

British army, and Henry issued instructions that fresh honours should be conferred upon St. George, and from that time forward the cry "St. George for England" has connected itself inseparably with the national sentiment. So much so, that when our Prayer Book was revised in what may be called a Protestant direction in 1552, so strong was the national feeling concerning St. George that it was impossible for any mere theological considerations to leave his name out of the calendar, and so St. George's Day was retained as one of the Minor or Black Letter Festivals of the Church. Now here we are met together to-night as English people, as sons and daughters of Albion's Isle, to celebrate our national Festival, and fulfil our part of England's national characteristic of helping and relieving those in distress, and cementing that bond of union that binds us all together, as one nation and one people, through that magnetic influence that unites us all to our Mother Country. In these days of travel wherever we go we carry the love of our country with us. However far off we may be, or however long we may have been absent, we always think and talk of England as home, and speak of going to England as going home. And this is not all, for besides the feeling of patriotism, there is the feeling of loyalty, which is preeminently English, and this feeling binds every Englishman to England's Throne and England's Queen. The history of that Throne is woven into the very texture of our memories, and gives substance to the national imagination and national sentiment by its glorious traditions, its ancient interests and its world-wide significance, while it is dignified and endeared to the hearts of us all by her whom we delight to call our Gracious Queen, who through all these long years lasting for more than half a century, years of turmoil and change, of tumult and disaster, has lived on high a name, unblemished by suspicion, untarnished by reproach. As a wife, as a mother, and as a Queen, she is the object of love and reverence from us all, whilst her condescension, her interest in all that concerns the welfare of her subjects, her kind and loving sympathy with those who are in distress, kindles and evokes a feeling of love and devotion from the heart of every Englishman. Occasionally we hear of a great disaster at sea, some hundreds of sailors meet with a watery grave, poor men it may be, of no account in the history of the world, whose names perhaps are never known beyond the village wherein they lived, but we hear