

CHAPTER XLVIII.

Reign of Queen Victoria.

Q. By whom was William the Fourth succeeded ?

A. By Her present Majesty, Victoria, daughter of the Duke of Kent, fourth son of George Third, who ascended the throne in her 19th year amidst the enthusiastic wishes and expectations of all classes.

Q. What events of importance have taken place in Her Majesty's personal history.

A. On the 10th of February, 1840, Her Majesty was married to His Royal Highness Prince Albert, of the ancient and illustrious House of Saxe Cobourg Gotha ; on the 21st of November of the same year the Princess Royal was born ; on the 9th of November, 1841, the Prince of Wales (who is Heir Apparent to the throne), since when, Her Majesty has given birth to two Princes and three Princesses.

Q. What public events, worthy of notice, have occurred up to the present period ?

A. The summoning of a Parliament in July, 1841 ; the treaty of peace between England and China in August, 1842 ; the successful close of the war in Affghanistan in the following month ; the adoption in the same year of the Ashburton Treaty between England and the United States ; the brilliant success of Major General Sir Charles Napier in Scinde in February, 1843, against the hostile Beloochees ; the great reduction in 1845 in the duties on produce imported into Britain ; the immense number of Railways constructed ; the employment of steam vessels to cross the Atlantic, and in other long voyages ; the gigantic victories achieved by the British troops in India at Moodkee, Aliwal, Sobraon, &c. ; the repeal in 1846 of the duties on corn.

THE END.