

An Event in British History

THE present journey of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York is not only a striking, but quite an unparalleled event in the history of the British empire. At every stage of his progress through the East, around the vast Australasian possessions, among the isles of the Sea, in South Africa and Canada, the heir to the throne of England has found fresh millions of loyal subjects of the Crown, all animated with the same enthusiasm.

At the furthest goal of the journey, the opening of the First Parliament of United Australia imparted an imperishable emphasis to the historical importance of the tour. And Canada, having already entered the higher plane of nationhood, is appropriately the last and the highest member of Greater Britain to hail the heir apparent, as if to assure him by her strength, before he finally turns his face eastward toward England, that the foundations of the Australian Commonwealth have been as well and truly laid as her own.



The Great Journey Begun

THE sixteenth day of March, 1901, witnessed the beginning of what we are now fully justified in regarding as a momentous incident in the history of the British Empire. The heir apparent, with his fair consort, upon that day embarked on their six months' ocean cruise. With the exception of India, all the chief portions of the mighty Dominion, over which the Duke's august father rules, were comprehended in the list of visits to be made by the illustrious wanderers. It is not the first time, of course, that an heir apparent to the British Crown has made personal acquaintance with its outlying possessions. King Edward did so when he occupied that position; and his visit to Canada is remembered by many who will greet his son on this occasion, after a lapse of 40 years. But since that date a remarkable drawing together between the Mother Country and her trans-oceanic offspring has wholly changed their previous relation, and that notable fact deserved commemoration in an equally noteworthy manner. Most rightfully, therefore, the Royal tour is invested with all the pomp and ceremony befitting a grand state function. All the elaborate details of the long cruise were planned in that lofty conception of its character. Therefore it is that Canada is fully prepared, like the Australian Commonwealth to insure spectacular grandeur in the reception of the royal guests.

The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York have seen many beautiful sights during their tour thus far, but the trip through Canada in this glorious season of the year, will, we proudly expect, be a fitting climax to a journey every stage of which has seen its own particular triumphs and picturesque beauties.

Neither story nor fiction ever presented a relation more wonderful than this royal journey has developed. We must begin at the beginning, as every story-