

HIS DOMESTIC LIFE.

"THE PRIVATE LIFE OF EDWARD VII." A RECENT PUBLICATION.

An Affectionate Husband and a Loving Father Who Has Never Received Full Credit for These Qualities—As a Churchman—About His Clothes—What His Majesty Eats and Drinks.

A recent publication entitled "The Private Life of Edward VII." by a member of the royal household, contains many interesting facts pertaining to the domestic life of the King. The writer speaks of the King as an affectionate husband and a loving father, who has never received full credit for these qualities. The book, which first appeared when the King was still Prince of Wales, says of him:

"The romantic love that induced him, when little more than a boy, to overcome all obstacles to his union with Princess Alexandra of Denmark, has never waned. During the illness which in the late sixties kept her for many months bound to her couch, his devoted attention to her slightest wish, his grief at her sufferings, and his delight at her restoration to health, were proofs of his sincere affection. It was practically at the Prince's instigation that the long holiday that followed her convalescence in Egypt, Palestine, Turkey and Greece was planned, and he more than once expressed his delight that the journey, which lasted for many months, proved so successful in restoring the Princess to complete health."

"The same touching affection which existed between the Prince and Princess of Wales was again displayed during his own illness, when her Royal Highness scarcely ever left her husband's bedside. Other trials that must come to all people who undertake to journey through life together, he, they Prince or Princess, only served to draw closer the bonds of affection that unite the royal pair."

Under the head "The Prince is a Churchman," the writer says:— "When the Prince of Wales was quite a young man traveling abroad, and while the love of sport of all kinds was running high in his veins, a friend of his, hoping to give him pleasure, proposed to arrange a shooting expedition for a particular date. The offer was exceedingly tempting, but the Prince, after a moment's grave thought, replied, 'It is impossible that I should come, for the date you mention falls on a Sunday.'"

The keynote of the Prince's observance of that day is struck in those simple words. From his youth up he has of his own free will, and of his firm conviction, kept Sunday apart as a day that should be devoted to religious exercises, quiet family life, and such occupations as entail the least labor on those who are in his service. Sunday at Sandringham is, in fact, the ideal day of the English country gentleman. A holy peace and calm reign over the whole estate, and the whole of the week rings with the shots from sportsmen's guns, and the whirr of the latest improvements in agricultural machinery, is broken only by the sound of the bells ringing the royal household and the peasants alike to service in the little church that stands within howshot of Sandringham House.

"When the establishment at Sandringham is in full swing the list of visitors who are invited to stay there from Saturday till Monday, generally includes a notable divine, who is expected to preach on Sunday. Men of almost all opinions have stood up in the carved pulpit, but the Prince follows the Queen's example in preferring short to lengthy sermons. At the same time, whether the preacher be brilliant or dull, the demeanor of the royal family in church sets an excellent example to the rest of the congregation. The Prince's natural gravity is always heightened at these times, and he is most attentive to and observant of the entire service. The Princess of Wales' devotion when in church is most touching. Prince Eddy, whose likeness to his mother, extended to more than outward resemblance, was always very thoughtful and attentive, and the young Princesses follow the service with devout attention."

A chapter of the book is devoted to "The Prince and His Clothes." In this chapter it is made known that the tailor whom the King employed so many years, and whose popularity was established by the Prince of Wales' patronage, owed his own fortune to a slight incident. The writer says that Albert Edward was at the theatre one night to see Fichter as Robert Macaire. "The adventurer's coat was apparently a mass of rents and patches, but the Prince's keen eye quickly noted that the garment was singularly well cut. After the play the King sent for Fichter and asked him who his tailor was. The actor told where his coat had been made, and the next day the tailor received an order to call on the Prince of Wales, 'and,' as the author puts it, 'from that hour he was a made man.'"

The Duke of Clarence had great faith in the Prince's taste, and always modelled his dress on that of his royal father. The Duke of York's taste is also largely ruled by that of the Prince of Wales. "When the Prince requires new clothes, patterns of materials are sent to him. He has a correct eye for effect, and can tell at once how a piece of stuff will look when made up, which is in itself an art. He takes a very few minutes to make up his mind, always chooses a soft, light material, and for country clothes and 'dittos' suits has a particular feeling for broken checks. He also makes up his mind with commendable quickness as to fit and alterations. About the former he is most particular, though his clothes are made of a sensible looseness. The Prince's extraordinary memory has

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also served him more than once with regard to minor details of his wardrobe. On one occasion when some trousers were accidentally made from a material that he had not chosen he immediately found out the mistake although he had only once seen the pattern of the material he had ordered."

