

QUEEN'S COURTSHIP

HOW VICTORIA WOOD-PRINCE ALBERT OF SAXE-COBURG.

Lord Escher in His "Girlhood of Queen Victoria" Quotes From the Girlish Diary Which Records the Romance—She Conferred With Lord Melbourne Concerning the Method of Proposing to Prince.

"At half-past twelve I sent for Albert; he came to the closet where I was alone, and after a few minutes I said to him that I thought he must be aware why I wished him to come here, and that it would make me too happy if he would consent to what I wished (to marry me). We embraced each other, and he was so kind, so affectionate, I told him I was quite unworthy of him, and he would be very happy to marry me. I really felt it was the happiest moment of my life."

"This passage from the diary of Queen Victoria, which is quoted by Lord Escher in 'The Girlhood of Queen Victoria,' once more illustrates the time-honored saying that love levels all, and that in the presence of a beloved, once she falls a victim to Cupid, is very human after all. And there can be no doubt that Queen Victoria's marriage was the outcome of genuine love. Who can doubt it after reading her impressions of her first meeting with Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg? The Queen had been prepared, to a certain extent, for a possible marriage with Prince Albert by her uncle, King Leopold of Belgium, for whom she had a deep love and veneration; and apparently she liked him immensely the moment they first met, in 1836, when she was seventeen years of age.

"Albert," she recorded in her diary, "is extremely handsome. His hair is about the same color as mine. His eyes are large and blue, and he has a beautiful nose and a very sweet mouth with fine teeth. The charm of his countenance is his expression, which is delightful. He is full of kindness and sweetness, and very clever and intelligent."

Lord Melbourne was particularly anxious for the marriage, but the Queen, in spite of her admiration for Prince Albert, seemed disinclined to take a husband when the subject was broached to her after her first meeting with Prince Albert. She records in July, 1839, a conversation with Melbourne.

"I talked of my cousins Ernest and Albert coming over. I mean my having no great wish to see Albert, as the whole subject was an odious one, and one which I hated to decide about. There was no engagement between us, I said, but that the young man was aware that there was the possibility of such a union. I said, 'I wished, if possible, never to marry. I don't know about that,' he replied."

The Queen, however, changed her mind; for when, shortly afterwards, Prince Albert visited that country, Her Majesty was agreeably surprised to find that the hero of her girlish admiration had in no way changed. "At half-past seven," she writes, "I went to the top of the staircase and received my two dear cousins, Ernest and Albert, whom I found brown and changed and embellished. It was with some emotion that I beheld Albert—who is beautiful. I embraced them both and took them to mamma."

There is no doubt that this second meeting with Prince Albert aroused an admiration akin to love, for the next day we find her again paying tribute to his personal attractions. "Albert is really quite charming," she wrote, "and so exceedingly handsome—such beautiful blue eyes, an exquisite nose, and such a pretty mouth, with delicate moustachios and slight, but very slight, whiskers; a beautiful figure, broad in the shoulders, and a fine waist."

Two days later she had decided to marry, but how to bring about the consummation of her desire in that direction was a problem that perplexed her not a little, judging from her remarks to Lord Melbourne when she talked the matter over with him. She thus relates the incident in her diary.

"After a little pause, I said to Lord M. that I had made up my mind (about marrying dear Albert). 'You have?' he said. 'Well, then, about the time?' I thought for a moment, which he said was too long. Then I asked if I hadn't better tell Albert of my decision soon, in which Lord M. agreed. How I asked, for in general such things were done the other way—which made Lord M. laugh."

How the proposal was made has already been related at the head of this article. That a deep attachment existed between Queen Victoria and the man she had chosen as her husband is evident from her rhapsodies over the perfection of her future husband. "I sat on the sofa with dear Albert," she writes, "I played two games of tactics with dear Albert, and two at fox and geese. Sat up until twenty minutes past eleven—a delightful evening."

Again: "I feel the happiest of human beings," while on her wedding morning she thus writes: "Got up at a quarter to nine—well, and having slept well; and breakfasted at half-past nine. Mamma came before and brought me a nosegay of orange flowers. My dearest, kindest Leizen (the Prince) gave me a dear little ring. Wrote my journal and to Lord M. Had my hair dressed and the wreath of orange flowers put on. Saw Albert for the last time alone, as my bridegroom."

And after describing the wedding ceremony in her diary she wrote: "Dearest Albert came up to fetch me downstairs, where we took leave of mamma and drove off at near four. I and Albert alone."

And that is the last entry in her diary concerning her wedding day—the day which brought the greatest happiness to the great Queen who lived to reign over the country for more than sixty years.

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

Sir William Ramsay Suggests Signs For Communication.

