

IN ENGLAND'S CAPITAL.

WHAT SOCIETY IS NOW DOING IN THE GREAT METROPOLIS.

Princely Doings of the Duke of Norfolk at Sheffield—Gracious act of the Queen—Yvette Guilbert to marry—The Gossip of Aristocratic Paris Society.

LONDON, May 19.—When the Queen leaves Windsor on Friday morning for Scotland she will proceed by the Great Western line to Leamington and thence on to Sheffield. Five of the Queen's landaus have been sent from London to Sheffield, with twenty-eight horses from the royal stables and an adequate number of her Majesty's coachmen, footmen, postillions and outriders. The Queen will be accompanied by Princess Christian and the Duke of Connaught, and the escort at Sheffield will consist of a hundred and twenty men of the Life Guards and seven officers, and the streets through which her Majesty passes are to be lined with three thousand troops.

On arriving at the station the Queen will be received by the Duke of Norfolk, drive to the main entrance of the town Hall, where an address from the Corporation will be presented, inclosed in a magnificent casket of solid gold, and her Majesty is to reply to it. A large gold key will then be given to the Queen, with which she is to open the door of the Town Hall by means of an electric apparatus as she sits in her carriage. Her Majesty will then drive to the Norfolk Park, where fifty thousand children are to sing the national anthem, and a hymn entitled "The Diamond Reign," written by one of the local clergy.

The Duke of Norfolk is doing things in prince at Sheffield. He is to provide refreshment for the fifty thousand children and eighteen hundred teachers, and each child will receive a commemorative medal. On Saturday all the teachers are to be entertained by the Duke at the Farm.

The younger children are each to receive a gift, and so are all the old people who are unable to be present at the tea and entertainment which the Duke is to give on Saturday to eight thousand persons over sixty years of age.

At last week's drawing room the Queen again did one of those gracious little acts, by which she has endeared herself so much to the hearts of her people. Hearing that Mrs. Charlton, who is in her eighty-third year, had been at her coronation, and was anxious to see her Majesty during her diamond jubilee year, the Queen granted her the entree at the last drawing room, so that she might receive her personally. The old lady, who walked with a stick, was very graciously received by the Queen, who gave her hand to Mrs. Charlton to kiss. Her Majesty has also given instruction that a seat is to be reserved at Buckingham Palace for Mrs. Charlton for the jubilee procession. The Charltons, of Haleside, Northumberland, are one of the old Roman Catholic families of England. Mrs. Charlton, who despite her age, takes great interest in all current events, retains her memory to a remarkable degree, and recollects seeing her Majesty as Princess Victoria, when only fifteen, at a ball at York, dancing with the then Lord Morpeth.

We have all seen more of the Queen this last week than at any other time for years. On Tuesday she drove through Pall Mall and along the embankment, to Regent street and Oxford street; and on Wednesday, to everyone's surprise, she drove up Bond street about half past five. You can fancy what a sensation she caused, and, as owing to the crowded state of the streets, she was compelled to go slowly, everyone saw her very well. It is a most touching sight to witness the enormous crowds which wait patiently to see her, and who cheer her as she drives past. Apropos of crowds, I hear the queue at Buckingham Palace the afternoon the Queen was there, who waited patiently to write down their names, was as long as a first night at the Lyceum, and had to be controlled in their anxiety to accomplish their task. When the Queen goes north Princess Beatrice goes with Miss Heron-Maxwell to Fontainebleau for a short rest before the labors of the jubilee begin. In spite of what was settled, it is now arranged that the Princess will take part in the jubilee rejoicings, and she will go with the Queen and will wear white on the day of the procession.

On Friday I was bidden to attend the wedding of H. S. H. Prince Ludwig Leowenstein-Wertheim, of Castle Litzmetz, near Berlin, who was married to Lady Anne Savile, younger daughter of the Earl and Countess of Mexborough, at the church of the Assumption, Warwick street. The church was very artistically draped with red and white cloth, the altar was decorated with red geraniums and white flowering plants, and on a carpet of royal purple velvet were placed gilt chairs for the bride and bridegroom, facing a prie Dieu draped in crimson brocade. The bride looked very pretty in white brocade and a tiara of diamonds, and a train of immense length was carried by Lady Gale-

don's two little sons, in white satin suits. Following them came quite a bevy of bridesmaids, including Lady Mary Savile, Lady Margaret Stuart, Lady Ethel Keith-Falconer and Lady Charlotte Toler, all prettily dressed in white and yellow, with yellow roses in large white hats. Lady Mexborough, dressed in ruby velvet, received us after the ceremony at her lovely house, in Dover street, and among the numerous guests were Princess Loewenstein, in terra cotta velvet and satin, wearing splendid diamonds; Countess Luetzow, in yellow and black; Lady Caledon, as usual, gorgeous in pale mauve; Lady Kintore wore violet and green; Lady Rosse, in bright blue; Lady Dandonald, Lady Cottenham, with a hat covered in red roses, and hundreds more.

In the afternoon Prince and Princess Ludwig Loewenstein left for Lady Mexborough's country place, near Thames Ditton, but only for the briefest of honeymoons, as the Princess appeared at the drawing room yesterday among the official presentations. The wedding presents were magnificent, including several strings of matchless pearls and a splendid diamond tiara.