Under the head "What the Prince Eats and Drinks," the writer shows that Edward VII. pays much attention to this subject.

When the Prince arrives at the opera for early performances, such as those of Wagner's great cycle, which commence as early as 6.30, his Royal Highness is seen in his omnibus box as the curtain rises, and a short dinner is served to him in his private room at the back of the box during the twenty minutes' interval between the first and second acts of the performance. This brief meal is followed by a cigarette, and then the Prince is once more in his place."

The writer says also:— "The Prince has a dislike, which he does not attempt to disguise, to seeing ladies take more than a very little wine, so particular indeed, is he on this point that iced punch and the various sherbets, all of which are flavored strongly with liqueurs and spirits and by his express orders seldom found on the Prince's table. The Prince and Princess and her daughters set an example of greatly disapproves of the fashion that prevails in some country houses of sending champagne and other rich liquors to the ladies' dressing-rooms. Except in cases of rare necessity such a thing is never done at Sandringham."

"It is largely owing to the fact that the Prince likes to smoke when he has finished dining that after-dinner drinking has gone entirely out of fashion during the last twenty years; for what is done at the Prince's table rules in all classes of society. As soon after dinner as is possible cigarettes are handed round, a practice which must be attributed to royal influence. The Prince popularized cigarettes some years ago."

The book contains chapters on the King as a Free Mason, as a son, and on various other topics.

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Strained His Back and Was Sent Home in Agony.

Laid up all Winter, but Dodd's Kidney Pills Put Him on His Feet Again and Now He Is Completely Cured.

Indian Brook, Victoria Co., N. S., Nov. 10. (Special).—Angus D. McDonald, son of the postmaster here, is prominent among those in this district who swear by Dodd's Kidney Pills as a sure cure for those terrible pains in the back that are one of the surest symptoms of Kidney Disease. And Mr. McDonald has good reason for the stand he takes. "While at work in the coal pits he strained his back and was sent home in an agony of pain. The nearest doctor, twenty-five miles away, was sent for, but he could do little to relieve his suffering. This was in October, 1901, and he couldn't do a hand's turn of work till the spring of 1902."

Then a hotelkeeper advised him to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. That hotelkeeper didn't see him again till last August and then his first question was "Angus, how's your back?" "As well as ever it was," answered Angus. "What cured it?" "Dodd's Kidney Pills cured me completely."

And the Postmaster at Indian Brook is always ready to testify to the truth of his son's statement. Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Dropsy and Heart Disease are caused by diseased Kidneys. Dodd's Kidney Pills will cure them.

The man who makes awnings is putting other people completely in the shade.

Temptations are prone to avoid those who know how to resist them. A black eye often results from an effort to point the town red.

Cataract, an excessive secretion from an inflamed mucous membrane, is radically and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

A Lucky Meeting. Some years ago a young London solicitor, in order to win the girl of his choice, carried out a task which all but those of unusual courage would have shirked. The lady rejected his attentions on the ground that she would only marry the man who undertook to find her brother, who had left home some years previously, and restore him to her mother.

As the runaway had been last heard of in a South American copper mine, the solicitor had no important clues to aid him in his work. Nevertheless, pocketing a photograph, he gave up his business and set out only to return to England in despair when two years were over and he had come to the end of his resources with a success. But just as he was leaving a London terminus a man passed him in the street who bore a small resemblance to the photograph, and he inquired his name. Judge of his astonishment when the stranger replied that he was the individual in question, and the reunion of the family was followed shortly afterward by the announcement of the solicitor as a fully qualified member.

Franks of Language. A peculiar kind of blundering known as "folk etymology" is responsible for some of the queerest franks of language. An easy example will make this clear, says Harper's Magazine. Our American word "carryall" for a kind of vehicle is not a compound of "carry" and "all," but a slight distortion of the French "carriole," a dilapidated car. The change was made in obedience to the universal tendency to assimilate the unknown to the known, to make words mean something by associating them with others which they resemble in sound. Often there is no etymological relation between the words associated, as when sparrowgrass is made out of asparagus. This particular corruption was once a good colloquialism used by Walker, the lexicographer, wrote, "Sparrowgrass is so general that asparagus has an air of stiffness and pedantry."

A Precedent Established. A Methodist clergyman in the upper portion of the city encountered a Celt one recent rainy Sunday standing close to the wall of the church in an effort to utilize the coping as a shield from the storm.