To make possible the exchange of ideas among all the peoples of the world Sir William Ramsay, the eminent English scientist, has begun to develop a pictorial sign language based somewhat upon Chinese, which he hopes will eventually spread among all races.

The Chinese character to express "man," for instance, is made with two converging lines that represent simply his legs, looking much like the legs of the crane man that the schoolboy draws.

Sir William's character goes further and adds a vertical straight line above the converging lines to represent the body.

"The first thing that one thinks of," he argues, "is existence expressed in the verb 'to be.'"

So he has, arbitrarily perhaps, selected the arithmetical equality mark to denote existence. All things relating to one's state and condition can be expressed by those two parallel lines.

For time that stretches away or action that is constant he uses a dash. Instantaneous time or action represents with a dot. Thus a dot placed squarely between and in the middle of the two lines of the equality mark denotes the immediate present or "I am." Similarly the clock when placed at the left and between the two lines denotes past or "I was" and when placed to the right indicates the future tense or "I shall be."

To denote a woman Sir William draws a line closing the diverging ends of the legs of the sign for man. On the theory that "I" is the most important thing in the world to any man Sir William utilizes the straight vertical line that represents the body of his man figure to depict the word.

At a Cabinet Meeting. I falls now and then to a law officer to attend a meeting of the Cabinet in order to keep members right on points of law, and a story is told about a remarkable conflict of wit across the table between Mr. Gladstone and the Attorney-General of the day who had been called in.

The Attorney-General was Sir Richard Bethell, who was never a very manageable man, and was proving a thorn in the side of Mr. Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, with some big schemes on hand.

Mr. Gladstone was determined to take a certain course, and Sir Richard Bethell was equally determined against it.

He told the Cabinet that it would be contrary to the law, and, by way of supporting himself, produced a bulky and forbidding book of law, from which he read at great length.

Mr. Gladstone asked to be allowed to see the volume, and turning over the leaves began to read another passage which qualified away the one which the Attorney-General had read and set matters right from Mr. Gladstone's point of view.

Coming away from the meeting, a member of the Cabinet asked Mr. Gladstone how he came to know that such a passage as the one he had read was in the book.

"It was not," said Mr. Gladstone, "and neither was the passage which Bethell read."

British Military Biplane. By reason of the fact that the British war office barred the use of monoplanes in the grand manoeuvres in England because of the death of several officers in the army in accidents with these machines, the biplanes owned by the Government, and especially those built by the war office workmen, came in for thorough testing. All of the machines behaved well, being the army officers were especially pleased with the machine built at the royal aircraft shops.

The machine most liked was a biplane of the tractor type, in which the streamline form was followed not only in the construction of the body, but of the struts as well. The manoeuvres were brought to a sudden close because of the extreme usefulness of both armies being so plainly seen by the aerial scouts that there was no chance for working out problems on the ground.

The Oldest Soldier. Gunner Samuel Parsons has been sixty-eight years a soldier, and for the last fifty-three has been the Royal Gunner at Windsor Castle. He is nearly eighty-seven years of age, and is probably the oldest soldier serving in the British Army who has drawn full pay for sixty-seven years. He recently celebrated his fifty-third year at the Castle. Gunner Parsons was born at East Loos, Cornwall, in 1829, and at the age of nineteen years and three months he enlisted in the Royal Regiment of Artillery at Devonport, and served with his battery in the Crimea. After the Crimea, Parsons went to Woolwich, and was appointed Royal Gunner at Windsor Castle in 1859. He holds six medals, including bars for Inkermann and Balaklava.

Rector of Navvy. The Rector of Ashley, the Rev. J. Richards, has taken up saving work to save the ratepayers of the parish expense. The entire sewerage system of the parish, which is near Market Drayton, in Shropshire, has been ordered to be brought up to date, and the cost of the material is being found by voluntary subscription. Mr. Richards volunteered to assist in the work of excavation, and is backed up by farmers, a grocer, and helps from every class. The volunteer navvies hope to finish their task by the end of the year.

Never Read It. There are countless cases of authors selling their names to be put on works they have never read. Sir John Hill once contracted to translate a Dutch book. After the agreement he remembered that he did not know a word of Dutch. He then bargained with another translator to do the work for half the price he was to receive.

The Inward Effects of humors are worse than the outward. They en-sarsaparilla eradicates all humors cures all their inward and outward effects. It is the great alterative and tonic, whose merit has been everywhere established.

GREEK STRATAGEM.

Military Tactics That Won. Where Strength Was Lacking.

After the decline of Rome the center of the world's military progress was for seven or eight centuries transferred to the Greek empire. Constantinople ruled elements of a much less homogeneous nature than Rome in her prime had depended upon. There was less loyalty to the central rule there and far less liberty under it.

