

1837-1887.

## Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Victoria.

### A Sketch of Her Majesty—Her Domestic Relations—The Royal Household

About the only topic discussed in London, except the Irish question, which is always with us, is the approaching Jubilee, writes Mr. Robert P. Porter from London. Although I have been in the country less than a week, the very word Jubilee has become distasteful. Everything you buy is labeled Jubilee. Your suspenders, your collars, your cuffs, your cravats, your hat, your toothbrush, have a crown and the word Jubilee worked or painted upon them. Columns of the daily journals are devoted to advertising word competitions and other devices for extracting the pennies, the shillings and the pounds from the pockets of a loyal people for Jubilee purposes. The present may be termed a period of assessment.

The pictures accompanying this article are from the two best photographs attainable, showing her Majesty in her early girlhood, and as she last sat to a photographer immediately after the Duke of Albany's wedding.

#### Fifty Years a Queen.

Victoria Alexandria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, only child of the late Duke of Kent and of the Princess Louisa Victoria, of Saxe-Coburg, was born at Kensington Palace, May 24, 1819, her parents, who had been residing abroad, having hastened to England in order that their child might "be born a Briton." Her father died Jan. 23, 1820. Until within a few weeks of her elevation to the throne, her life was spent in comparative retirement, varied only by tours through the United Kingdom. Queen Victoria succeeded her uncle, William IV., June 20, 1837, as Victoria, and her corona-

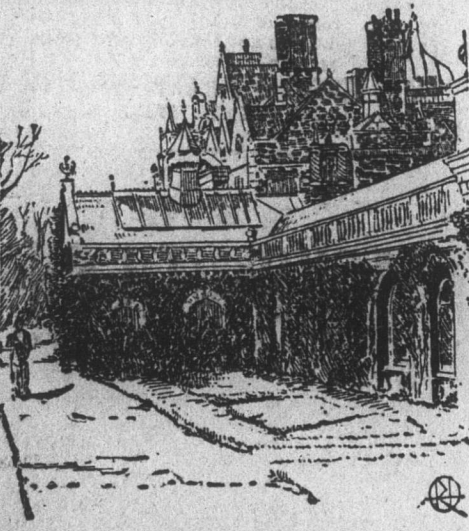


QUEEN VICTORIA AT 18.

tion was celebrated in Westminster Abbey, June 28, 1838. She was married Feb. 10, 1840, to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, by whom she had issue first, Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, born Nov. 21, 1840, married Jan. 25, 1858; second, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, born Nov. 9, 1841; married March 10, 1863; third, Alice Maude Mary, born April 15, 1843, married July 11, 1862 (she died Dec. 14, 1878); fourth, Alfred Ernest Albert, born August 3, 1844, married Jan. 23, 1874; fifth, Helena Augusta Victoria, born May 26, 1846, married July 5, 1866; sixth, Louisa Caroline Alberta, born March 18, 1848, married March 21, 1871; seventh, Arthur William Patrick Albert, born May 1, 1850, married in March, 1879; eighth, Leopold George Albert, born April 7, 1853, married in April, 1882; ninth, Beatrice Mary Victoria, born April 14, 1857, married July 23, 1885. Her Majesty is the pattern of a woman in all the relations of life. Her mother died March 16, 1861, followed by the sudden death of the Prince Consort, Dec. 14.

#### Victoria's Domestic Relations.

Victoria was in her eighteenth year when she became Queen. William IV. died on June 20, and the English dignitaries went before daylight to announce to Princess Victoria her accession, and it is related that she came out in her night dress, a shawl around her and her feet in slippers, and it was at once decided to call a privy council meeting for 11 o'clock in the forenoon, when the new Queen took the coronation oath. The public coronation, and



WINDSOR CASTLE.

the most brilliant pageantry of modern times, did not take place until the next June, and on the 28th day of that month, 1838, the great ceremonies took place. According to royal etiquette it is necessary for the Queen to make the first suggestion of mar-

riage. This she did late in 1839, and in February, 1840, she was married to her cousin. They had long been lovers, and they were a most devoted couple. The Prince Consort died suddenly in 1861, leaving nine children, seven of whom are still alive. The Queen was utterly disconsolate, and for years lived in the closest seclusion. In fact she so closely secluded herself



QUEEN VICTORIA AT THE AGE OF 68 YEARS.

that her subjects have found a great deal of fault with her on this ground. During her married life the Queen spent nearly all of the time at Balmoral, their country seat in the highlands of Scotland.

