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Holland and Her Stamps.

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Among the countries available to the specialist of moderate means, Holland, as it is most commonly called, although officially designated The Netherlands, seems to be a very good subject for his limited pocket-book. For nearly forty years the stamps of Holland bore the likeness of William III, a not very moral individual, although a politic and progressive king whose government was successful. Late in life (1879) he married for his second wife Princess Emma of Waldeck and Pyrmont, and as a result of this union, August 31, 1880, Princess Wilhelmina was born. In the latter part of 1890 William died and the ten-year-old girl succeeded to the throne, her mother acting as regent until August 31, 1898, when the princess reached her majority and soon was crowned as queen. After 1891 the young queen's head for seven years was found on Holland's stamps and spoken of as those of the little flaxen-haired girl. Since her coronation, however, stamps have been issued with her likeness as a full-fledged crowned queen. For some time the match-makers have been trying to find a husband for her, and several have been named as the possible individuals but she seems to be able to

take care of her own affairs, matrimonially as well as otherwise, and has plenty of nerve, sand and independence, and is not to be bluffed into taking what she doesn't want.

Apropos of the above it has been recently made public that she has taken a fancy to Duke Henry of Meiklenburg-Schuerin, who reciprocates her affection, and she is determined to marry him. Her cabinet ministers admitted his good qualities but intimated that he is an insignificant person, and told her that the affairs of state demanded that she should look for more royal timber, even if it didn't pan out very heavily mentally and ran to pinheads and neurasthenia.

Wilhelmina was firm in her decision, however, and then the foxy counselors pointed out that legally she could not marry without their approval. She put on a frigid smile and informed them that another law had been possibly overlooked, by which she could dismiss her cabinet when she pleased, and she thought that in all Holland she could secure a set of ministers who would acknowledge her as the mistress of the situation, and her betrothal was announced according to her wishes.

This young lady, who can handle law during the act of fighting for the man she loves, will probably be able to take care of the affairs of state, and the peaceful Dutchmen