother, wife, and queen.—*Tennyson*

THE DEFENCE OF RORKE'S DRIFT, ZULULAND, ON JANUARY 22, 1879

The painting of this famous British defence is by Lady Butler and hangs in the royal collection. The post was held by Lieut. Chard, R.E., and Lieut. Bromhead, both of whom are now dead, with eighty men of the 24th Regiment. Having heard of the disaster at Isandhlwana they hastily constructed defences of bags and biscuit-tins, and were almost immediately attacked by about 4,000 Zulus. During the night the enemy six times assaulted a foothold within the defences, and even burnt the hospital; but they were again and again repulsed at the bayonet's point. In the morning, when the little garrison was relieved, 351 Zulus lay dead around the entrenchments

1883

The Queen suffered considerably for some weeks through having slipped on a staircase at Windsor Castle, March
Hicks Pasha's army annihilated by Mahdi
Attempts to blow up public buildings
Dynamite conspiracy, headquarters at Birmingham
Parcel Post established
Price of telegrams reduced
Ben Nevis Observatory opened
Royal College of Music opened
J. R. Green, E. Fitzgerald, J. P. Collier, Captain Webb, Sir W. Siemens, and W. Spottiswoode, F.R.S., died

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL, WINDSOR, ON THE OCCASION OF THE FUNERAL OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CLARENCE, JANUARY, 1892

The Duke's coffin stands between the tomb of the Prince Consort at the further end and that of the Duke of Albany, who died in 1884, at this end of the chapel.

THE QUEEN

REPRESENTATIVE COINS OF THE QUEEN'S REIGN

1884

The Duke of Albany died
Princess Victoria of Hesse, granddaughter of the Queen, married at Darmstadt to Prince Louis of Battenberg, April 30
General Gordon sent to Khartoum
Osman Digna defeated by General Graham
Khartoum besieged by the Mahdi

ARABI PASHA

1885

Marriage of Prince Henry of Battenberg and Princess Beatrice
Prince and Princess of Wales in Ireland, April
Khartoum falls, death of Gordon, January 26
War threatened with Russia
Transvaal Republic suspends payment

The Queen and the Prince of Wales.

1886

The Queen opened her eleventh Parliament, January 21
Gladstone introduces a Home Rule Bill
Greece blockaded by great Powers
Disturbances among the crofters
Gold at Klimberley reported
Severn Tunnel formally opened

Cocaine, saccharine, antipyrin, urethane, lanoline, &c., used in English medicines
Books by F. Anstey, Miss Braddon, Marie Corelli, Froude, Stevenson, &c.
W. E. Forster, Samuel Morley, Randolph Caldecott, Sir H. Taylor, and Archbishop Trench, died

Green and Stuart, Richmond

Queen Alexandra

BORN DECEMBER 1, 1844. MARRIED MARCH 10, 1863.

Sea king's daughter from over the sea,
Alexandra!
Saxon and Norman and Dane are we,
But all of us Danes in our welcome of thee,
Alexandra!

King Edward VII.

BORN NOVEMBER 9, 1841. MARRIED MARCH 10, 1863.

The Prince of Wales has borne the titles of Duke of Saxony, Prince of Coburg and Gotha, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles, Earl of Chester, and Earl of Dublin

The Sphere, January 26th, 1901.

1887

The new Tay Bridge opened, June
Jubilee Day. Procession and service at Westminster Abbey, June 21, followed by Naval Review at Spithead on July 23, and a review of 60,000 men at Aldershot, July 9
The closure first becomes a standing order of the House of Commons
The "Times" publishes the first of the letters purporting to be written by Mr. Parnell, April 18
America Cup won by "Volunteer"
111 ton gun tried at Woolwich

THE FORTH BRIDGE
Begun 1883: opened 1890. Cost over £2,000,000

1890

The Queen writes to "General" Booth, wishing his "Darkest England" scheme success
Cecil Rhodes Prime Minister at the Cape
First electric railway in London opened, November 4
Pneumatic tyres for cycles adopted
The Shipping Federation constituted
Baring collapse saved by Bank of England
Tate pictures given to the nation
Cardinal Newman, Canon Liddon, Sir R. Burton, Dean Church, Archbishop Thomson, Sir Edgar Boehm, J. R. Herbert, R.A., and Sir Edwin Chadwick died

1888-9

Illness of the German Crown Prince, who is operated upon by Sir Morell Mackenzie, 1888
Charter granted to British East Africa Company, 1888
Cook Islands in Pacific taken under British protection, 1888
Bill introduced in Canadian Parliament for trade reciprocity with United States negatived after discussion lasting fifteen days, 1888
Hurricane at Samoa
Death of Mr. John Bright, March 27, 1889
Death of Wilkie Collins, Martin Tupper, and Robert Browning, 1889

THREE GENERATIONS AFLOAT
To the right is the Queen's steam yacht "Victoria and Albert"; in the middle the Prince of Wales's "Britannia," and to the left the Kaiser's "Meteor"

1891

The Queen attended first theatrical performance at Windsor since the death of the Prince Consort, "The Gondoliers," March 6
The Queen attended the christening of the daughter of the Duchess of Fife, June 29
Visit of the Emperor William II.
Birth of the Queen's fortieth grandchild, Prince Maurice of Battenberg, October 31
Free Education Bill passed
Revolts in China, massacre of Christians
Telephonic communication between London and Paris
H. C. Raikes, W. H. Smith, C. S. Parnell, Dr. Magee, Keene, and Madame Blavatsky died

The Queen towards the End of Her Glorious Reign.

This picture of Her Majesty was taken by Mr. Milne of Ballater last year. No one looking at this portrait can fail to be struck by the great personal dignity of the Queen

1892

Death of the Duke of Clarence, January 14
Zanzibar declared a free port
Great Western Railway abolishes broad gauge
Experimental Psychology Congress in London
A lake-village discovered at Glastonbury
Influenza virulent in London, Jan.
Durham miners' strike fails, 200,000 men, 90 days
"Sherlock Holmes," "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," "Barrack-room Ballads," "and David Grieve," published
Lord Tennyson, C. H. Spurgeon, Sir Morell Mackenzie, and Sir Richard Owen, died

SIR WILFRID LAURIER
Premier of Canada

THE MARRIAGE OF THE CZAR WITH THE QUEEN'S GRANDDAUGHTER, PRINCESS ALIX OF HESSE, NOVEMBER 25, 1894

THE QUEEN IN 1892

1893-4

The Queen opened the Imperial Institute, May 10
The Queen unveiled a statue of herself, the work of the Princess Louise, in Kensington Gardens
Marriage of the Duke of York and Princess Mary ("May")
Matabele War, Buluwayo burnt
Prof. Tyndall died
The Queen formally inaugurated the Manchester Ship Canal
Birth of Prince Edward of York
Marriage of the Czar Nicholas II. to the Queen's granddaughter, Princess Alix of Hesse, Nov.
Anti-toxin experiments for diphtheria
R. L. Stevenson died

1895-6

The King of Portugal visits the Queen, November
Birth of the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, November 15
Birth of Prince Albert of York, December 14
Chitral Expedition
Death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, January 20
Marriage of Princess Maud of Wales to Prince Charles of Denmark, July 22
On September 23 the Queen had reigned longer than any English Sovereign

The Queen at Breakfast

WITH PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG

THE QUEEN

HER MAJESTY AND THE CHILDREN OF HER YOUNGEST DAUGHTER, PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG

1897

The Diamond Jubilee of a Glorious Reign.

Queen celebrates the sixtieth anniversary of her reign
Benin Expedition
Greco-Turkish War
David Faraday Physical Laboratory at the Royal Institution opened
Nansen in England after his Polar expedition
Mr. Kruger demands £1,600,000 from British Government as damages for the Jameson Raid

The Queen celebrated the completion of the sixtieth year of her reign by proceeding to St. Paul's Cathedral (from Buckingham Palace) to return thanks to God. The feature of the occasion was the presence of troops from the ends of the Empire.

THE QUEEN IN 1897

THE NAVAL REVIEW AT SPITHEAD, JUNE 26

THE QUEEN RETURNING THANKS AT ST. PAUL'S, JUNE 22

1898

Four Generations.

Queen at Nice, March—April
Queen visits a circus at Balmoral
Queen presents colours to the Cameron Highlanders
Queen visits Netley Hospital
Queen's eldest great-granddaughter married
German Emperor visits Palestine
Austrian Empress assassinated
Mr. Gladstone dies
Prince Bismarck dies
Wei-Hai-Wei leased to us
Kitchener's Soudan Campaign
Spanish-American War
Professor Huxley dies

THE QUEEN IN 1898

THE QUEEN, THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE DUKE OF YORK, AND PRINCE EDWARD OF YORK (By Downey)

The Sphere, January 26th, 1901.

May all love,
His love, unseen but felt, o'ershadow thee,
The love of all thy sons encompass thee,
The love of all thy daughters cherish thee,
The love of all thy people comfort thee,
Till God's love set thee at His side again.

So wrote Tennyson many years ago in that beautiful address to Queen Victoria prefacing his *Idylls of the King: in Twelve Books*, and it is with a greatly pathetic sensation that one rewrites the words now at this time when the prophesy has been fulfilled, when the scroll has been folded, and when the great lady who has ruled this race so long has finally been entrusted with the solution of that secret which all of us shall one day solve.

When in the fifties Macaulay wrote that chapter of English history describing the state of our land two centuries and a half ago he, with the pride of modernity, proved to his countrymen the advance which they had made in every direction that makes for comfort. He was somewhat lacking in humour, for indeed he did not anticipate the fifty years to follow, nor could he have foreseen that those fifty years had enfolded in their fingers greater developments than his former centuries had produced; and yet it is a curious thing to remember that the same Queen was reigning then who has just passed from us. Let me take one and only one quotation, for it is necessary here to preserve the sense of proportion from his complaisant record. "Those," he wrote, "who now see the capital all the year round from dusk to dawn blazing with a splendour beside which the illuminations over La Hogue and Blenheim would have looked pale may perhaps smile to think of Heming's lanterns which glimmered feebly before one house in ten during the small part of one night in three. But such was not the feeling of his contemporaries. What, they are asked, were the boasted inventions of Archimedes when compared with the achievement of the man who had turned the nocturnal shades into noonday?"

There are probably very few men now living who were taking a civic part in the economy of the nation when Queen Victoria ascended the throne; and it is amazing to remember the number of events in which she has exercised a personal influence. The war with China sixty years ago is a mere historical event which found her three years a Queen. The Irish debates, the sugar duties, the Maynooth question, the Scottish Universities, theological tests, the Corn Laws, the question of the exclusion of judges from the House of Commons—these all seem to belong to the age of Pyramids; and yet the last item of this list occurred after she had been Queen for eighteen years. I give such slight details as these rather as an instructive commentary upon her contemporary connection with English history than as pointing any historical moral. The date at which I have stopped my record practically coincides with the memories of most middle-aged men of to-day, and it would be otiose to prolong a mere list of facts. In 1852 a great orator delivered an extraordinary speech in Glasgow which may well occupy a momentary attention here. "There is no lack of alarmists," said he, "who will tell you that this period is about to commence under evil auspices; but from me you must expect no such gloomy prognostications; I have heard them too long and too constantly to be scared by them. Ever since I began to make observations on the state of the country I have seen nothing but growth and heard nothing but decay. The more I contemplate our noble institutions the more convinced I am that they are sound at heart, that they have nothing of age but its dignity, and that their strength is still the strength of youth. I trust," said he, "to the year 1949. He, my successor, may speak to your successors in an edifice which will still be admired as a fine specimen of architecture which flourished in the days of the good Queen Victoria." Fifty years the race must flower and fade before the prophesy will be complete; but the fact of the prophesy, whatever incidental value it may have, comes back to one with somewhat of a pathos now when the days "of the good Queen Victoria" are over. The historian of the future will be able more unemotionally than ourselves to record what the influence, the temperament, the character and principle of the late Queen have meant to the country. But we can immediately challenge the comparison of what may be called the mere morality of England between the days of the early thirties and our own.

To so low an ebb had the sovereignty fallen then that it was the subject for jest in the mouth of every man in the street. With the accession of the late Queen a steady and definite improvement in every moral walk of life set in, as if this tendency were a boat moving upon a constant current, until the time came when morality was no longer a byword, and character came to be recognised as the thermometer of merit. My point is this: that this change, this alteration in the standard of things, has been entirely owing to the purity of the Court, which on another side has received its *cachet* entirely from the high and noble character of her who ruled that Court with no uncertain hand. When Sir Christopher Wren asked that the sole inscription over his tomb in St. Paul's should be that memorable phrase, "Si monumentum quæris, circumspice," he foreshadowed a greater epitaph which the Englishman to-day may write against the word "finis" to this chapter of the Victorian era. "If you would seek a monument, gaze upon the Empire." That has been the work of the Queen. It has been given to her to wield a power compared to which the power of the Cæsars may be held as slender. She has administered justice and law with a judicious liberality that would have shamed Justinian. She has ruled with benignity and dignity over the greatest Empire that the world has ever seen, and she has ruled it with a temperance that has only been equalled by one previous ruler in the world's history.

Here it is not to my purpose to make any historical comment upon the events of the late Queen's reign. When she ascended the throne Disraeli was on the tip-toe of his maiden speech; forty-four years later it was the Queen's own thought of sweetness which persuaded her to visit Hughenden and lay a wreath on her great Minister's coffin. I mention a fact like this not because in the least it is of any historical importance, but because it not only illustrates curiously and rather sadly the passage of time, but it also colours her character and the influence of time upon that character—more, it colours the thousand, thousand events which went between the two dates, and which emphasise the persistent integrity and honour that made her passage through life a high road of rectitude, of directness, and of unswerving principle. Of few people can you make such a chronicle as this: "Fifty years ago he met his friend; yesterday he set a chaplet on his friend's coffin." I mean this, that the fact of the great interval between the one act and the other is more than proof, it is the assurance of a nobility of character and of a magnificent persistence; it is a tale of unbroken rectitude which should rank in history among the noblest and finest records of sovereignty. You may say of Julius Cæsar that he transformed civilisation, that he created modernity; but you shall say of Queen Victoria that she preserved it. The comparison to me between those two historical figures (for alas! they are both now historical) is one which I make in all seriousness. Cæsar founded modern Europe; Cæsar founded the Imperial idea with a foreshadowing of things to come; Cæsar even touched hands with this island. All that which out of an inchoate mass Cæsar had foreseen it has been given to this generation of men to witness as fulfilled. Those mechanical appliances without which even the genius of a Cæsar could avail but little came to this age when we needed not a pioneer but a preserver, not an adventurous captain but a commander of level forces; and those glorious memories which make old Rome a shining and brilliant meteor have been fulfilled in the planetary greatness which has come to England under so discreet, so wise, so provident, so thoughtful, so conservative, so equipoised a ruler as till now the world has not yet witnessed.

Her Court was pure; her life serene;
God gave her peace; her land reposed;
A thousand claims to reverence closed
In her as Mother, Wife, and Queen.

And statesmen at her council met,
Who knew the seasons when to take
Occasion by the hand, and make
The bounds of freedom wider yet.

By shaping some august decree,
Which kept her throne unshaken still,
Broad-based upon her people's will,
And compass'd by the inviolate sea.

The poet who loved her wrote with how far finer a significance than that which inspires the halting pen of him who closes his appreciation with Tennyson's noble verses!

The Queen of all earthly queens,
A pattern to all princes,
The rarest of all women,
So good a lady

THE MOTHER-QUEEN

The Passing of Victoria

BORN, MAY 24th, 1819 - - - - DIED, JANUARY 22nd, 1901

SOLEMN, tremendous as the reverberation of thunder in high places or the whisper of remote storms heard afar off, came mournful tidings that the most glorious reign in British history has ended; that Victoria, for more than sixty years the worshipped Monarch of this people, has passed to her eternal rest. The element of personal emotion awakened by this stunning and bewildering, yet inevitable, circumstance, most truly indicates the wide-spread love and reverence entertained for her late Majesty in the hearts of high and low, of rich and poor, of the young who loved her Royal name, of the adult men and women of the time, and of the very old; for none of age under nearly three score years and ten can be said to have known another sovereign. Universal, therefore in a sense altogether unique, must be the extent of the sorrow awakened by this great exit. Long wished for, dearly loved by a race hopeful of her great promise ere yet she ascended to the throne, the late Monarch brought such endowments of intellect, self-control, patience and justice to her high vocation as had proved her notable in any calling, and her child's prayer, her youthful determination, when for the first time she learned her destiny, was nobly sustained through the changes and chances, the anxieties and sorrows, the storm and stress of one of the most astounding centuries, and one of the most brilliant chapters in the history of the land she ruled. Through unparalleled length of days Queen Victoria laboured and toiled without ceasing, and welcomed an existence beyond measure arduous if accepted with that high conscientiousness which marked her life. For her kingdom she lived, and its eternal claims and calls, its welfare at seasons of critical events, at times of dire need or threatened peril, found one great heart always quick with a responsive throb, one brilliant, subtle woman ever ready to wield her own power with wisdom and make choice amid the highest and wisest for the rightful guardians of her nation. In Great Britain's prosperity she rejoiced, its tribulations she was the first to feel, the first to share; and that marvellous edifice of natural wisdom reared through great length of years, rich in experience of the past, ripe in theory and practice, full stored with the statesmanship of greater men than are strutting their hour to-day, was ever at the service of the State and of these Ministers whom chance and the accident of politics called to the helm of successive Administrations. She reigned in very truth from the day of her accession to that of her death, and to the end maintained vital touch with all problems and questions that affected the welfare of her country. Work she never flinched from, for her lofty ideals demanded unceasing, eternal labour; and so it happens that her foremost Ministers have ever been first to own her power. From the lips of her greatest subjects—and 'tis only the great who can presume to criticise the great—eloquent and noble testimonies to the Queen's fine qualities as a remarkable monarch have been forthcoming. "There is no person living," said Lord Beaconsfield, "who has such complete control over the political condition of England as the sovereign herself."

More than sixty years of such progress as the world has never before seen leave the dawn of Victoria's reign a thing remote in history, buried deeply in the far past; and two generations of her subjects and servants on land and sea have been gathered to their fathers since she ascended the throne. But year by year the magnificent story has unfolded, and every page of it already possesses a hundred chroniclers. Many skilled hands have presented the fair monument of a noble life as it rose and increased and waxed stupendous—pinnacle on pinnacle—to the dizzy splendour of its completion. The priceless record of the facts is the possession of all men; but a singer or a seer, hid in the time to come, will make of them an epic or glorious page of history. The germ of a sublime composition waits; the child may be born who will write the imperishable page; but the time is not yet.

And now all is finished; the great bell of St. Paul's has bellowed his message, and that world on which the sun sets not is plunged into such real grief as rarely saddens human hearts when kings depart. The good Queen of England—the very Mother of England—is dead and gone; and where are British eyes that will not for a while grow dim when they think of what those words mean? Monarchy is a live force still in this country, as it must be to the limits of mundane time while such monarchs head our Constitution. A noble, regal woman, alive to the tremendous necessities of her destiny, courageous to face them, never terrified by the growing severity of her duties, never daunted by the overpowering spectacle of her nation enlarging its borders through the confines of the rolling world. She was a Queen by instinct, trained to the purple from her cradle, faced with the solemn certainty as a little, laughing girl. Yet, apart from the public atmosphere of the throne and the need for sustained pomp and state, that the ceremonially might perceive a Court, her life was of a sort most austere and simple. She loved the frugality, the humility, necessary and proper to the greater number of her subjects, and her own existence, separated from the circumstances of sovereignty, has been lived by thousands of British women. It was essentially a British life. Pure in heart, simple in taste, most cultured in understanding, loving all that was cleanly and of good repute, and chosing for her solace and refreshment those things made of God rather than the pomps and pageants of men and the glory of His cities, she passed her days. This love of a monarch for Nature is very beautiful and very rare. Away from the turmoil and the roar of cities she chose to spend the greater part of her life, and there removed from the necessary exactions and distractions of Court, her Majesty toiled the harder and worked ceaselessly at the head of the State that her kingdom might be the happier.

Her private life, we say, was the life of many women. Queen Victoria enjoyed full share of joy in youth, suffered life's familiar sorrows with advancing years, lived far beyond the allotted span, and so in the winter of her amazing existence found herself well-nigh alone, lived to see all who had made the first music and sunshine of her early years pass away. The common experiences and incidents of humanity were hers. She loved and wedded where she loved—one who even as the Queen herself will only be judged justly and proclaimed colossal in time to come. She pressed her babies to her bosom; she shed a widow's bitter tears when the strong, loving arm that had become the best part of her life was snatched suddenly away. As wife, as mother, as one bereft of husband and of loved children, she has shared and known the griefs of all women, and the sure hands of sorrow have, through the years now closed, drawn the dead Queen close to the sad and lonely.

Of vast sympathies, the sufferings of her people were at all times her own sufferings; the crying of the hungry and desolate was mournful to her ears; the death of her soldiers and sailors an enduring grief. Infinite pity for the sorrowful marked her nature, and the furnace fire of tribulation with which Fate tried her own great heart acted, as it is prone to do, on noble natures, and begot in the Mother-Queen a wide, beautiful commiseration with all men and women labouring under the shadow of sorrow. In times of disaster or sudden tribulation it was ever the Queen's sympathy that flashed to broken hearts the first; and in the years of fatness and prosperity, when the future seemed more than common hopeful and the welfare of the nation stood high among the kingdoms, hers was the highest joy, the deepest daily thanksgiving to Heaven. Her sex has done well to love Queen Victoria, for she shone at the head of it a woman beyond measure endowed, of lofty reason, inspired with gifts varied, rich, proper to the sovereign of a great people; one humbly pious and mightily exalted in spirit from her childhood.

And now she has passed to her reward, leaving the world enriched with precious memories of a life's work most nobly carried to completion. The heart that beat but for the empire will beat no more; and our own hearts droop as our flag droops desolate in all quarters of the globe.

At the time of her Majesty's accession Sydney Smith, preaching in St. Paul's Cathedral, and taking for the text of his discourse "The Duties of a Queen," uttered these remarkable words—remarkable to-day in that they are literally prophetic, and foretell with a complete and comprehensive accuracy the nature of that golden reign then about to be inaugurated. Thus the Dean:—

"What limits to the glory and happiness of our native land if the Creator should, in His mercy, have placed in the heart of this royal woman the rudiments of wisdom and of mercy; and if, giving them time to expand, and to bless our children's children with her goodness, He should grant her a long sojourning upon earth, and leave her to reign over us till she is well stricken in years! What glory! What happiness! What joy! What bounty of God! I, of course, can only expect to see the beginning of such a splendid period; but when I do see it I shall exclaim with the pious Simeon, 'Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.'"

An extraordinary prediction and forecast is this of the stupendous story now completed; and the notable cleric who uttered it may be said in those words to have summed up the nation's hopes and yearnings. For once, indeed, it pleased Providence to grant an universal prayer, to gratify the human petition of an entire kingdom, and send such a ruler as only the light of years to come should fully reveal. For, in truth, we of to-day live too near our loved and reverenced monarch to judge in any sort of the significance of her life. Not the ablest and most erudite; not those best skilled in historic science and the great laws which govern progress can estimate or value the spectacle of their own time, of Queen Victoria's life. For other brains and other pens must be the giant's task of recording the greatest and longest reign in British history. Dwarfed a little, reduced to its true relations and proper force by the sure perspective of Time, the history of these our days will find a writer worthy of it in the future; but for this generation no adequate conception of the time is possible. That it has been inconceivably great would seem a fact beyond question; that the history of the nineteenth century, which, so far as the United Kingdom is concerned, must also be a history of the Victorian era, presents a unique phenomenon, all must concede; but the full sweep, scope, and significance of it can only be estimated by our children's children.

For us the present loss swallows all else. We stand saddened immeasurably, and, at the same time, astounded in the midst of our sorrow to perceive, as each day more surely teaches us, how the Queen was knit into the very fabric of our lives, a part of the order of things into which we were born and by which we have lived. It is a dislocation of the very routine of life, order of thought, procedure of public prayer. We had ceased to think of this august woman as one of like mould to ourselves; she was rather the crowning glory of our land, a part of the fabric of the institution of the United Kingdom. Panegyric and encomium are alike vain at such a moment. Human praise, even in the highest sort, sinks almost to impertinence before the shadow of this death; and he is not wise who with puny pipe first breaks a nation's solemn and heart-stricken silence. Posterity will tell the golden story; for us, who have seen it and lived in the glory of it, our grief is of the sort that is great and dumb. Presuming, therefore, to no petty sentiment or comment upon the stupendous spectacle of our dear Queen's dissolution, we mourn with our whole heart and are still.

THE LAST HOURS OF QUEEN VICTORIA

PEACEFULLY, solemnly, majestically Britain's greatest Sovereign has passed to her well-earned rest. No end more fitting could be conceived for that calm grand life of tireless exertion in her people's behalf. Up to within a few days of the end her late Majesty had been discharging with her invariable regularity and punctuality all the various duties of sovereignty from which she had never flinched. For more than three score years and three she had never had one single day's rest from the routine of work that belonged to her high station. During the past few years her advancing age and the heavy load of sorrows which she had so nobly and so patiently borne had begun to tell on her. She had grown gradually more feeble physically, more visibly aged: her sight had become seriously impaired, so that reading was beyond her powers; for some years past she had been unable to walk unaided, and even with assistance a few paces was the utmost limit of her capacity. But mentally she was, until a little more than a week ago, as vigorous and as active as ever. With the rare spirit that characterised her throughout her life, she never for one moment allowed her physical failings to hinder or hamper her in the execution of those tasks that she held it to be her duty to perform. She had a keen appreciative grasp on all the affairs of the day, and displayed up to within a few days of her death all those rare traits of statesmanship and tact which shed so rich a lustre on her entire reign. Almost the last instance of these gifts was her honouring of the Commander-in-Chief last interview with whom, on Monday, January 14th, were seen the first signs of the rapidly-approaching end. During the course of the audience she granted Lord Roberts on that day it was noticed in astonishment and alarm that she had not her ordinary command over her memory, and that she was obviously suffering from some form of, as it was hoped, temporary aphasia. No publicity was, for obvious reasons, given to the fact, even when on Tuesday there were more decided symptoms of mental trouble. On Wednesday complete rest was considered necessary, and as the disease was now definitely marked and clearly recognised as incipient paralysis of the brain, no *Court Circular* was issued for Thursday, because it was felt impossible to publish one without reference to her indisposition, and at the same time it was not desired to alarm the public about what might prove to be a merely passing affliction. The rapid deterioration in her Majesty's condition on Friday first aroused the Court to the seriousness of the disease, and it was felt necessary to prepare the public by issuing an official statement. Concurrently with the rapid strides made by the brain trouble came a sudden decline in her Majesty's physical condition. The irregularity of the circulatory system of the brain was but a part of the general decay; a general weakness, accompanied by repeated attacks of fainting and long periods of semi-coma, supervened and lasted all through the Friday, and on that day the illustrious patient was in an almost continuous state of physical and mental collapse. Not until late on Friday night the serious nature of the malady was recognised. Then the members of the Royal Family, who had been kept constantly informed of the progress of her illness, were warned that fears of the worst were entertained, and on Saturday they received an even more decided message. It was as a result of this second and urgent telegram that the public received its first serious intimation of the gravity of her Majesty's state. The German Emperor immediately countermanded all the celebrations arranged in connection with the bi-centenary of the founding of the Kingdom of Prussia, and prepared to hurry to the bedside of his grandmother. Simultaneously the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Argyll started for Osborne, and were immediately followed by the Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family. On Saturday all doubt as to the view taken by her Majesty's physicians was removed by the issue of an alarming bulletin, and thereafter the world waited and watched with breathless anxiety the gradual sinking of her whom it is no mere form of speech to style the greatest Queen in history.

THE LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE OF HER MAJESTY
Taken during her visit to the Irish Exhibition at the Town Hall, Windsor
From a photo by Newman, Windsor

THE QUEEN SETTING OUT FOR A DRIVE IN HER DONKEY CARRIAGE

QUEEN VICTORIA: AN APPRECIATION

IN Lord Bacon's remarkable but little-known essay on "The Character of Queen Elizabeth," there are several sentences which apply as aptly to Queen Victoria as to her predecessor.

"Every Age," says the essayist, "has looked upon a Female Government as a Rarity; if prosperous as a Wonder; but if prosperous and long, almost as a Miracle." He proceeds, "To have all things move and be directed by a Woman's Nod in England, a Nation so fierce and warlike,—this, I say, justly raises our highest admiration." In considering Queen Elizabeth's happiness, Lord Bacon says that "she was not only very happy in her own Person, but likewise in the Worthiness of her Ministers of State. For she made choice of such men as this Island, perhaps, was never so happy in before. But God that favours Kings raises them up Ministers and adorns their Minds."

Certainly, Queen Victoria was fortunate in a succession of wise advisers; but the nation was even more fortunate in having her as Permanent Minister. Apart from her remarkable personal character, we must, therefore, consider Queen Victoria as a great ruler.

A CLEVER POLITICIAN

By this time the public will understand how far-sighted and intelligent a politician the Queen was. Lord Salisbury, who had ample opportunity of gauging the Queen's capacity for understanding foreign affairs, once said in the House of Lords: "When I was young, it was the fashion to treat the sovereignty of the Queen as nominal, and the share which she took in public business as unreal. I hear less of that language now, and I speak in an assembly where men could join with me in saying that no one could so describe the working of our institutions, without an entire ignorance of the real method of their operation. The powers of the sovereign are great, the responsibilities are enormous. That we have passed through a period of so much triumph and arrived at the height of so much greatness, is largely due to the moderating, the self-controlling influence of the Queen, from whom, legally, all power flows." To which emphatic statement one may add the remark made by Lord Kimberley, who said: "We have never had a sovereign at all events, in times that any of us can well remember—so capable of aiding her Ministers with wise and prudent counsel." Another tribute to the Queen's astuteness and knowledge of politics may be gleaned from the fact that Prince Bismarck entertained the profoundest dislike for her Majesty, owing to her complete understanding of the various moves which he was making or meditating on the political chess-board. Again and again Bismarck was thwarted, thanks to the Queen's ability to see through his apparently harmless combinations.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES
Photo by Lafayette

THE PRINCE OF WALES
From a recent photo by John Fergus, Largs

THE QUEEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

When Sydney Smith, that witty and wise Canon of St. Paul's, preached in the Cathedral at the time of the Queen's accession, he adjured her Majesty thus: "Say upon your deathbed—I have made few orphans in my reign. I have made few widows. My object has been peace. I have used all the weight of my character and all the power of my situation to check the irascible passions of mankind, and to turn them to the arts of honest industry." In reflecting upon the long and wonderful reign which has now concluded, one may say that Queen Victoria more than fulfilled all the brightest hopes which were cherished by all who wished her well. She will be remembered as the best-loved sovereign of this or any other century.

HER GOOD HEALTH

The Queen fortunately required very little medical attendance during her long life. For thirty-six years Sir William Jenner was her Physician-in-Ordinary, and although he was continually seeing his Royal patient, he had very little cause for anxiety, owing to the Queen's remarkable health. It is curious to remember how Sir William Jenner gained his position. It seems that he had been assisting Sir James Clark, and when the latter retired the choice of his successor lay between Parkes, Baly, and Jenner. Dr. Parkes declined the appointment, owing to the amount of travelling which it would involve, and so Dr. Baly was made Physician-in-Ordinary to the Queen. Very soon afterwards Dr. Jenner was summoned to Guildford to see a child who was ill with diphtheria, and, as he was unable to attend, he asked Dr. Baly to go. An accident happened to the railway train conveying the latter, with the result that he was killed; so that the appointment of Physician-in-Ordinary came to Jenner very speedily. He thoroughly understood the Queen, and her dislike of being dosed with medicine. He was quite at one with her in the opinion that their was nothing like plenty of open-air exercise to keep a person in good health. Perhaps the eminent doctor's brusqueness of manner also made him a favourite with his patient, for it was rather refreshing to her Majesty to meet with a man who had nothing of a courtier's subservicncy.

HER SENSE OF IRONY

The Queen could be very sarcastic when she wished to reprove anyone who seemed to presume on her Royal prerogative. There is a story told of a lady-in-waiting, who thoughtlessly remarked one day to the Queen during a drive: "I see they have made some more peers." The Queen replied, interrogatively, with an irony which could hardly be equalled, "*They* have made?" Any reader of the dispatches to which her Majesty informed Lord Palmerston of the methods which she wished him to employ as Foreign Secretary, in submitting to her any important documents and obtaining her consent, well understand how authoritative her Majesty could be when she desired. A certain living statesman will never forget an interview with the Queen, in which he was sternly reproved for taking an important step without any previous consultation with her Majesty, who throughout her reign was wisely determined to uphold the position of having the last word to say on every great question of policy.

THE OUTSTANDING QUALITY

Amid all the qualities of which the Queen's interesting personality was composed, one must be mentioned as dominating and colouring the rest. This was her consistency. What her Majesty did, said, and thought at the age of thirty was very much like what she did, said, and thought at the age of eighty. The weight of years only added to her sense of responsibility: her seriousness was never lessened by the comparative ease which enabled her to perform State duties, once so anxious and onerous in the early days of her reign. The Queen never limited her horizon of power; at the same time she never exaggerated her own personal importance save as the channel of authority.

HER GRACIOUSNESS

The Queen always distinguished herself by gracious consideration of others. Knowing full well how nervous many people are on their first entrance into the Royal presence, she set herself to put such visitors completely at their ease by her natural and kindly consideration. Brave soldiers, who would be undaunted by the horrors of battle, used to tremble at the mere thought of dining with the Queen. But when they found how amiable and gentle their Sovereign was, all fright vanished, and they freely enjoyed the occasion. Lady Bloomfield, writing about a musical evening at Windsor, said: "I enjoy nothing so much as seeing the Queen in that nice, quiet way; and I often wish that those who don't know her Majesty could see how kind and generous she is when she is perfectly at her ease, and able to throw off the restraint and form which must and ought to be observed when she is in public." All the ladies who have been in close attendance on the Queen would echo such a sentiment.

Considering the very large variety of guests of all classes whom the Queen entertained, it is all the more striking to hear the unanimity of delight which her Majesty's geniality left upon them. Her natural dignity carried her through every difficult task in public duties. As the great Peel once said, speaking of the Queen's manner: "There is something which art cannot make, and which lessons cannot teach; there was that in her demeanour which could only be suggested by a high and generous nature." And the old Duke of Wellington's words, in connection with the Queen's behaviour during a solemn function in the early part of her reign, have a homely truth which adds to their effect: "Had she been my own daughter, I could not have wished to see her play her part better." Although tens of thousands of eyes were fixed upon the Queen on such occasions, she managed to evade all appearance of nervousness, and her own unconsciousness heightened the effect.

It is interesting to recall the impression which she left upon Sir David Wilkie, when she was giving him sittings for the historic picture of her first Privy Council. The celebrated artist wrote: "She appoints me a sitting once in two days and she never puts me off. Her Majesty is an elegant person, seems to lose nothing of her authority, either by her youth or delicacy; is approached with the same awe, and obeyed with the same promptitude, as the most commanding of her predecessors." Other painters have found the Queen just as admirable a sitter, and they have left on record high tributes to her good nature in responding to every suggestion which they made. Her own interest and skill in painting helped her to appreciate the talent of others. Any picture which attracted public attention was certain to be exhibited before the Queen, and no one was more warm-hearted in praise than she.

HER APPRECIATION OF HUMOUR

The Queen had a keen sense of humour, and her hearty laugh was a welcome incident in many a subject's interview with his Sovereign. She was quick to see a joke, whether intended or not, and greatly appreciated any story which eminent travellers brought home from abroad. Once, when a young lady was paying a visit to the Queen, preliminary to her being chosen as a maid-of-honour, she was asked to sing, for her Majesty was very particular in desiring her maids-of-honour to be thoroughly musical. After the performance, in which the singer did her best to control her natural nervousness, the Queen turned to the young lady's mother with the remark: "I notice your daughter does not shake," using the word "shake" in the musical sense. The mother responded: "Madame, my daughter is shaking all over!" at which the Queen laughed most good-humouredly. It may be interesting to add that the young lady was selected to fill the important post of maid-of-honour. Speaking once of a well-known politician whose vagaries had become notorious, the Queen said: "I stroked his head when he was a little lad. I think I must have stroked it the wrong way!"

THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF YORK'S FAMILY
Photo by Hills, Sheppa

HER FORETHOUGHT FOR OTHERS

A quality in the Queen's character which deserves attention is her forethought for others. Personages in high positions, such as she occupied, must be much tempted to forget the dangers and sufferings which befall those in a humble sphere of life. But Queen Victoria had a tender heart for the poor and needy, as we have shown, and even with regard to the dangers of railway travelling, she was concerned on behalf of the millions who did not enjoy the special precautions which were always taken for her own safety. A series of railway accidents had occurred in 1864, and the Queen was so moved thereby, that she directed her secretary, Sir C. Phipps, to write to the directors of various railway companies. This letter, which is instinct with feeling for other people's safety, concluded:—"It is not for her own safety that her Majesty has wished to provide in these calling attention to the late disasters. The Queen is aware that when she travels extraordinary precautions are taken, but it is on account of her family, of those travelling upon her service, and of her people generally, that she expresses the hope that the same security may be ensured for all as to so tutefully provided for herself."

HER REGARD FOR THE SUFFERING

It is interesting to remember what valuable influence the Queen always exerted in the way of protecting dumb creatures from cruelty. It is said that the Queen, after reading Charles Kingsley's volume, *Water Babies*, in which reference was made to the sufferings of the climbing chimney-sweeps, summoned the Home Secretary to her presence, with the result that legislation was soon initiated with a view to making illegal the miseries which had hitherto been allowed to exist. During the Queen's reign great advance has been made in the cause of philanthropy, and much of this progress is due to her initiative.

Before Queen Victoria came to the throne, a British Sovereign had rarely if ever shown personal interest in the sick. From the earliest days of her reign the Queen showed particular sympathy with inmates of hospitals. Where she led the way, it was not surprising that Society followed, until it has become a common custom for the highest in the land to show their sense of the "brotherhood of suffering" by personal thought for the sick and dying. All her daughters have given a large share of their time to the visitation of hospitals and to the promotion of philanthropic efforts on behalf of the needy. Swiftly to many an afflicted home has come a message from the Queen, of inquiry, or of condolence, and the whole nation has again and again been impressed by her Majesty's ready and heartfelt words on occasions of terrible disasters on sea or on land.

THE QUEEN VISITING THE SOLDIERS WHO WERE WOUNDED AT THE BATTLE OF OMDURMAN, IN NETLEY HOSPITAL, DECEMBER, 1898

Drawn by Chas. H. Sheldon

HER INTEREST IN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

The Queen was always most deeply interested in the Army and Navy. When she was in the eighteenth year of her age she took the trouble to visit Netley Hospital three times, for the purpose of seeing the sick and wounded soldiers who had returned from India and Egypt. The scene presented a pathetic spectacle as the Queen passed from ward to ward, being wheeled up to many a bedside in her chair. She inquired their ages, the extent of their injuries, and where they met with them. Her Majesty made a point of seeing Corporal Grey, of the 11th Hussars, who was quite the doyen of Netley, having been there for three years. On the wind-swept near the afflicted soldier were his Christmas cards, and prominent among them a portrait of the Queen. "I hope you will soon be better," said her Majesty; "I am very, very sorry for you," and as she passed from the poor fellow's presence there were tears glistening in her sympathetic eyes. No one can calculate how the Queen's regard for the Services added to the enthusiasm with which her men regarded her when in the smoke of battle and the midst of danger. Miss Weston, during her visit to her Majesty, related to her a little incident which much moved the Queen. A sailor had inquired whether the Queen's cabin at the Devonport Sailors' Rest was really given by the Queen out of her private purse. On being told that this was the case, the sailor said, "I never would have believed it unless I had seen it. She has always been my Queen; now she is my friend."

Nor was this Royal sympathy confined to verbal expression. The Queen employed a large portion of her scanty leisure in needlework or the making of quilts for hospitals. She had little idea how the mere thought that their Sovereign had shown so practical an interest in them lightened the long weary hours of many sufferers. The Queen's gifts were treasured as almost sacred relics, and to be honoured with one of them was a lifelong satisfaction.

Any benevolent work on behalf of soldiers or sailors was the subject of her Majesty's best wishes. All reports of heroism were carefully laid before the Queen, and when any men were decorated it was usually the case that her Majesty was fully aware of the circumstances under which each gallant deed had been accomplished.

EASILY ENTERTAINED

The Queen was from her childhood a most appreciative listener and spectator, as all those who had the honour of appearing before her will testify. Before the death of the Prince Consort, she was fond of going to the theatre, and in later years the theatre came to her occasionally, in the shape of private theatricals by famous actors and actresses, under the Queen's own roof. A very uncomfortable incident once occurred during a visit paid by the young Queen to the theatre, prior to her marriage. It had been rumoured that the Queen was about to bestow her hand in marriage upon Prince Albert, and, as little was known of him by the general public, there was a good deal of unkind gossip. It happened that the Queen was present at the first performance of *The Lady of Lyons*, at Covent Garden Theatre—when, by the way, Miss Helen Faucit (afterwards Lady Martin) played the rôle of Pauline. Most unfortunately, it happened that during the play Pauline's mother had to remark that perhaps her daughter would "Marry a foreign prince." Immediately the crowded house took up the phrase, and there was uproar for fully ten minutes, and many eyes were directed towards the embarrassed Queen in the royal box. Worse still, after silence had at last been obtained, these words came from an actor, "Foreign prince, indeed! Foreign fiddlestick!" Despite the misery of the whole business, the Queen showed hardly a sign of emotion, even though the whole house applauded the contemptuous expressions. As the play proceeded the excitement was allayed, but probably the Queen never forgot the incident.

She was a capital critic of acting and singing, and in her *Leaves from the Highlands* there are several allusions to the drama and to music. For instance, she sums up the charm of Jenny Lind very aptly in the words: "Her acting alone is worth going to see, and the *piano* way she has of singing, Lablache says, is unlike anything he has ever heard . . . There is a purity in her singing and acting which is quite indescribable." Before her, in her long life, all the great entertainers appeared, and were honoured with marks of the Queen's approval. One great singer has recorded that her nervousness at singing before the Queen was immediately calmed by the motherly consideration which her Majesty showed to her. In many a home there are mementos of visits to Osborne, Windsor, or Balmoral, treasured by their owners, because of the happy circumstances under which they were presented.

When the birthday of any of her great-grandchildren had to be celebrated, the Queen would often requisition the attendance of a conjuror or of some performing animals, and no one seemed to enjoy the programme more heartily than her Majesty. She had her carriage not many years ago taken right inside the great tent of Sanger's Circus, and stayed for two hours enjoying the performance. Music was always a delight to her, and we have Mendelssohn's authority for saying that she had admirable gifts as a performer, both vocally and instrumentally. All the selections for any great State ceremony were submitted to her Majesty, and she often made very happy suggestions for the programme. The pianoforte was always a source of great pleasure to her; and her Ladies-in-Waiting were usually expert players. Princess Christian is an especially fine performer, and gave the Queen many a delightful hour of music.

HER POPULARITY

Of Queen Victoria it might be said, as was said of Marcus Aurelius: "It was hard to judge whether the people most delighted in having such a ruler or the ruler in having such a people." After the early years of the Queen's reign, with their unsettlement due to European complications, the uprising of the Chartist movement, and other causes, her Majesty became the most popular woman in the United Kingdom. She retained this warm and universal affection to the last year of her life; not by reason of any concessions to public opinion—for she was most conservative in her adherence to the old paths—but by maintaining her exalted position with dignity and power. She had a voice in affairs when it was least suspected by her subjects, and the initiation of more than one important policy was due to the Queen's continued activity after she had long passed her seventieth birthday. Some critics used to complain of the Queen's absence from the metropolis; but possibly if she had lived in London for the greater part of the year there would not have been the same enthusiastic reverence which was always accorded to her on her rare but regular visits. Familiarity, even with Royalty, is liable to breed contempt.

HER SINCERITY

In an age which has earned the title of insincere, the Queen's sincerity was all the more remarkable. She hated untruth, whether it was diplomatic or otherwise. John Bright described her as the most absolutely truthful person he had ever met, and this was no isolated tribute. All those who served her knew that the only thing the Queen would not pardon was untruth. She preferred brusquerie to a polished deceit, and inculcated this love of straightforwardness in all her family and their descendants.

HER TACT

The Queen's knowledge of the world enabled her to gauge very accurately many slight though important points, which had a bearing on questions of diplomacy. This knowledge one terms "tact," for want of a better word. As an example of this one may recall her Majesty's instant appreciation of the error made by some of her officials in their treatment of the House of Commons, when it came to pay respect to the Sovereign on the occasion of her Jubilee in 1887. Nothing could have been in better taste, or more likely to soothe the ruffled feelings of the irate M.P.'s, than the Queen's special invitation to a garden party, which proved one of the most enjoyable affairs of the whole Jubilee celebrations. Another instance of the Queen's tact was given in her study of Hindustani, which gave delight to millions of her Indian subjects.

When she entertained foreign potentates her graceful compliments were always pervaded by tact, such as when receiving the President of Costa Rica in 1899, she managed to use two or three Spanish phrases. Some may consider these points unimportant, but when it is remembered how sensitive are the susceptibilities of foreigners it will be realised how valuable was the Queen's natural and sympathetic regard for their feelings. The happy choice of phrases which were employed in the *Court Circular* had better results than the lengthy speeches of politicians.

THE QUEEN'S EARLY POLITICAL GUIDES

VISCOUNT MELBOURNE
Prime Minister at the Accession

BARON VON STOCKMAR
Confidential Adviser to Prince Consort

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS
Uncle to the Queen

SIR ROBERT PEEL
Prime Minister in 1834 and 1841

DUKE OF WELLINGTON
Commander-in-Chief

THE QUEEN'S FIRST COUNCIL.

From the famous painting by Sir David Wilkie, in the Royal Collection. As a matter of historic accuracy the Queen was dressed in deep mourning, although the artist has relieved her in white to brighten the effect of the picture.