The royal residence, as established by law and usage, is Windsor Castle. This palace is east of Windsor, a city of 12,000 inhabitants, twenty-three miles from London. This castle was the home of the Saxon kings as long as 1,000 years ago. The castle proper was founded by William the Conqueror, but almost entirely rebuilt by order of Edward III., the architect being the noted William of Wykeham, and, in 1824-'8, the edifice was finally and completely remodeled under the direction of Sir Geoffrey Wyatville. Half a mile from Windsor Castle is the small palace of Frogmore, which was the residence of Queen Charlotte and of Queen Victoria's mother, the Duchess of Kent. Despite the royal splendors of Windsor, the Queen is much fonder of her Balmoral home, where she still spends the most of her time. The palace is in the midst of a tract of 100,000 acres and is located in the parish of Crathie, Aberdeenshire, on the banks of the river Dee. The Queen's daughter Beatrice has been her constant companion for many years, and since her marriage to Prince Battenburg has remained almost as near to her. At Balmoral the Queen lives quietly, walks and rides around her great estate, reads and studies, attends to state matters, visits the cottages, keeps a minute diary, and lays aside royal etiquette to a large extent. She has few visitors, except the Prince and Princess of Wales and her numerous grandchildren. The Queen has seven living children, thirty-one grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. There are only a half dozen attendants and a dozen servants at Balmoral, and little or no excitement.

#### The Royal Household.

There is a big force of attendants, probably 1,000, at Windsor Castle. At the head of the household forces is the Lord Steward, with a salary of £10,000 a year, appointed by the Prime Minister, and therefore a political official. He is commander-in-chief of every employe in the

\$10,000 a year and is assisted by the groom of the stole. Next to the ladies who attend directly on the Queen come the gentlemen of the private household, viz: Eight lords in waiting, as many grooms in waiting and divers gentlemen ushers of the privy chamber, grooms of the privy chamber, grooms of the great chamber and pages of the back stairs. In short, life at the court, even in

the most ordinary times, is carried on with such ponderous social machinery and routine that it almost makes one tired to hear of it. But, in addition to all these, there are two distinct sets of officials for extraordinary occasions with independent functions and different codes of ceremonial and etiquette. At the head of one of



PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

these is the marshal of the ceremonies. He manages the etiquette on the state occasions and conducts foreign ambassadors to the Queen's presence. The other is the court of the Marshalsea, which has legal jurisdiction of all crimes and misdemeanors committed within the Queen's private domain. It is a regular court of justice, with the same general law as other English courts, but with far more ceremony, and vastly more expense in pro-



FRONT VIEW OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

portion to the work it does. The knight marshal, who is the same as sheriff or police to this court, is a tolerably important personage with \$2,500 a year, and has eight deputies, besides a few servants and secretaries. The foregoing gives but a mere outline of the system. There are departments of music, amusement, medicine, charity, and literature, in all of which liberal salaries are paid. Buckingham Palace, the London royal residence, is also maintained on an elaborate scale.

The Queen's Youngest Daughter. Princess Beatrice, who has been the daily companion of her royal mother, and



SANDRINGHAM PALACE.

who was married to Prince Battenburg a year or so ago, is still the one person who is nearest to England's ruler. She is a thoroughly educated and accomplished

girl, and possesses more than usual ability as an artist. Her life has been singularly quiet and uneventful. For fifteen years past she has been the closest companion of her mother, and the English people consider her a martyr to maternal selfishness. Beatrice is a favorite with the masses. She has been the not infrequent subject of such gossip as all women, and possibly all men, delight to hear. In 1877 she was reported to have "fallen in love" with a young man who has since attained distinction as a preacher. The eminent success of Canon Duckworth in the church is attributed to his having resisted the fascinations of the Princess when engaged as one of her instructors. There seems to be no question at her marriage to the Prince Imperial of France had been determined upon by the mothers of the young people, who often drank a dish of tea together. Among other eligible men who are said to have aspired to the hand of this fair damsel when she was younger than she is now, are Prince Oscar of Sweden, Amadeus, late King of Spain, and Louis of Battenburg, an elder brother of her husband. The belief is general that but for the English law which forbids marriage with a deceased wife's sister Prince Louis of Hesse, who had been the husband of Queen Victoria's daughter Alice, would have taken Beatrice in second nuptials.

