PEN PICTURE OF QUEEN MARY

London Times' Tribute to Her Ability and Character

RARE INTELLIGENCE

Her Early Training Sensible and Thorough—Is Very Charitable and Religious—Her Happy Married Life—Is Devoted to Her Husband and Children.

The following article from the London Times on the new queen may be taken as a sort of semi-official and wholly accurate estimate, and it will be found to be very interesting, too.

In an article which we published a few days ago from the pen of one who has known the king and queen for many years allusion was made to the domestic happiness which has crowned the union of our beloved sovereign and his gracious consort. His majesty himself, in the first public utterance made by him after his accession, referred in touching words to the assistance which he receives from the queen. "I am encouraged," he said, "by the knowledge that I have in my dear wife one who will be a constant helpmate in every endeavor for our people's good." It is, indeed, a matter for congratulation to all King George's subjects, in whatever part of his world-wide dominions their lot may be cast, that their ruler's queen should be so eminently fitted by character, education and natural aptitude to support him in the exalted station to which he has been called.

Time flies so rapidly that to many who read these lines it must seem, on looking backward, but a short time ago since Queen Mary, then affectionately known as Princess May, made her first appearance in public by the side of her dearly-loved mother, Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck. One cannot imagine a more inestimable influence than the example of so admirable a mother. By her warm heart and her unwearying labors in the cause of the poor and suffering the Duchess of Teck won the lasting affection of multitudes to whom she was never personally known, and who had no means of knowing with what wisdom she ordered her own household, with what solicitude she watched over the upbringing of her young family, and how carefully and lovingly her only daughter was trained in all domestic virtues.

Early Life.

The duchess found her reward in the love of her children for their parents and for one another. A singularly united family, and one, moreover, taught from the earliest days that a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions, sisters and brothers grew up to enjoy simple, wholesome pleasures, to make their own amusements, enter into each other's games and sports, and share each other's childish joys and sorrows. The only sister, Princess May, was certainly not the less loved on that account, and more than one of those boyish differences which will occur even among the most devoted of brothers was quickly composed by her affectionate sisterly intervention. The Duke and the Duchess of Teck, believing as they did most thoroughly in the value of home life, were careful never to omit those little family observances which mean so much to the young. Every birthday, as it came round, was duly marked by some special concession to the honored child. Thus the future queen of England and her brothers were allowed on their birthday to order their own breakfast and to enjoy other little privileges appropriate to their age. The remembrance of these days and of many joyous Christmases spent in the family circle is still among their happiest recollections.

Brought up strictly, but without undue restraint, Princess May and her brothers were instructed in all those subjects which are rightly regarded as essential. The duchess herself undertook the duty of instilling into the minds of her girl and boys the knowledge of divine truth and of Christian precept and example. The influence of these maternal lessons has been lasting, and is bearing fruit today in the queen's home life. Among the most sacred memories of those early days the queen and her brothers recall the peaceful Sunday evenings at White Lodge, where, grouped round their mother, they joined in singing some of her favorite hymns. The Duchess of Teck was an excellent musician and the possessor of a remarkably fine voice, which was never heard to greater advantage than in these intimate family reunions.

Princess May was taught music as a girl, and became very proficient. She had a sweet though not a powerful soprano voice, and often sang in the drawing-room at White Lodge, sometimes to the accompaniment of her singing master, Signor (now Sir Paolo) Tosti. The queen retains fondness for music acquired in her girlhood, although the serious duties of her rank and of her domestic circle have diminished her opportunities of indulging it. A great inherited love of nature found expression in the pleasure which she took in sketching in water colors, a pursuit to which she was devoted more especially during the time of her family's residence in Florence. Many of the charming landscapes surrounding that beautiful city, where some of the happiest days of her girlhood were passed, found a place in her sketch-book. It was in Florence, too, that the queen acquired proficiency in Italian, as she had already done in French and German. Her majesty is, indeed, an excellent linguist, and converses fluently in all these languages. After a year and a half, most of which was spent at the Villa Cedri in Florence, Princess May returned in 1885, when she was eighteen, with the rest of the family to England, and again found herself in her old home at White Lodge.

Home Life and Interests.

