

of the phonograph lingered on the air, she sighed happily, and with "God bless you, dear," on her lips, passed away to another world.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra have had six children, of whom four survive. Their names are:

Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward, Duke of Clarence, born at Frogmore, January 8, 1864, died at Sandringham, January 14, 1892.

Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert, Duke of York, (now Duke of Cornwall and heir apparent to the throne), born at Marlborough House, June 3, 1865. Married July 6, 1893, Princess Victoria Mary of Teck.

Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar, born at Marlborough House, February 20, 1867, married July 27, 1889, to the Duke of Fife.

Princess Victoria Alexandra Olga Mary, born at Marlborough House, July 6, 1868.

Princess Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria, born at Marlborough House, November 26, 1869, married July 22, 1896, to Prince Charles of Denmark.

Prince Alexander John Charles Albert, born at Sandringham, April 6, died April 7, 1871.

From his early childhood Prince George, the heir-apparent to the throne, presented a striking contrast to his elder brother, the Duke of Clarence. The latter was pale, pensive, retiring, but with a singular grace of manner and deportment that never afterward forsook him; the other was ruddy of countenance, full of brightness, and brusque vivacity, winning as he grew up a reputation for athletic sports. A strong intimacy existed between the two princes and they were constant companions in boyhood. Both entered the navy as cadets at the same time, June 5, 1877, Prince George having reached the required age just two days before, and was perhaps the youngest cadet ever admitted to service. After remaining two years on a training ship the princes set out on their famous three years' voyage in the "Bacchante" visiting the West Indies, South America, Australia, China, Japan and other places. Afterwards they visited Switzerland, Canada, United States, and the West Indies. Prince George was after this in actual service in the navy for six years, winning his way by merit from one post to another until he was promoted to the rank of commander, August 27, 1891. In the autumn of that year he went to visit his brother, the Duke of Clarence, at Dublin. There he contracted typhoid fever, and nearly lost his life. But his robust constitution held out, and he recovered his health just in time to stand by the deathbed of his brother, who had fallen a victim to pneumonia.

^t Queen Victoria died on the anniversary of her father's death.

The King's English.

BY A. CAMERON.

We are beginning to get used to "K. C." instead of the old familiar "Q. C.," and to "God save the King," and "The Soldiers of the King." In the same way our eyes and ears will by and by grow accustomed to "the king's highway" and "the king's English." As to the latter, there has already been a good deal of talk and some newspaper discussion in connection with a word which dropped from the king's own mouth in his first official utterance. In his accession speech to the Privy Council at St. James's Palace, on January 23d, he said, "I have resolved to be known by the name of Edward, which has been borne by six of my ancestors."

It is the last four words of this sentence which have bothered people. They have looked up their dictionaries and found that "ancestor" means "progenitor" or something to that effect. Then they turned to their history books and encyclopædias, and found that, of the Edwards from I to VI, only four (some said only three) were among the progenitors of Edward VII. Others looked a little farther back and found nine instead of six preceding King Edwards, of which nine there were five who figured among the forefathers of our present monarch. This research among the early Saxon kings only made the previous muddle rather more muddled.

There are two simple facts which will remove all the muddlement from all minds except those which know nothing and can receive nothing beyond what is contained in their pocket dictionary and their school textbook of history. One is that for eight centuries and a half it has been the custom of the sovereigns of England to fix the numeral after their name according to the number of kings or queens who have borne that name since the conquest. And custom, as Pinder said long ago, and as Carlyle has said more recently, is the queen that rules the world. The other fact comes under the same rule. It has been the custom for our sovereigns to speak of their predecessors as "ancestors." There is ancient legal sanction for this custom; but, even if there was not, the mere fact of its being the common custom of our recent kings and queens would make it perfectly good English. It was good "Queen's English" in the late reign, because Queen Victoria used it; and it is good "King's English" now because Edward VII used to use it habitually before he became king, and has shown in his accession speech that he intends to continue the use of it. On one historic occasion at Windsor, Macaulay forgot himself so far as to "correct" her late Majesty for calling James II. her