KINDNESS OF HEART

An instance of the Queen's ready tact in overcoming a blunder in good taste was afforded once when a nobleman was dining with her Majesty. He happened to be a total abstainer, and was rallied by one of the guests who turned to the Queen and said: "Madame, here is Lord —— who declines to take wine at your Majesty's table." The Queen replied, "There is no compulsion at my table." Other stories could be recalled which show how quickly the Queen smoothed over the "rough places" in conversation. All this ability proceeded from her innate spirit of kindness which was always on the outlook for giving other people pleasure.

One of her Majesty's servants who had been in close attendance for some time asked the Queen's consent to her marriage. This was withheld for a time, but at last given. When the girl came into her Majesty's presence for the last time the Queen placed on her wrist a bracelet, locking it herself. She said: "You will still be my servant, for I shall be the only one who can release you with this key." It was a tiny incident, but it was just one of those things which give a life-long gratification.

FOND OF READING AND WRITING

The Queen was a great reader, and enjoyed hearing a book of travel or biography read aloud to her. A special member of the suite was chosen for the post of Reader, and many years ago the office was held by the eminent actress, Lady Barnard, before she decided on entering the dramatic profession. The chief items of news were each day selected and read to the Queen, and any important State document as well.

Then the Queen's enormous correspondence had to be begun. Many letters had to be answered by her Majesty alone. Some from important personages, Governors-General, Ambassadors, and others could be delegated to the Private Secretary. A very large private correspondence was always maintained by the Queen with her numerous relatives all over Europe. She enjoyed receiving letters from the youngest of her many descendants, and treasured the juvenile epistles with loving care. All anniversaries of births, marriages, and other events were remembered punctiliously; and many a kindly greeting came in the Queen's own handwriting to various distinguished subjects.

QUEEN'S CORONATION STOOL.

Photo by H. C. Shelley

HER GENEROSITY

Several years ago it was the silly fashion of some people to speak of the Queen as being miserly. When a Parliamentary Commission inquired into the question of the financial arrangements which might be necessitated by the marriages of various Princes and Princesses, even Mr. Labouchere (a member of that Committee) was convinced that the amount of her Majesty's private savings had been much exaggerated.

As a matter of fact no Royal Sovereign in modern times has responded more frequently and generously to charitable appeals. Certainly no sovereign has been so liberal to relatives as was the Queen; while the huge number of charitable societies which gained the Queen's patronage and aid would astonish those who are unacquainted with the subject.

HER RELIGIOUS STANDPOINT

Lastly, though it stood first in the Queen's life, we have to consider her as a religious woman. The Queen was never so enamoured of the State Church as to exclude her interest in the denominations outside it. As a matter of fact, her worshipping at the kirk in Scotland was a subject of constant annoyance to certain High Church dignitaries in England. But the Queen's love for the simplicity and solemnity of the Scottish forms of worship was never lessened in consequence of this episcopal wrath. She read, or had read to her, many modern theological books, whether written by Episcopalians or Non-conformists, and of various movements in the Free Churches she had a very correct and complete knowledge.

THE EMPIRE'S LOSS

In this hour of national sorrow one dare not attempt to estimate the extent of our loss. The years that come will make that clearer, but they cannot make us feel more sincerely how much we owe to Queen Victoria. This we can, and must, say of our beloved Sovereign: she leaves the imperishable memory of a great and good woman who, as Wife, Mother and Queen, adorned the splendour of the throne through the longest reign recorded in British history. In her people's love, and in the world's love, Victoria the Good has gone to her rest.

THE QUEEN PRESENTING NEW COLOURS TO THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS AT BALMORAL, 1860

THE STORY OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S LIFE

THE reign of the Queen has been often compared with that of her illustrious predecessor, Queen Elizabeth. It is a remarkable coincidence that if her father's wish had been consulted, she would have been named Elizabeth. But she was destined, in the words of Macaulay, to become "a gentler, wiser, happier Elizabeth." As it happened, the names chosen for the infant daughter of the Duke of Kent, born at Kensington Palace on May 24th, 1819, were Alexandrina Victoria; the first name was, however, relinquished after her ascent to the throne. Her mother, who was the widow of the Prince of Leiningen, had married in the previous year the Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III. She had by her first husband two children—a son and a daughter—so that the little Victoria was not without playmates. The Duchess lost her second husband eight months after the birth of her child, and thus twice experienced those sorrows of widowhood which many years afterwards Queen Victoria suffered.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT AND PRINCESS VICTORIA
By Sir W. Beechey

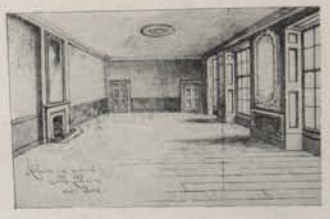
A GROUP OF ROYAL COUSINS IN 1825

THE DUKE OF KENT
Father of Queen Victoria
By Sir W. Beechey

HER EARLY TEACHERS

One who impressed the early life of the Princess Victoria was a clever German lady, Fräulein Lehzen, who was governess to the young Princess Feodore of Leiningen, and in due course assisted the Duchess of Kent in the education of her other daughter. Nearly thirty years afterwards, when the Queen was paying a visit to Germany, one of her greatest joys was seeing her old teacher once more. At a wayside station, she said in her diary, stood "Dearest Lehzen waving her handkerchief." She must have had a strong and fine personality, judging by all accounts of her methods of training her youthful charge. She it was who first conveyed to her pupil her proximity to the throne by means of a genealogical tree inserted in a volume of history. There is a strong probability that our future Sovereign's words on this interesting occasion were, "I will be good," for certainly she realised the serious responsibilities of her position. Her governess, who was created by George IV. a baroness, shared with others the education of the Princess as she grew older. She retained a sincere friendship with the Queen, and her death in 1870 was a real bereavement to her Majesty. The third Duchess of Northumberland instructed the Princess in Court etiquette and deportment; the massive, but musical Luigi Lablache taught her how to sing—and she ever retained her love of that art; Mr. Bernard Sale instructed her in instrumental music, of which she was an expert performer and a discriminative critic. Special mention must be made of the Rev. George Davys, who gave a great deal of time to educating the Princess in literature, and in Greek, Latin, and theology. Preferment was bestowed by the Queen upon this accomplished clergyman in later years, when he became successively Dean of Chester and Bishop of Peterborough.

Few can realise the difficulties which beset the mother of our future Queen. She lived with necessary economy in a land which was all the stranger to her after the death of her kindly, bluff husband; she shunned as far as possible the Court with its cabals and loose morals, and devoted all her life to the care and education of her children. Mothers will be interested to learn that Princess Victoria was the first Royal child who was vaccinated in this country. The little babe, who had such a high destiny, was healthy from the first—"plump as a partridge," was Baron Stockmar's description of her. She benefitted as an infant from her visit to Sidmouth, which was terminated sadly by her father's death. On the very same day that the widowed Duchess and her child returned to London, in the protecting care of Prince Leopold (afterwards King of the Belgians), King George III. died. This brought the throne of Britain still closer to the fatherless infant. The wisdom of the Duchess of Kent in educating her daughter for her high position entitles her to grateful memory. She was often exposed to misrepresentation and unkind criticism, but she went on her way unflinchingly.



THE ROOM WHERE QUEEN VICTORIA WAS BORN
Kensington Palace, May 24th, 1819

Lessons were made as interesting as possible for the Princess. Her grandmother had pleaded with the Duchess of Kent, during Victoria's childhood: "Do not tease your little puss with learning; she is so young still." Strict attention to the subject under tuition was the Duchess's rule, and a wise one for any student.

THE QUEEN'S FIRST TEACHERS

BARONESS LEHZEN
Governess

RICHARD WESTALL, R.A.
Art Instructor

CHARLOTTE, THIRD DUCHESS OF NORTHUMBERLAND

REV. GEORGE DAVYS
Teacher of Greek, Latin, &c.

LUIGI LABLACHE
Singing Master

Princess Arthur of Anhalt
Duchess of York
Princess Margaret of Connaught
Duke of York
Prince Arthur of Connaught
Duchess of Connaught
Princess Eitel of Battenberg

Prince Leopold of Battenberg
Prince Edward of York
Princess Victoria of York
Prince Alexander of Battenberg
Prince Albert of York
The Queen
Princess Henry of Battenberg
Princess Patricia of Connaught
Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein
Prince Maurice of Battenberg

THE QUEEN AT OSBORNE IN AUGUST, 1898

NTEREST IN ART AND HISTORY

Her love of art was fostered by lessons from Richard Westall, R.A., who, having fallen on misfortune in later years, wrote, on the eve of his death, commending his sister to the Queen. She settled a pension of £100 a year upon Miss Westall in gratitude for the labours of her talented brother. Down to quite recently, the Queen would make capital sketches of scenery which delighted her when she was staying in the South of France, and many an artist can recall generous commissions and appreciative compliments received from her. Mr. Amos taught her valuable information as to the British Constitution, a subject on which he was considered a great authority. The nation owed him a debt for this instruction, for no modern monarch had a profounder knowledge of constitutional law than the Queen, whose experience was of the greatest service to her Ministers and to other Sovereigns.

In all these lessons the Princess displayed aptitude and determination—qualities exhibited later in her dealings with all the officials who submitted statements and papers to her. Woe betide the luckless man who attempted to hurry the Queen in the perusal of a document, or who failed to explain fully its purport.

PRINCESS VICTORIA AT THE AGE OF SEVEN
From an unpublished drawing, said to be by David Cox

HER HANDWRITING

In the British Museum there is an example of the Princess's autograph at the age of four. It has an especial interest, seeing that it is an early form of that signature which became so familiar to countless millions of the Queen's subjects. It was once calculated that her Majesty had to append her autograph, in the form of which there was little variation, no less than fifty thousand times a year! Probably no handwriting of any European sovereign has been so well-known as that of Queen Victoria. A touching story of how far her fame travelled was told by a traveller, who recorded that the Queen's autograph letter, returning thanks for congratulations on her Jubilee, was exhibited in a Syrian city, and drew many thousands of curious natives from all parts of the country. In the life of one who may be truly called "one of our greatest writers," it is not uninteresting to record that Mr. Seward was the master who taught the Queen writing.

PRINCESS VICTORIA AT EIGHT
Engraved by Wedgwood after Sir Isaac

CHILDHOOD'S PLEASURES

Mr. Fuzard was her riding-master, and right well he accomplished his task. At Claremont, where she delighted to visit "Uncle Leopold," in London, and at Ramsgate, the Princess enjoyed riding on a donkey. She was fond of driving a pony carriage, and was throughout her life a lover of horses, having a most accurate recollection of the various animals who drew her carriage. In her care for the comfort of animals, she set a good example as the Royal Patron of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Some years ago she honoured this society by appearing at its annual meeting in the Albert Hall, and distributing a few of its prize certificates. As a child, the air of Broadstairs benefitted her greatly. The house in which she lived was standing till quite recently, when it succumbed to the demand for more villa residences. At Tunbridge Wells she delighted in shopping. All her money was once expended before she had purchased a certain wished-for present. Her Governess would not allow this toy to be taken until the Princess could pay for it on her next receipt of pocket-money. It was, accordingly, placed on one side until the appointed day when the little girl was able to settle the bill. The dress of the Princess set a good example by its simplicity. She wore a large straw hat and a pretty cotton costume, with a coloured fichu round her neck. Her features were in no sense remarkable, except for the bloom of health upon them.

FRIENDS OF HER CHILDHOOD

The young Princess soon lost the companionship of her step-sister, for the Princess Feodore married Prince Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and left this country. She had, however, occasional visits from various children of the aristocracy, and one of these, Lady Jane Ellice, recorded in her reminiscences how she spent a day at Kensington Palace. "The room, which I remember with some distinctness, had a large window—I think, a bay—in which a little girl was playing by herself, and whom I joined, while the elders conversed together. I do not know whether I may have shown a too easy familiarity of manner in my ignorance of Court etiquette, but the young Princess quickly and warningly told me, referring to the toys scattered around, 'You must not touch those; they are mine. And I may call you Jane, but you must not call me Victoria.'" When the young Queen of Portugal, Donna Maria, came to this country in 1828, Princess Victoria was present at the Drawing Room as a spectator, and watched the ceremony which was to become all too familiar to her in after life. The two girls were the chief personages at a juvenile party given by King George in honour of the Queen of Portugal. The old King escorted his Royal guest to the balloon, where for the first time Princess Victoria danced in public with the Queen in a quadrille. Her partners at this introduction to social pleasures included the young Prince Esterhazy, Lord Fitzalan, and Prince William of Saxe-Weimar. Her graceful dancing was said to have reflected credit on Madame Bouchier, her teacher.

ROSA, THE PONY ON WHICH PRINCESS VICTORIA USED TO RIDE

HER DEBUT IN SOCIETY

The first Drawing Room at which she figured as the centre of notice was on February 24th, 1831, when she was nearing her twelfth birthday. The occasion had other reasons for being specially important, for it was the first Drawing Room held since the accession of William IV., and the day was the anniversary of Queen Adelaide's birth. The Princess was dressed in a simple white frock and wore her hair *à la* Madonna: a necklace of pearls was her only ornament, save for a diamond clasp in her fair hair. Most eyes were directed to this winning girl as she stood by Queen Adelaide's side, and gazed with a child's delight at the brilliant costumes and uniforms in that notable gathering. Her absence from the coronation of King William IV. was the subject of much comment, but it was probably due to the desire of the Duchess of Kent to keep her daughter in private life as much as possible, especially considering the unsatisfactory state of Court morals.

THE QUEEN ON THE MORNING OF HER ACCESSION TO THE THRONE
Engraved by Freeman after L. S. Costello

HER CONFIRMATION

When she attained her sixteenth year the Princess was prepared for confirmation by Dr. Davys. The simple but affecting ceremony took place on August 30th, 1835, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's, under absolutely private conditions. The address delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury is said to have been most impressive, and at its conclusion the future Queen turned with a loving embrace to her mother. The King and Queen Adelaide were of the congregation at this service. Queen Victoria attached great importance to the rite of confirmation, and took the deepest interest in the confirmation of her descendants. She made a point of being present if possible at that solemn ceremony, as at baptisms, and she never forgot one of her grandchildren, whether of Royal rank or otherwise. They received special gifts from their Imperial sponsor.

THE QUEEN'S FOUR-IN-HAND

TOURS THROUGH THE KINGDOM

Visits to various parts of the country and to certain seats of the nobility, made a pleasant variety in the Princess's life at this time. She could not help attracting attention wherever she went with her mother, and it was not surprising that the popularity of these "Royal progresses," as King William called them, should have made him somewhat jealous. It is interesting to note that she accompanied Queen Adelaide to Ascot for the race meeting, though we can imagine this arrangement was not to the liking of her mother. Tom Moore records how he heard the mother and daughter sing duets. "Her Royal Highness evidently is very fond of music, and would have gone on singing much longer if there had not been rather premature preparations for bed." She went into Wales for a brief holiday, and presented the prizes at an Eisteddfod; she gave colours to a regiment at Plymouth, and in other ways began to manifest an interest in public functions.

She stayed at several historic seats of the nobility, including Eastnor Castle, Eaton Hall, and Chatsworth. With her mother she also visited several English cathedrals and the cities of Oxford and York. The King of the Belgians spent a holiday at Ramsgate, and his niece joined him there for a time. Mention may be made of the Princess's first visit to the Royal Academy. "She heard that Charles Kemble was in the room, and she desired he might be presented to her, which gave him an opportunity of making one of his best genteel comedy bows."

FIRST MEETING WITH PRINCE ALBERT

It was in the month of May, 1836, that the Princess made the acquaintance of her future husband, whom she described as "most amiable, natural, unaffected, and merry—full of interest in everything." Prince Albert had arrived with his father, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and his brother on a brief visit to England, during which he saw a good deal of his cousin, and formed the highest opinion of her. "Dear Aunt is very kind to me," he wrote, "and does everything she can to please us, and our cousin also is very amiable." Although there was no formal betrothal discussed on this occasion, yet the fact that Prince Albert gave "our cousin" a little ring, with a diamond set in an enamel, must have assisted her of his sincere regard. After his return, the Prince wrote occasionally to his cousin concerning his work and travels. He used to send little mementos, such as "an Alpine rose gathered from the Rigi," and we may be sure these love-tokens were treasured by his future wife with especial care.

Princess Victoria attained her majority a year afterwards, and this event caused her to become increasingly interesting to the British public. King William's failing health was giving anxiety at the time of the celebration of this happy event, and the young Princess had her joy shadowed by the sense of the responsibilities which were already facing her. Early in the morning, on June 20th, 1837, the old King passed away, and the Princess Victoria came to the exalted throne of Great Britain and Ireland.

THE QUEEN'S ACCESSION

One need not recapitulate the hackneyed story of how the news of her accession was conveyed to the Princess, but it is pleasant to recall a little incident showing the young Queen's forethought. In sending a letter to the widow of King William she addressed it "The Queen." A reminder that Queen Adelaide was now the "The Queen-Dowager," drew from Victoria the kindly remark, "Yes, but I do not wish to be the first to remind her of it." Her dignity shone conspicuously at her first Privy Council, and the same graceful bearing won her applause when she went to the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall. Hardly anyone survives among the many distinguished guests at that brilliant festivity, for the Lord Mayor in 1897 issued a cordial invitation to any who had been present to come to the banquet in that year, and less than half-a-dozen people were able to make good their claim.

The triumph of the young Queen was astonishing. Politicians of all shades of opinion seemed delighted at the prospect of a sympathetic and intelligent reign after the uncertain and unpopular succession of rulers who had occupied the Throne. Parliament voted a generous Civil List, allowing £60,000 a year to the Privy Purse. Daniel O'Connell, like the gallant Irishman that he was, joined his voice of welcome to the public acclaim, and discord was hushed in the melody of greeting.

HER CORONATION

On June 28th, 1838, Victoria was crowned in Westminster Abbey. The Anglo-Saxon race loves a public ceremony, and once again they enjoyed a really brilliant spectacle. Through the crowded streets there passed the young sovereign from Buckingham Palace to the Abbey in the State coach, drawn by eight cream-coloured horses. The beauty and chivalry of Society awaited her in the dim Abbey, and few could have been unmoved by the stately simplicity of the girl Queen as she—"the cynosure of all eyes"—advanced towards the altar. The service was a lengthy and exhausting one, for several formal acts had to be accomplished. The most thrilling scene—commemorated afterwards in countless pictures—was Queen Victoria's taking the solemn oath. Then she seated herself in the coronation chair, was anointed with holy oil according to precedent, and, after various formulæ of procedure, the Archbishop of Canterbury placed upon her youthful brow the Royal Crown. Simultaneously all the members of the House of Lords placed their coronets on their heads, and the air resounded with the cry of "God save the Queen!" Her Royal relatives and the Peers came to pay her homage, and one little incident varied the monotony of this ceremony. The venerable Lord Rolle fell, and the Queen hastened to his assistance. One chronicler suggested that it was in accordance with a custom connected with his title that this aged nobleman "rolled!" A striking personality in the congregation at the Abbey was old Marshal Soult, who said afterwards, "I had learnt to estimate the English on the field of battle, I have learnt to estimate them in peace." The veteran soldier who had fought against us at Waterloo was cheered to the echo by the impartial and good-tempered crowd.

THE ORB
Which proved so weighty
Drawn by J. E. Hodgson

Another whose presence at the Coronation may be noticed was a certain little lad named Robert Cecil, who was destined, as Marquis of Salisbury, to become thrice Prime Minister of the Queen whom he saw crowned.

It was the general opinion that the Queen's dignity under the trying circumstances of the Coronation was remarkable. It was stated afterwards that by an oversight the orb, which is handed to the Sovereign, had not been lightened for such youthful hands. Accordingly, when it was presented to her, the Queen said, "What am I to do with it?" Lord John Thynne replied, "Your Majesty is expected to carry it." To which the Queen answered, "Oh, dear! I am sure I cannot; it is so heavy." Nevertheless, she held the historic ornament till her arms ached with weariness. Another mishap was caused by the fact that the coronation ring had only been made to fit the Queen's little finger. Now precedent demanded that it should be placed on the third finger, and on that finger the Archbishop fixed the ring, but with considerable pain to the Queen.

It was half-past three in the afternoon before the tedious ceremony came to a conclusion. The Queen must have been decidedly relieved when she was able to exchange the close atmosphere of the Abbey for the cooler air outside, although she was under the observation of so many enthusiastic thousands of loyal subjects while driving home, that the ordeal was a great one. The country kept high festival for a day or two afterwards, and Hyde Park was especially crowded owing to a great fair which was held

HER FIRST CONTROVERSY

The Queen divided her time between Windsor and London. She soon showed that in affairs of State she was *no quantité négligeable*. In the same year as that mentioned above the matter of the Ladies of the Bedchamber was the subject of discussion between her Majesty and her Ministers. The controversy may be summarised. After the resignation of Lord Melbourne's Government, Sir Robert Peel was sent for. He demanded, as a minor matter of course, that with the change of Ministry there should be fresh Court appointments. This meant that the Ladies of the Bedchamber, with whom the young Queen had lately become acquainted, and had learned to like, would be supplanted by strangers. It was natural, though hardly constitutional, that she should object. This was her formal reply: "The Queen, having considered the proposal made to her yesterday by Sir Robert Peel to remove the Ladies of the Bedchamber, cannot consent to a course which she conceives to be contrary to usage, and is repugnant to her feelings." And in the end the Queen had her way.

THE YOUNG QUEEN AT ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR
From the painting by H. E. Dawe

LORD MELBOURNE AS MENTOR

The Queen relied very naturally upon Lord Melbourne, whose fame as her first mentor in State affairs has quite eclipsed his reputation as a statesman. "He was a happy-go-lucky politician in some respects, and found the Queen very quick to check his easy-going ways. His language began to show a decided improvement, and he took great pains to make the Queen *au fait* with matters political. The old Duke of Wellington saw the advantage which Melbourne had, and expressed it pithily thus: "I have no small talk, and Peel has no manners." He under-estimated Peel's ability to adapt himself to Court etiquette—in fact, Sir Robert Peel was misunderstood for years by the Queen, who had begun to value the man's sincerity and ability just about the time when the tragic accident put an end to the statesman's career. Lord Melbourne had none of the reserved manner of Sir Robert Peel; he was inclined at first to be autocratic, forgetful of the seriousness with which his Queen took her duties of State. It is said that he was disillusioned quickly of the idea that the Queen would act under orders.

When he asked for her immediate signature to a document one Sunday at Windsor, adding that she need not scruple to sign it, as it was not of supreme importance, the Queen rebuked him then and there: "My lord, you appear to have mistaken my character; it is to me a matter of supreme importance whether or not I attach my signature to a document with which I am not thoroughly satisfied. I shall sign nothing that I do not read." A praiseworthy act on the part of the young Queen was the determination to clear her dead father's character from the aspersion of leaving debts. "I want to pay all that remains of my father's debts," she said. "I *must* do it. I consider it a sacred duty."

ONE OF THE EARLIEST CARTOONS IN THE QUEEN'S REIGN

"INTERESTING DUPLICITY—CANADIAN REVOLT EXPLAINED."

THE QUEEN: "What, is your lordship's opinion, has been the cause of this Rebellion?"
DUKE OF WELLINGTON: "Return to Parliament, your Majesty—all owing to Reform!"