From this time onwards the queen's life has been an exceedingly full one. The duchess, her mother, was one of the most energetic of women, always busy in her home or in the presentation of some work of usefulness or charity. As soon as her daughter was of an age to be associated with her in these occupations she became her mother's companion and confident. The large correspondence which the duchess' multifarious interests necessitated was in part undertaken by the princess. The Duchess of Teck was deeply interested, during the last years of her life, in the revival of the English silk-weaving industry, and did much, with the assistance of the late Sir Thomas Wardle, to bring before the public the claims of our own productions. She was devoted also to the Needlework Guild, and, with her daughter, took infinite pains over the examination of the bundles of needlework sent in by this society. And here it may be said that the queen, who is herself an accomplished needlewoman, has always shown a high appreciation of needlework in all its branches, and her influence and example cannot fail to do much to maintain among her women subjects the prestige of this essentially feminine art.

The public will never know how much of her time Princess May devoted to charity in various forms. Here again she was following in her mother's footsteps, for the Duchess of Teck was one of the first of the ladies of exalted rank to show a personal interest in the poor and suffering, and to go into the east-end for the purpose of trying at least to mitigate some of the hardships of that poverty-stricken district. The young and the old in particular have always been the objects of the queen's special solicitude. Years ago, long before the many funds for sending children to the seaside and the country had reached their present development, her majesty was active in promoting this movement. The Children's Happy Evenings Association has had her heartiest countenance and support, and everything that can improve the lot and life of the young, who will some day be the men and women of the country, claims and receives her sympathy in fullest measure.

Her care for the old may be illustrated by a single example. While still at White Lodge she concerned herself with the welfare of a number of old women in the east-end of London. There was, on the Duke of Cambridge's estate at Coombe, a keeper's cottage of which the Duchess of Teck obtained the loan. It was just large enough to accommodate two persons and it was the princess' practice to invite certain deserving old women to stay at the cottage for a fortnight at a time during the summer months. She used constantly to go over to the cottage to visit them, to minister to their simple needs, and to cheer them by her bright and sympathetic nature. Such things as these are not spectacular, but they remain in the memory of those who know them, and they account in some measure for the love which the queen inspires in all who come into personal relations with her.

As Lady Grand President of the League of Mercy the Queen has performed duties of a kind particularly congenial to her nature; and all those who have attended the annual garden parties given to the league at Marlborough House have noted the genuine pleasure which her majesty has taken in promoting the welfare of that excellent organization.

Reference has already been made to the desire of the Duchess of Teck to promote British industries. This was but one side of that patriotic spirit which it was ever her endeavor to instil into her own children. The lesson was not lost on them, and the queen seizes every opportunity of inculcating it both in her own family and in others. This is evident from the deep interest which her majesty takes in everything tending to promote patriotism among the young. During her visit to the colonies the Duchess of York, as she was then, noticed with pleasure how much had been accomplished in the formation of cadet corps, lads' brigades and so forth. Her sympathies were at once enlisted in the movement and its various developments in this country, and have continued strongly with it ever since.

The visits of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall to the duchy afforded sufficient evidence of their desire to become as closely acquainted with that part of the kingdom as circumstances would allow; while their solicitude for the welfare of their tenants on the estate of the duchy in London is known to all who have taken the trouble to become acquainted with the facts. The queen has visited these districts with the king, and has given practical proofs of her desire in every way to second his majesty's efforts to provide better dwellings and more wholesome surroundings for the poor who live in them.

Queen Mary has had opportunities far more extensive than those which are open to most ladies, including those even of the highest rank, of acquiring first-hand information on all sorts of subjects. She has taken advantage of these opportunities to the full, the result being that her naturally quick intelligence has been highly cultivated and her capacity correspondingly developed. King Edward VII., a shrewd though a reticent judge, who rarely commented on the qualities he discerned in others, is known to have spoken highly of his daughter-in-law's character and ability. Queen Mary's intellectual sympathies are practical rather than idealistic, although this by no means implies that she is without ideals. As a girl facts rather than fancies, the real world, with all its deeds and needs, rather than the world of romance and fiction, appealed to her and she read widely the history not only of her own but of other countries. She takes a particular interest in the memoirs of historical personages, and is far better acquainted with this kind of literature than many would suppose to be possible in the case of one having so many calls upon her time and attention.