The decisive military fact of the east was, however, that Byzantium had to contend against overwhelming numerical superiority in the enemies. South of it, from the Indies to the Atlantic, was the Saracen empire, burning with the zeal of a new religion. To the east were the Seljuk Turks, while to the north were the Bulgarians and the Slavonian and Hunic tribes.

Against such odds it was useless simply to march men for men. The military leaders of the empire were full of military spirit and took keen delight in war as a game, but they were the descendants of Ulysses, and they made of war a game of finesse, of cleverness—in short, a war of wits. By their spring and bribe, by stirring up treason in the enemy's camp, by surprises, simulated retreats and ambush, they illustrated the saying of Bacon that stratagem is a weaker kind of policy than that of those who are not strong enough to win by fairer methods—Edward D. Jones in Engineering Magazine.

THE GAME OF GOLF. It is a Very Serious Matter With the Real Scot. Estimating the value of a golf club, the Lothians every one plays golf—men of leisure, workingmen and loafers, the last class producing the finest players. Many of the Scotch towns have public courses, and even where they are private the artizan clubs may use them on generous terms. Says Stewart Dick in "The Pageant of the North."

"There is something very Scotch about the Scotch golfer. He seems to suit the leisurely and contemplative game. 'Keep your eye on the ball,' 'Slow back' and 'Ay be up' are written all over him. As a nation one would say the Scotch were professional, the English amateur, golfers, for there should be nothing dilettante about the game of golf."

"How serious a matter it is may be judged from the old story of the Scotch minister. Emerging after a hot and unhalloved strife in the bunker, his profane words still echoing in his ears, he mops his heated brow and exclaims loudly: 'Ah man gie it up! Ah man gie it up!'

"What?" cries his partner in consternation. "Gie up golf?" "No," he replies, with sublime scorn, "gie up the ministry!" "This is the real old golfing spirit which still survives round the shores of the Forth."

The Peacock at Home. The real home of peacocks or peafowls is in India. There they were and are tamed, and their flesh is used for food. As the birds live in the same region as the tiger, peacock hunting is a very dangerous sport. The long train of the peacock is not its tall, as many suppose, but is composed of feathers which grow out just above the tail and are called the tail coverts. Peacocks have been known for many hundred years. They are mentioned in the Bible. Job mentions them, and they are mentioned, too, in 1 Kings x. Hundreds of years ago Rome many thousand peacocks were killed for the great feasts which the emperors made. The brains of the peacock were considered a great treat, and many had to be killed for a single feast.

The Mystery of Sleep. It is impossible to give any precise explanation of the phenomenon of sleep. Yet many theories have been advanced. Legendre has shown by fairly conclusive arguments that it is due neither to "brain pallor," nor to intoxication by carbonic acid, nor to the presence of narcotic substances in the blood, theories that have been in turn advanced. Legendre intimates his preference for the view that sleep is not the result of fatigue, but is an inherited instinct designed to protect the organism against the ill effects of fatigue—Harper's.

The Aleutian Islands. Until the time of Peter the Great the Aleutian islands were unknown. The famous Russian monarch, consumed with curiosity as to the distance between Asia and America, started, in 1725, the first of the expeditions that at last revealed those haunts of the bear, the beaver, the ermine and the seal. But Captain Cook told more about the islands than did all the Russian explorers before him.

Opportunity. "Opportunity really knocks at many a door." "Then why don't more of us succeed better?" "The trouble is that Opportunity wants us to go to work."—Pittsburg Post.

Anticipation. "Mrs. Justus—let think of it. Dearest one! Twenty-five years from day before yesterday will be our silver anniversary"—Judge.

Never Tried. Heck—Does your wife get angry if she is interrupted while she is talking? Peck—How should I know?—Boston Transcript.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

A DRUGGIST IN WINNIPEG

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Winnipeg, May 19th, 1912. "In the autumn of 1911, I suffered with a continual pain in the back. As a druggist, I tried various remedies without any apparent results. Having sold GIN PILLS for a number of years, I thought there must be good in them otherwise the sales would not increase so fast. I gave them a fair trial and the results I found to be good."

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE S. Brant Agricultural Society

Will be held in the court room, Village of Burford, on Thursday, Jan. 16, 1913

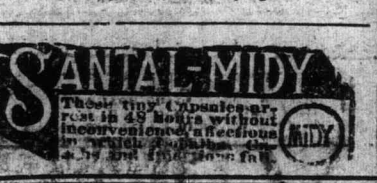
At 1 o'clock P.M.

For the purpose of receiving the treasurer's financial statement and Auditors report and disposing of the same, and to elect officers for the ensuing year, and other business.

The board will meet at 10 A.M.

