

A Memorable International Marriage in London

THE London Times in its issue of Wednesday, June 24, had the following respecting the marriage of Mr. John Ward and Miss Jean Reid:

The Chapel Royal, St. James' Palace, presented a brilliant scene yesterday afternoon when the King and Queen, Princess Victoria, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince Arthur of Connaught, Princess Patricia of Teck, Prince Francis of Teck, and the Grand Duke Michael and Countess Torby were present at the wedding of the Hon. John Hubert Ward, M. V. O., Esq., of the King, and brother of the Earl of Dudley, and Miss Jean Reid, daughter of the American Ambassador and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid. Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein were unavoidably prevented from being present.

Owing to the limited space in the Chapel the relations and a few specially invited friends of both families, together with numerous members of the Diplomatic body were present. The Russian, French, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, German, Turkish and Italian Ambassadors, with the Danish, Belgian, and Portuguese ministers, and many foreign attaches were there; as also were the Duchess of Buccleuch, Consuelo Duchess of Manchester, the Duchess of Westminster, the Duchess of Portland, the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, the Dowager Countess of Dudley, the Marquis of Anglesey, the Countess of Kilmorey, and Lady Cynthia Needham, the Prime Minister and Mrs. Asquith, Mr. Balfour, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Harcourt, Mr. D. O. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills, the Countess of Essex, Mrs. John Astor, Mrs. Walter Burns, Mr. and Mrs. William James, Lord and Lady Wolverton, the Hon. Gerald and Lady Evelyn Ward, the Hon. Cyril and Mrs. Lady Wiloughby de Eresby and her sister Lady Aistair Innes Ker with Lord Aistair Innes Ker. Then there were Lord and Lady Desborough, Lord Fitzmaurice, Lord and Lady Hugh Grosvenor, Mr. Henry White (American Ambassador in Paris), and Mrs. and Miss White, Mr. Ridgely Carter (First Secretary of the American Embassy), Mrs. and Miss Carter, and Lord and Lady St. Oswald.

All the Royal party, with the exception of the Grand Duke Michael and Countess Torby, occupied the Royal pew. The bride was escorted by her father, who gave her hand immediately behind her maid of honor, her cousin Miss Jennie Crocker, and six children, three little boys and three little girls, who walked two and two—namely, the Hon. Roderick Ward (son of the Earl and Countess of Dudley), the Hon. Marion Glyn, the Hon. Nigel Glyn (children of Lord and Lady

Wolverton), Miss Margaret Ward (daughter of the Hon. Cyril and Mrs. Ward), nephews and nieces of the bridegroom, the Hon. Reginald Winn (son of Lord and Lady St. Oswald) and Miss Audrey James (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William James (cousins of the bridegroom).

Lieut.-Col. Holford acted as best man, and the ceremony was performed by the Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal (Canon Edgar Sheppard, D.D.), assisted by the Rev. W. M. Grosvenor, D.D., of the Church of the Incarnation, New York, and the Rev. Piers Claughton, rector of Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. The service was fully choral, the gentlemen and children of the Chapel Royal choir being in attendance, while Dr. Alcock, the organist, presided at the organ. While the guests were assembling Dr. Alcock played the following voluntaries—St. Anne Fugue (Bach), the Nuptial March (Alex. Guilmar), Entr'acte and Bridal March from The Birds of Aristophanes (Sir C. G. H. Parry), Andantino (Guilmart), and Prelude to Act III. (Lohengrin). The choir and clergy met the bridal procession at the door, and proceeded to the aisle, singing the hymn "Lead us Heavenly Father, lead us." After the nuptial blessing Psalm lxxvii. was sung, the "Deus Misereatur" and after the Benediction the full choir sang the hymn "O Perfect Love," while during the signing of the register an anthem from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was rendered. The musical ceremony concluding by the playing on the organ of (1) the Benediction Nuptiale (Saint-Saens), and (2) Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

The register was conveyed to a room on the level of the Royal box, to which the bride and bridegroom proceeded directly the ceremony was over. The King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught signed the register in addition to the American Ambassador and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, the Dowager Countess of Dudley, Mr. O. Mills, and Mr. O. Mills Reid.

Without a flower to add to its decorations, the Chapel Royal is beautiful. It is small but exquisite. Yesterday it suggested fairyland. For background there were the panels of polished oak, carved with a rich cornice of flowers and leaves, the pews of the same severe beauty, the painted ceiling crossed and recessed with fine old beams and its bosses carved and gilded, the rich tapestries here and there, the old paintings glowing like jewels, the crimson carpet, the altar rich with gold dishes and candles, and above, the dim gold of the eastern windows, and allowing the summer light so that a subtle atmosphere of mystery might add its beauty to the scene. Upon this exquisite background flowers were arranged with lovely effect.

Looking very charming and graceful, the bride walked slowly and with dignity, her beautiful dress of soft white satin and exquisite

old rose point falling in long and lovely lines. Then followed the group of attendants, all very and most lovely. So young they were they did not in the least realize anything serious in the occasion; so inexperienced that it needed the persuasion of parents and friends before they would follow the bride to the altar. Having arrived they suggested a group of Gainsborough's children—each little girl in her white muslin frock, its short waist tied with blue ribbons, her curly hair devoid of covering save for a knot of blue ribbons, and the little dark-haired boys in blue coats and buff trousers. Behind them stood Miss Crocker, the maid of honor, completing the procession, in dainty white dress with ribbons and hat and bouquet of blue.

