

## Concerning Royalty.

Widespread is the belief that the crowned heads and royal princes and princesses of the Old World are large owners of real estate in this country, the late Queen Victoria and Empress Eugenie in particular, being credited with exceptionally extensive holdings of building property in New York and Chicago.

This is a mistake. But what is true is that these royal personages have large investments in American railroad and mining stocks, and in United States Government bonds.

Emperor William has about \$4,000,000 invested in Union and Southern Pacific, Illinois Central, Atchison, Topeka and other American railroad bonds. His wife's private investments in railroad stocks here amount to \$500,000, while the other members of the royal house of Prussia, comprising Prince Henry, Prince Albert, Prince Leopold and the widowed Empress Frederick are represented in American railroad companies by another \$2,000,000.

The Czar has \$6,000,000 worth of stock in the Pennsylvania railroad, the New Jersey Central, the New York Central, the Canadian Pacific and the Northern Pacific, which yield him handsome returns, the investments having been made on the advice of his Minister of Railroads, Prince Hilko.

Hilko was ruined as a young officer of the guard at St. Petersburg, came to America, and securing work on the New York Central as a brakeman, gradually worked his way up until the death of rich relatives and the inheritance of large estates enabled him to return to Russia and to turn to good account in the service of the czar the practical experience of railroading which he had obtained in the United States.

The queen regent of Spain has for a number of years held some \$3,000,000 worth of United States bonds, and retained possession thereof throughout the war of Spain with this country. They are deposited with the remainder of her holdings of one kind and another in the bank of England, where so many continental sovereigns are in the habit of keeping their savings for safety.

Queen Victoria, on the other hand, derived an income of no less than \$700,000 a year from her American investments, being an extensive holder of American Sugar Refinery stock, of American Steel and Wire Company stock, as well as of the paper of the Tennessee Coke & Iron Company. Her railroad company holdings were likewise very large, whereas her real estate possessions in New York do not exceed half a dozen houses all told.

King Edward caused all the capital account of the revenues of his Duchy of Cornwall which he enjoyed as Prince of Wales to be invested in American railroad stocks, and this now becomes the property of his son George, as the new Duke of Cornwall.

King Oscar of Sweden has money in American breweries, while the new King of Italy has probably inherited his father's large tobacco interests here.

But the sovereign who has undoubtedly derived the largest fortune of the United States is King George of Greece, who when he was elected to the Hellenic throne was a penniless midshipman in the English navy.

To-day King George possesses one of the largest fortunes of any crowned head in Europe. He derives it from bold and successful speculation in American grain, chiefly at Chicago, during the war of Russia and Turkey some three-and-twenty years ago.

### EDWARD VII. AS A HEALER.

Many Persons Wonder if he Will Revive the Old Custom.

Will King Edward VII. touch for king's evil?

Many persons in England are now asking this curious question, and the more superstitious they are the more they are convinced that this good old English custom should now be revived.

From the time of Edward the Confessor down to the close of the eighteenth century there was a popular belief that British sovereigns possessed the power of curing diseases by touching the part affected, and that their healing powers were especially marked in cases of scrofula or king's evil, and now this belief, of which little was heard during Victoria's long reign, is again claiming attention, and predictions are freely made that very soon after Edward VII's coronation he will be called upon to give evidence of his power as a popular healer.

William of Malmesbury, who wrote about eight years after the reign of Edward the Confessor, says that that king touched for king's evil, and later writers say that his successors not only healed many sick persons, but also presented them with small gifts as memorials of their healing powers.

Thus Edward I. gave to each patient a piece or two of silver, but in later times a gold coin, which was intended to be hung around the neck, was given instead.

From Henry VII. each patient received an angel noble, which was the smallest gold coin then in circulation and until the time of Charles I, a similar coin was given by his successors. The luckless Charles had very seldom any gold in his purse, and consequently his patients had to be satisfied with silver or even brass.

Registers were kept of the number of patients during each reign, and these show that Charles II. touched not less than 90,798 afflicted persons.

James II. was also kept busy, and an official register informs us that on one occasion he healed 340 persons.

The Georges did not countenance this old custom, one reason probably being because the Pretenders persistently claimed that, as the lawful rulers of England, they alone were able to cure diseases. Soon after George I. became King an old man asked him to touch his son, but the King declined and suggested that he apply to the Pretender.

The old man did so, and as his son speedily recovered after being touched he straightway forswore all allegiance to the King of England and became one of the Pretender's most loyal partisans.

### UNITED BY MARRIAGE.

Some of Queen Victoria's Descendants Heirs to Throner.