THE QUEEN AS A YOUTHFUL HOSTESS

There is an interesting side-light cast by Macaulay on the young Queen in a letter written to one of his sisters. "He dined at Buckingham Palace for the first time in 1839, and thus refers to the occasion: "We all spoke in whispers; and when dinner was over, almost everybody went to cards or chess. I was presented; knelt down; kissed her Majesty's hand; had the honour of a conversation with her of about two minutes, and assured her that India was hot, and that I kept my health there." The historian found time on another visit to compliment the Queen cleverly. They had been discussing the character of James II., and the Queen had remarked that she had nothing to say for her poor ancestor. "Not your Majesty's ancestor!" said adroit Macaulay, "your Majesty's predecessor."

LIFE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

In the happy early years of the Queen's reign she spent a large proportion of her time at Buckingham Palace, of which some account may be given here conveniently. After the death of the Prince Consort, the Queen rarely stayed more than two or three days at a time in London, so that one hardly associates her later life with the great white palace in St. James's Park. The public have had no opportunity of visiting Buckingham Palace, as has been the case with Windsor Castle; consequently, there is little known of the many interesting rooms and their contents.

The Palace received its name from the fact that it was formerly the mansion of the Duke of Buckinghamshire, from whose son King George III. purchased it, and settled it upon Queen Charlotte. The original portion of this "Queen's House," as it was then called, remains in the north wing, but otherwise, all that we now see has been subsequently added. Large sums of money have been expended on the Palace during the Queen's reign, but it was never a favourite residence with the Sovereign. The decoration of the rooms is gaudy and rather mixed in design, so much so that a critic once declared that it was "as if some wicked magician had suddenly transformed suns capricious stage scenery into solid reality."

THE THRONE ROOM

The scene of the Queen's Drawing Room, where the formal presentation of ladies to the Sovereign takes place, is the Throne Room. Contrary to general expectation, the apartment is not very large; its height is about thirty feet, and from the centre of the gilded ceiling depends a magnificent chandelier. The room is sixty feet long, and round its walls runs a frieze descriptive of the Wars of the Roses. The throne, on which the Queen used to sit on State occasions, was not used on Drawing Room days. But in front of it she sat in a handsome chair, from which she rose sometimes to salute some of those who were of special interest to her. On each side of her Majesty stood, through the fatiguing ceremony, a line of Princesses, before whom each lady had to bow—no slight ordeal to a nervous *débutante*. Occasionally—too seldom, one might say—the tedium of a familiar though brilliant function was relieved by a comic incident, such as when an American lady shook hands heartily with the Queen, and hoped she was quite well! The Throne Room has witnessed the reception of many important deputations presenting addresses of congratulation to the Sovereign, such as those which attended on the celebration of the Queen's two Jubilees.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE: SOUTH FRONT
Photo by H. N. King

THE QUEEN'S ROOMS

As will be seen by our illustrations, the private apartments used by the Queen were furnished in a more homely fashion than was the case with other portions of the Palace. In the room where she gave audience to the Prime Minister and other exalted personages, there was little to attract the eye. In the Queen's own dining-room, too, there was a pleasing relief from formality. During her Majesty's brief visits to town, she had usually some great-grandchildren present at luncheon; at the dinner party in the evening there were always all the members of her family who happened to be in London. The Queen's private sitting-room had many portraits of her numerous relatives. Not far from it, in the north wing, there were some nurseries for the younger descendants of the Queen, who enjoyed more than she the stately splendours of the Palace.

THE BALLROOM

The most brilliant of Court functions is undoubtedly a State ball. The great room in which these festivities are held looks its best when filled with a throng of about two thousand "fair women and brave men," who await the arrival of the Royal procession in the ballroom at about half-past eleven o'clock. In front of the organ the orchestra is placed, and dancing immediately commences. The Princess of Wales dances in the opening quadrille with the Prince of highest social rank; the Prince of Wales's partner is the Princess of highest social rank. Supper is served to the Royalties in a separate apartment, and the buffets for the general company are well supplied with fine fruit, hock cup—made after a special recipe—and the usual delicacies. The gold plate makes a beautiful sight. After supper the Royal party returns to the ballroom for awhile. In this same room State concerts are given. The music is always delightful, but the absence of anything like general applause gives the entertainment rather a depressing effect.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE: QUEEN'S DINING ROOM
Photo by H. N. King

THE PICTURE GALLERY

In the picture gallery, which contains several specimens of the art of Rembrandt, Rubens, Cuyp, and other famous artists, fancy-dress balls took place in the early part of the reign. Owing to the interest and knowledge of the late Prince Consort, the pictures are now carefully arranged in this gallery, and some of them are particularly fine. One must mention, among other rooms, the Bow drawing-room (where the marriage register has been signed at various Royal weddings), and the State dining-room. The vastness of Buckingham Palace is a surprise to those who have only surveyed it from the exterior, and to it must be added the large mews and the Royal Chapel.

A constant attendance of officials is necessary at the Palace, for brief visits are constantly being paid by members of the Royal Family passing through London. Careful provision against fire is made, for on several occasions there have been small outbursts which might have soon done considerable damage. On Drawing-Room days the police arrangements reach the highest stage of careful method, and notwithstanding the extraordinary traffic the delay of carriages is reduced to a minimum. The interest taken by the female portion of the population in the arrival and departure of those attending the Drawing Room is extraordinary. Crowds will wait for hours on the chance of seeing some members of the Royal Family drive rapidly past in their equipages.

THE PRIVATE GROUNDS

At the back of Buckingham Palace are some beautiful gardens in which the Queen held garden parties. The lawns and the lake look very charming from the terrace, and on the latter, when there was ice, skating was a favourite pastime with the Queen's grandchildren. Her Majesty used to enjoy driving in her donkey-chair round the grounds during the morning when staying at the Palace, reserving the afternoon for more public drives.

How patiently hundreds of thousands waited outside the iron railings in front of the quadrangle for a glimpse of the Queen when she was likely to arrive at or leave Buckingham Palace! Suddenly the police would stop the traffic, and the lull in its noise would add to the impressiveness of the scene. Under the archway or through the gates would be seen the advance-mounted policeman, followed by the red-coated postilions; and then, with an escort of Guards, came the carriage in which the Queen sat with one of her daughters and a lady-in-waiting. All eyes were fixed on the Lady of the Land, bowing and smiling to her loyal subjects. And almost before the crowd awoke to the propriety of raising a cheer the Royal equipage, with its Scottish attendants standing behind their Imperial mistress, would be lost to sight.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE: BALL AND CONCERT ROOM
The chairs are placed for a State Concert
Photo by H. N. King

THE QUEEN'S PROPOSAL

Although Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha had been designated the most likely husband for the Queen, it was not in accordance with the respective positions of both parties that the Prince should "propose." Accordingly, when the Prince and his brother were paying a visit to Windsor, the Queen herself took the initiative. We have the following

THE CEREMONY OF PRESENTATION AT ONE OF THE QUEEN'S FIRST DRAWING-ROOMS

touching little account of the affair related by Prince Albert to his grandmother in a letter:—"The Queen sent for me alone to her room a few days ago [the exact date was October 15th, 1839] and declared to me, in a genuine outburst of love and affection, that I had gained her whole heart, and would make her intensely happy if I would make the sacrifice of sharing her life with her, for she said she looked on it as a sacrifice; the only thing which troubled her was that she did not think she was worthy of me. The joyous openness of manner in which she told me this enchanted me, and I was quite carried away by it." Side by side with this interesting document we can place the young lady's own narrative of the event. Writing to her uncle, the King of the Belgians, the Queen said: "My mind is quite made up, and I told Albert this morning of it. The warm affection he showed me on learning this gave me great pleasure. He seems perfection, and I think that I have the prospect of very great happiness before me. I love him more than I can say, and shall do everything in my power to render this sacrifice (for such, in my opinion, it is) as small as I can."

A STORY OF THE COURTSHIP

During the engagement of the Royal couple the following incident is said to have taken place. A burly Yorkshireman, who had gone to Windsor on the chance of seeing the Queen, spoke to a man whom he supposed was one of the royal servants. "Look here, John Robert, whatever they call ye, I coom from the country," said the Tyke. "So I hear," was the reply. "Well, I've never seen t' Queen, and I want to get a good sight o' her. Now, can't you just let me through them gates?" "Well, sir, I don't know whether I dare; I might lose my place, you know." "Nay, man, thou'll never lose thy place for such a thing as that. You can say to t' Queen that she hasn't got a more loyaller subject than me in all Yorkshire." "Well, come along, then," was the reply, and the "more loyaller subject" rushed into an excellent position commanding a view of the carriage-way. He tendered gratefully half-a-crown to his benefactor, who, however, declined it with the words, "No, thank you; we are forbidden to take fees." Presently the royal carriage appeared, and, chatting familiarly with the Queen and Prince Consort, was the supposed footman. The Yorkshireman exclaimed, "Why, he's a-laughing and talking to t' Queen like anything!" "Who is?" asked someone. "Why, t' chap that opened the gate for me—t' footman, him with the blue coat and red collar." "Footman, indeed! Why, he's Lord Melbourne, the Prime Minister!"

BUCKINGHAM PALACE: QUEEN'S PRIVATE SITTING-ROOM
Photo by H. N. King

PRINCE ALBERT'S PEDIGREE

Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emmanuel was the second son of Ernest, Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld, and Louisa, daughter of Augustus, Duke of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg. Prince Albert was the Queen's first cousin; he was three months younger than she. His birthplace was Rosenau, near Coburg, and it was a curious coincidence that the infant had the same nurse, Madame Siebold, who was present when the Princess Victoria was born. He passed a somewhat delicate childhood, under his grandmother's supervision. His brother Ernest was his school companion, and with him he was confirmed at the age of fifteen. He had just attained his twentieth birthday when he was affianced to Queen Victoria, and was a handsome young man, with fine blue eyes, who would have attracted attention in any circle of society by his intellectual ability. He was musical, artistic, and fond of natural history. The Ernest-Albert Museum at Coburg was founded by himself and his brother. Such was the bridegroom of Queen Victoria—"Your Majesty's most obedient and faithful servant," as he called himself in a letter congratulating her on accession to the throne.

THE QUEEN'S WEDDING

About four months after the formal betrothal of the Queen had taken place, her wedding was celebrated in the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on February 10th, 1840. The bridegroom was accompanied to this country by his father and brother, and arrived at Buckingham Palace on the Saturday preceding the Monday for which the ceremony was fixed. The carriages drove through the grand entrance under the marble archway, a special honour which had hitherto been reserved for the Sovereign. Contrary to the tradition of "Queen's weather," the wedding-morn dawned amid rain. Great crowds awaited the departure of the bride from Buckingham Palace, and cheered her enthusiastically *en route* to the Chapel Royal. On arrival at St. James's Palace, the Queen's procession was marshalled through the Throne Room, and other apartments, lined with favoured spectators, to the Chapel Royal. There a brilliant multitude awaited with excited interest the coming of the bride. Besides the many members of the Royal Family, there were present the ambassadors and chief leaders of society. The aged Duke of Wellington wore long bows of white satin ribbon on his shoulders; his Waterloo medal and Field-Marshal's baton were also conspicuous. Just as a band passed, playing "Haste to the Wedding," the Archbishop of Canterbury entered the building, and walked to the altar. "It was now eleven o'clock," says one chronicler, "and many of the ladies round us looked rather faint, but certain mysterious-looking tin and glass cups were circulated in various directions, and the effect was magical—eyes brightened, tongues began to wag, and laughter and jest once more went round."

AN ETCHING OF THE PRINCE CONSORT
By the Queen

The Queen's procession was heralded by drums and trumpets, and preceded by various officers of State. At a quarter to one o'clock she entered the Chapel, her train being borne by twelve bridesmaids. The bride wore a splendid lace robe and veil of the most beautiful Honiton lace, the manufacture of which had employed two hundred women for eight months. The only ornament on her head was a wreath of orange blossoms and a small diamond pin, by which the veil was attached. The bridegroom met her at the *haut pas* and conducted her to the right-hand side of the altar. The service then commenced. The Duke of Sussex gave the bride away, and both parties responded in clear voices to the usual questions. The wedding-ring which Prince Albert gave the Queen was made of plain gold, with some lettering inside, by a German jeweller, who became the head of a great firm in Philadelphia many years afterwards.

PRINCE ALBERT AND HIS BRIDE IN HER WEDDING ATTIRE

Immediately after the service had concluded the Royal pair received the affectionate congratulations of their relatives. In the Throne Room the register was signed, and among those who witnessed the signatures was the old Duke of Wellington. Returning to Buckingham Palace for the wedding breakfast, the Queen and her husband were hailed with immense applause by the crowds, whom the pelting rain had not diminished. The wedding cake weighed three hundred pounds, and was a triumph of the confectioner's art. At four o'clock the Royal pair set forth for Windsor, going by road and being escorted by a guard of honour. Thus began the happy married life of the Queen, which had so much to do with the love which her subjects bore her throughout her illustrious reign.

THE CORONATION CEREMONY

THE MARRIAGE OF THE QUEEN WITH PRINCE ALBERT

THE QUEEN'S FIRST CHILD

It was on November 21st, 1840, that the Queen gave birth to her first child at Buckingham Palace. The country was a little disappointed at the advent of a daughter instead of a son. But the Queen herself and Prince Albert were delighted with their healthy little daughter, who was destined in later years to become one of her Majesty's special comforters and advisers. She was baptised in February, and grew into an amiable and lively child. The subsequent career of her Royal Highness Victoria Adelaide Mary Louise, Princess Royal, fulfilled the high promise of her intelligent childhood, and she was called "the cleverest woman in Europe" by one of the most intellectual of men. Many stories are told of the young Princess's precocity, and certain it is that her parents found great pleasure in the merry ways of their little one.

EARLY PORTRAIT OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL

ATTEMPTS ON THE QUEEN'S LIFE

There were political changes taking place, resulting in the Premiership of Sir Robert Peel, whose reserved nature was understood gradually by the Queen, who came to appreciate him at his full worth as the years rolled on. The first of a series of deplorable attempts on the Queen's life took place in June, 1840, when Edward Oxford, a lad of seventeen, shot twice at her on Constitution Hill. At the trial of Oxford for high treason he was considered insane, and was sent to an asylum. The incident of this assault only increased the popularity of the Queen, whose courage led her to reappear in the Park almost immediately after the affair. Two years later, in the same place, John Francis—a weak-minded young man—raised a pistol to shoot the Queen. He was tried, but though condemned to death, the sentence was commuted into penal servitude for life. Soon afterwards a lad named Bean followed the evil example of Francis, and Sir Robert Peel introduced a Bill into Parliament dealing with such assaults on the Sovereign.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IS BORN

To the delight of the nation, a Prince was born at Buckingham Palace on November 9th, 1841. Popular enthusiasm was extraordinary over the birth of the Heir-Apparent. *Punch* published a poem beginning:

"Huzza! we've a little Prince at last,
A rearing, Royal boy:
And all day long the booming bells
Have rung their peals of joy."

The Queen, writing to her uncle, said: "I wonder very much who my little boy will be like. You will understand how fervent are my prayers, and I am sure everybody's must be, to see him resemble his father in every respect, both in body and mind." The little Prince of Wales, happily unconscious of the immense responsibilities which were in store for him, was christened in St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The King of Prussia came over specially to act as one of his sponsors. The public took the deepest interest in all that concerned the Prince, and that interest continued to increase as he grew a strong, intelligent child. Baron Stockmar, the old friend of the family, reported him, when a year old, as "strong upon his legs, with a calm, clear, bright expression of face." Lady Lyttelton, one of "the beautiful Misses Glynne," came to the Queen's assistance in the early training of her children. Lady Lyttelton's sister was Mrs. Gladstone, an interesting fact to remember in connection with the Prince of Wales's specially friendly attitude towards Mr. Gladstone. The little Prince was very active as a child, and had excellent health. The picture by Winterhalter of him in sailor costume gives an admirable idea of his appearance.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO LOUIS PHILIPPE IN 1843
Her arrival at the Château d'Eu

THE QUEEN ON TOUR

When Scotland was looking its best, in September, 1842, the Queen and Prince Albert visited the land of the heather for the first time. Her delight in Scotland was heartily reciprocated. This was her kindly note on the tour: "The Queen cannot leave Scotland without a feeling of regret that her visit on the present occasion could not be further prolonged. Her Majesty fully expected to witness the loyalty and attachment of her Scottish subjects; but the devotion and enthusiasm evinced in every quarter, and by all ranks, have produced an impression on the mind of her Majesty which can never be effaced." Next year, after the birth of Princess Alice, the Queen went to France—the first occasion since the visit of Henry VIII. of a British monarch being the guest of a French King. Louis Philippe was delighted to welcome the Queen at the Château d'Eu, near Treport, and spared no expense to make her eight days' visit memorable. He agreed to "return the call" in the following year, when also the Emperor Nicholas, Czar of Russia, was the Queen's guest, though earlier in the season. Various festivities at Court were at this time the order of the day, including *bals masqués*. The Queen and her husband were frequently to be seen at the Opera and at the theatre, for their appreciation of music and the drama was very keen.

THE QUEEN IN 1850
By Winterhalter

THE QUEEN'S YOUNGER CHILDREN

Allusion has been made to the birth of the Princess Royal, the Prince of Wales, and Princess Alice. In 1844 Prince Alfred, subsequently Duke of Edinburgh and then Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, was born at Buckingham Palace. In 1846 Princess Helena was born at Buckingham Palace, and two years later Princess Louise came into the world. The next child of the Queen was Prince Arthur, who bore the name of Patrick as a special compliment to Ireland. The Duke of Connaught, as we afterwards came to call him, was born in 1850. As he was the seventh child his brothers and sisters used to reckon him as representing "Sunday"! In 1853 the delicate Prince Leopold was born, and was named after the astute King of the Belgians, on whose wise judgment the Queen had always relied. Four years afterwards the last of the Queen's family arrived in the person of Princess Beatrice.

LADY LYTTELTON
Governess to the Queen's Children
By George Richmond

The up-bringing of the Royal children was conducted on most sensible lines, and in after-years we have the written testimony of the Princess Alice, who said: "I can look back to my childhood and girlhood as the happiest time of my life." They all manifested ability in some form of art, Prince Alfred practising assiduously—to the annoyance of some of his brothers—in the early morning on the violin. The Prince of Wales became a capital artist, one of his sketches fetching fifty-five guineas when exhibited on behalf of the Patriotic Fund at Burlington House. The Princesses were all fond of music and painting from their youth.

The Royal family, perfectly free from all restraint, were often engaged in reading, sketching, painting, etching, photography, and gardening, each trying to outdo the other in seeking to reach some practical end; and all in the buoyancy of real filial affection, which was fostered by sympathy of parental love. At Balmoral the Queen appeared, not in her regal character, but as the mother; while the Prince, as the head of the family, was looked up to and loved with the tenderest emotion. Both the Queen and her husband assisted in teaching their children, and made a point of cross-examining them on what they had learned in the schoolroom. Little prizes were awarded for any special progress. When the sons went to the University the greatest care was taken in the selection of tutors for them. The Prince of Wales never forgot those who thus served him, and surprised his old teachers with many acts of kindness.

Marchioness of Waterford Prince Albert The Queen Duchess of St. Albans

SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY, DANCED IN COSTUMES OF THE PERIOD 1740-50 AT HER MAJESTY'S BALL, JUNE 6, 1845

THE PURCHASE OF OSBORNE

The Queen had long felt the need of a home away from official life, and in 1845 her wish was realised by the purchase of the Osborne estate in the Isle of Wight. A sum of £200,000 was expended in adapting this fine estate to the requirements of the Royal Family. "It is impossible," said the Queen enthusiastically, "to see a prettier place, with woods and valleys and points of view which would be beautiful anywhere; but when these are combined with the sea (to which the woods grow down) and a beach which is quite private, it is really everything one could wish." Osborne became year by year dearer to the Queen. After the death of the Prince Consort, whose hand had been so apparent in the general design of the house and in the beautiful landscape gardening, she was more reminded of her beloved husband and his affectionate regard at Osborne than at any other residence. The Queen collected many mementos of the happy days of her early married life, and placed them in a pagoda-shaped cottage at Osborne. Very often she would visit this museum and "sit alone with life's memories." The toys which the Prince made for his children were here; the fishes caught in Canada by Prince Alfred; some of the animals shot by the Prince of Wales in India; and other links with the past were here preserved.

OSBORNE HOUSE

The portion of Osborne House reserved for the Queen is the Pavilion. Here was her private sitting-room, with many treasures recalling the past. On the mantelpiece stood a beautiful bust of the Prince Consort. A grand piano was in constant requisition when the Queen was in residence. Around the room were numerous portraits of Royal relatives, and two fine pictures of the Queen and her husband at once attracted the eye. Close to the sitting-room were the Queen's bedroom and dining-room, so as to spare her Majesty unnecessary walking. One magnificent room in Osborne is devoted entirely to Indian work, and Indian artificers have decorated it. In the long corridor are several marble busts, as well as beautiful cabinets of curios. An air of loneliness pervades Osborne, which is no doubt due to the absence of official restrictions. There are many water-colour paintings by the Queen herself, and other evidences of the artistic gifts of various members of the Royal Family. Outside, the grounds are laid out with charming effect. The area of the estate was extended in recent years, till it was possible for the Queen to take a drive of a dozen miles without going outside her own property.

OSBORNE HOUSE

THE QUEEN'S CHILDREN
By Winterhalter

LIFE IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Although formality was relaxed to some extent at Osborne, yet there was considerable care taken to ensure the privacy of the Queen when in residence. Little could be seen from the outside of the estate, for high walls protected it from too inquisitive visitors. Until the last few years, however, her Majesty was wont to worship at St. Mildred's Church, Whippingham, and on Sundays there was quite an influx of loyal subjects desirous of catching a glimpse of their Sovereign. The church, as a tablet over the door testifies, was "designed by Albert, Prince Consort, and rebuilt by Queen Victoria, in conjunction with him, in the year of our Lord MDCCCLXI.". Near the Royal pew are several memorials of touching interest. The chief one is the monument to the Prince Consort, erected "by his broken-hearted and devoted widow." Another is to the memory of Princess Alice, and other marble monuments commemorate Prince Henry of Battenberg, the Duke of Clarence, and the infant children of Princess Alice. The church was the scene of the wedding of Princess Beatrice, for whom it has now mingled memories of joy and sorrow. In recent years the Queen attended service in the private chapel at Osborne, so that the opportunities of seeing her were restricted to the chance of the Royal carriage passing through the country roads near the estate, or the rarer circumstance of the Queen driving through Ryde or Cowes. Her Majesty took a deep interest in the yachting which made the Isle of Wight so exceptionally busy in the summer, and she entertained the German Emperor on several occasions when he came to Cowes.

OSBORNE MEMORIES

Christmas was nearly always spent at Osborne; and although this season of the year brought back to the Queen the poignant sorrows of her life, of the year brought back to the Queen the poignant sorrows of her life, there was every effort made to give her younger descendants a happy time. The Christmas tree was practically popularised in English homes by its introduction by the Queen and the Prince Consort, and every year there was a tree at Osborne laden with gifts for the great-grandchildren.

