

Editorials.

THE ILLNESS OF OUR KING.

We did not appreciate how much we loved our King until we heard, Tuesday, June 24, that he was dangerously ill, and that a serious operation had been performed upon him. During those dark days which followed we began to realize that he, our Sovereign, was not only dear to us, but was also the most influential and most highly respected man in the councils of the nations of the world.

At the time of writing we are depending chiefly upon information derived from the official bulletins issued by the attending physicians and surgeons, reports sent out by the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal*, and special reports cabled to the *New York Medical Journal*.

On June 16th the King, after attending a military review at Aldershot in bad weather, somewhat suddenly collapsed, and suffered from chills, nausea, pains, and other symptoms of abdominal trouble due to perityphlitis. On June 18th his temperature was elevated, and there were swelling and tenderness in the right iliac fossa. On June 21st the temperature was normal and swelling and tenderness gone. Rapid recovery was hoped for. On June 23rd the temperature was 102, and there was considerable swelling. On June 24th (Tuesday), at 10 a.m., an operation was decided upon, and was performed at noon by Sir Frederick Treves, assisted by Lord Lister, Sir Thomas Smith, Sir Francis Laking and Sir Thomas Barlow, Dr. Frederick Hewitt administering the anesthetic. The abscess around the cecum, of large size and deeply seated, was opened, evacuated, and washed. Two large drainage tubes were introduced and the wound was packed with antiseptic gauze. There was no resection of the bowel (as reported by certain newspapers). The recovery from anesthesia was satisfactory. The King passed a restless night.

June 25th (Wednesday)—At noon, twenty-four hours after the operation, condition favorable.

June 26th (Thursday)—A good day, followed by a fair night, the patient having refreshing sleep. The state of the wound satisfactory, although occasional pain is experienced, the dis-