

felicitations on that great change which has taken place in your life. Now you are Queen of the mightiest land of Europe, in your hand lies the happiness of millions. May Heaven assist you and strengthen you with its strength in that high but difficult task. I hope that your reign may be long, happy, and glorious, and that your efforts may be rewarded by the thankfulness and love of your subjects. May I pray you to think likewise sometimes of your cousins in Bonn, and to continue to them that kindness you favored them with till now? Be assured that our minds are always with you. I will not be indiscreet and abuse your time. Believe me always, your Majesty's most obedient and faithful servant. "ALBERT,"

And on the 30th of July of the same year the Prince writes thus to his father:

"Uncle Leopold has written to me a great deal about England and all that is going on there. United as all parties are in high praise of the young Queen, the more do they seem to manoeuvre and intrigue with and against each other. On every side there is nothing but a network of cabals and intrigues, and parties are arrayed against each other in the most inexplicable manner."

We next find the Prince sending to the Queen a small book containing views of almost all the places he visited in Switzerland and Italy. From the Rigi he sent her a dried "rose des Alpes," and from Voltaire's house at Ferney a scrap of that philosopher's handwriting. "The whole of these," the Queen herself writes, "were placed in a small album, with the dates at which each place was visited, in the Prince's handwriting; and this album the Queen now considers one of her greatest treasures, and never goes anywhere without it. Nothing had at that time passed between the Queen and the Prince, but this gift shows that the latter, in the midst of his travels, often thought of his young cousin."

This was in 1838, and we are told that:—"It was probably in the early part of that year that the King, (Leopold) in writing to the Queen, first mentioned the idea of such a marriage; and the proposal must have been favorably received, for in March, 1838, the King writes to Baron Stockmar, and gives an account of the manner in which Prince Albert had received the communication which (of course with the Queen's sanction) he had made to him." The King writes:

"I have had a long conversation with Albert, and have put the whole case honestly and kindly before him. He looks at the question from its most elevated and honorable point of view. He considers that troubles are inseparable from all human positions, and that therefore, if one must be subject to plagues and annoy-

ances, it is better to be so for some great or worthy object than for trifles and miseries. I have told him that his great youth would make it necessary to postpone the marriage for a few years. . . . I found him very sensible on all these points. But one thing he observed with truth. 'I am ready,' he said, 'to submit to this delay, if I have only some certain assurance to go upon. But if, after waiting, perhaps, for three years, I should find that the Queen no longer desired the marriage, it would place me in a very ridiculous position, and would, to a certain extent, ruin all the prospects of my future life. . . .'"

Events now proceed apace, and they bring with them the great good fortune of Prince Albert. As, however, we have not space to detail, at length, the events of the courtship, and as some of the most interesting correspondence arising out of it has already been placed before the public through the Press, in reviewing the "Memorials," we must break off at the most interesting part of it and refer our readers to the book itself. Our lady readers, at any rate, will not be content to stop at the beginning of a courtship. They will lose no time in satisfying their curiosity by making themselves acquainted with all the details, as they are traced at length in the volume under notice. We have not deemed it necessary to look at it in a critical spirit. Its moral influence cannot be otherwise than good. The volume reveals a union between the Queen and the Prince which was the result of love the most genuine and the most ardent. It reveals a court whose purity, like that of Cæsar's wife, was beyond suspicion, and it unfolds the character of a Prince of such great parts and of such an exalted character, that these Memorials of his life must prove an inheritance of no small value to the Queen's loving subjects, and to their descendants for ages to come. The volume brings up the history of the Royal pair to the date of the birth of their first child, the Princess Royal, an event which took place on the 21st of November, 1840. and here, in order to exhibit "a touch of nature," we must make a concluding extract:

The Prince, writing to his father on the 23rd, says,— "Victoria is as well as if nothing had happened. She sleeps well, has a good appetite, and is extremely quiet and cheerful. The little one is very well and very merry. . . . I should certainly have liked better if she had been a son, as would Victoria also; but, at the same time, we must be equally satisfied and thankful as it is. . . . The rejoicing in the public is universal."

REVIEWS.

McMILLAN'S MAP OF NEW BRUNSWICK. St. John, N. B., J. & A. McMillan.

The present is evidently the age for maps. Nova Scotia has had her agents busily canvassing our Province for the sale of her maps. That broad and expansive territory, Canada, with which we are now so closely allied, has been delineated on the canvass, and brought before the notice of our citizens. The United States' drummers, armed each with the map

of the company he represents, have been endeavouring to procure subscriptions amongst us, each pointing out the relative advantages one map has over the other in point of accuracy, printing, quality, mounting, or general "get up," each of course claiming *his* to be the only "original and reliable" map in the country. We are glad to see this spirit of commercial rivalry existing between the inhabitants of British North America and the United States. Nothing bene-