At Osborne a good many historic transactions have taken place. Mr. Gladstone "kissed hands" there on becoming, for the fourth time, Prime Minister of Great Britain. Foreign notables without number have been guests there, and the serene charm of the place never failed to impress them. When the Queen's family was young, Osborne was their favourite home, and many are the existing traces of their youthful recreations. A Swiss Cottage was built for their especial benefit, and there the young Princesses began to learn the domestic arts.

STIRRING EVENTS ABROAD

While domestic happiness was reigning at home, there were many causes for alarm in the outlook abroad. One country after another on the Continent of Europe was visited by disturbing influences which left their mark on history. Louis Philippe was forced to fly for refuge to England; the Pope, defeated in his attempts to conciliate the Roman States, went to Gaeta in haste; the Austrian Emperor was compelled to abdicate; and the King of Bavaria sought retirement after experiencing the significant symptoms had made their appearance in his kingdom. These were only a few of the troubles which befell our neighbours, and it says much for the Queen's confidence in her Ministers, and her calm self-control, that she remained unruffled while the chessboard of Europe was being re-arranged. The upstart growth of Chartism even failed to dismay her; she rejoiced at the Free Trade proposals of Sir Robert Peel—a silent revolution—and much regretted the ingratitude which followed his conscientious conversion to principles destined to have so prosperous an effect on our national resources. Prince Albert became more and more a power in the Queen's counsels, and his help was of great assistance in the discharge of duties of State. An epidemic of cholera appeared in the country in 1848, and again in the following year, with one good result, that more attention was devoted to the important question of drainage. One of the greatest achievements of the Queen's reign may be said to be the lowering of the death-rate, which was produced by the wise methods of sanitation pursued by Edwin Chadwick and other pioneers. The lessons which were taught by the terrible outbreaks of illness in crowded cities were productive of a remarkable extension of the average duration of life.

PRINCE OF WALES'S DEBUT

The first public duty performed by the little Prince of Wales was the opening of the Coal Exchange, in London, when he had not quite attained his eighth birthday. It had been hoped that the ceremony would have been graced by the presence of the Queen, but she caught chicken-pox unfortunately, so it devolved on her children to represent her. The Princess Royal and the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert, went in state from Westminster in the Royal barge, rowed by twenty-six watermen. Prince Albert was extremely careful to allow public attention to be centred upon his children rather than upon himself, and there was very great interest taken in the quaint procession as it passed down the river. Lady Lyttelton records that a pompous City dignitary addressed the little Prince as "the pledge and promise of a long race of Kings," rather to the mystification of the child.

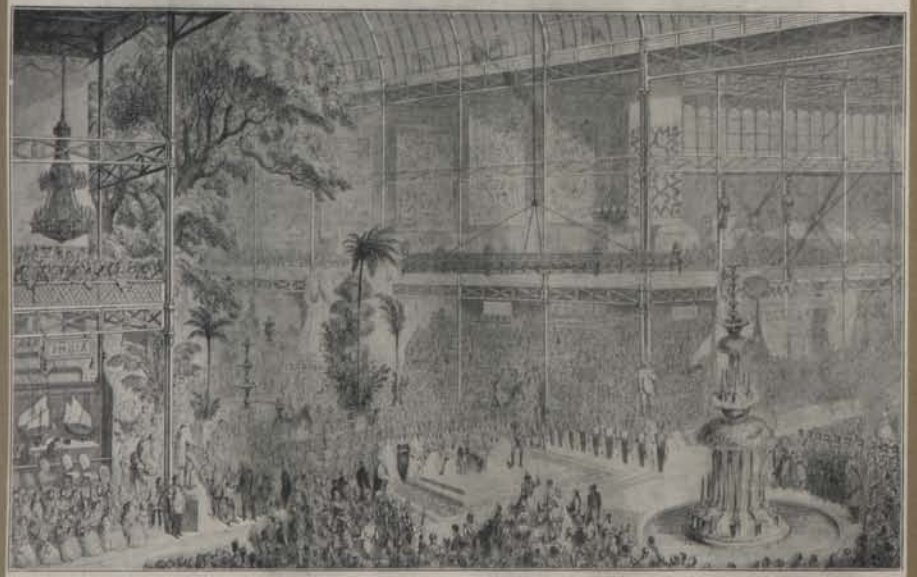
THE QUEEN'S CHILDREN
By Winterhalter

One may mention here that in December, 1850, Queen Adelaide died. F. W. Robertson, of Brighton, preached a remarkable sermon, extolling the deceased lady, who had been subjected to much misrepresentation during her life. In her will she said: "I die in peace, and wish to be carried to the tomb in peace, and free from the vanities and pomp of this world. I request not to be dissected, nor embalmed; and desire to give as little trouble as possible." She was buried at Windsor.

THE QUEEN IN IRELAND

It was made a frequent cause of complaint against the Queen that she had visited Ireland on much fewer occasions than Scotland. One explanation is, probably, that in the unsettled state of Ireland for several years the Queen's advisers recommended her not to go there; and another reason was undoubtedly the fact that the air of the Highlands suited her infinitely better than the atmosphere of any other portion of her Empire. Seeing that the continual prayer of her subjects was "God save the Queen," it was a little unreasonable and ungracious to complain of the Queen's seeking to retain as good health as possible by living in the district which best suited her constitution. She paid three visits to Ireland during her reign. The first was in 1849, when she was received with wonderful enthusiasm. The voyage was made in the royal yacht *Fairy*, which, as soon as it arrived at Kingstown, was hailed with salutes from every ship in the fine harbour. When the Royal party landed, the sight that greeted them was delightful.

Thousands thronged the streets, flowers decorated every house or cottage, flags waved on every side, as the Queen passed through the city. She was much impressed with the types of Irish beauty—"every third woman was pretty, and some remarkably so," was her verdict. The name of Queenstown was a permanent record of the Queen's first visit. In Dublin the Queen visited the old Parliament Houses, the Bank of Ireland, and other sights of the city. As she passed under the last triumphal arch, she records, "A poor little dove was let down into my lap, with an olive-branch round its neck, alive and very tame"—a symbol of what Ireland meant to convey to her Sovereign of the land's longing for peace. The famous Model Schools greatly interested the Prince Consort, who was always keen on anything



THE QUEEN OPENING THE GREAT EXHIBITION IN 1851

relating to improvement in education. The Royal party went on to Belfast, and were not less charmed with the whole-hearted joy which the inhabitants manifested there. Nothing marred the success of the Queen's tour in Ireland, and earnest hopes were expressed for its speedy repetition.

ANOTHER ASSAULT ON THE QUEEN

In June of the following year the Queen was leaving Gloucester House, where she had been to inquire after the health of the Duke of Cambridge, when a man suddenly strode forward, and struck her across the face with a cane. Prince Albert thus described the event in a letter to Baron Stockmar: "Victoria, thank God, is well; although her forehead is much bruised, and her nerves are still somewhat shaken by the shameful occurrence of yesterday. The perpetrator is a dandy whom you must often have seen in the Park, where he had made himself conspicuous. He maintains the closest silence as to his motives, but is manifestly deranged." It is a tribute to the better police arrangements which were inaugurated by Sir Robert Peel that during the last quarter of a century of the Queen's reign she was only once troubled by any attempt to injure her, despite the huge crowds which assembled at different occasions. The mention of Sir Robert Peel recalls the sad fact of his fatal accident when returning from a formal visit of inquiry just after this assault. He was thrown from his horse, and passed away on July 22nd, mourned by all. The Queen and Prince Albert had especial grief over this sad accident, for Sir Robert had become *persona gratissima* at Court. Many years afterwards when Mr. Arthur Peel, son of Sir Robert Peel, was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons, the Queen took the opportunity of reiterating to Mr. (afterwards Viscount) Peel her sincere regard for his father. Sir Robert was buried in the rural church of Drayton Bassett, but a monument was also erected in Westminster Abbey.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION

The year 1851 was memorable for the remarkable Exhibition, which owed its inception to the Prince. He overcame the numerous objections which were raised by all sorts of people, and by tact and judgment made one of the wonders of the reign possible. Paxton's idea of building a palace of glass in Hyde Park had a good deal to do with the extraordinary attraction which the Exhibition proved. "Like some tall palm the stately fabric rose," and on May Day, 1851, the Great Exhibition was ready to be opened.

The Queen's account is so graphic that a portion of it may be given: "The great event has taken place—a complete and beautiful triumph—a glorious and touching sight—one which I shall ever be proud of, for my beloved Albert and my country. . . . The glimpse of the transept through the iron gates, the waving palms, flowers, statues, myriads of people filling the galleries and seats around, with the flourish of trumpets as we entered, gave us a sensation which I can never forget, and I felt much moved. . . . The sight as we came to the middle, where the steps and chair (which I did *not* sit on) were placed, with the beautiful crystal fountain just in front of it, was magical—so vast, so glorious, so touching! . . . The tremendous cheers, the joy expressed in every face, the immensity of the building, the mixture of palms, flowers, trees, statues, fountains—the organ (with two hundred instruments and six hundred voices, which sounded like nothing)—and my beloved husband, the author of this 'Peace Festival,' which united the industry of all nations of the earth—all this was moving indeed, and it was and is a day to live for ever. God bless my dearest Albert! God bless my dearest country, which has shown itself so great to-day! One felt so grateful to the great God, who seemed to pervade all and bless all!"

EXHIBITION INCIDENTS

The Exhibition was attended by many interesting incidents. In the Queen's Diary allusion was made to the fact that during the performance of the Hallelujah Chorus "the Chinese Mandarin came forward and made his obeisance." The late Lord Playfair used to relate with great glee the amusing blunder connected with this foreign representative. When the procession was being formed a Chinaman in handsome attire was noticed, and, without inquiry, he was given a prominent position. Afterwards he proved to be a humble attendant at one of the sections devoted to Chinese exhibits! From an early date the name of Crystal Palace, used in the Queen's own account of the opening of the Exhibition, became associated with it; and when the great glass building was re-erected at Sydenham that title was retained. The beautiful fountain, to which the Queen made allusion, became the rendezvous of country visitors, and the phrase, "Will you meet me at the fountain?" gave rise to the popular hymn commencing thus. The Exhibition played a remarkable part in the re-union of scattered relatives, for from all parts of the world came thousands of visitors, and families whose members had long been separated met once more "at the Fountain."

On May 26th the charge for admission was reduced from five shillings to one shilling. Macaulay mentions: "It seems to be the fate of this extraordinary show to confound all predictions, favourable and unfavourable. Fewer people went on the shilling day than on the five shilling day!" As the Exhibition drew to a close in October, the crowds became denser, and millions must have visited it during the months it was open. Of course, there were many hopes unrealised with regard to it, and many predictions as to its heralding a time of universal peace, which were sadly falsified. But the opening of the Great Exhibition was, nevertheless, a very remarkable and historical event, and accomplished much in the encouragement of trade.

THE CRIMEAN WAR

In the year following the Duke of Wellington died. He was eighty-three years old, and passed away very peacefully at Walmer Castle. The Queen said of him: "He was to us a true friend and most valuable adviser." The Duke was a rare example of a soldier gifted with a deep interest in home politics and possessed of not a little insight in party government. His public funeral in St. Paul's Cathedral was a great function. Prince Arthur was a godson of the Duke; and another godson was Arthur James Balfour, who came to fame in after-years of the Queen's reign, first as Chief Secretary for Ireland, and then as Leader of the House of Commons. This allusion to politics reminds one that at this period the long struggle between Disraeli and Gladstone was commencing. A second visit of the Queen to Ireland took place in 1854, when she saw the Art and Industrial Exhibition in Dublin, which an attack of measles had prevented her opening. The thunder-cloud of war was beginning to cast its shadow, and soon came the invasion of the Crimea with its attendant tragedies. In that terrible time there was one beautiful inspiration—the mission of Miss Florence Nightingale and the commencement of the nursing of the sick and dying on the battlefield.

"On England's annals, through the long
Hereafter of her speech and song,
That light its rays shall cast
From portals of the past.

"A Lady with a Lamp shall stand
In the great history of the land,
A noble type of good,
Heroic womanhood."

The death of the Russian Emperor, the fall of Sebastopol, the visit of the French Emperor and the Empress Eugénie (who became in later years such an intimate friend), the return visit of the Queen to France, the institution of the Victoria Cross, and the Indian Mutiny, are all events which should be mentioned, although space precludes more detailed notice. During all the foreign complications the Prince Consort—he received that title in 1857—rendered the Queen the most valuable aid. His action in thus sharing the work of the Sovereign was criticised adversely, but afterwards received the commendation of leading politicians.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL IN '58

Engraved by Cousen after Winterhalter
Published by Colnaghi

WEDDING OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL

Passing over many interesting episodes, we come to the marriage, on 25 January 25th, 1858, of the Queen's eldest child, the Princess Royal, to Prince Frederick of Prussia. The Chapel Royal, St. James's—the scene of the Queen's own wedding—was once more filled with a crowd of celebrities. The bridegroom won everyone's heart by his handsome and charming personality. He wore the dark blue uniform of the Prussian Army, on his breast was the orange ribbon of the Order of the Black Eagle, his silver helmet glittered in the light. Of the bride the Queen said: "Our darling flower looked very touching and lovely, with such an innocent, confident, and serious expression, her veil hanging back over her shoulders, walking between her beloved father and dearest uncle Leopold, who had been at her christening and confirmation." In Thackeray's words: "Good mothers are married over again at their daughters' weddings"; and certainly the Queen was reminded vividly of her own marriage on this happy occasion. The young couple spent a short honeymoon, and then returned to their new home in Germany.

THE LATE EMPEROR FREDERICK

THE QUEEN'S FIRST GRANDCHILD

In August the Queen and Prince Consort visited their married daughter. "There on the platform," she recorded, "stood our darling child, with a nosegay in her hand. She stepped in, and long and warm was the embrace as she clasped me to her arms. So much to tell, and to say, and to ask; yet so unaltered, looking well—quite the old Vicky still." In a few months' time—on January 27th, 1859—the Princess gave birth to a son—news which filled the motherly heart of the Queen with delight. This first grandchild became—nearly thirty years afterwards—William II., Emperor of Germany. In 1860 the little boy had a sister, and the good news of the arrival of her first granddaughter gave the Queen great satisfaction. The Prince of Wales was informed by cable, at Halifax, in Newfoundland, where he was touring. This visit of the young Prince was of great educational value to him, and his popularity in the United States dates from his very pleasant visit at this time.

THE QUEEN'S FIRST GRANDCHILD

Early portrait of the German Emperor William II.
Photo by Hills and Saunders

CROWN PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA

It will be convenient here to summarise the subsequent career of her who was known, even after her marriage, to the Queen's subjects as the Princess Royal. She and her noble husband fulfilled the duties of their high station with remarkable knowledge and sympathy. In time of war the Crown Prince took the field, and stimulated his soldiers with the manly courage he displayed. He was a loving father to the sons and daughters who, as years went on, came to brighten his home; and when he visited this country he won the high opinion of all. The Crown Princess busied herself in philanthropic work, and took a deep interest in crèches and hospitals. In literature, art, and science she was always profoundly interested, and with the Crown Prince she shared a dislike for the formalities of Court life. When sorrows came upon the Queen, the Crown Princess always hastened to her side; and in the later years of her life there was almost daily correspondence between the mother and daughter as well as frequent visits.

In May, 1887, the Crown Prince's throat gave such anxiety that Sir Morell Mackenzie, the famous specialist, was summoned to Berlin. The illness did not prevent his Imperial Highness from figuring in the procession of Princes who escorted the Queen to Westminster Abbey on the occasion of her Jubilee in June. As Sir Morell said in his book, "He was the most striking figure in that historic pageant, and was hailed by the enthusiastic crowd as a king of men by gift of nature as well as by right of birth. Few could have thought, on seeing him there, in the very prime of his magnificent manhood, that behind the lines of Königgrätz, Wörth, and Sedan, there rode on that day of triumph a grimmer conqueror, who, before another year had passed, would have laid that stately form in the dust." The medical disputes around the Crown Prince's sick-bed added considerably to the tragedy.

There was soon little hope for the patient's recovery. The Crown Prince's condition grew worse, despite all that the clever skill of his advisers, and the affectionate care of his devoted wife, could do. In March, 1888, his father, the venerable German Emperor, passed away, and Frederick III. came to the throne. So ill was the new Emperor that he was precluded from attending his father's funeral. During the day he twice pointed to a window looking towards Berlin, saying, "*I* ought to be there." For a few sad weeks he survived, manfully overcoming all pain. Whenever it was possible, he and the Empress appeared in public, and many members of European Royal Families, including Queen Victoria returning from Florence, called upon them. But the end was drawing near. On June 13th he became worse, and from an early hour the Empress never left his side until he passed away. Thus a noble, beautiful life came to a close, soon after the attainment of its highest dignities and the commencement of its most responsible duties. The shock to the Queen was great, for it recalled her own loss with terrible force. All the country shared the grief of Germany in losing him who would have been so wise and good a ruler. The Dowager-Empress, or as she was more generally known—the Empress Frederick—became a constant visitor to her native land, after the settlement in life of her own children; and her bereavement brought with it the consolation of continual companionship with the Queen. She also purchased a fine estate at Cronberg, in the Taunus mountains, and was there visited by most of her Royal relatives.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK

Photo by Count and Stuart

HER FAMILY

The family of the Empress Frederick consists of four sons (the eldest being the Emperor William) and four daughters. The Emperor William married in 1881, and has several children. The eldest daughter of the Empress is the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, and has one daughter. Prince Albert William Henry, the second son, married in 1888. His mission to China in 1898 attracted much attention. The next son, Prince Francis, died as an infant. Princess Frederika married, in 1880, Prince Adolf von Schaumburg-Lippe. Prince Joachim died when only eleven years old. Princess Sophia married, in 1889, the Duke of Sparta, and in the ordinary course of events will be some day Queen of Greece. The youngest daughter is Princess Margaret, who married, in 1893, Prince Frederick Charles of Hesse. Her wedding was made particularly brilliant by the presence of many illustrious relatives. The Empress Frederick has quite a large circle of grandchildren.

Black & White, January 29th, 1901.

DEATH OF THE QUEEN'S MOTHER

On March 16th, 1861, the Queen lost her mother. She had been in weak health for some while, and was nearing her seventy-sixth birthday, so that her death was hardly unexpected, though naturally it was a shock to the Queen. She was not present at the Duchess's funeral, which took place at Windsor, but the Prince Consort acted, on her behalf, as chief mourner. The sorrows of this period were somewhat relieved by the betrothal of Princess Alice to Prince Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt. The Queen paid her third visit to Ireland, going to see the Prince of Wales, who was stationed at the Curragh camp. Prince Alfred was one of the party, having returned from a tour in the West Indies. At Edinburgh, later on, the Prince Consort laid foundation-stones of the new Post Office and of the Industrial Museum of Scotland — events which proved to be practically his last public functions. In November he went to see the new buildings at Sandhurst, and caught a cold, owing to the incessant rain which prevailed. He did not allow this to prevent his visiting the Prince of Wales at Cambridge and attending service at church on December 1st, although he was in a serious condition.

THE PRINCE CONSORT DIES

Dr. (afterwards Sir William) Jenner and Sir James Clark did not take at first a very anxious view of the Prince's illness; but soon there was no reason to doubt that he was in a high state of fever. His daughter Alice behaved throughout this terrible time with the most wonderful self-control. On her own responsibility, she summoned her brother from Cambridge when she realised the uncertainty of her father's recovery. The Queen was dazed by the awful fear in her heart, as she saw her beloved husband growing weaker and weaker. On Saturday night, at a quarter to eleven o'clock, the great change took place, and in the presence of his family, and those who had been indefatigable in alleviating his suffering, the Prince Consort passed away. His last audible words are said to have been: "Good little wife," uttered in his mother-tongue. At midnight the great bell of St. Paul's boomed forth the sad tidings; next day the omission of the Prince's name from the prayers for the Royal Family conveyed to many the first news of the bereavement, and the deepest sympathy with the widowed Queen was manifested by all.

At last the fine qualities of the deceased Prince Consort received universal acknowledgment, and splendid tributes were paid to his memory at every public gathering. Gradually, as the years have rolled on, the opinion as to the far-sighted wisdom of the Prince Consort has increased, and there is no student of the history of this reign who would withhold admiration from the "Queen's permanent Minister," as the Prince was well called. His was one of "the world's great bridals," and perfect happiness characterised his marriage with the Queen.

THE LAST PORTRAIT OF THE PRINCE CONSORT
Photo by C. J. King

ALBERT MEMORIAL, KENSINGTON
Photo by London Stereoscopic Co.

MEMORIALS TO THE PRINCE

Her Majesty found a solace in devising exquisite memorials as tributes to her loved Consort. She was not present at the funeral at Windsor, having been dissuaded, for reasons of health, from her original desire; but soon afterwards she chose a spot at Frogmore where there was erected, in course of time, a most magnificent mausoleum. There, on recurring anniversaries of deaths in the Queen's family, she would repair, and solemn services were held. The remains of the Prince were transferred thither on December 18th, 1862. The national memorial took the form of the striking Eleanor Cross, designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, which was erected in Hyde Park. It was embellished by several artists, and the work of completing it lasted until 1870. In 1865 a statue of the Prince was unveiled in the Queen's presence at Rosenau, his birthplace. At Balmoral, on a high mountain overlooking the home of the Queen, stands a cairn with this inscription: "To the beloved memory of Albert, the great and good Prince Consort, erected by his brokenhearted widow Victoria R., 21st August, 1862." In Edinburgh a splendid memorial was also erected, and in several other cities there stand permanent testimonies to the regard in which the Prince was held.

THE QUEEN IN RETIREMENT

So averse was the Queen to public appearances after the death of her husband, that for some time the Court continued its mourning, and the Sovereign lived in privacy, only broken by the weddings of Princess Alice and the Prince of Wales. She found consolation in the ministrations of Dr. Norman Macleod, when in residence at Balmoral, and was helped by his words to take up slowly the work of life. In conversation with him, she said she never shut her eyes to trials, but liked to look them in the face. She would never shrink from duty, but all was then done mechanically. It is worth recording, perhaps, that of Dr. Macleod's first sermon preached before the Queen she wrote that it was "entirely *extempore*." Dr. Macleod had already preached it fifteen times, so this was not surprising! A holiday in Germany did the Queen good, and after her return she was in much better spirits. It was feared that the Queen's health would be permanently impaired by the grief which she felt, but as new incidents claimed her attention she became able to resume much of her accustomed public work, although for the rest of her life she wore mourning, and the sense of her great bereavement was always present to her mind. The rooms which had been occupied by the Prince remained exactly as he left them, and in other ways the Queen loved to cherish everything which reminded her of the beloved partner of her life. The "lonely splendour" of the throne was always for her a sadly-realised fact.

INTERIOR OF THE ROYAL MAUSOLEUM, FROGMORE
Photo by London Stereoscopic Co.