Before her marriage, White Lodge was a centre of wide and varied culture. The "week-end" habit was not then established, and many men distinguished in literature, science, art and the drama were accustomed to pay visits to the Duke and Duchess of Teck at their home amid the beautiful surroundings of Richmond Park. In this cultured society Princess May was kept abreast of all that was most interesting and important in the workaday world. She had her own boudoir, whither now and then she would conduct her parents' guests to show them her books and other treasures. To youth and intelligence she united those personal charms and graces which won for her such universal popularity when she made her first appearance in society.

Perhaps her principal interest has lain in the direction of historical architecture. Wherever she has travelled she has made a point of inspecting what the French call the "monuments." Old houses, churches, and other buildings of public or private interests have always possessed an attraction for her; and in every city which she has visited she has found in the museums and art galleries a never-failing source of amusement and instruction. Her voyage in the Ophir, when, as Duchess of York, she accompanied the duke through the king's overseas dominions, and her subsequent visit to India, were rich in opportunities of acquiring fresh stores of knowledge, by which she did not fail to benefit to the fullest extent. Before starting on these prolonged journeys she procured many books in which the various countries to be traversed were described, and studied them carefully, with a view to being able to take a deeper and wider interest in what she was about to see and hear. Consequently she often knew more than those who served as her guides, and surprised them by the extent and accuracy of her information. The writer has just received a letter from a lady interested in charitable work, in which she says:

"I shall never forget the impression which I received some time ago on being presented to Queen Mary in connection with some work in which I was engaged. In a few words the queen showed me how completely she had grasped the situation and understood and sympathized with me in the aims which I had in view. Her quick perception and gentle tact will be of inestimable value to her in the duties which lie before her."

Married Life.

The Duchess of Teck consistently impressed upon her daughter the importance of careful and constant supervision of the home. It was under her judicious guidance that Queen Mary became, as she has proved to be since her marriage, an excellent administrator of her own household affairs. She has never regarded as derogatory, nor has she ever been so preoccupied with affairs of less importance as to relegate to servants or housekeepers, the duties which it becomes the lady of the house to perform.

In her life since her marriage the queen has been greatly blessed. The six bright and healthy children who have been born to the king and queen are the joy of their parents, whose greatest happiness has been found in their midst. As Prince of Wales the king had many claims upon his attention, and he was never so pleased as when, being free for the time surrounded by his wife and family. On these occasions, father, mother, and children entered together into the joys of the home as if thrones and principalities had no existence for them. If it had been possible for his subjects to peep through the walls of Marlborough House but a day or two before the fatal illness of King Edward, they would have seen the Prince of Wales, our present sovereign, engaged in a game of squash racquets with one of his sons.

It is this simple and genuinely wholesome life which is the rule of the king's domestic circle. To a large extent the queen's early experiences are being repeated in the lives of her own young people. Just as she was an only daughter with three brothers as her playmates, so her own daughter, Princess Mary, is the only girl of the family, with five brothers instead of three. All the children have had impressed upon them the necessity of good deportment and the importance which attaches in persons of the royal blood to ceremonial observances. Moreover, they are all drilled by an old soldier, an ex-pipe-major of the Scots Guards, who teaches them to hold themselves up and puts them through little exercises, including the handling of arms, which is taught with the assistance of a toy gun. The boys are brought up to love all manly English sports. The eldest, now the Duke of Cornwall, was formerly known to the public as Prince Eddie and in the home as "David," this being one of his names. It is used in the family as a compliment to Wales. The young princes, and especially Prince Albert, are good golf players and capital bicycle riders. All the children have been taught to ride on horseback, and in this Princess Mary, perhaps because she has greater opportunities than her brothers, excels. The Duke of Cornwall is being taught to shoot. The king is one of the best shots in the British Isles, and his eldest son, who shot rather well last season, would seem to be following in his footsteps.