"Come inside," said the clergyman cheerily. "You'll be out of the wet, and you can have a seat while you're waiting for it to clear."

"No, thank ye," said the Celt emphatically. "O'll not go into th' house uv me inmates."

"Well, that's rather harsh," answered the clergyman. "When our Lord was on earth, did he not go among his enemies?" "Yis; he did that," assented the Celt with growing warmth, "and ye didn't do a ting to him, ayther?"

A Story of Charles Reade. Charles Matthews was fond of telling a story of Charles Reade when the curtain fell at the old Queen's theater in London on a pronounced failure called "A White Lie." There was no shadow of a call for the author. The curtain divided the audience from the author who stood on the stage shaking his fist at the invisible foe, still smiling blandly and in mellifluous accents saying: "Infernal idiot! When shall I teach you to respect Charles Reade?"

Very Polite. "Here's an account of a man," said Mrs. Gadsby, "who hasn't spoken a word to his wife in three years." "That's rather a rigid adherence to one of the rules of politeness," said Gadsby. "Rules of politeness?" said Mrs. Gadsby in a scornful tone. "Yes; never interrupt a lady when she is talking."

The Musk Ox. In systematic zoology the place accorded to the musk ox is intermediate between those of the sheep (ovis) and the ox (bos), and for its special accommodation a new genus has been created, "ovibos." Most writers notice its resemblance in many ways to the buffalo or bison, and it undoubtedly has much affinity with this species.

Counter Irritant. "Still bothered by that amateur cornet player next door?" "No, I bought a dog." "What had that to do with it?" "Well, this was one of those dogs that howl frightfully every time they hear any sort of music."—Exchange.

Display. If there were no such thing as display in the world, my private opinion is, and I hope you agree with me, that we might get on a great deal better than we do now and might be infinitely more agreeable company than we are.

A Grievance Against His Tailor. "I wish you wouldn't seal your announcement cards," said young Jones. "Why not?" asked the tailor. "Because my landlady thinks they are bills. It hurts my credit."

For Others to Enjoy. Brown—You should do something to contribute to other people's enjoyment. Jones—I do. I'm always making a fool of myself.

Turnip seeds have been known to be dormant for seven years through being planted too deep and after that time to sprout.

A defective memory and a guilty conscience are not synonymous, but closely attached.

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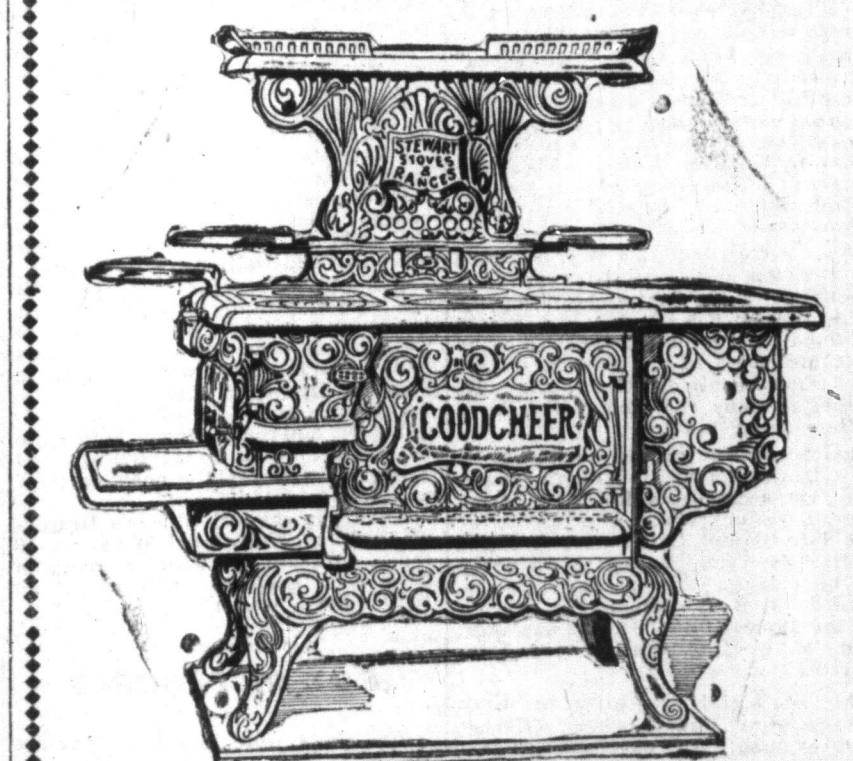
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