Mile. Yvette Guilbert's marriage, so often announced, is now, it seems, very near, the banns having been published on Tuesday. Her husband-elect is M. Max Schiller, a young chemist. Yvette has amassed a fine fortune—something like £100,000, by all accounts—but she will not retire from the music hall stage for the present, her engagement with M. Marchand, of the Scala and the Folies-Bergere, Paris, having three or four years to run.

Poor Lord Stanley the energetic chairman of the Kitchen Committee in the House Commons, is having a bad time at present and is perhaps now the most criticised man in the House. Until the question of seats for members to see the jubilee procession has been settled Mr. Avers-Douglas was the victim, and was badgered and bothered daily, but now the attack has been diverted to Lord Stanley, and the trouble is all about arrangements for lunch on June 22.

The young whip must be a man of cheerful courage, as when Sir Wilfred Lawson asked him a week or two ago whether the authorities meant to go on breaking the law in the matter of the sale of drink with in the House. 'Certainly, Sir,' was all Lord Stanley said, with the air of a man surprised that a question admitting of so obvious a reply should be asked.

Marta writes me from Berlin that the Princess Feodora of Saxe-Meiningen's betrothal will be announced in the jubilee week; the Princess is the Queen's eldest great-granddaughter, and 'the happy man to be' is also a near relation of the Queen, so that her Majesty has every prospect of seeing a descendant in the fifth generation.

Carry has just returned from Paris with a budget of news. She had been at a very charming matinee given by Mrs. Ayer one of your compatriots, and a most popular hostess in the gay city. There was some charming music and the dresses and jewels were magnificent. The pearls worn by the hostess are said to be equalled only by those of the Queen of Italy. Carry says that she was told by a well-informed 'gommex' that Madame Rigo, late Princess Caraman Chimay, had left her Izigan and is to be married to an Italian prince. Carry also says that jewels are worn in profusion. Not only are emeralds and diamonds introduced into the pearl and gold chains around the neck, but they are extensively worn in the hair, beneath the knot at the back, and any eccentricity in design is allowed. At a dinner party the guests wore crawling things of all descriptions in the hair. The lizard was, perhaps, the most popular, but there were serpents with fiery eyes and spiders of horrid dimensions in emeralds and diamonds. Rings are now permitted to almost cover the fingers, and the longer the finger the happier is the fair owner of sapphires, pearls, and, in fact, all stones of value. And as the long lace sleeve half cover the hands there is little seen beyond the lace but a blaze of jewels.

The intended ball at the Foreign Office will probably be given up, in consequence of the precarious state of Lady Salisbury's health; but on Wednesday night there will be two or three great balls, and probably the 'royals' will be distributed among these functions. On Wednesday afternoon, before the garden party, the Queen will hold a court in the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace. On Thursday there to be some more receptions before the Queen leaves town for Windsor, and at night there will be a state ball. On Friday there are a dozen schemes for the afternoon, and at night the Queen is to give a state banquet at Windsor Castle, in St. George's Hall, with music afterwards. The Queen's royal and other guests will go down from Paddington by two special trains, returning to town about midnight. Saturday will be taken up with the review at Spithead. On Monday there is to be a state concert at Buckingham Palace, and Tuesday will be devoted to the review at

Aldershot, where there is to be a royal luncheon on a huge scale. The former guests from abroad will go to Windsor Castle on Monday the 28th in order to take leave of the Queen.

Although the season was not really in full swing there was a good many entertainments on each night of last week and Mrs. Spark's ball on Wednesday was a great success, at least according to the modern standard of excellence, for it was packed, and though the heat and crowd was terrific people managed to dance and it was very cheery. Mrs. Stanley, about whose receptions there seems rather a fatality (for last year, you will remember, the band did not arrive on the eventual evening), had to postpone her ball, fixed for Thursday, almost at the eleventh hour, in consequence of the death of Lord Dartrey, her brother-in-law.

The death of the Dowager Duchess of Athole in this year of rejoicing is a great grief to the Queen; she was her oldest personal friend and is associated with the memories of the Queen's happiest days, when she and the Prince Consort frequently stayed at the beautiful castle of Blair Athole. The Duchess was attached to the Queen's household either as Lady in Waiting or Mistress of the Robes for five and forty years.

He Was Alive.

The grenadiers of the famous "Old Guard" will never be forgotten in France as long as the memory of brave men shall live in the national heart. But some of them, at least, were as bright as they were brave as the following trust worthy anecdote bears witness:

One fine morning, after peace had been concluded between France and Russia, the two emperors, Napoleon and Alexander, were taking a short walk, arm in arm around the palace park at Erfurt. As they approached the sentinel, who stood at the foot of the grand staircase, the man who was grenadier of the guard, presented arms. The emperor of France turned pointed with pride to a great scar that divided the grenadier's face, said:

'What do think my brother of soldiers who can survive such wounds as that?'

'And you,' answered Alexander, 'what do think of soldiers who can inflict them?'

Without stirring an inch from his position or changing the expression of his face in the least, the stern old grenadier himself replied gravely:

'The man who did it is dead.'

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