

Past Visits of Royalty to Canada.



THE DUKE OF KENT.
Great Grandfather of the Duke of Cornwall and York.

exception, and that was Queen Victoria. For a time the Duke of Kent resided in British North America; the Prince of Wales paid the American continent a visit in 1860, and his heir is now our guest. And besides Canada has been visited by three other members of the Royal Family—by Prince Arthur, brother of the King and son of the Duke of Connaught, by the Marchioness of Lorne and by the late Prince Edward, the elder brother of the Duke of Cornwall and York.

Our geography preserves the memory of Edward, Duke of Kent, for the island province of the Dominion bears his name. In its early history Prince Edward Island was known as Isle St. Jean. In November, 1798, the Legislature of the Colony passed an Act changing the name to that which it now bears out of compliment to the Duke of Kent, who at that time was commander of the forces in British North America, with headquarters at Halifax. In the winter of 1794 his military duties called the Duke of Kent from Canada to the West Indies. He sailed from Boston on a British frigate, and the journey to that city was made from Canada in January.

In 1840 King Edward VII., then Prince of Wales, a young man nineteen years of age, visited this country and was everywhere received with unbounded enthusiasm. He set sail from Plymouth on H.M.S. "Hercules" on July 9 and his father, the Prince Consort, saw him start on his tour just as King Edward went down to Portsmouth last March to bid his son God speed on his journey round the world. On July 23 the Prince of Wales arrived at St. John's, Nfld., and three days were spent in Newfoundland. On the morning of July 31 the Royal Squadron arrived at Halifax, and in spite of disagreeable weather the whole populace turned out to welcome the Prince. He was lodged at Government House, the guest of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Earl of Mulgrave. At Halifax as elsewhere there were state balls, receptions and banquets. It was an occasion of general rejoicing, a great national fête. On August 1 the Prince visited the estate of his late grandfather, the Duke of Kent. From Halifax the Prince proceeded to St. John, N.B., where he was received by the Hon. J. M. Sutton, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, the members of the Executive Council and the civil authorities. The Prince was escorted to Duke of Kent's Lodge, where five thousand school children were assembled. In the afternoon a levee was held in the Court House. Fredericton was next visited, from whence the Royal party set out for Quebec, travelling by way of Carleton, across the Bay of Fundy to Windsor, thence to Truro and Pictou. From the latter place he crossed to Charlottetown, P.E.I., and on August 11, he sailed on the "Hercules" for Quebec. At sunset on the following day the Royal fleet was met in Gaspe Bay by the Canadian Government steamers, "Victoria" and "Lord Hay," having on board the Governor-General, Sir Edmund Head, and the members of his Government. On the morning of the 14th the Governor-General went on board the "Hercules" and welcomed the Prince to Canada. The saguenay was visited on the trip up the river, and Quebec was reached on Saturday, August 18. As the Royal fleet sailed in front of the city salutes were fired from the warships "Nile," "Valorous" and "Saxs," which had arrived the day before, and from the Citadel, Durham Terrace and the Grand Battery. The Ancient Capital entertained the party right royally, and after a stay of several days the Prince and suite set out by steamer "Kingston" for Montreal. A visit was paid Three Rivers, and here the Royal visitor was met by the steamer "Quebec," carrying a party of Montreal citizens who had come down the river to welcome the Prince. As it was raining heavily when Montreal was reached, the landing was postponed until the following morning, when the Prince was received by a great concourse of people, Mayor Rodier and the council, the clergy of the city and the leading citizens. The city was beautifully decorated. The Prince drove through the principal streets to the Crestal Palace, where he opened the exhibition. On the afternoon of the same day the Prince visited the Victoria Bridge, where he laid the last stone and drove the last rivet in that great structure. Subsequently luncheon was served at the Grand Trunk Railway Station, at which six hundred guests sat down. The celebration continued in Montreal until August 30, when the Prince and party visited St. Hyacinthe and Sherbrooke. On September 1 the Prince laid the corner stone of the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, after which he set out upon the tour of Upper Canada. The Upper Ottawa Valley was visited, and then crossing to Brockville his Royal Highness and party embarked on the steamer "Kingston" and proceeded westward. There was great rejoicing at

Between the Duke of Cornwall and York and King George III. there are only three generations of the Royal Family; namely, the Duke of Kent, son of George III.; Queen Victoria, daughter of the Duke of Kent; King Edward VII., son of Victoria, and then George, Duke of Cornwall and York, son of King Edward VII. Time flies, and the chain of these four links takes one back in our history to the sovereign whose ministers signed the treaty of Paris ending Canada to Britain, whose General was Wellington and whose Admiral was Nelson. From George III. the heads of this direct line, which places the Duke of Cornwall and York next in succession to the throne, have all visited Canada, with one

Toronto and other places in Upper Canada. On September 20 the Canadian tour came to an end at Windsor, from which place the Prince crossed the frontier and entered Detroit. In the United States the party visited Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, New York, Boston and Portland, from which place his Royal Highness sailed for home on October 20, 1860. While in Montreal the Prince of Wales made his home at the residence of Sir John Rose, at the head of Simpson street, and subsequently the residence of the late W. W. Ogilvie.