So the exquisite picture was complete. The tall candles were burning and shed a soft light on the shining draperies of the bride, on the scarlet and gold of the choristers, and were again reflected from the polished panels of the chancel. The small aisle and the Royal box were gay with the bright colors of the dresses of the guests. Her Majesty, always beautiful, was exquisitely dressed in white with gold embroideries, among which shone some very fine emeralds and diamonds; her toque was of gold lace trimmed with white feathers. Next her sat the Princess of Wales, also in white with gold embroideries of pink, yellow, and blue silk, and a white toque. The Duchess of Connaught's grey dress gave a contrasting note of color, and a blue dress and a large black hat with white feathers and aigrette worn by Princess Patricia.

Downstairs, again, there was color, rich and varied. There were many white muslin dresses daintily trimmed with lace, but they were usually worn with a quaint coat of silk or satin of some vivid hue. One was of old rose satin, worn by Miss Muriel Wilson with a large hat of the same color, again repeated in the ribbons on the bodice. Not far from her was another of blue made with picturesque pointed lace and a bird was of pink satin exquisitely embroidered. But many of the dresses themselves supplied their share of color without any aid from coat or wrap. Mrs. Harcourt's olive green being near another of pale blue supplied a charming contrast, and with the olive green dress she wore a vest of fine net and lace and a large grey hat, and feathers to complete a charming costume. A black dress very richly embroidered with dull gold and reds and blues worn by Mrs. Cavendish-Bentinck made another foil to the lighter dresses around it; and it found its contrast in the same pew in a very smart dress of bright cinnamon, and in the richly-worked dresses of Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Burns. Delicate creams and blues and pinks and greys were also to be noticed. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid wore mauve with rich embroideries and toque of the same color; a lovely orchid pink satin veiled with fine net and lace made Mrs. Waldorf Astor's lovely dress, and her hat was

covered with beautiful pink feathers. Silver grey was worn by Lady Lansdowne, and Lady Londonderry's crepe de Chine was also grey. Mauve over pink was worn by one guest, pale pink cloth by another, pale yellow over mauve by a third, and here and there one noticed a deeper tone of color in a Nattier blue, matched by the hat which accompanied it.

Hats seemed to be larger than ever as one gazed round the chapel yesterday. Almost all were of straw or crinoline, and almost all had enormous brims. Beautiful feathers trimmed this one, enormous aigrettes that, and again wreaths of roses or of smaller flowers decorated a third. A few aimed at picturesque effect, and of these was the one worn by Miss Carter, who made a lovely picture in her white Romney dress of soft white crepe de Chine, her lace hat crowned with a high ruche and pale blue ribbons.

The bride and bridegroom then drove off to Dorchester house, followed immediately by Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, who was in turn followed by the King and Queen and the other members of the Royal family. Arriving at Dorchester house, Mrs. Reid welcomed her Royal guests, and with the Ambassador and the bride and bridegroom conducted them to the State dining room, where a private inspection of the presents was made. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid had to leave the Royal party in a few minutes and welcome all her other guests, which she did at the head of the fine marble staircase. The Duchess of Sutherland was in an ivory white gown embroidered in gold; the Duchess of Westminster in pale blue and a large feathered hat; the Duchess of Portland in white veiled with pale blue, and a large feathered hat; the Dowager Countess of Dudley in a dress of the palest of pale French grey; the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos in cream Ninon and a large flowered hat; the Countess of Kilmorey in hand-painted muslin and a blue tulle hat; and her daughter, Lady Cynthia Needham, in white. Lady Wolverton, in Wedgwood blue, the Countess of Kenmare in black, Mr. and Mrs. Asquith, the latter in a dress of maize colored Ninon over white silk and a black plumed hat; the Russian Ambassador escorted, Comtesse Benckendorff, in pale mauve, and Countess Natalie Benckendorff, all in pink, Lady Saville was in Nattier blue, Mrs. H. V. Higgins in blue, Lady Willoughby de Eresby and Lord and Lady Aistair Innes-Ker were also there.

Masses of crimson ramblers, hydrangeas, and foliage plants decorated the fine hall and beautiful marble staircase. As to the dresses, it was noticeable how much black was used as a foil on the white or delicately-colored dresses. One such was worn by Mrs. Carter. Embroidered with raised Irish crochet motifs on a rich lace ground, it had a high collar and long sleeves of tucked black net, which set off the fine diamonds she wore at her throat. Another white dress had put a line of black introduced into the rich silk embroideries. A pale blue painted chiffon was arranged with a

tiny Directoire bodice, outlined by a wide key pattern design, again, lovely jewels were worn, and a white hat with crown of blue feathers was tied on one side with a wide bow and long ends of blue ribbons.

