

QUEENS WITH GLORIOUS REIGNS.

—England has been fond of Queens, and has usually given them a good name. Of Matilda we know very little. But the faults of Mary were attributed in great part to her husband, while both Elizabeth and Anne have, perhaps with equal reason, been decorated with the name of "Good." It certainly has so happened that the reigns of the last three queens who have occupied the English thrones have been both happy and glorious. In all alike we see great developments of the national energy, the flowering of a brilliant and characteristic literature, and the growth of new political and social ideas inaugurating new stages of progress. If we carry our minds back to the accession of Queen Elizabeth, we find ourselves in a world which has, indeed, little resemblance to our own, but which was an entirely new departure from the world of the Plantagenets. Similarly, in the reign of Anne, we are face to face with a political and social *régime* wholly different in kind from that of the seventeenth century, the departing footsteps of which we look back upon through the reign of William. In our own time it is unnecessary to say that we live in a transition period from the stereotyped thoughts and habits of the pre-reformers to some unknown and un conjectured destiny. Thus all three reigns have been signalized by the same distinctive feature, have each in some measure ushered in a new age, and have been distinguished by the same literary and intellectual activity. To which of them history will assign the supremacy is a question which we shall not touch. The Elizabethan, the Augustan and the Victorian eras have each their special glories to boast of, and their comparative greatness must depend to a great extent on the character of the mind which contemplates them.—*London Standard*.

THE FUTURE OF THE GIRL-GRADUATES.—Mrs. Lynn Linton calls attention to the fact that careers for women are not controlled by the same fixity of purpose as those which open out to men. The element of marriage often comes in to extinguish the ambition for eminence in science or general culture. But Mr. Higginson has recently shown [in the *Critic* of December 4th] that the girl-graduates in this country are opening the way to the higher education of women as it has never been opened before. They are forming an associated body of women, who will have a powerful influence over the future of their sex, and who to-day hold the future education of American women in their hands. The first thing is to educate these women as they desire; the next is to provide them with something to do which is in line with their education; the next is to bring their education to bear upon the development of society.

This final and largest end is largely promoted by their organization under the name of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. This is to-day, for the first time in the history of the country, a body of women who have first received the training which qualifies them to undertake things that need to be done for their sex, and who have the largeness of outlook that is sufficient to see the opportunities which are opening out to women in the multiplied interests of the country. The Society to Encourage Studies at Home, which has had much to do with the creation of a larger and more wholesome sphere for women, has been a pioneer in making women the centres of an educational influence in different parts of the country, and their collegiate education and associated life create a still more potent influence in the same direction. The Association of Collegiate Alumnae proposes to organize the energies of these