#### England's Next Ruler.

IN the ordinary course of human events the Prince of Wales will be England's next ruler. The Prince has been a high liver, however, and there are a great many people who are of the opinion that he will not live as long as his royal mother. The next in order of succession to the throne is the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, who is now a young man of twenty-two summers, and is said to be a sober-sided, sensible young fellow, and doubtless realizes that he will be the ruler of the mighty English empire some of these days. The Prince of Wales lives at Sandringham Palace. The Prince is a great sportsman, and the initial letter used at the beginning of this paragraph is a vignette of His Royal Highness out rabbit-hunting.

#### Life at Balmoral.

The life of her Majesty is marked by three stages—her youth, her married life, and her widowhood. Each is bound to each by the tie of a consistent growth passing through those experiences which are typical of God's education of His children, whether high or low, rich or poor. Her childhood, with its wise education, is very much the key to her after-life. Possessed naturally of a quick intellectual capacity and an unusually accurate memory, a taste for music and the arts, and a deeply affectionate heart, she was admirably brought up by her mother, the Duchess of Kent, on whom the training of the future Queen devolved from her infancy. If the education was as high as it was possible to afford a young and intelligent spirit, the moral influences were equally beneficial. The young Princess, instead of being isolated within the formalities of a court, was allowed to become acquainted with the wants and sufferings of the poor, and to indulge her sympathies by giving them personal help. The contrast was a great one between the Court of George IV., or even that of William, and the truly English home where the Duchess of Kent nurtured this sweet life in all that was simple, loving, and pure. There could scarcely have been a better school for an affectionate nature.

Without touching on the earlier period of her reign, which was not without many incidents of interest, we turn to the married years of the Queen as to a bright and sunny memory.

The Queen's married life was ideally perfect. She married the man she loved, and each year deepened her early affection into an admiration, a reverence and a pride which elevated her love into consecration. There was no home in England made more beautiful by all that was tender, cultured, and noble, than that in which "the blameless prince" fulfilled his heroic career of duty, and shed the bright light of his joyous, affectionate, and keenly intellectual life. There were fewer homes in which a greater amount of trying and anxious work was more systematically accomplished, or in which there was a more exquisite blending of hard thinking with the enjoyment of the fine arts and the fullness of loving family happiness.

It is when we come to this bright time, so full of fresh interest and of a delightful freedom, that we have the advantages of the Queen's own "Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands." Her visit to Edinburgh in 1842, and the drive by Birnam and Aberfeldy to Taymouth, and the splendor of the reception, when amid the cheers of a thousand Highlanders and the wild notes of the bagpipes, she was welcomed by Lord Breadalbane, evidently stirred every feeling of romance. "It seemed," she wrote, "as if a great chieftain of olden feudal times was receiving his sovereign." It appeared like a new world when, throwing off for a time the restrictions of state, she found herself at Blair two years afterward, climbing the great hills of Athol, and from the top of Tulloch looking forth on the panorama of mountain and glen. "It was quite romantic; here we were with only this Highlander behind us holding the ponies; not a house, not a creature near us but the pretty Highland sheep, with their horns and black faces. It was the most delightful, most romantic ride and walk I ever had." These early visits to Scotland inspired her with her love of the Highlands and the Highlanders. She found there quite a world of poetry. The majestic scenery, the fresh, bracing air, the picturesqueness of the kilted gillies, the piping and the dancing, and the long days among the heather, recalled scenes which Sir Walter Scott has glorified for all time, and which are specially identified with the fortunes of the unhappy Stuarts.

HE who has white spots on his nails is fond of the society of ladies, but is fickle in his attachments.

#### HUMOR.

DAIRY ma'd—Nice butter.

FASHION is the dressmaker's pattern saint.

GAME to the last—Cobblers playing base-ball.

THE real-estate dealer doesn't want the earth; he is always trying to sell it.