The king and queen are bringing up their children as befits their rank; it is not inappropriate here to mention what, indeed, may be gathered from Queen Mary's character, that the importance of deeper and more sacred matters is not overlooked. Wherever the king and queen may be, they are strict in attendance at divine service on Sunday. When at Frogmore they were always to be seen at the parish church at Windsor, or at the military service at Holy Trinity, accompanied by their children. They avoided ceremony, taking part in the service as ordinary members of the congregation, and mingling with their fellow-worshippers as they left the church. It is a small matter to notice, perhaps, but its significance will not be lost on the multitudes of the subjects of the king and queen who attach importance to sacred things and rejoice to see their sovereign and his consort setting an example of reverence for them to all their people.

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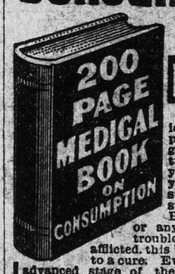

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[The opinions of correspondents are not necessarily those of The Telegraph. This newspaper does not undertake to publish all or any of the letters received. Unsigned communications will not be noticed. Write on one side of paper only. Communications must be plainly written; otherwise they will be rejected. Stamps should be encosed if return of manuscript is desired in case it is not used. The name and address of the writer should be sent with every letter as evidence of good faith.—Ed. Telegraph.]

THE CUBAN MARKET AND N. B. FARMERS

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Sir,—In your issue of the 4th inst., appears an interview on this matter with Senator Baird, of Andover, which calls for a word or two to correct what would lead to an erroneous impression on the part of those of your readers not acquainted with conditions which led up to the extension of New Brunswick's trade with Cuba.

Briefly stated, the conditions which led to a greatly extended planting of potatoes by New Brunswick farmers in 1909 were the demand which had arisen for New Brunswick potatoes in Montreal and Ontario and western city markets, gradually increasing since some of our enterprising shippers began placing them there in 1903 and the demand which always existed in United States markets.

In 1909 it was early seen by shippers that the splendid prospects for the large potato crops in Ontario, Quebec and the United States would fully supply these markets and these men through their associations took steps to look about for other outlets and as Cuba was known to take between 400,000 and half a million of barrels per year, attention was naturally given to it. In 1908 Nova Scotia sent about 150,000 bbls. to Cuba, other countries supplying nearly twice as much more.

But the Cuban market had nothing whatever to do with the large planting of the spring of 1909, and the development of that trade was an effort made to help out conditions which existed because of the plethora of supplies and the low prices in Canada and the United States. All praise instead of criticism is due those produce shippers who opened up the Cuban market for New Brunswick potatoes and have shipped there some 150,000 bbls. of potatoes that could not have been marketed elsewhere and would have been a dead loss to our farmers had these men not risked their time, labor and money in this trade extension. Prices have ruled low, but that was because nearly every potato growing country in the world was also ready to ship to Cuba. Great Britain, France and the United States have been shipping there and it speaks well for our business men and for the quality of our potatoes that we have been able to place as many there as we have. When the prices of potatoes in New York, Montreal and Toronto are realized, the Havana price enabling our men to ship at all has been a godsend.

It may be many years before there is such a world wide crop of potatoes again and our shippers will not be slow to avail themselves of all market openings, but nevertheless it cannot but be beneficial to have an established trade in a distributing centre that takes on an average over 1,000 bbls. a day of imported potatoes for every day in the year.

Men who study farm economy cannot well agree with the statement attributed to Senator Baird that it would be better to ship grain and hay then potatoes. There is no easier crop on the land as a money crop than potatoes and the result of potato growing has been to put the land in condition to grow better crops of grain and hay, as can be plainly seen in Carleton and Victoria counties.

Potatoes can be shipped off the farm without much loss of fertility, but grain and hay cannot, and if our farmers would arrange their work so as to feed all their hay and grain to live stock and after raising sufficient roots for succulent stock feed, devote a fair proportion of their land to potato growing they would be adding wealth and population to the country.

There are but few men who can hope to make large profits every year out of potatoes and potatoes alone as a farm crop, but as a side line of a proper system of live stock husbandry New Brunswick farmers can produce ten times the quantity of potatoes from last year at a good profit if markets justify the production and it will surely be good business to open up every available market for them.

W. W. HUBBARD.

Department of Agriculture,
Fredericton, N. B.