Prince Arthur, now the Duke of Connaught resided in Montreal during 1862-70. He landed at Halifax on August 22, 1869 and after visiting the eastern cities came on to Montreal where he joined his regiment, the Prince Consort's Own Rifles. He resided at Rosemont where his father, the Prince of Wales had stayed in 1860. Prince Arthur went to the frontier during the Fenian raid of 1870. Late that summer the Rifle Brigade was recalled to England and Prince Arthur returned home. In 1890 the Duke and Duchess of Connaught passed through Canada from Vancouver to Quebec. The Royal party crossed the continent by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and after visiting western Ontario, proceeded to Montreal where they arrived on June 2. During their stay here the Duke and Duchess were the guests of Lord Mount-Stephen. The Royal party left Montreal on June 5 and after a visit to Metapedia they sailed for home from Quebec on the Allan R.M.S. "Sardinian" on June 11.

During the greater part of this years the Marchioness of Lorne (Princess Louise) was a resident of Canada. In 1878 the Marquis of Lorne was appointed Governor-General of Canada, succeeding Lord Dufferin in that high and important office. The Vice-Royal party landed at Halifax on November 23rd, 1878, and were received with all possible honour. Their journey to Ottawa was one continuous triumphal procession, the populace turning out to welcome the new Governor-General and his Royal consort, who was regarded with much affectionate interest by the people and for personal qualities, independent of her high rank, earned for her the love and respect of all with whom she came in contact. During these years of residence at Government House, Ottawa, the Princess Louise repeatedly visited Montreal and took part in its social functions. She travelled over the greater part of the country, and was everywhere received with loyal enthusiasm by all classes of the population. She took a deep interest in Canadian art and literature, and made many valuable contributions to both.

The last visit of the Duke of Cornwall and York to Canada was made in 1890. At that time his Royal Highness was known as Prince George of Wales. He came as the commander of H.M.S. "Thrush," which in company with H.M.S. "Canada," arrived in Montreal harbour at noon on Tuesday, September 9th. But this was not his first visit, for when serving on the "Canada," seven years before, Prince George spent his leave of absence in visiting the interior of the Dominion. Halifax was also visited by both the brothers when they were still in middies in Her Majesty's Navy. However, the former visit to Montreal of the Duke of Cornwall and York that attracted general attention was that of September, 1890. It was a charming autumn day when the ships arrived and a large crowd, had assembled on the wharf to welcome the young Prince. The "Thrush" arrived half an hour after the "Canada" and moored just below the latter. The Prince was on the bridge beside the pilot, Honore Bussanville, but as soon as the ships moored the Prince went on board the "Canada" to meet the Admiral. In the evening a civic reception was held in the City Hall, a local Mayor Grenier presented an address to his Royal Highness. There was a large attendance of citizens. Another feature of the evening was the illumination of the harbour. Among the officers in the Prince's party were Vice-Admiral Wemyss, with his flag Lieutenant, E. T. Townbridge, also Mr. Philip Strachan. On September 10th, the Mount Pleasant Park was visited, and in the afternoon the Prince and his party witnessed a lacrosse match on the M.A.A.A. ground, between the Montreal and Shamrock teams, the match being won by the latter. On the evening of September 11th a ball was given at the Windsor Hotel, attended by about three hundred guests. It was the most brilliant social function of the season. The set of honor consisted of H.R.H. Prince George and Lady Hickson, Mr. B. D. McGibbon and Miss Murphy, Lieut. Townbridge and Mrs. Metcalf, Capt. Donlin and Mrs. Taschereau, Admiral Watson and Hon. Madame Laessle, Lieut.-Col. Houghton and Miss Angus, Lieut. Faser and Miss Connor. The Prince also attended the race at Bel-Air, and witnessed some good sport. Shortly after day-break on Saturday, September 13th, the "Canada"



THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

and the "Thrush" sailed for Quebec. Before going on board the night before the Prince expressed his gratification at the kind and cordial reception given him, and his appreciation of the manner in which the programme had been carried out.

Eleven years have passed and Prince George again comes among us, now the Duke of Cornwall and York and heir-apparent to the British crown. When he visited us in 1890 he was a youth; he comes now as a man accompanied by his wife, who from the days of girlhood, has ever been a favorite of the British public. Canada welcomes them sincerely; not only as representatives of the Crown but also as representatives of a world-wide Empire.



KING EDWARD VII.—in 1890.