The practical union by marriage of nearly all the reigning houses of Europe was not the least achievement of that marvellous old lady, Britain's lamented sovereign.

With so many descendants that it is doubtful whether she could remember all their names, and with these intermarried with all the royal houses of Europe, the bearing of the late Queen's personal influence upon the politics of the world is a matter for interesting speculation.

Not many women, let alone sovereigns, can boast, as Victoria did, thirty-seven great-grandchildren, most of whom are destined to occupy thrones sooner or later. Indeed the family which Victoria headed was without doubt the most remarkable in the world. The oldest of these great-grandchildren is Princess Fedora of Saxe-Meiningen, who was born in 1879, and who was married two years ago to Prince Heinrich of Reuss.

But the most important in English eyes of this group of great-grandchildren is Prince Edward of York, who, by the Queen's death, is one step nearer the throne of Great Britain. As England's future sovereign, this seven-year-old tot is a personage of considerable importance and his lively sayings and doings are made much of by the English. The young Prince has two small brothers and a sister, the latter one of the many royal children to bear the name Victoria.

Two other representatives of the same generation are the Ladies Alexandra and Maud Duff, children of the Duchess of Fife, daughter of the present King. In Germany there are seven children of the German Emperor, the oldest of whom, the Crown Prince Frederick Wilhelm, is a charming Prince of great promise and a most winning personality, now just reaching manly age and stature.

Other grandchildren of the Empress Frederick, the Queen's oldest daughter are the three sons of Prince Henry of Prussia the three children of Princess Sophie, now the wife of the Crown Prince of Greece, and the four children of Princess Friedrich Karl of Hesse-Cassel.

The little Duchess Elizabeth of Hesse, Prince Carol, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Melita of Roumania; Prince Gottfried and Princess Marie of Hohenzollern-Langenburg, were also among the Queen's favorite grandchildren.

Better known to Americans, however are the three little daughters of the Empress of Russia, the Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana and Marie.

The children of the Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg spend most of their time in England. The Princess Louise, eldest daughter of the late Grand Duchess Alice of Hesse, has always been a great favorite with the Queen.

Of thirty seven great grandchildren of

her late Majesty, the Queen, four are the heirs to kingdoms, namely, Prince Edward of York, the German Crown Prince, Prince George of Greece and Prince Carol of Roumania.

### Some Anecdotes Revived.

The new king has always been a very hearty laugh. On one occasion he laughed boisterously at a Hindu schoolboy. The youngsters had been drilled into the propriety of saying 'Your Royal Highness' should the prince speak to any of them; and when Albert Edward picked out a bright eyed lad, and pointing to a prismatic compass, asked 'What is this?' the youngster, all in a flutter, replied, 'Please it's a Royal compass, your Prismatic Highness.'

It is said that the late duke of Argyle, when his son, then the marquis of Lorne, was sent for by the queen to betroth himself to the princess Louise, said to the 'messenger's wife, Mrs. Donald Fraser: 'This is one of those sacrifices which makes one feel the burden of rank.' A feeling which was shared by his retainers, one of whom, according to a well-known story, after bidding a huge drink of whiskey to the young couple's health, remarked: 'This 'ull be a proud day for Her Majesty'

The task of singing before Royalty is one that upsets the composure of the most self-possessed performers. The Queen, though a kindly and attentive auditor, often interrupted, during her later years, by requesting information concerning methods that to her old fashioned idea seemed bizarre and inartistic. During a performance at Windsor of one of Sir Arthur Sullivan's operas, she summoned Mr. D'Oyly Carte to her side and asked him sharply: 'Why does this young person shake at the end?' referring to the reiteration of two notes, an embellishment frequently used by certain singers. 'By your leave, your Majesty,' was the reply, 'she is not shaking at the end alone, but all over.'

When the Prince of Wales visited the United States, many years ago, they gave a great ball in his honor in St. Louis. Governor Stewart, of Missouri, came down from Jefferson City to do credit to it, and in the course of the evening became very happy, very proud, not to say enthusiastic. He and the Prince were stationed on a little platform raised for them at one side of the hall, where the beauty and brilliancy and blue blood of St. Louis swept by them in dazzling review. The spectacle elevated Stewart's feelings several notches. Finally he administered a mighty slap to the royal back, and exclaimed: 'Prince, don't you wish you was Governor of Missouri?'

A gentleman of large means in a Scottish county had a hot-house viney celebrated for his choice produce. When the Queen was on one of her periodical journeys through Scotland, the royal train was timed to stop for luncheon at a well-known station in this county, and Mr. Childers availed himself of the opportunity to send Her Majesty an offering of the best grapes. In due course a letter of acknowledgment expressing the royal appreciation of the gift, and complimenting the donor on the fineness of the fruit, reached him; and, feeling sure his head gardener would be greatly interested in the contents of the letter, Mr. Childers read it to him. The gardener gravely listened, but his only comment was: 'She diens say onything about sending back the basket.'

### He struck It Rich.

Barney Murphy, who is but thirty-two years old, has just sold out an Arizona mining claim for \$155,000 and has been offered \$40,000 additional for still another claim.

Less than two years ago Murphy was penniless. He worked as a laborer for the Copper Queen Company. Like thousands of others, he stated out in the Bisbee district grub staking. Thousands of prospectors have searched over the mountains of this region, enduring grim privations, to return at last destitute.

Murphy brought a mesquite mining outfit and a rule and started out without any definite plans. He was so poor that he was obliged to find some one to finance his scheme. He joined forces with a man named Freeman, who paid the expenses and agreed to pay Murphy \$17 a month for one year while he was searching for gold.

In company with a patient jackass and his pots and kettles, bags of beans and pork, blankets and pickaxes, Murphy wandered for several months.

One day his donkey stumbled over a round rock at the bottom of a gulch, which Murphy at once recognized as 'live rock.' The stone was cracked in pieces and revealed tiny specs of gold in the gray quartz.

## Dr. Chase's Help

## To The Workers

When the Brain Lags the Body Weakens and Physical Bankruptcy Threatens, Dr. Chase's Nerve Food Seeks Out the Weak Spots and Builds them up.

Canadians are workers. Some from necessity, others from ambition. Some to provide for self, others for the daily bread of those dependent on them. All alike fail when the system weakens and health gives way to disease. The strain of work is on the minds of some on the bodies of others, but the nourishing of both is in the nerves and blood.

When the mind refuses to concentrate in thought when the brain tires and aches, when sleepless nights are followed by days of languor and discouragement, when the heart palpitates, the stomach weakens and there are pains and aches of heart and body, Dr. Chase will help you by means of his Nerve Food, the greatest blood builder and nerve restorative of the age.

Without deadening the nerves, without stimulating the heart to over-action, Dr. Chase's Nerve Food gradually and certainly reconstructs the tissues wasted by over-work and disease. The quality of the blood is enriched, the nerves are revitalized, and the new and strengthening tide communi-

cates itself to every muscle of the body.

Mrs. D. W. Crossberry, 198 Richmond Street west, Toronto, Ont., states: 'My daughter, who sews in a white goods manufactory, got completely run down by the steady confinement and close attention required at her work. Her nerves were so exhausted, and she was so weak and debilitated that she had to give up work entirely, and was almost a victim of nervous prostration.'

'Hearing of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, she began to use it, and was benefited from the very first. It proved an excellent remedy in restoring her to health and strength. After having used four boxes, she is now at work again, healthy and happy, and attributes her recovery to the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.'

The strengthening and building power of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is now extraordinary. From week to week new vigor and energy are added to the system, until health and vitality is again fully restored. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, of Edman-son, Bates & Co., Toronto.

He had made his strike. He examined the rock in every direction, and everywhere the tiny yellow specks abounded.

'I knew I was fixed for life,' said Murphy in telling his story, 'and I just sat down and smoked all that day and all night. It proved to be no trick at all to sell such a property.'

### A Bullet in his Heart.

That a man can live with a bullet in his heart Charles B. Nelson, of Cadillac, Mich., formerly of Chicago, proves. He is hale and hearty, and looks forward to a vigorous old age, though since July 1, 1896, he has carried a bullet in his heart.

Nelson was sitting on a bench in Washington Park, Chicago, on the night of July 1, 1896, with Miss Marguerite Staples, when a huge negro, supposed to have been a maniac, sent a revolver bullet into his heart. He was hurried to the Chicago Hospital, where it was found the bullet had passed through the breast and lodged in the muscles of the heart. Nelson, the doctors declared, had not one chance in one thousand for life, but that one chance, as he smilingly says, he has taken.

Recently he arrived in Chicago, and after dining at the Briggs House called on W. C. Fuchs, an X-ray specialist. Under the fluoroscope the leaden ball could be plainly seen rising and falling with each pulsation of the heart.