WANTS A RAILWAY

Stanley, June 7, 1910.

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Sir: We are carefully watching the attitude of the local government toward that spur line of Pinder's at Nackawick. There was sent to wait on the government when in session last winter, one of the largest delegations that ever met a government in this province. The object of this delegation was to have an extension of the York and Carleton Railway running from Cross Creek to Stanley. The tapping of the G. T. P. by this road will not only open up a good country, but will divert to the city of Fredericton more freight and passengers in one day than the branch line at Nackawick would in six months. We want this in the best interests of the province.

Yours,
ONE INTERESTED.

REV. MR. HOWARD'S REPLY

To the Editor of The Telegraph.

Sir,—In your issue of the 4th inst. there appeared a letter from one of the interim committee whose action in the case of Rev. T. J. Deinstadt has, to say the least, surprised and grieved many of his friends and fellow ministers. It is not my purpose to deal with the main features of the article, although I consider them open to criticism on various grounds. One reference in it, however, ought not to pass without comment. It is with regard to the undoubted power of the conference interim committee to change the stations of ministers during the intervals of conference. "The power referred to is frequently exercised. The former president of our conference, the Rev. S. Howard, only one year before the action of the committee complained against, did, with the other members of the committee, exercise that same power." If the purpose of the writer in thus referring to this case in which I had a part was to show how utterly dissimilar it was from the one in which he acted, I would have nothing to say about the matter. However, as he evidently had quite another purpose in view I can only say that it is beyond my comprehension why he should have made the reference at all. Having power is one thing; the manner of its exercise quite another.

Yours truly,
S. HOWARD.

St. Stephen (N. B.), June 4, 1910.

SATISFACTION DEMANDED.

"You've cut my hair too short. Just cut it again, and leave it longer this time."—Sourire.

Of Interest to Women

HOUSEHOLD NOTES.

Salt and vinegar are good to clean brass work.

White pepper is preferable to black for seasoning chicken soup.

Crisp celery should be served with cold meat. It is a nerve tonic.

Flour sprinkled generously over suet will make the chopping process simpler.

Keep tacks in bottles. It saves opening many boxes to find a particular kind.

Except in extraordinary cases, every sick room should have some sunlight every day.

To keep cheese moist and fresh and free from mold, wrap in cloth wet with good vinegar.

To clean white paint, dip a cloth in hot water, then in bran and rub it. Rinse with cold water.

Fat will not burn if a crust of bread or piece of raw potato is placed in the kettle with it.

When cleaning house use plenty of turpentine in the scrub water. It is certain death to moths.

In cutting garments it is sometimes better to fasten the pattern in place by weights instead of pins.

Left-over cereals need not be wasted. They are excellent fried like mush and eaten with syrup or honey.

A teaspoonful of glycerine, given in a wineglass of hot milk, will relieve a severe paroxysm of coughing.

Cheese wrapped in wax paper and put in a refrigerator will keep for a week and look as if freshly cut.

To keep the tubes of macaroni from sticking together the water must be kept at a galloping boil, as with rice.

For washing coarse clothes, soft soap is the best and has the advantage of going further than yellow soap.

Oxalic acid in the proportion of one to twenty may be used to remove perspiration stains from wearing apparel.

Bacon fat may be saved and used to fry fish in. It gives the fish a good flavor and keeps it from falling apart.

If a tiny pinch of soda is put into a saucepan in which fruit is being stewed less sugar will be needed to sweeten it.

To destroy flies in a room take half a teaspoonful of black pepper in powder, one teaspoonful of cream, mix well together.

Green lima beans boiled until they are nearly tender and then fried in butter are better than when merely stewed.

A little tin ruler should be with every sewing outfit. It is very much easier to use in measuring bands, hems and tucks, than tape.

A florist says that the leaves of palms should be washed in milk and water, which will preserve them and prevent brown spots.

If a plate of sandwiches is prepared beforehand for a luncheon it is a good plan to pile them on a plate and then wrap plate and all in waxed paper.

A good rule for making sponge cake is to devote exactly the same time to beating the yolks of the eggs as it takes to beat the whites to a perfect stiffness.