The embroideries everywhere were wonderfully rich. One long and graceful coat was worked throughout with gold and silver paillettes; mother-of-pearl was responsible for a beautiful acanthus design on the grey coat which completed the dress worn by Mme. de Dominguez; gold embroideries of exquisite fineness adorned the duchess of Sutherland's beautiful dress of white lace and net, and the soft knotted sash of dull silver colored silk was a wonderfully clever idea for a contrast. Very dainty Persian embroideries were effective on an uncommon dress of white striped messaline; a diamante trellis pattern on a Directoire bodice of cream Milanese lace won universal admiration, and another of equal beauty was sewn with fine pearls.

It was curious to notice that on all the dresses the collars were very high or there no collars at all. Miss Carter's pretty dress was an example of the latter. It was entirely open at the throat, but it was charmingly finished with a twisted cord of seed pearls. Jewels, indeed, nearly always made up for the absence of a collar. A row of pearls or a necklace of diamonds was seen on many a white throat; in one instance a quaint chain of matrix turquoise took their place, while in another there was nothing but a very narrow band of black ribbon velvet.

Many of the jewels, indeed, were very beautiful. A wonderful pear-shaped emerald hanging from a platinum chain made a lovely touch of color on one creamy net dress; or a large opal set in diamonds looked beautiful among grey embroideries; a magnificent set of diamonds glistened on a rich dress worn by Mrs. Ronalds; a long chain of diamonds was the Duchess of Sutherland's beautiful ornament, and rubies were worn with a white dress, and there was a tiny touch of color in the white that that went with it. A quaint but very beautiful enamel pendant attracted one as it shone on a girl's dress, and at every movement the rich red of a ruby, the blue of a turquoise, the pink, blue and green of an opal, the green of an emerald, or the white of a diamond flashed and sparkled, and added its quota to the beauty of the scene.

All this one noticed while the bride was changing her bridal dress to one of soft green mousseline with a large hat and ruffle of palest cream color. Arrayed thus, she with her husband, took farewell of their Majesties, who then left the house. A few minutes later and the guests were streaming down the wide staircase to bid bride and bridegroom God-speed, and amidst a shower of silver confetti they made their way to the motor waiting for them, and were quickly out of sight. The honeymoon is to be spent in Ireland.

Candidate William Taft

It is premature to say who is going to be the next President of the United States; the fight has yet to come, and a very big fight it will be. But Bill Taft—to call him by the familiar name which the people give him—certainly has as many things in his favor that, if I were a betting man, I should be inclined to put my money upon him. In the first place, he has the enthusiastic endorsement of President Roosevelt, and Mr. Roosevelt is the most powerful figure in the United States for many a day. Secondly, he has all the office holders of the existing administration—every one of whom will be glad to have him back, and the administration back again in power, as on that depends the bread and butter of most of them; and, finally, he has the prestige of belonging to a family which has been elected almost every time for forty years.

I have never seen Mr. Taft in the flesh; but I know so many of his friends, and I have heard and read so much about him, that I almost feel as if he were a personal acquaintance. There is always a certain tendency to exaggeration in the language of Americans. You say, in your reserved and frigid English fashion, that a piece through you are passing is a lovely bit of country; and the American—even though he be an Irishman about a year in the country—will reply: "Sir, it is God's own footstool!" There you feel abashed and crushed. And when election times come this spirit of exaggeration reaches a point of such almost hysterical fervor, that you really don't know what to think or believe. But making all such deductions, I have no doubt that Mr. Taft is one of the very best types of Americans. He is physically a giant; a sober Falstaff, with all the great original's good humor, ready wit, human fellowship, but without his lewdness, his love of sack, and above all, without his cowardice. Falstaff, in the flesh, but a brave, a sober, a domesticated Falstaff; and engaged in the study and management of all the serious things of life, instead of in roystering in taproom or flirtations in the parks; with the most hard-working and grimly serious of companions underneath all the gaily, and not the Pym and Bardsolaps, not the Mrs. Fords and Mrs. Pagas of his time. Seriousness marked under gaily; intense wit under geniality; sobriety, and infinite tact of judgment under good fellowship. This is the conception I form of Mr. Taft from all I have read and heard of him.

His career is a remarkable manifestation of American political life. There are other ways in that country so different from what we see and know that it is almost impossible to recognize a kinship or likeness between their institutions. For instance, nothing is so remarkable as the number of phases and epochs that sometimes arise in the life of the same man. You have read of the American witness who, confessed that before he was thirty he had been a blacksmith, a carpenter, a photographer, a commercial traveller, a horse doctor, a local preacher, a newspaper editor, and a few more things besides. There you have no smooth and regular almost hereditary adoption, and then pursuit, of the same occupation, from father to son for generations; and from the beginning ways a doctor; once a barrister always a barrister; once a shopkeeper always a shopkeeper; once a valet called "John" there are other ways in that country so different from what we see and know that it is almost impossible to recognize a kinship or likeness between their institutions. For instance, nothing is so remarkable as the number of phases and epochs that sometimes arise in the life of the same man. You have read of the American witness who, confessed that before he was thirty he had been a blacksmith, a carpenter, a photographer, a commercial traveller, a horse doctor, a local preacher, a newspaper editor, and a few more things besides. 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