THERE is always room at the top of an evening costume for more costume.—Puck.

LETTER carriers are by no means a modern institution. The Phoenicians, who invented letters, carried them into Greece.

THERE is an instance where disease may become diseased. Pursuit and possession: In one we are sick with desire and in the other desire is sick.

WE notice per advertisement "Patent fire escapes." Good old ordinary fire does the same thing, and it is just as difficult to head off.—Texas Sittings.

THE palace of the Mikado has been lighted for some time by electricity, and the Edison Company has closed a contract to illuminate the city of Tokio.

An interesting series of articles is appearing in the *Bazar*, entitled, "How to Live on Five Hundred a Year." This series should be supplemented by another to be called, "How to Get the Five Hundred to Live On."

"I SEE that some newspaper men have formed a club, and called it the Homeless Club," remarked Robinson. "Does that mean that they have no homes?" "No," replied Lighthouse; "it only means that they will be home less than ever now."

"It is our duty to keep ourselves unspotted from the world," said the preacher. "I shall be mighty glad if I keep myself unspotted from the detectives," murmured a burglar who had just dropped into the church to escape pursuit.—Boston Courier.

"I RECEIVED a lot of rejected manuscript to-day," said Titmarsh to a friend. "Did you? I had no idea you had an ambition to shine as an author." "Not exactly that. You see, my girl and I quarreled, and she returned all my letters."—New York Sun.

A YOUNG man thrusts his head out of the window of a cab and cries to the driver: "Why don't you drive faster? I am going to be married this morning, and at this rate I will arrive too late for the wedding." Driver (sympathetically)—"Well, what of it? I am giving you plenty of time to reflect."—Figaro.

"GOT any invisible ink?" she asked in a whisper. "We have." "One bottle, please." "You know how to use it?" he queried. "Oh, it isn't for me, but for the nice young man who writes to me. Mamma has got in the habit of opening my letters, and we propose that she shall draw blanks after this."—Detroit Free Press.

A PROMINENT Kentucky lawyer is noted for the size of his feet. He is not at all sensitive about them, however. He has himself named his shoes after two Ohio River steamboats, and when he gets up in the morning calls over to the boy who does his boot-black, "Jim, bring me the Indianola, and then go back and bring me the Pride of the West."

"I NOTICE," said a clergyman's wife to her husband, "that it is no longer fashionable for the minister to kiss the bride at the wedding ceremony." "Yes," sadly responded the good man, "many of the pleasant features connected with the wedding ceremony have been discarded, and—" "What's that?" demanded his wife, ominously. "I mean—I mean," he stammered, "that the senseless custom of kissing the bride should have been abolished long ago."—All the Year Round.

EVERY little while we read of some fabulous number of pairs of pantaloons that the American Missionary Society sends to the heathen. Of course pantaloons are necessary to fully change a heathen into a Christian and gentleman, but sometimes we can't help wondering a little about the rest of the wardrobe. It seems as if the worst heathen in the lot would like a change from pantaloons all the time—say an occasional pair of red suspenders.—Dakota Bell.

#### Horns of Elks.

Every hunter among the mountains of the Olympic range where elk abounds knows that the elk "sheds its horns," as they are commonly called, every year; that the new antlers grow rapidly and are at first covered with a skin on which is a soft growth called velvet. While they are in their first growth and before the velvet is rubbed off the antlers are filled with blood-vessels, and are considered by old hunters as excellent eating. My old friend, Peter Fisher of Quillente, Clallam County, formerly a mighty hunter of elk, has often assured me that "elk horns in the velvet are just like marrow." Other famous and successful elk-hunters of Dungeness, such as Weir, Sutherland, Merrill, Sol Thompson, and a score more, have assured me of the same fact. Gradually the antlers harden, commencing at the base, and when sufficiently matured the velvet is rubbed off by the animal, and the antlers, at first white, change to the rich brown with which every one is familiar who has seen a "pair of elk horns." These antlers are seldom dropped at the same time. The animal may knock off one among brush and then move away to another place and cast the other. These soon get buried among the vegetation where they have fallen and in a short time disappear. As they are considered of little value it is but seldom a hunter will take the trouble to bring one out of the woods when they may by chance be observed.—Portland Oregonian.