### A Pocket Physician.

Is something unique. To be had in a Catarrhzone Inhaler. This wonderful, convenient little instrument is very versatile, it actually kills those nasty colds in the head in half an hour, and relieves sore throat in about five minutes. Patients recovering from pneumonia find Catarrhzone a valuable aid, as it strengthens and improves the lungs. For the voice nothing is half so good, and great singers, public speakers use Catarrhzone and say they would not be without it because it prevents hoarseness and renders the voice capable of greater endurance. As for Catarrh, Asthma and Bronchitis, Catarrhzone alone is the only positive cure for these diseases. Ladies affirm that for sick headache and tired feeling across the eyes nothing is so helpful as Catarrhzone, which also restores impaired hearing that is caused by Catarrh. Catarrhzone prevents and is guaranteed to cure all diseases of the respiratory organs, and you can get it from any druggist, large size, \$1.00; small size, 25c. A trial sent for 10c. by N. C. Poison & Co., Kingston, Canada, or Hartford, Conn., U. S.

### Proposed to the Wrong Girl.

Just because she had a twin sister resembling her so closely that not even their parents or brothers could tell them apart, Mary Hussey, now Mrs. James W. Guild, of Hollowell, Me., lost her first sweetheart.

This was because he proposed to her sister by mistake.

It happened this way: When the Hussey twins were young Miss Mary had a sweetheart who paid her constant court. The lovers went to school together, played in the school-yard and after church walked home in each other's company. 'It will be a marriage,' the good people of Lowell, Mass., where they lived, said as they noticed the attention the young man paid Miss Hussey.

One Sunday evening the young man determined to propose. He waited at the church door. When Mary, as he supposed, appeared, he said: 'Mary, may I walk home with you?'

'Certainly,' she said; 'but don't you think we had better wait for sister?'

The young man, not realizing his mistake, answered in the negative.

It was an ironclad rule with the sisters not to disclose their identity if one was mistaken for the other.

That evening he proposed. The answer was short. He was told to see Mary, and if she did not want him, perhaps Sarah

would. Then he realized his mistake. Naturally he had been refused, for Sarah was engaged to his brother. So furious was he at his error, however, that he refused to see Mary again.

'And that,' said Mrs. Guild, who is now eighty years of age, 'is how I lost my first sweetheart.'

Her sister Sarah married the Rev. Luther L. Howard, and up to her death last month also lived in Hollowell.

### FLOWERS BLOCK TRAFFIC.

Steamboats and Rivers Stopped by the Growth of Plants.

A steamboat held up by a flower does not sound probable.

Yet the boats on the St. John's Florida, are again brought to a standstill by the river hyacinth that has grown in such quantities as to cover the surface of the water, fill the slips, clog the steamboat wheels and stop the machinery.

This happened for the first time several years ago.

The river was filled with this plant, which had been sown there accidentally, that the surface of the water for miles was covered with the leaves and flowers. It looked like a meadow more than like a river.

Many efforts were made to destroy the plant by cutting it out and burning it, but so rapidly did it reproduce itself that no destruction had any permanent effect.

The severe frost which killed the Indian River orange groves at last killed the hyacinth.

At present the slips along the river are so filled with the plant, which is washed up by the tide, that small boats can with difficulty get out or in.

At Palatka, the river in many places is again impassable. The river men, pilots and steamboat captains are much worried over the reappearance of the flower, which is indestructible by any means except frost, and they are offending the orange men by praying for a cold snap.

The sudd on the Nile is another instance of water plants preventing navigation.

When Sir Henry Baker made his voyage up the White Nile he found the river filled with floating islands of water plant.

This sudd had grown into such masses that all floating debris, trees, etc., was caught and helped to make an almost indestructible dam across the river.

The only other growth of this nature is the water weed called sargassum.

This is so thick in one part of the Atlantic ocean, covering as it does a large part of the ocean between the sixteenth and thirty-eight parallels of north latitude, that the spot is called the Sargasso sea.

Vessels caught in this sea growth have drifted for weeks, unable to free themselves, as the rudder or screw became clogged with the weed and the vessel was imprisoned in the seaweed.

'Look after your own grammar, George Ferguson!' exclaimed the irate Mrs. F. 'You make a business of picking me up on little plunders!'

'On the contrary, my dear,' soothingly replied Mr. Ferguson, 'I make a recreation of it.'

## A MINISTER'S DUTY

A Glowing Tribute to the Sterling Worth of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

'When I know anything worthy of recommendation I consider it my duty to tell it,' says Rev. James Murdock, of Hamburg, Pa. 'Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder has cured me of catarrh of five years' standing. It is certainly magical in its effect. The first application benefited me in five minutes.'