PRINCE OF WALES'S BETROTHAL

In the midst of the gloom which the death of the Prince Consort had cast over the country came the glad intelligence that the Prince of Wales was about to marry Princess Alexandra, the charming daughter of the King and Queen of Denmark. The first time the Queen met her future daughter-in-law was during a brief visit to the King of the Belgians at Laeken. The first time the Prince met his future bride was in the Cathedral of Worms, in 1861. Later, they were both guests of the Crown Princess of Prussia, and then the Prince Consort noticed their mutual appreciation. Just before the Prince came of age his betrothal was announced publicly, though the secret had been known to the inner circle of his relatives for about a month before this. The Royal pair had an engagement of about six months, during which many preparations for the wedding occupied the interest of the nation. "All the world loves a lover," especially if he be of high rank and the bride be beautiful. As William Watson has sung, "Half the world a bridegroom is, and half the world a bride," so it is no wonder that the nuptials of such an exalted personage as the heir to the British throne should cause much kindly sympathy. The Danes were enthusiastic over the marriage of their Princess, and the "People's Dowry," as it was called, amounted to 100,000 krönor.

THE WEDDING

After the arrival of the bride in this country — an event which attracted enormous throngs of eager spectators — there were various public receptions in London, and the Princess was hailed everywhere with true British cordiality. The wedding ceremony was held in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on March 10th, 1863. The choice of Mid-Lent for the ceremony gave great offence to the High Church party. The function was as brilliant as was possible, considering the shadow over the Court. The Queen was a spectator, and relieved her mourning by wearing the Order of the Garter. The bride was attended by eight bridesmaids, ladies of the British nobility, who, it may be mentioned, recalled their service by presenting her Royal Highness on her silver wedding day with an album. The father of the bride gave her away, and it is needless to add that she looked supremely beautiful and radiant with happiness. The honeymoon was spent at Osborne, and soon afterwards the Prince and Princess settled down quietly at Sandringham — an estate which had been purchased for over £200,000. Their town residence was Marlborough House, and both in London and in Norfolk the Prince entertained very largely.

FAMILY JOYS AND SORROWS

It will be convenient here to summarise briefly the family record of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their first child was born at Frogmore on January 8th, 1864, and was baptised at Buckingham Palace, being given the names of Albert Victor Christian Edward. His tragic death at Sandringham on January 14th, 1892, soon after his betrothal to Princess May, was a great sorrow to the nation. The second child was also a son, born at Marlborough House on June 3rd, 1865, and christened George Frederick Ernest Albert. The Duke of York became heir to the throne on the death of his brother, and his marriage to Princess May was as welcome as had been his own father's wedding after the decease of the Prince Consort. The Duke's sons have occupied a special position in public affection, and are winsome lads. The Prince of Wales had three daughters: Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar, who married the Duke of Fife in 1889, and has a family; Princess Victoria Alexandra Olga Mary; and Princess Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria, who married Prince Charles of Denmark in 1896. Another son was born to the Prince of Wales in 1871, but only survived his birth one day.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES AT THE AGE OF 19
From an engraving by Samuel Cousins

THE PRINCE AS QUEEN'S DEPUTY

For an unparalleled period the Prince of Wales acted as deputy for the Queen, undertaking an extraordinary number and variety of public duties. In the discharge of these labours he always managed to give pleasure to everyone concerned, and his tact as an arbitrator in Royal and social difficulties became proverbial. He exercised, in a position of peculiar power, great influence in national affairs, yet never obtruded his opinions on questions outside his immediate province. The Princess was all this time the popular and charming partner of the Prince. Her warm-hearted thought for the poor and suffering was manifested again and again, while her presence lent distinction to any gathering in which she appeared. Bereavement only had the effect of increasing her sympathy with the sorrows of others, and many are the touching incidents in which her Royal Highness has revealed her affectionate nature. For the Queen she had a reverence which was particularly evident on all the occasions when the Royal ladies appeared on public together. In 1897 the Princess gave expression to this veneration in a letter to the Lord Mayor of London, suggesting a scheme of Jubilee dinners for the poor of London, in commemoration of the Queen's "glorious reign."

EARLY DAYS OF WIDOWHOOD

The Queen lightened her own sorrows by sympathy with others in those sad days when she was feeling most acutely the loss of the Prince Consort. The terrible colliery accident at Hartley drew from her the following message: "Her Majesty's tenderest sympathy is with the poor widows and mothers, and her own misery only makes her feel the more for them. Her Majesty hopes that everything will be done, as far as possible, to alleviate their distress, and her Majesty will have the sad satisfaction in assisting in such a measure." One result of this touching expression of the Queen's solicitude was the raising of a fund exceeding £80,000. The Cotton Famine about the same time was a cause of grief to her, and she contributed generously to the relief of the distressed. In the neighbourhood of Balmoral Castle, the Queen paid many visits of charity and condolence, finding in this gracious work a healing balm for her own sorrows. She spoke constantly about God's knowing best, and with remarkable courage addressed herself to the duties of State, which not the most bitter sorrow could intermit. In a letter to Tennyson, some years later, the Queen said: "Till sixty-one no real inroad of any kind had been made in our circle, and how heavy has God's hand been since then on me! Mother, husband, children, truest friends, all have been taken from me, and yet I must 'still endure,' and I shall try to do so." Her correspondence with the late Poet Laureate contained many such pathetic passages.

THE PRINCESS ALICE

The postponed marriage of Princess Alice, daughter who had become doubly dear to the Queen, with Prince Louis of Hesse, was solemnised at Osborne, on July 1st, 1862. The wedded life of the Princess was destined to have many griefs. Her little boy fell out of a window and died in sight of his mother; her youngest daughter died in November, 1878, and the Princess herself passed away a month later, having caught her fatal illness while nursing her husband and children. Having a beautiful character and a highly intellectual mind, the Princess was adored by all who knew her. To her mother her death came as a great bereavement, for Princess Alice's courage and ability had been of untold value to the Queen. The subsequent record of the Princess's family is of interest. Her eldest daughter married Prince Louis Alexander of Battenberg. The next daughter became the Grand Duchess Serge of Russia. Princess Irene is now the Crown Princess of Germany. The eldest son became Grand Duke of Hesse, and his sister, Victoria, is Czarina of Russia. All of them have inherited their mother's mental strength.

THE QUEEN OPENS PARLIAMENT

A sign of the return of the Queen to some of her accustomed official duties was afforded by her opening Parliament in 1866. The House of Lords presented a brilliant spectacle, and outside there were great crowds to witness the arrival of the Sovereign. The Queen was dressed in half-mourning, the sombre nature of which was relieved by a deep purple robe of velvet, trimmed with white miniver. She wore a white lace cap, and round her neck was a necklace of brilliants. The blue ribbon of the Order of the Garter was across her breast. In her speech, read by the Lord Chancellor, she announced the betrothal of her daughter Helena to Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and referred to the death of her uncle, the King of the Belgians. It would be difficult to exaggerate the sagacious influence which King Leopold had exercised over the Queen. With him she had maintained from childhood a continuous correspondence, and had consulted his judgment on most of the important questions which had arisen. Not long before the death of the King, Lord Palmerston and Richard Cobden had passed away—politicians of absolutely different temperaments, but each with a large following in the country.

THE QUEEN IN 1867
Photo by Hughes and Mullins

INTEREST IN LITERATURE AND TRAVEL

At this period the Queen showed her revived interest in affairs by inviting several eminent travellers and writers to visit her. Dr. David Livingstone had returned from his thrilling adventures in Africa, and he was summoned to the Queen's presence. The great explorer and missionary had an animated conversation with her Majesty, and amused her by relating that when the natives of Africa asked him whether his Chief was wealthy, he always replied in the affirmative. They would then inquire how many cows she possessed! When the news of H. M. Stanley's succour of Dr. Livingstone reached the Queen some years afterwards, she expressed her great satisfaction by sending Mr. Stanley a gold snuff-box. Charles Dickens was another distinguished man whom the Queen honoured by a personal interview. She presented him with her own volume, *Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands*, inscribing it to "one of the greatest of writers from one of the humblest." She kept abreast of the work of new authors, and appreciated the rising genius of "George Eliot" and Mrs. Oliphant, among others. Reading was always one of the Queen's pleasures, and her knowledge of French and German literature was maintained to the last. The publication of the Queen's book mentioned above took place in 1868, and gave great pleasure to her subjects. The natural unaffected simplicity of the Queen's writing was just what the nation appreciated. Sir Theodore Martin once wrote, "If there be any one person more than another to whom the artificial language commonly addressed to royal personages is distasteful, it is the Queen herself." The sale of her volume was very extensive.

LATE GRAND DUKE OF HESSE
Photo by London Stereoscopic Co.

PRINCESS HELENA'S WEDDING

About three weeks before the marriage of the Queen's third daughter, her Majesty was present at the wedding of Princess Mary of Cambridge to the Duke of Teck. The Duchess of Teck became an especial favourite with the British public by reason of her benevolence and readiness to assist every kind of good work. For her cousin the Queen had a sincere affection, and received when in the course of years she stood in a more intimate relation to the Duchess on the marriage of her daughter, Princess May, to the Queen's grandson. There was little popular enthusiasm over the marriage of the Princess Helena to Prince Christian which took place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on July 5th, 1866. In the first place the bridegroom was fifteen years older than the bride; in the second place, nothing much was known about him, and it was only a few days before the wedding that he was entitled to the prefix of "his Royal Highness." As time went on Prince Christian won the good opinion of the nation by his devotion to the interests of the Queen and his useful, though unobtrusive, service to the public cause. Princess Christian was always regarded affectionately, and her organising powers in promoting the well-being of the nursing profession, her readiness to work hard on committees entailing a mastery of detail, added to her popularity.

HER FAMILY

Prince and Princess Christian had five children, of whom the youngest only survived a few days. Their eldest son, Prince Christian Victor, was born at Windsor Castle, April 14th, 1867. He was educated for the Army at Wellington College—of which institution his father was a Governor—at Magdalen College, Oxford, and finally at Sandhurst. Joining the King's Royal Rifles, he became a smart young officer. He served in the Mirazai expedition in 1891, and was one of the Sirdar's force which marched to Khartoum in 1898. His brother, Prince Albert, was educated at Charterhouse. He entered the Army as lieutenant of the Hessian Dragoon Guards. The next in the family is Princess Victoria, who was born at Frogmore House in 1870. She was for years a constant visitor to the Queen, who was particularly fond of this bright and talented granddaughter. Her sister, Louise, married Prince Aribert of Anhalt. Princess Christian and her daughter are most proficient pianists, and have appeared at charity concerts on several occasions. Both the sons were good cricketers, and retained their love of the game beyond their college days. Prince Christian was fond of shooting, until an unfortunate accident deprived him of one eye. Princess Christian has translated more than one book from German into English. She is devoted to literature, but finds little time in her busy life of philanthrophy to pursue it. She has shared with her sisters the onerous duties of opening institutions, christening ships, and other functions for which Royal ladies are so much in request; and, besides all this, she was for many years rarely absent long from the Queen's side. Occasionally she held the Drawing Room when the Queen and the Princess of Wales were out of London.

EVENTFUL YEARS

Soon after Princess Christian's wedding there were many incidents of interest in the life of the Queen. She laid the foundation-stone of the Royal Albert Hall, and received visits from the Viceroy of Egypt and the Sultan of Turkey. *Early Years of the Prince Consort*, edited by the Hon. Charles Grey, attracted a good deal of attention. On the resignation, in February, 1868, of Lord Derby, the duty of forming a new Ministry fell to Mr. Disraeli, who became in subsequent years such a power in the Queen's councils. Once again her Majesty held a Drawing Room, to the delight of her subjects. The Queen was able to enjoy a pleasant holiday in France and Switzerland, travelling incognito as the Countess of Kent. Towards the end of the year Mr. Gladstone became Prime Minister for the first time. In 1869 the chief political event was the Disestablishment of the Irish Church, which brought about much conflict of opinion. But, as Archbishop Tait records, "Thanks to the Queen, a collision between the Houses has been averted."

LATE PRINCESS ALICE
Photo by W. and D. Downey

MEN OF THE PERIOD

CHARLES DICKENS
Born 1812. Died 1870.

WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY
Born 1811. Died 1863.

ARCHBISHOP TAIT
Born 1811. Died 1882.

RICHARD COBDEN
Born 1804. Died 1865.

JOHN BRIGHT
Born 1811. Died 1889.

SOME PRIME MINISTERS OF THE QUEEN

EARL OF BEACONSFIELD

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE

MARQUIS OF SALISBURY

EARL OF ROSEBERY

EARL RUSSELL

FAMILY OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES

Photos by W. and D. Downey

PRINCESS LOUISE
Married Duke of Fife

PRINCESS VICTORIA

DUKE OF CLARENCE
Born 1864. Died 1892

PRINCESS MAUD
Married Prince Charles of Denmark

DUKE OF YORK
Married Princess May of Teck

THE QUEEN AT HER WRITING-TABLE

THE GRAND HOTEL, GRASSE, A FAVOURITE RESIDENCE OF THE QUEEN

PRINCE CHRISTIAN
Photo by Lescone

FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR

Ominous signs of a crisis between Prussia and France had been giving the Queen great anxiety, owing to so many of her relatives belonging to the former country. Prussia had only just emerged from a war to protect the ancient rights of the German province of Schleswig-Holstein, in danger of extinction from Denmark. In that conflict the husband of the Queen's eldest daughter had served on Field-Marshal Von Wrangel's staff, and had received his baptism of fire at Duppel. Then came Königgratz, the chief merit of which victory belongs to the Crown Prince; and soon the thundercloud hovering over France burst, and involved him again in warfare's deadly work. The Crown Princess, despite the cares of a young family, inspired the nation to the willing sacrifice of its sons, and in distant Balmoral news of every movement of the army was read with painful interest.

For nursing the wounded the most admirable arrangements were made by the indefatigable Crown Princess, the Princess Alice, and other Royal ladies. The Queen sent the best and finest linen, and from Balmoral there came a box of beautifully-knitted woollen socks, with which the soldiers were so delighted, that they said that they thought only Germans could knit so well! One evening, in the words of Miss Roberts, a gillie came speeding up the glen from Balmoral, bringing the exciting news that Sedan had fallen — Napoleon had capitulated — news just flashed to the Queen from headquarters. For many nights past three had been beautiful displays of the aurora borealis, but that evening the northern lights were more striking than on any previous occasion. As the fiery lances seemed to dart from horizon to zenith, our thoughts took wing and bore us to those far-off fields of France where the Wurtemberg troops, led by the Crown Prince to victory, were often in such deadly peril, and were winning laurels both for their bravery and for their forbearance. The Queen, too, was watching here, in the remote Highlands, with an anxious heart, for tidings of the war.

MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF LORNE

The Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne had led very busy lives since that auspicious day. They were exceedingly popular in Canada, where the Marquis was Governor-General for five years. He has taken a keen interest in politics, and has represented two or three constituencies in the House of Commons. Like the Duke of Argyll, he has literary tastes, and has written several volumes of fiction, travel, and poetry. He has essayed also to write stage-plays, with but indifferent success; he has been more fortunate in writing opera-libretti. Princess Louise, though delighting in informality and freedom from Court duties, has shown continuous interest in art. Herself a sculptor of decided ability and a charming artist, she has done all she could to encourage a spread of art culture. She is acquainted with most of the great collections in Europe. All kinds of art have engaged her attention, from statues to sign-boards, and in more than one magazine there have appeared black-and-white illustrations by the Princess. All public work which she undertakes is discharged with a grace which doubles the pleasure always felt by a sight of this popular daughter of the Queen.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN
Photo by W. and D. Downey

WINDSOR CASTLE FROM THE RIVER
Photo by Taunt, Oxford

PRINCE OF WALES'S ILLNESS

In December, 1871, came a serious report as to the illness of the Prince of Wales. He had caught typhoid fever, and on the first sign of illness had gone to Sandringham. As is the custom of Courts, little was made of the affair at first. Princess Alice happened to be on a visit to her brother, and her help in nursing was invaluable. On November 29th, so great was the Queen's anxiety that she went to Sandringham, and at once the gravity of the situation became apparent. Public sympathy was aroused to an astonishing extent, and in that period of tension it may be said that Republicanism (which had lately reared its head in the country) received its death-blow. As the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort approached, and reports from Sandringham grew worse, all feared that the heir to the throne was about to follow his father. All the newspapers were prepared at any moment to publish obituary notices, and even the *Times* could only say: "The Prince still lives, and we may still therefore hope." But the crisis came, and by slow degrees the patient rallied, to the joy of all. The day after Christmas Day the Queen sent to the nation one of those tender letters for which her reign was memorable. "The Queen is very anxious to express her deep sense of the touching sympathy of the whole nation on the occasion of the alarming illness of her dear son, the Prince of Wales. The universal feeling shown by her people during those painful, terrible days, and the sympathy evinced by them with herself and her beloved daughter, the Princess of Wales, as well as the general joy at the improvement of the Prince's state, have made a deep and lasting impression on her heart which can never be effaced." On the brass lectern in the Parish Church at Sandringham there is this inscription, which explains itself: "To the glory of God. A thanksoffering for His mercy. 14th December, 1871. ALEXANDRA. 'When I was in trouble I called upon the Lord and He heard me.'" Other memorials of this time of terrible tension were placed in various churches, in grateful recollection of the Prince's recovery.

PRINCESS LOUISE'S WEDDING

In the autumn of 1870 it was announced that the Queen had given her consent to the betrothal of her fourth daughter, Princess Louise, to the Marquis of Lorne, eldest son and heir of the Duke of Argyll. Many important questions of etiquette had to be settled, owing to the bridegroom not being of Royal rank, but there was general satisfaction at what was evidently "a love match." The bride had just passed her twenty-third birthday, and the Marquis was in his twenty-sixth year. The wedding, at which the Queen was present, took place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on March 21st, 1871. The bonny little sons of the Prince of Wales were in Highland costume, as were many of the guests, in compliment to the chief of the Campbells. When the usual question was asked, "Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?" her Majesty replied in a clear voice, "I do." The bride's response, "I, Princess Louise, take thee, John Douglas Sutherland, Marquis of Lorne, to my lawful wedded husband," was also clearly spoken. The wedding breakfast was served in the beautiful Oak Room at Buckingham Palace, and there were about sixty guests present. As the bride and bridegroom left the Palace for their honeymoon, quite a number of white satin shoes and a new broom were thrown.

MARQUIS OF LORNE

PRINCESS LOUISE

THANKSGIVING DAY

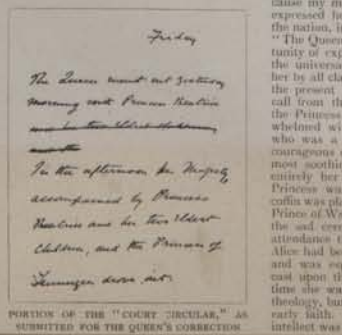
In the following February "London rolled one tide of joy through all her trebled millions and loud leagues of mess." The Queen and the Royal Family went to St. Paul's Cathedral to return thanks for the Prince's recovery. The streets were more crowded than had ever previously been the case at Royal processions through the City. As a sign of the universal feeling, it may be mentioned that the pickpockets entered into an agreement not to ply their nefarious traffic on this day (!). Thirty thousand children were massed in the Green Park, and sang the National Anthem as the Queen and Prince passed. After the event was over, with all its extraordinary displays of enthusiasm, the Queen wrote to Mr. Gladstone "to express publicly her own personal very deep sense of the reception she and her children met with on Tuesday, the 27th of February, from millions of her subjects on her way to and from St. Paul's. Words are too weak for the Queen to say how very deeply touched and gratified she has been by the immense enthusiasm and affection exhibited towards her dear son and herself, from the highest down to the lowest, in the long progress through the capital, and she would earnestly wish to convey her warmest and most heartfelt thanks to the whole nation for this great demonstration of loyalty."

WEDDING OF PRINCE ALFRED

The marriage of the Queen's second son was notable as the only event of the kind in the family at which the Queen had not been present. As it took place in St. Petersburg on January 23rd, 1874 the Queen had to content herself with sending the bride, the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna, an exquisite bouquet of flowers picked at Osborne, and the prayer-books used by the bridal pair. Her Majesty was represented specially by Viscount Sydney Dean Stanley, and Lady Augusta Stanley. The Prince and Princess of Wales and other relatives of the bridegroom were present at the very imposing wedding of this, the only daughter of the Czar. In the midst of a heavy snowstorm Prince Alfred and his wife made a State entry into London on March 12th. The Queen and Princess Beatrice accompanied the bridal couple in an open landau—one other instance of the Queen's disregard of inclement weather. In May the Queen received a visit from the Czar, who was entertained with splendid hospitality at the Guildhall, and in his speech referred to the recent wedding of his daughter, trusting that "the affectionate home she finds in your country will strengthen the friendly relations now established between Russia and Great Britain, to the mutual advantage of their prosperity and peace." The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the title under which they came to be known, occupied a peculiar position from the fact that the Duke's naval work kept him abroad for a large proportion of his time. His accession in 1893 to the ducal throne of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha caused him to be still more rarely in the land of his birth, although he lived at Clarence House occasionally, and continued his active interest in British musical affairs. He was an expert performer on the violin, and often led the Royal Amateur Orchestra before he went to Coburg. The Duchess was better appreciated as years went on, and all who knew her intimately had high praise for her kindliness. Four children composed the family, the eldest being Prince Alfred; one daughter became Crown Princess of Roumania, another Grand Duchess of Hesse, and a third Princess Hohenlohe-Langenburg. The Duke's ill-health occasioned much anxiety in 1898. He was the only son of the Queen who visited Australia. That was in 1868, when the pleasure of his trip was marred somewhat by an assault made by a man who shot Prince Alfred in the back. This unpleasant incident occurred at a picnic at Clontarf, given in the Prince's honour, but the Prince soon recovered his usual health, and continued his tour.

A DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE BY SIR HENRY IRVING AND MISS ELLEN TERRY BEFORE THE QUEEN AT WINDSOR

DUCHESS OF SAXE-COBURG



PORTION OF THE "COURT CIRCULAR," AS SUBMITTED FOR THE QUEEN'S CORRECTION

EMPRESS OF INDIA

In this record only the briefest mention can be made of national events except in their personal connection with the Queen. One may allude in passing to the Prince of Wales's visit to India and the opening by her Majesty of a new wing to the London Hospital. More important was the proclamation on May 1st, 1876, of the Queen as Empress of India. This idea of adding to the Sovereign's titles was much discussed in Parliament, and produced at least one notable speech, that delivered by Mr. Joseph Cowen, who represented Newcastle for too brief a period. Mr. Disraeli, whose happy thought it was to express the Queen's authority over so vast a portion of her Empire, was raised to the peerage in August as Earl of Beaconsfield. At this distance of time we are able to consider dispassionately a question which aroused remarkable divergence of opinion, and it is probable that most people will agree that it was only justice to India—sentimental though the form of the act might be—to introduce the empire of our Sovereign over that enormous country into her Majesty's formal titles. The Queen showed her real personal interest in India in many ways. She studied Hindustani, she had the continual attendance of Indian servants at Court, she was aided in some portion of her correspondence by the Munshi Abdul Karim, and in other ways she manifested her deep sympathy with the hundred millions of Indian subjects who served her sway.

