

tage as the eldest son of Queen Victoria, the most gracious and the noblest queen of all ages. If a revolution were possible in Great Britain—and, of course, it would stand about the same chance as an icicle in the Sahara—there is no living Englishman, not even excepting the Duke of Devonshire or the Marquis of Salisbury, who so completely expresses British character and the British mind, who is so astute a politician, so profound a counsellor, so consummate an administrator; in short, not one who could meet the stupendous responsibilities so successfully discharged by the imperial scion of the Guelphs who has just assumed the crown.

The Coronation signified the reaffirmation by the various peoples of this vast Empire of their belief in the principle and practice of monarchy limited. It is obvious that neither despotism nor republicanism can thrive or even find any place to take root in the realms of King Edward. No change could be even dreamed of, much less desired for even a single instant, while such

sovereigns as he wear the crown and direct our destinies. With him and his family monarchy is as safe and unshakable as Gibraltar. He stands for national advancement and imperial progress, for liberal ideas of life, and the policy of keeping level with the spirit of the times in every department of healthy effort—in science, art, education, commerce, industry, mechanics, literature, sport. He stands for and expresses the truth of one blood and the union of the Empire, making men glad to owe him allegiance and to do him homage.

The newest significance of the Coronation lay in bringing into prominence the importance of the Colonies to the Empire and the importance of the Empire to the Colonies. Each needs the other; it is the strength of union and the union of strength. From the present point in our national and imperial growth this mutual need will be more fully felt every year. The Coronation was a milestone in British progress; it signified the beginning of a new epoch in colonial and imperial relations—with



OSBORNE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT

Which the King has presented to the British Nation in memory of Queen Victoria, who died there. It will be converted into a "convalescent home for officers of the navy and army whose health has been impaired in rendering service to their country."