W. F. MILES, Sec.-Treas.

Burford, Jan. 2nd, 1913



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72 in. wide Linen Damask, reg. 1.50. for..... 1 29	Table Napkins, large size, worth 7.50. for..... 5 75
72 in. wide Linen Damask, 4 patterns to choose from, reg. 1.25 and 1.35. Sale price..... 98	5 dozen Table Napkins, pure linen, dainty patterns, worth 3.25, for..... 2 29
3 pieces Bleached Linen Damask. Sale price..... 79	1.50 Table Cloths, 8 x 10 size. Sale price..... 1 49
2 pieces 72 in. wide Linen Damask. Sale price..... 65	10 dozen Napkins, pure linen, hemmed, worth 1.50. Sale price..... 1 00
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SECOND SECTION

Of Interest to Women—Social and P

(All communications intended for this "Society"

(Should there be any errors in the reception days given below, corrections will be gratefully received by the Society Editor.)

To-day Social Calendar.

Luncheon at Mrs. James Cockshutt's, Dufferin Crescent. Afternoon Bridge. Mrs. Mostyn Cutcliffe, Dufferin Avenue. Theatre Party at Colonial, Miss Powell as hostess.

Receiving on Thursday

Mrs. Norman Andrews. Mrs. T. H. Bier. Mrs. A. Baker. Mrs. B. G. Bell. Mrs. Bishop. Misses Brooke. Mrs. G. W. Barber. Miss M. Bennett. Mrs. Cleghorn. Mrs. Frank Cockshutt. Miss E. C. Crompton. Mrs. Coyne. Mrs. Charles Duncan. Mrs. E. B. Duncan. Mrs. T. Fissette. Mrs. T. Foster. Mrs. J. A. Fox. Mrs. E. L. Good. Mrs. E. D. Henwood. Mrs. E. E. Harley. Mrs. F. A. Howard. Mrs. Wellington Hunt. Mrs. W. T. James. Mrs. E. D. Cameron and Miss Leonard.

Mrs. Laborde. Mrs. M. E. Long. Mrs. G. C. Mackenzie, the Rectory Albion Street.

Mrs. Marquis. Mrs. F. Mann. Mrs. Messecar. Mrs. E. M. Muir. Mrs. J. S. Macdonald. Mrs. Cummings Nelles. Mrs. Huron Nelles. Miss Parley. Mrs. S. F. Pasmore. Misses Philip. Mrs. R. W. Robertson. Miss Reding. Mrs. G. Schultz. Mrs. L. Secord. Mrs. E. R. Secord. Miss Shannon. Mrs. Joseph Stratford, "Idlewyde."

Mrs. A. B. Tisdale. Mrs. A. C. Tranter. Mrs. L. S. Van Westrum "Langley Park." Mrs. P. Ryan. Mrs. A. L. Vanstone. Mrs. C. F. Verity. Mrs. J. T. Wallace. Mrs. E. P. Watson. Mrs. T. A. Wright, St. Jude's Rectory.

Mrs. G. D. Watt. Mrs. James Wilkes. Mrs. A. J. Wilkes. Mrs. Peter Wood. Mrs. J. M. Young.

Miss Gladys Flew of Toronto, was a week-end visitor in town, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Rose, Palmerston Ave.

Mrs. Allen of Toronto, at present a guest of her sister, Mrs. James Cockshutt, Dufferin Crescent, accompanied by her husband and two daughters, sail from New York, the end of January, to spend the balance of the winter in Algiers.

The Countess of Aberdeen while in Ottawa, was the guest of Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier, who entertained in her honor at dinner on Monday evening.

Miss Gladys Sanderson's many friends will be glad to know that she is home again from the Brantford General Hospital and recovering nicely from her recent operation.

The ladies aid of the Balfour St. Presbyterian church held their annual meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14th, realizing a neat sum to the good.

The officers elected for the year were as follows: Hon. President, Rev. J. M. Whitelaw; President, Mrs. J. Wilde; vice-president, Mrs. Wm. Robertson, Jr.; collector, Mrs. R. Calbeck; secretary, Mrs. S. Danby; after the election of officers and other business being transacted, Mrs. Wm. Robertson, 18 Brunswick street, volunteered to give an "at home" on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 15, from 3 to 5 o'clock. After spending a pleasant time together the meeting then adjourned.

Mrs. Gilbert Fauquier, Ottawa, is spending a few weeks at Welland, St. Catharines.

The wedding of pretty Olive May, one of the cleverest dancers in London, to Lord Victor William Paget, brother of and heir presumptive to the Marquis of Anglesey, is announced for the early part of the year. Miss May is one of the most popular of the Gaiety Girls, and by her marriage to Lord Paget she will be allied to the Duke of Rutland's fam-

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