ANOTHER SAD YEAR

In 1878, when wars and rumours of war were shadowing the world, there fell on the Queen yet another bereavement in the death of her beloved daughter, Princess Alice. She cause my mother so much anxiety." That mother expressed her own feelings in a beautiful letter to the nation, in which the following passage occurred: "The Queen is anxious to take the earliest opportunity of expressing publicly her heartfelt thanks for the universal and most touching sympathy shown to her by all classes of her loyal and faithful subjects on the present occasion, when it has pleased God to call from this world her dearly beloved daughter, the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse. Overwhelmed with grief at the loss of a dear child, who was a bright example of loving tenderness, courageous devotion, and self-sacrifice to duty, it is most soothing to the Queen's feelings to see how entirely her grief is shared by her people." The Princess was buried at Rosenhohe, and over the coffin was placed, by her desire, the Union Jack. The Prince of Wales and Prince Leopold were present at the sad ceremony, which proved by the enormous attendance the love and affection in which Princess Alice had been held. A biography of her appeared, and was especially interesting from the sidelights cast upon the Princess's spiritual troubles. At one time she was much influenced by German views of theology, but towards the end she came back to her early faith. There is no doubt that the Princess's intellect was of a high order.

DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT
Photo by Russell

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S WEDDING

This great grief was not allowed to postpone the wedding of the Queen's son Arthur further than to March 13th in the next year. The bride was Princess Louise Margaret Alexandra Victoria Agnes, third daughter of the late Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, known in military history as "the Red Prince." The marriage was celebrated at Windsor. The Duke and Duchess have won the esteem and love of everyone. When the Duke was Commander-in-Chief at Bombay for four years, and in other high offices which he has adorned, he and the Duchess have succeeded in adding to their very large circle of friends. The spirit of his father dwells in the Duke, who is particularly unaffected and pleasant. In the British Army there is no officer more zealous in upholding the best qualities of the soldier, and inculcating temperance and morality. The Duchess, despite excessive shyness of disposition, has seconded her husband in all good works. A good story is told of the Duke attending a reception given by a Bishop. His face, though familiar to the prelate, did not serve to identify him. The Bishop, mistaking his guest, asked, in the course of conversation, how his mother was. "Very well indeed," replied the Duke. "O, I am glad to hear the old lady keeps so well," said the Bishop, to the amusement of some other guests. "I suppose you know who that gentleman was?" said one of them to the Bishop, who, hearing it was the Duke of Connaught, was horror-stricken at having alluded to his Sovereign as "the old lady"! The Duke and Duchess have one son, Prince Arthur, who varied his schooldays at Eton by spending Sundays with the Queen at Windsor Castle, and two daughters, delightful young women in every way.

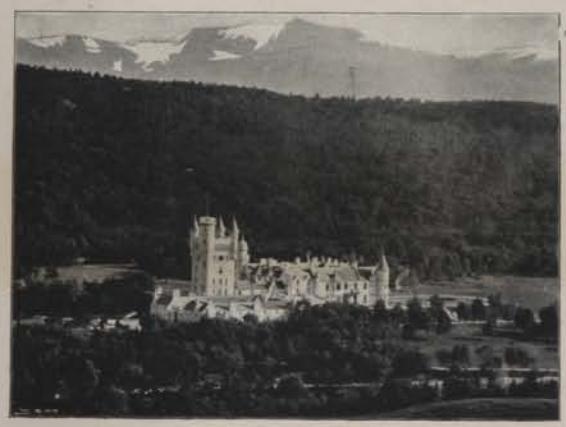
PRINCE IMPERIAL KILLED

Prince Louis Napoleon, the son of the ex-Empress Eugénie, had gone as the guest of the British Army to Zululand, where our troops were engaged in quelling a rebellion. The young Prince Imperial, as he was still called, was a member of a reconnoitring party, under Captain Carey, at Imbabani, on June 1st, 1879, and by the sudden attack of some natives concealed in the bushes, became separated from the rest of the party, and was slain. The grief of the nation at this sad occurrence was great, and the Queen's sorrow was still greater, for she had been on terms of special friendship with the ex-Empress and her son. Her Majesty was speedy in offering her consolation to the bereaved mother, and the latter was much comforted by the Queen's sympathy. The political situation in France caused by the Prince Imperial's death was summed up epigrammatically by the Duc de Broglie, who remarked: "The Republic has all the luck: the Prince Imperial is dead, and the Comte de Paris is alive." Certainly, there is little reason to doubt that with the passing away of the young and amiable Prince there also passed away the dream of the French Monarchists.

THE QUEEN IN SCOTLAND

For more than half a century the Queen found in the fine air of Balmoral the best aid to her health, and it was, therefore, not surprising that she sought to spend a good portion of each year in her Highland home. When she first saw the place, which became so linked with her life, she wrote: "It was so calm and so solitary, it did one good as one gazed around, and the pure mountain air was most refreshing. All seemed to breathe freedom and peace, and to make one forget the world and its sad turmoils." Then, seven years afterwards, when a new Balmoral Castle had been completed, she recorded: "Every year my heart becomes more fixed in this dear Paradise."

THE NEW PARISH CHURCH AT CRATHIE
From a sketch, showing the Queen's pew, by A. Marshall Mackenzie



BALMORAL CASTLE
Photo by G. W. Wilson and Co.

INSIDE BALMORAL CASTLE

The interior arrangements of the Castle underwent little alteration since those years, and there was always much in the mere appearance of the place to remind the Queen of her husband. Various cairns have, in accordance with Scottish custom, been erected in the neighbourhood to commemorate events in the Queen's life. On entering the Castle you are impressed with the simplicity which characterises this true home. In the hall there are antlered trophies of the chase, and a fine statue of Malcolm Canmore. Leading from the entrance hall is the corridor, where the first thing that meets the eye is a beautiful statue of the Prince Consort. There is everything to remind one of Scotland in the decoration, for a profusion of tartan is to be seen on all sides. The finest apartment in the Castle is the ball-room. A recess in this room has chairs placed for onlookers, leaving the floor entirely free for dancing. All round the walls are placed splendid antlers, the triumphs of Royal deer-stalkers. From the ceiling depend massive candelabra which, when lighted, give a most brilliant appearance to the room.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT
Photo by Mendelssohn

HER LIFE IN THE HIGHLANDS

In the two volumes which the Queen published there was so full an account of her experiences at Balmoral that few words are necessary on this topic. The Queen went to Balmoral for rest, and this fact was recognised by all the inhabitants. Except on the part of tourists, her Majesty's desire for privacy was most carefully respected. If the Royal carriage with the Queen made its appearance in the district it was fully understood that no notice was expected to be paid to its Royal occupants. Her Majesty engaged occasionally in local affairs, such as when she was present at the famous Braemar Gathering, or when she laid the foundation-stone of the new parish kirk. When the Queen was in the habit of worshipping at Crathie Church she specially wished that no out-of-the-way attentions were to be offered to her. This was the account given by one of her Majesty's appearance at church. "Just as the bell begins to ring, a whisper runs through the gathering that 'the Queen is coming!' and the people stream into the church, with the exception of a few of the tourists who remain to see her enter. She drives up in the carriage with the well-known white horses, generally accompanied by one of her ladies-in-waiting and some of her family. She enters the west door, ascends the gallery stairs, and takes her seat in a plain-looking pew to the left of the pulpit, and similar to those in front of the gallery reserved by the proprietors of the district. There is no show or ceremonial of any kind, and the service is conducted in all respects as if none were there but the ordinary parishioners. The minister of the parish or one of her Majesty's chaplains generally officiates, and occasionally some minister who has been specially invited. Before the Benediction the elders carry round the antiquated ladle, and the Queen puts in her offering with the rest. Then come the blessing and the immediate dispersal of the congregation." A new church now stands at Crathie, and in the bazaar in aid of its funds the Queen and her daughters took a deep personal interest, making many saleable articles and purchasing freely. In later years the Queen has preferred to worship in the privacy of her home, but when the young Czar of Russia paid a visit to Balmoral in 1896 she and this ruler of many millions worshipped publicly together in the church—an impressive and noteworthy occasion. At Balmoral the Queen realised more than in any other place the home life and seclusion which became dearer to her each year. The fine air suited her constitution wonderfully.

EVENTS IN 1881

One must note in the Queen's life at this period her striking and beautiful letters on the occasion of the assassination of General Garfield, President of the United States. In July, 1881, a disappointed office-seeker shot the President, who had gained his high position only in the previous November. Queen Victoria was speedy in sending her heartfelt sympathy, and when Garfield succumbed to his injuries in September, she wrote to the widow: "Words cannot express the deep sympathy I feel with you at this terrible moment. May God support and comfort you, as He alone can." The British Court went into mourning as for a Sovereign, and a magnificent wreath was placed on the coffin by desire of the Queen. Many years afterwards Americans traced the growth of the warm desire for cordial relations between the United States and this country back to the time when the Queen wrote these words of womanly sympathy. In April, 1881, the Queen had mourned the death of the Earl of Beaconsfield, and to his memory there was erected at Hughenden (where the Queen had visited the ex-Premier) a monument "by his grateful and affectionate Sovereign and friend, Victoria R.I. 'Kings love him that speaketh right. . . .'—Proverbs xvi., 13."

THE LATE DUKE OF ALBANY
Photo by Russell

ANOTHER ATTEMPT ON HER LIFE

It was just prior to the Queen's leaving this country for Mentone in 1882 that Roderick Maclean raised a pistol near the Queen, who was driving from Windsor station to the Castle. Her Majesty was hardly aware of the danger in which she was placed, as Princess Beatrice, with great command over her feelings, did not relate the full incident until the Queen's safe return. An Eton boy, named Bromley-Davenport, who afterwards became a member of Parliament, was one of the first to aid in securing Maclean, who was tried for this serious offence against the Sovereign's life. In both Houses of Parliament, and in assemblies all over the country, feeling allusion was made to the gratitude which the nation experienced in preserving the Queen from injury. Lord Granville mentioned in his speech in the House of Lords, "The first inquiry of the Queen was whether anyone was hurt. The next expressed her appreciation of the courage of the Princess Beatrice." A window in Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, commemorates "the merciful deliverance of her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria on March 2nd, 1882." During the previous year a man was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude for threatening to murder the Queen.

PRINCE LEOPOLD'S WEDDING

The Queen's youngest son, Prince Leopold, had been always delicate, and accordingly less had been seen of him in public than of the other Princes. He was known to be studious and thoughtful, and his occasional speeches had revealed a highly cultured mind. There was considerable interest taken in his wedding at Windsor, in April, 1882, to Princess Helena Frederica Augusta, daughter of the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont. The bride was eight years younger than Prince Leopold. She had first met her future husband at Soden, a little watering-place, and had been betrothed at Frankfort. Her elder sister was Queen-Regent of the Netherlands, who presented her with a beautiful bridal dress. At the wedding most of the Royal Family were present; and at its conclusion Prince and Princess set forth for Claremont, where the honeymoon was spent. At Claremont, too, they spent the all too brief married life which followed. In February of the next year a daughter, named Alice Mary Victoria Augusta Pauline, was born to the Duke and Duchess of Albany. In February, 1884, prior to leaving England to winter abroad, the Duke appeared at a village concert at Esher, and sang "The Sands o' Dee." No one anticipated that in a few days from that evening the singer would be lying dead. After arriving at Cannes, the Duke had seemed in better health; but a fall brought on illness, and on March 28th the young Prince—he was not quite thirty-one—passed suddenly away. Once again the nation mourned with the Royal Family, and most of all with the stricken widow, in this terrible sorrow. Mr. Gladstone moved, in a speech profoundly sympathetic, that the condolence of Parliament should be offered to the bereaved. To the joy of all, a son was born to the widowed Duchess in July, and in the upbringing of her two children the Duchess of Albany found some consolation for her sad loss. She is a lady of most kindly sympathy, and has become a great favourite with the nation. She has attended various classes for learning nursing and ambulance methods; she has promoted many useful movements in the neighbourhood of Claremont, and has been most diligent in philanthropy. Several times she has entertained her sister and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands in this country, and her own children have frequently visited Holland and their aunt and cousin. The young Duke of Albany was a school-fellow with his cousin, Prince Arthur of Connaught, at Eton, and his mother insisted wisely on no privileges being accorded to her son at school.

DUCHESS OF ALBANY
Photo by Cowie and Stuart

NATIONAL AND PERSONAL SORROWS

Hardly had the wedding-bells of Prince Leopold ceased resounding, before the awful tragedy of the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke shocked the whole civilised world. That memorable Sunday when the news flashed through the empire, and greeted thousands of worshippers leaving their sanctuaries, will never be forgotten. The Queen was much shocked by the outrage, and wrote personal letters to the families which had been so suddenly injured by the assassins' cruel hands. Considerable disquiet was caused by the discovery of the secret manufacture of explosives in Birmingham in 1883, and there were particular precautions taken to ensure the Queen's safety.

It was in March of this year that the Queen's faithful Highland attendant, John Brown, died; he had been to inspect the scene of a reported outrage on Lady Florence Dixie, and caught a chill, which proved fatal three days later. Her Majesty had the greatest regard for her servant, and erected more than one monument to his memory. About this time an accident occurred to the Queen at Windsor Castle, which affected her walking powers for the rest of her life. She fell on one of the staircases, and injured her knees considerably. It was a strange coincidence that the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Leopold all injured their knees—a particularly awkward accident to happen to anyone, most of all to those who have to take part in public functions. Lifts were instituted at Windsor Castle soon after the accident.

THE LATE PRINCE HENRY OF BATTENBERG
Photo by Downey

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG
Photo by Hughes and Mullins

VISITS ABROAD

For several years the Queen spent part of the winter or spring on the Continent. Florence, Cimiez, Cannes, were some of the spots chosen for these holidays; and much good resulted from these changes of scene. Preceding the Queen's arrival, M. Dossé would obtain all particulars and photographs of various places, and these would be considered carefully by the Queen and her medical adviser, so that the most healthy situation might be selected according to the weather and the time of the year. Then alterations were generally needed in order to render the villa or the hotel chosen for the Royal residence suitable to its requirements. The French and Italian nations extended the most graceful welcomes to the Queen. In 1879 she stayed at Baveno, on the shores of Lake Maggiore; in 1882 she had a delightful time at Mentone; in 1883 she went to Aix-les-Bains; and subsequent holidays were spent at Grasse, Cimiez, or at Florence.

PRINCESS BEATRICE'S WEDDING

The pretty church at Whippingham, near Osborne, was the scene, on July 23rd, 1885, of the wedding of the youngest of the Queen's children. Princess Beatrice had been all her life a constant companion to her mother, and the nation had grown so accustomed to regard her as such that the news of her betrothal to Prince Henry of Battenberg came as a great surprise. The bridegroom was the third son of Prince Alexander of Hesse and the Rhine, and was twenty-seven years old at the time of his marriage. The wedding ceremony was much less formal than the usual Royal marriage service is. The bride wore the veil which had adorned her mother at her own wedding. The honeymoon was spent at Quarn Abbey. Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg spent nearly all their subsequent married life with the Queen—that having been the understanding when her Majesty consented to her daughter's marriage. Four children were born, the eldest being Prince Alexander of Battenberg. In 1895, at his own urgent entreaty, Prince Henry went out as an officer in the Ashanti Expedition. His farewell to his wife was very pathetic—it proved to be the last time he saw her. In January Prince Henry was taken ill with an attack of fever. He was conveyed to a British ship, but all efforts to save his life proved unavailing. Just before noon on January 21st, 1896, the newspaper boards in London bore the startling intelligence, "Death of Prince Henry of Battenberg." His body was conveyed on H.M.S. *Blonde* to England, and was buried at Whippingham. Thus the youngest daughter of the Queen came to share the sorrows of widowhood with her mother and her eldest sister. Henceforward, Princess Henry was rarely absent from the Queen. She and her children accompanied her Majesty wherever she went, and to the training of her family the Princess devoted herself assiduously. One office held by her late husband was transferred to Princess Henry—that of Governor of Carisbrooke Castle.

QUEEN'S SITTING-ROOM IN THE VILLA PALMIERI, WHERE SHE RESIDED AT FLORENCE

FIFTY YEARS A QUEEN

As the fiftieth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne drew near, there were many suggestions as to the method in which such an historic event should be celebrated. Everyone was agreed that the nation should commemorate the occasion by deeds of philanthropy, for the chief note of the reign had been charitable care for the sick and poor. So, in every part of the Empire, funds were raised for the erection of hospitals, and similar schemes for perpetuating the fame of a Queen who had spent her years in doing good. A large sum of money was collected and presented to her Majesty by the women of her Empire for her own disposal, and this the Queen allocated for the benefit of nurses by the foundation of a Jubilee Fund.

On the 21st of June, 1887, the Queen's Jubilee was celebrated all over the Empire, in far-away places like St. Kitts, and in crowded cities and remote camps. "God Save the Queen" was wafted on every breeze that blew, and millions realised as never before the personal greatness of Queen Victoria and the reverence felt for her by all nations and peoples. Gifts poured in from European Courts, from dusky monarchs in distant lands, and from the poorest and humblest of her myriad subjects. No one who saw the fine procession pass through the thronged streets of London, or who attended the touching service in Westminster Abbey, will ever forget the experience. It was the glorious triumph of "the woman of the world," as an American orator called the Queen. Millions who had never seen their Sovereign before, saw her then surrounded by the phalanx of Royal Princes, the representatives of every foreign Court, and by her children, her grandchildren, and her great-grandchildren. The Queen made a charming addition to the programme of the service in the Abbey by summoning to her side, one by one, her sons and daughters, and in that "touch of nature" the whole world was made kin. At the time of this Jubilee her Majesty wrote one of those remarkable letters to the nation which revealed her gratitude and love. Despite her extraordinary exertions, she retained excellent health, and, indeed, reappearance at public functions seemed to have positively benefited her.

AFTER THE JUBILEE

It seemed as though the enthusiasm with which the Queen was received at the time of her Jubilee inspired her to more frequent appearance in public. She visited London repeatedly for the purpose of the Drawing Rooms, and travelled on the Continent with untiring enjoyment. The shadow of death fell again upon her family in 1888, when the noble Emperor Frederick died, and in 1892, when her grandson, the Duke of Clarence, passed away. In the same year the husband of Princess Alice died; he had not stood so high in Royal favour since contracting a morganatic marriage without any previous announcement of his intentions. Still, the Queen paid a generous tribute to one whom she called "a real son." She said that "His Royal Highness, who was only in his fifty-fifth year, was a very distinguished general, and much beloved by his subjects over whom he reigned most wisely and kindly." In 1892 the political pendulum brought Mr. Gladstone back to the Premiership for the fourth time—an event unprecedented in English history so far. When he resigned two years later, and Lord Rosebery succeeded his old chief, the Queen was manifestly pleased to welcome a peer in whom she had great confidence.

and in Isle of Wight affairs she manifested especial sympathy. To her mother, Princess Henry was invaluable; nearly always in her presence, she was able to relieve the Queen of much detail-work, and her wide reading and cultured taste enabled her to suggest many ideas to her Majesty. It would be difficult to over-estimate the Princess's constant services to the Queen, and, through her, to the nation. A good musician, she composed several tunes which have been published; and, like other members of the Royal family, she is very fond of painting.

DUKE OF YORK'S WEDDING

The wedding of the Duke of York to Princess May of Teck lifted the cloud which had begun to have depressing effects on the Court and on London fashionable trade. It took place on July 6th, 1893, and was made the occasion for a national holiday. The weather was superb, and London looked its brightest with all the magnificent decorations which had been erected in the streets. The ceremony in the Chapel Royal, St. James's, was graced by the Queen's presence, and among the many distinguished guests were the Czarevitch of Russia and the veteran King and Queen of Denmark. The year 1894 was remarkable for exceptional activity on the part of the Sovereign. She made an effort to be present at the wedding of her granddaughter Princess Victoria Melita with the Grand Duke of Hesse at Coburg. She opened the Manchester Ship Canal, an occasion which gave her Midland subjects an opportunity of seeing her. During her residence at Balmoral, she took a deep interest in the bazaar in aid of the parish church of Crathie. In the winter she was much grieved by the death of the Russian Emperor, whom she respected greatly. The subsequent accession of the young Emperor, and his marriage to Princess Alix of Hesse, the Queen's granddaughter, engaged her sympathetic interest. In 1895 the following incidents may be briefly mentioned. The Queen paid her first visit to the new home of the Empress Frederick, near Cronberg; she spent a pleasant time at Nice; she received visits from the Queen-Regent and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, and from the Shahzada, representing her ally, the Ameer of Afghanistan. She mourned the loss of the Dowager-Duchess of Buccleuch, who at an early period of the reign had been Mistress of the Robes, and had remained on terms of friendship ever since.

SORROW AND JOY

Allusion has been made on another page to the sad death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, which occurred on January 20th, 1896. It was a sore trial to the Queen, who had got into the habit of deputing much of her private work to the Prince. In her letter to the nation she spoke of his presence as having been like "a bright sunbeam in my home." Soon afterwards the Queen went to Cimiez, where she had her customary drives and outdoor picnics. She returned to Windsor in time for her seventy-seventh birthday, and was the recipient of more gifts than usual from her ever-widening circle of relatives. There were always some grandchildren or great-grandchildren with the Queen now, and the little sons of the Duke of York were an especial pleasure to her Majesty. In July the Queen came to London to be present at the wedding of Princess Maud of Wales with Prince Charles of Denmark in the Chapel at Buckingham Palace. Everyone remarked her Majesty's almost sprightly interest in the ceremony. The visit to this country of the Czar and Czarina of Russia was particularly pleasant to the Queen, who had many hours' conversation with the young ruler of many millions, and undoubtedly impressed him with the high responsibility of his position. After this visit it was said that the Czar remarked, "There must be no more wars in Europe, for grandma shall not be worried." That arch-diplomat, Li Hung Chang, next paid a visit to the Queen, and conveyed gifts from the Chinese Emperor and professions of great friendship, which were hardly proved as time went on. The veteran Chinese statesman was much impressed by the freedom enjoyed by the Sovereign from the excessive protection which shields the Emperor of China from the sight of his subjects, and he remarked on this matter several times.

THE JUBILEE SERVICE IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY, JUNE 21ST, 1887

CELEBRATION OF THE RECORD REIGN

The Queen's reign passed the record for length on September 23rd, 1896, but her Majesty desired that all celebrations of this event should be postponed until the following year, when she would have reigned for sixty years. Public interest began, however, to be awakened, and all manner of proposals for commemorating the "Record Reign" were discussed in the newspapers. Early in 1897 the Prince of Wales intimated that he had ascertained from the Queen that she had no wish to express a preference for any one of the many proposals loyally suggested for commemorating, nationally or locally, the sixtieth anniversary of her reign. But he felt assured that on considering the various suggestions, due support would be given to works of mercy among the sick and suffering, and to anything which might tend to brighten the lives and ameliorate the condition of her Majesty's poorer subjects. The Prince himself started as a fitting national memorial a Hospital Fund for London, a scheme which received cordial support. A Queen's Commemoration Fund was also organised, under the presidency of the Duke of Westminster, for the purpose of making permanent the Institution of Queen's Jubilee Nurses, which was founded by her Majesty, and has for its especial object the nursing of the sick poor in their own homes. In April the Princess of Wales, in a letter to the Lord Mayor of London, suggested that a fund might be opened at the Mansion House for giving the outcast poor in the slums of London a substantial meal on some day in the Diamond Jubilee week. This scheme was carried out, chiefly by the generosity of Sir Thomas Lipton. All over the Empire it was resolved to hold high festival. The Jubilee celebrations in 1887 served as a precedent for many arrangements on an even larger scale. The consequence was that everything was carried out with greater effect. The decorations in the streets were exceedingly good, and fine pyrotechnic displays took place.

THE QUEEN IN 1897
Photo by A. Bassano

JUBILEE FESTIVITIES

In the spring of 1897 the Queen stayed again at Cannes, with advantage to her health. She took the opportunity of calling upon Mr. Gladstone at Cannes, and cheered the spirits of the aged statesman by her sympathy. Returning home she made trial of her powers of endurance by paying a State visit to Sheffield before proceeding to Balmoral. The Queen reached Windsor from Balmoral on June 17th, and two days afterwards a grand military tattoo was held in the quadrangle of Windsor Castle, although the weather was rainy. Her Majesty watched the proceedings from the Castle windows. On Sunday, June 20th, which was Accession Day, a special thanksgiving service was held in St. George's Chapel, at which the Queen and her family were present.

A new Royal train brought the Queen from Windsor to Paddington on June 21th, the Empress Frederick, Princess Christian, and Princess Beatrice travelling with her Majesty. When the train arrived, the Paddington Vestry presented an address of congratulation on the sixty years' reign, and then began a triumphal progress through the crowded streets to Buckingham Palace. London had been beautifully decorated for the occasion, and at the Marble Arch, Constitution Hill, and Buckingham Palace the open spaces were thronged with masses of cheering people. Business was suspended in London quite early, for the decorators and erectors of stands for sightseers were soon at work, and the thoroughfares became well-nigh impassable as the day wore on. A family dinner-party was held at Buckingham Palace, at which the foreign guests of the Queen were present. At night many of the illuminations blazed in anticipation of the following day's festivities. The weather was fortunately beautiful, and and multitudes of provincial visitors saw London at its very best under such charming conditions. Books and portraits dealing with the Queen's reign sold in great quantities; for general literature there was little demand.

ON JUBILEE DAY

The morning of June 22nd was dull, but her proverbial good weather did not desert the Queen, for the sun came out as the procession started. Many people were up all night in the streets, and all started early to get to their places. The stands along the line of the procession were filled between eight and nine o'clock. A great deal of prominence had been given, at the sensible instigation of Mr. Chamberlain, to the "Imperial" character of the procession. The Colonial Premiers and typical Colonial troops were the guests of the nation, and they formed the first portion of the long procession. They waited for the Queen at St. Paul's Cathedral, and after the religious ceremony fell in behind the Royal procession for the march through South London. Some time after the Colonial procession had started, the head of the Queen's procession left Buckingham Palace, headed by Captain Ames, the tallest man in the British Army, and four of the tallest troopers. Carriages filled with the members of the Royal Family and representatives of foreign Courts preceded the chief attraction of the procession—the Queen herself. With her rode the Princess of Wales and Princess Christian. Her Majesty sat by herself facing the horses, and was visibly affected by the warmth of the loyal greeting of millions of her subjects. There was a continuous roar of applause as the carriage passed through the streets. The younger members of the Royal Family were also greeted with special cheers, and Mr. Barry Pain was moved to write, for publication in *The Daily Chronicle*, a charming poem on these "Kids in White." The Duchess of Teck, who had been ill, was also the recipient of much applause.

THE QUEEN AT CIMIEZ IN 1898.
Photo taken during a shower of rain by the new process of Paul Boyer

THE CEREMONY AT THE CATHEDRAL

In complete contrast to the famous Jubilee Service of 1887, the religious celebration of the Record Reign took place out of doors, in front of St. Paul's Cathedral. In the centre of the steps stood Dr. Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, with his chaplain bearing the cross, and the Dean of St. Paul's, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, the Archdeacon of London and the Dean of Winchester on his left, with other clergy behind and around. On the steps above were the choristers and bands, under the direction of Sir George Martin, the Cathedral organist, and the service was begun by the singing of the "Te Deum." The ceremony was short, and at the close the Archbishop pronounced the Benediction, the vast multitude immediately breaking into the National Anthem, which was sung with the greatest fervour. As the anthem died away three cheers for her Majesty were given with enthusiasm. One of the bishops stated afterwards that he heard the Queen sing the last two verses of the "Old Hundredth" with the greatest fervour, and that the impression made on him, indescribable in words, would be with him till his dying day.

AFTER JUBILEE DAY

The Queen left London on the following day, but for several days afterwards she was busy receiving loyal addresses from various public bodies. She returned to town for a State Garden Party at Buckingham Palace; she reviewed 28,000 troops at Aldershot; she entertained her Colonial guests at Windsor, and atoned for some official negligence by adding to her long programme a garden party for members of the House of Commons. Subsequently she addressed a letter to the nation, in which she wrote: "I have frequently expressed my personal feelings to my people, and though on this memorable occasion there have been many official expressions of my deep sense of the unbounded loyalty evinced, I cannot rest satisfied without personally giving utterance to these sentiments. It is difficult for me, on this occasion, to say how truly touched and grateful I am for the spontaneous and universal outburst of loyal attachment and real affection which I have experienced on the completion of the sixtieth year of my reign." After all these exertions the Queen rested at Osborne, receiving there the King of Siam, who was one of the most indefatigable visitors to our shores. In September she journeyed to Balmoral, and among the events of the closing year was the death of the Queen's cousin, the popular Duchess of Teck.

IN 1898

In the spring of 1898 the Queen paid two visits to Netley Hospital, where she showed her sympathy with the wounded and sick soldiers in a way which won her great affection. The next month considerable agitation was caused by the postponement of the Queen's journey to the South of France. The cause proved to be a slight bilious attack, and public anxiety was allayed when her Majesty set forth with Princess Henry of Battenberg and Princess Christian on March 10th for Nice. The confirmation at Cannes of Princess Alice of Albany was an interesting event in April. In the following month the Queen returned to Windsor, where the news of Mr. Gladstone's death reached her on the 19th. The absence of any official notice in the *Court Circular* of this national loss caused some comment: but the Queen wrote more than one private letter to the bereaved family expressing her esteem for Mr. Gladstone. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of York were pall-bearers at the statesman's funeral in Westminster Abbey.

HER EIGHTIETH YEAR

On May 24th the Queen entered her eightieth year—an age attained by few British sovereigns. When returning to Balmoral, the engine-driver of the Royal train lost his life through a terrible accident, and the Queen showed her sorrow by erecting a memorial to the brave man, and by liberal provision for his widow. Early in 1885 the Queen had been much affected by the tidings of General Gordon's death at Khartoum. In a letter which revealed more of her Majesty's feelings on matters of State than has ever been published, the Queen said to Miss Gordon: "To think of your dear, noble, heroic Brother, who served his Country and his Queen so truly, so heroically, was a self-sacrifice so edifying to the World, not having been rescued. That the promises of support were not fulfilled—which I so frequently and constantly pressed on those who asked him to go—is to me *grief inexpressible!* Indeed, it has made me ill! My heart bleeds for you, his Sister, who has gone through so many anxieties on his account, and who loved the dear Brother as he deserved to be." (While alluding to Gordon it may be interesting to state that his travel-worn Bible is one of the treasures at Windsor Castle. It was enclosed in an enamel and crystal case, and lies open on a white satin cushion near a bust of the late General in the South Corridor.) Gordon was one of the Queen's heroes, and she rejoiced greatly when the news arrived in September, 1898, of the taking of Khartoum, and its occupation by the British forces.

In September the Queen was saddened by the tragic death of the Empress of Austria, and by the more peaceful end of the aged Queen of Denmark, mother of the Princess of Wales. The visit of the Empress Frederick to her at Balmoral, and the presence of the Prince of Wales, gave her Majesty pleasure during her customary stay in the North. An inaccurate report of a carriage accident to the Queen caused some anxiety in October.

THE SERVICE OUTSIDE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AT THE DIAMOND JUBILEE, JUNE 22, 1897

QUEEN VICTORIA AND HER DESCENDANTS

SOME STORIES OF THE QUEEN

An amusing story was related of the Queen about the time of the celebration of her Record Reign. An idea had been started that the position now occupied by Queen Anne's statue would be suitable for a new statue of the Queen. Said an official, "Would your Majesty allow Queen Anne to be pulled down?" The Queen replied with emphasis, "Certainly, certainly not," adding, with a good-humoured smile, "You would be pulling *me* down next!"

Many years ago, after the daughters of the late Princess Alice had returned from their first visit to this country, the youngest rushed to her governess with the following mixed exclamation: "Meine Grossmama, die Königin von England, has a watch with a little bird in it!" This proved to have been the child's most lasting impression of the Queen's treasures. When Mr. Gladstone's granddaughter, Dorothy Drew, was presented to the Queen, she addressed her, as she had been instructed, as "Ma'am." But the title seemed unsatisfying to the young lady's idea of a monarch's dignity, so she said, "Why do they call you 'ma'am?' They call grandma that, and she is not a queen." "It is quite right, my child," said her Majesty. "I am a grandma, too, and all grandmas should be addressed as 'ma'am.'"

A certain nobleman made a point of sending to the Queen a magnificent selection from his vineries, whenever the Queen journeyed to Scotland. A letter of thanks was received with so many compliments on the fruit that the recipient thought it would interest his head gardener to hear of the Queen's appreciation. That worthy listened gravely to the flattering words, and then remarked, "She dinna' say anything aboot sendin' back the basket!"

A soldier who was addressed by the Queen during her visit to Netley Hospital, gave this characteristic account of the interview. "I was in an awful funk at the notion I might be spoken to, but when she came I just forgot it wasn't my own mother bending over me."

A little girl who was privileged to lunch with the Queen saw her Majesty handling a chicken-bone in most matter-of-fact style. The child, oblivious of etiquette, fixed her eyes on the Queen, and said, "O, piggy, piggy!" Her Majesty relished a joke, even at her own expense.

The Queen was very much grieved at the death of Mrs. Macdonald, who had been her "dresser" for a long period. Almost as soon as she arrived at Balmoral after Mrs. Macdonald's death, she paid a visit to her grave, and deposited a beautiful wreath upon it. Her Majesty's regard for those who served her faithfully has done much to influence society. She caused a handsome monument to be erected over the grave of Mrs. Thurston, who had been nurse to most of the Queen's family. In November, 1898, the Queen asked to be the godmother to a boy born to the widow of an officer who had died in the Soudan.

Duke of Connaught — Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha — The Queen — German Emperor — Empress Frederick — Prince of Wales

A GROUP OF ROYAL RELATIVES

Photographed by Gunn and Stuart, at Coburg, in 1894

THE QUEEN'S TWIN GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

Of the Queen's scores of living descendants, the only twins are the infant sons of Princess Margaret of Hesse-Cassel. The Princess is the youngest child of the Empress Frederick of Germany. She was born 22 April 22nd, 1872, and married, 20 January 25th, 1893, to Prince Frederick of Hesse-Cassel. It will be remembered that Hesse-Cassel was united to Prussia after the war with Austria in 1866. The four sons shown in the photograph are:—Frederick Wilhelm, born November 23rd, 1893; Maximilian, born October 10th, 1894; and the twins, Philip and Wolfgang, born November 6th, 1896. The Queen was specially interested in these youthful twin descendants.

TWIN GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN OF THE QUEEN

Photo by Lafayette, Hamburg

THE QUEEN AND THE "GREVILLE MEMOIRS"

An interesting side-light on her Majesty's critical faculties was afforded in a message she sent concerning the *Greville Memoirs*. Sir Arthur Helps conveyed to Mr. Henry Reeve, the editor of these much-discussed volumes, the Queen's disapproval on the following grounds:—"1. It was disparaging to her family. 2. It tended to weaken the monarchy. 3. It proceeded from official persons." Mr. Reeve desired Sir Arthur to express to the Queen, with his humble duty, his opinion that the book showed that, if the monarchy had really been endangered, it was by the depravity of George IV. and the absurdities of William IV., but that under Queen Victoria's reign it had become stronger than ever. But as a rule the Queen only mentioned her views on a book when they were favourable. Occasionally she instructed her private secretary to gladden the heart of an unknown author by special thanks for a volume which has given her pleasure. The mere formal acknowledgment and the receipt of the books was, of course, of no personal value, although many publishers advertised such documents. Few out of the many volumes presented to her Majesty were perused by her, and those selected were latterly of a religious character, as a rule. She was keenly interested in various theological questions, especially those relating to the state of the dead in the hereafter; books on such a topic were often read aloud to her.

PREACHING BEFORE THE QUEEN

It has always been considered a great ordeal, as well as a high compliment, to preach before the Court. The Queen was an ideal listener, and no pulpit orator need have feared an unsympathetic response so long as he delivered an earnest and outspoken discourse. "I always forget that her Majesty is in the congregation," was the remark of one of the Queen's chaplains when asked why he seemed free from nervousness on these occasions. As a rule, the clergyman who conducted the morning service was honoured with an invitation to lunch with the Queen. Sometimes her Majesty would ask for the MS. of any sermon which had made a special impression on her. This was the case with the first sermon delivered by Principal Caird, and when it was published there was an extraordinary demand for it. The subject of this sermon was the place of religion in daily life. Dr. Norman Macleod's discourses were of the utmost value to the Queen at a time when her heart was riven with sorrow. In the later years of her life the sermons of Dr. Boyd Carpenter and Dr. Randall Davidson were much appreciated. In Scotland she heard a wide variety of preachers, including most of the eminent orators.

HER MAJESTY'S GIFTS

Some amusement used to be caused by an Indian shawl figuring almost always as the wedding present of the Queen to any bride with whom she was acquainted. But the reason for such a gift was because a certain Indian potentate's annual tribute to the Empress of India consisted of so many shawls of exquisite texture. These shawls were valued exceedingly by those who were fortunate enough to be presented with them, for they were "an outward and visible sign" of the Queen's favour. More than one lady of high rank left as a condition in her will that she should be buried in the shawl which her Sovereign had given to her; and once or twice when those treasures were put up for sale at auction they realised fancy prices. Another advantage of such a gift being the general rule was that it saved the Queen from any trouble in choosing a wedding present, and it placed the recipients on an equality.

HER MAJESTY WITH THE YORK CHILDREN AT OSBORNE, SEPTEMBER, 1900

A REMINISCENCE OF THE QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOM

HER MAJESTY INFORMS LORD ROBERTS THAT HE IS PROMOTED TO AN EARLDOM, JANUARY, 1901

HER MAJESTY'S LAST ARRIVAL AT BALLATER EN ROUTE TO BALMORAL

HER MAJESTY AND THE WOUNDED CANADIAN

During the review of Royal Canadians at Windsor Castle last December, Her Majesty paid especial attention to a Canadian who had lost his leg in the war

A MEMORIAL OF HER MAJESTY'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

On June 18th, 1897, Her Majesty planted a tree at Buckingham Palace to commemorate the 60th of sixty years

HER MAJESTY'S LAST VISIT TO DUBLIN: PASSING THROUGH THE CITY GATES, LEESON STREET

THE QUEEN AS A CALLER

Her Majesty always enjoyed visiting her relatives and neighbours when in the Highlands, and during her stay in Scotland it was usual for her to call at various houses for a brief visit. She would take tea with the Empress Eugénie, stay awhile with the Duchess of Fife, or go for an hour to the home of Mrs. Ernest Gye, better known in the world of music as Madame Albani. She managed to put the most nervous hostess completely at ease, and many have declared that they quite forgot that they were entertaining the Queen in their delight at having so charming a guest. Once a funny incident occurred in a drawing-room which the Queen entered to call upon a lady in the neighbourhood of Windsor. A parrot, whose presence had been forgotten, reminded his distracted possessor of his existence by asking her Majesty, "Who be you? Go away!" The Queen smilingly replied to this query, "No, Polly, I ain't going away. I've come to pay a call." It was during an afternoon call at the Deanery of Westminster that Thomas Carlyle was introduced to the Queen, and had a long conversation with her, to the mutual satisfaction of both.

THE CALMNESS OF THE QUEEN

When her carriage met with a serious accident many years ago near Balmoral, the Queen said in her diary, "Great events always make me calm;" and this characteristic fortitude was exhibited again and again under the most trying circumstances. Her Majesty was one of the few whose private grief was never permitted to excuse her from business of State. Many a time when crushing bereavements have fallen upon her, she has rallied herself with wonderful calmness and addressed herself to the duties of the hour. When riding through crowded streets, lined with shouting thousands, the same courage has been exhibited, for no one save a royal personage understands what a strain such continuous acknowledgments of public greetings becomes. The mere act of bowing would be enough to fatigue a young woman, yet long after her seventieth birthday the Queen underwent this gratifying but exhausting duty with a gracious kindliness which was never allowed to show weariness. In the midst of attacks on her own and other Sovereigns' lives her Majesty never shirked appearing in public, yet she was always exposed to the danger of assault from half-witted and Nihilistic persons. The police could tell some stories which would prove the Queen's courage to have been of a high order.

THE QUEEN IN 1897
Photo by Cowen and Stuart

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY BOOK

Many people may remember that in the newspaper reports of actors and singers appearing before her Majesty it was often stated that the Queen had sent them her birthday book in which to inscribe their names. This book was a beautiful volume in which one read the names of some of the most eminent artistes who have adorned the reign. It was esteemed a very high compliment to be asked to write in this book, and its leaves would have been considered a treasure to autograph collectors. When very young performers on the piano or violin were requested to put their autographs they added usually their age, but this was not the case with their older colleagues. The Queen had the collector's instinct, and her array of portraits of those who had visited her was extraordinary. She had volumes compiled, and would often spend a pleasant hour looking over them and recalling incidents which had happened perhaps half a century before. These reminiscences gave much delight to the Queen's grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who all inherit her Majesty's interest in portraits. Photography has, indeed, been aided by Royalty in a remarkable manner, for almost every member of the Queen's family is fond of being photographed, save Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne.

THE QUEEN'S STATE COACH

Everyone who has witnessed the imposing sight of a Royal procession will recall the State coach, of which an illustration is here given. Drawn by the famous cream-coloured horses and accompanied by a splendid escort of mounted horsemen, the coach attracted attention wherever it went. To children, indeed, it was usually the most satisfying item in the procession, for the absence of any golden crown or insignia of office from the person of the Sovereign was a severe disappointment to the younger portion of the crowds which gathered to see the Queen on State occasions. But when the Royal outriders approached and the beautiful coach was seen, then the excitement knew no bounds. In fact, a large number of people fixed their eyes so admiringly on the carriage and the coachmen that they hardly saw the Queen at all! One of the ex-coachmen of the Queen once said that few were aware how much skill were necessary to drive the State coach down a slope like St. James's Street, for the vehicle has no brake nor even a drag. It weighs four tons, and to keep the horses in proper check with bands playing, banners waving, and people cheering, needed all one's steady care.

Black & White, January 22nd, 1901.

HER MAJESTY'S LAST VISIT TO DUBLIN: DRIVING THROUGH SACKVILLE STREET

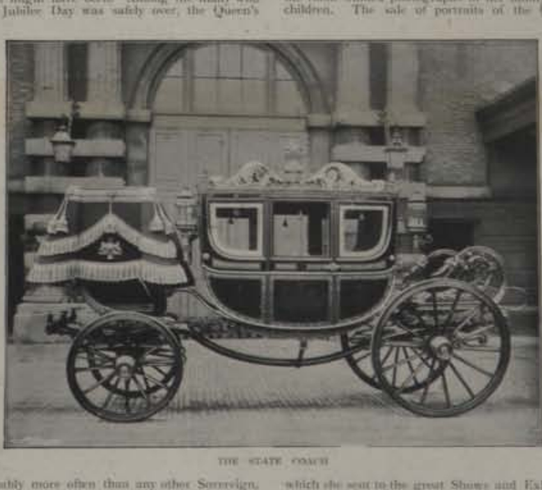
DRAWN BY CHAS. SHELDON FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, ENOCH WARD, R.B.A.

THE QUEEN'S COACHMAN

The experiences of the Queen's coachmen were often trying. Once when Mr. Miller was the coachman to the Queen a crazy fellow rushed towards the Royal carriage and presented a pistol at the head of her Majesty. He was seized immediately, when, of course, it was discovered that his mental condition was not quite what it might have been. Among the many who were devoutly thankful when Jubilee Day was safely over, the Queen's coachman must assuredly be named. His responsibility was great, for the carriage had to pass through the most excited crowds imaginable, and the skill with which he performed his task won the admiration of all experts. The Queen complimented him by saying she had never known the creams go so nicely. When her Majesty was paying an ordinary visit to town she did not use the State Coach, but was driven in a large carriage, at the back of which her two Scotch attendants stood.

HER MAJESTY'S INTEREST IN PHOTOS

Ever since the discovery of photography the Queen showed the deepest interest in the art, and was one of the best friends to photographers. Her good nature in giving sittings was proverbial, and every professional photographer who had the pleasure of taking portraits of her Majesty would bear testimony to the kindly way in which she acceded to every request where it was possible. The Queen was photographed probably more often than any other Sovereign, and the result was successful as a rule. She gave large orders for certain portraits which pleased her, and these were used for presentation to favoured guests and distinguished visitors. Others were reserved for relations, and of these no copies were permitted to be printed except for the Queen. She realised the remarkable value of photography in popularising personages, and was delighted to know how widespread was the desire to possess the very latest portrait of herself. At the time of the last Jubilee she gave a special sitting with the proviso that no fee should be charged for reproducing that photo. Her Majesty possessed an extraordinary variety of portraits of her family, and was continually receiving additions to this interesting collection. At one time she used to keep in her bracelet the picture of her latest great-grandchild. In her private apartments one noticed all round the room framed photographs of her family and their children and grandchildren. The sale of portraits of the Queen was always large. Of course, the public had special favourites among these photos, and one entitled "Four Generations" had an enormous popularity. It depicted the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and Prince Edward of York.



THE STATE COACH

LOVE OF ANIMALS AND FLOWERS

The Queen was always very much impressed by the affection which dumb animals displayed. It is on record that her first thought on returning from the Coronation ceremony was of her dog "Dash." Wherever her Majesty went her animal pets accompanied her; and their amusing tricks often served to dispel the sad thoughts which could not help arising in the mind of one who had sustained so many bereavements. The Queen had a clear recollection of the numerous horses which were used in drawing her carriage, and for many years she used to pay visits to the Royal Mews and see her favourite steeds in their comfortable stables. In the success of the animals which she sent to the great Shows and Exhibitions the Queen also took an interest. In the earlier part of the reign she enjoyed visiting the Agricultural Shows, and was indefatigable in inspecting the exhibits. She encouraged her gardeners by her appreciation of their efforts, and her love of flowers was very great. At the Royal dinner-party each evening an exquisite bouquet was always placed for the Queen by one of her ladies-in-waiting. There were careful regulations as to weight and size of bouquets presented in public to the Queen, so that she might not be wearied by holding them.

HER MAJESTY'S LAST VISIT TO DUBLIN: AT THE CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART

HER MAJESTY'S KINDNESS OF HEART

While in Ulster two years ago Her Majesty was driving along when she saw a little girl crying by the roadside. At once she stopped to find out what was the matter and consoled the poor little child.

THE EARTHLY CROWN PASSES: THE HEAVENLY CROWN ENDURES