

and since he laid the foundation of that grand old donjon, from the top of which is unfurled to-day the same noble flag that flaunted in the breeze high above its battlements eight hundred years ago! The sons of William contributed their share to its enlargement. All the Henrys, the Edwards, Jameses, Charleses, and Georges added their contingents, as did the Hebrews under Nehemiah to the walls and towers of Jerusalem. Here kings and queens were born, married, and buried. Hence the royal histories of the British Empire radiate, and hither they converge. The luminous haze of centuries of romance and legendary chivalry halo this high place of kinghood and knighthood. The outside face of its walls registers the rising tide of English civilization through a score of ages, the slow transformation of religious and political institutions, the gradual upgrowth of the British Constitution, and the rights and recognitions it brought in with it at different stages of its development. Here lived James II. and Charles I. and Cromwell, not divided from each other by long intervals of time, but sundered like the poles in ideas that have shaken the world in their struggle for the mastery. It is a wonderful grand junction station of the ages past and present, a castellated palace of the illustrious living and the illustrious dead.

However agreeable it would be to linger around this grand old castleburg, we must turn away from it, and join the vast multitudes that are surging into the Park. Thousands upon thousands of people of all ranks and conditions are pressing their way on foot, other thousands are hurrying on to the same point in all kinds of vehicles, from the humble cart to the stately carriage and four. The tide of human beings, perhaps at its ebb when we reached the town, had been flowing into the Park since early in the morning. Trains of immense length had been coming, and still continued to come, from all parts of the country, crowded with eager and expectant multitudes, who at once hurried away to get favorable positions for seeing. Our chance at this late hour did not seem to us at all propitious; however, there was some comfort in knowing that there were thousands no better off than we were, and so we took heart and pressed on through the thickening mass of humanity.

Gaining, in the first place, a position slightly elevated, we secured for ourselves probably as good a view of this magnificent