Soak old flour sacks in borax water over night to remove the printing and then boil for half an hour in soapy water, and they will make excellent washcloths for dishes.

It is a mistake to think that ice tea can be cooled by a few lumps in the pitcher. There must be either finely cracked or shoved ice in the glasses to make it palatable.

If jellies are becoming candied, cover them with a quarter of an inch of pulverized sugar, underneath the paper, and they will remain in good condition, even for years.

To take out wagon grease, if it is the kind made of animal fat, sponge with ether; if it is the kind made with coal tar, it may be removed with a cloth dipped in petroleum.

To prevent thread from knotting when doing hand sewing, always make a knot in the end last broken from the spool. This done, stretch the thread by giving it several quick pulls.

If furniture has grown dull and streaked, try rubbing it with a mixture of equal parts of turpentine and coal oil. It polishes quickly and is much less expensive than prepared polishes.

If you must carry hot coals from the fire and fear they will spill, why not try dumping them into a long-handled frying pan. They cannot escape and cannot burn the pan.

To remove tarnish from gold braid, first rub it free from all dust and then cover it well with powdered rock alum. After half an hour rub this off with a stiff brush and the tarnish will disappear.

Molasses cake is improved by being baked slowly. Have an oven hot when first putting in the cake, then cool it off so that the cake may be at least forty minutes in the baking. A longer time will not hurt.

A careful seamstress always has a piece of cloth under the presser foot of the machine. This not only saves wear of the machine, but will absorb any drop of oil that may gather and would soil the next fabric stitched.

A delicious French dish consists of French plums stuffed with whole almonds, dipped in olive oil and roasted on a broiler over a hot fire, then rolled in thin slices of bacon and grilled. They should be served piping hot.

If there is cold boiled ham to be used up, mince it fine in the cod chopper and mix it with mashed potatoes, a little bread crumbs and an egg or two, according to quantity. Season with butter, salt and pepper, form into croquette shapes and fry in deep hot lard.

If an article is blued too deeply soak it for a while in a pan of boiling water in which is dissolved sufficient cream of tatar to make it sour to the taste. Soak for 10 to 15 minutes and then hang up to bleach.

For a piquant sauce for meat or fish have a brown sauce ready for the foundation, and season it with a tablespoonful of vinegar, according to the amount; add a chopped shallot and a tablespoonful each of capers and pickles mixed fine.

In polishing silver that has been laid away and badly tarnished it is a good plan to dip a potion of a soft oilcloth in sweet oil or soft lard, then in whiting, rub the article well until the black has disappeared.

Pineapples, delicious at all seasons, solve the problem of many a dessert. Sliced and served plain, or with oranges and cocoanuts, they are tasty. They may be used as a flavoring for a moysse or ice cream or cut into pieces to form the basis for a fruit jelly.

To grill a piece of lamb, score the top, brush it over with the beaten yoke of an egg, dredge it with salt and pepper, cover with a layer of bread crumbs and bake, basting with butter every fifteen minutes. When it is done garnish with current jelly and serve with caper sauce.

In candying fruit it is well to remember that if the fruit is kept in air-tight tin boxes it will keep much longer and better than in any other way. In glass jars, unless they are wrapped in paper, the fruit is exposed to the light, and this has a deleterious effect.

A Russian does not become of age until he is twenty-six.

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COTTAGE AND BARN DESTROYED BY FIRE; WERE INSURED

A summer cottage and barn at Riverside, Kings county, owned by Eustace Barnes, of this city, were destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The buildings were unoccupied.

The fire was discovered about 4 o'clock by John Kirkpatrick who resides in the railway station, and he aroused Mr. Barnes and other neighbors, but they were unable to overcome the blaze and both buildings were completely burned. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it apparently started in the barn, as that building was the first to burn. It is thought that tramps may have gone to sleep and set fire to the place accidentally.

The cottage was located close to the railway station and between the highway and the I. C. R. track and was generally known as the "Andrews cottage." It was purchased by Mr. Barnes only about a week ago and arrangements had been made for repairs to be made to it at once so that it could be rented this season. It was occupied last year by Mr. Prince, a farmer. The loss was covered by insurance, the value being about $700.