



INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA.

Independence Hall, Philadelphia, was built in 1731, and used as a State House and subsequently as a meeting place for the Continental Congress, which met in the east room, on the lower floor. It was there the Declaration of Independence was adopted. On the Fourth of July, 1776, the Declaration was ordered to be engrossed on parchment, but no person actually signed the document on that day. In fact, it was not for some months that all the signatures had been placed upon the manifesto. On July 8th it was read publicly.

### The Prince of Wales as a Fireman.

When the Alhambra Theatre in London took fire the firemen were unable to reach the vital place with a hose, and water could only be conveyed thither in buckets. The number of firemen was limited, and volunteers for a "bucket brigade" to pass water were called for. Many present sprang into line, but even with this assistance there was occasion for more hands.

Idly looking on, near where a well-dressed man was hard at work, stood a pompous individual, whose flashy attire eloquently proclaimed recently-acquired

wealth and vanity. Observing him doing nothing, the man at work calmly asked, "Why don't you take a hand, sir?"

Drawing himself up to his full height, the pompous individual contemptuously replied :

"I'll have you understand, sir, if you don't know it, that I'm Mr. So-and-So, of So-and-So, and cannot stoop to the dirty work of a common fireman."

Without pausing in his "dirty work of a common fireman," the man looked "Mr. So-and-So, of So-and-So," squarely in the eye and said very quietly :

"I am His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales."