

has advanced so far in democratic and socialistic experiment as Australia, but no hesitation was shown in registering the closest alliance with the Crown. The Australians are doubtless intelligently informed upon the breakdown of republics everywhere. The most distinguished of republics, the only one from which a comparison could be drawn, has lately become an empire.

There was political meaning in the Australian visit which has no parallel in the presence of the royal pair here. The Duke and Duchess are primarily our guests, and it chances that no political significance attaches to any of the state functions which they discharge. But it would be unsafe to predict that the fruits of the visit will, on that account, be less real and less lasting. By ceasing to exercise many of his political functions the British monarch has increased the possibilities of his personal influence. Can we set a limit to that influence? Intangible are many of the most potent factors in modern life. Many working maxims and practices of our government are unrecorded in the constitution. Behind the formal civilities and homage which Canada, as in duty bound, will pay the Royal guests, is the sentiment that will crystallize in the minds of men. This will be passed on from father to son. The tradition of monarchy will be revived,



H.R.H. PRINCE EDWARD OF CORNWALL
AND YORK—ELDEST SON OF THE
DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK

and if it is found good in the eyes of a practical age, and if its representative proves himself a worthy embodiment of what we expect in a prince, bold is that prophet who will foretell for us the fruits that a generation hence will witness. Familiar in politics is the influence of a strong party leader. Equally striking is the far-reaching power of a king and a king's son. It is hard to analyze these things; the prudent historian records them, leaving to others the task of deciding how far they represent the weakness or the strength of mankind, and whether they are permanent or evanescent factors in national life. But no man questions their existence. All the way down our history, from the time when the wise statesmanship and strong personality of William the Norman played as effective a part in overthrowing Saxon rule as his army, to the time when the virtuous character of George III lent to his policy a popular authority that proved injurious to his Empire, the personality of the monarch has been in evidence. The influence of kingly power and kingly attributes is, in fact, scarcely ever absent. The mistakes, like the triumphs, of kings stand out in bold relief. When Henry sent Prince John to Ireland it was assuredly not intended that the idle profligate should pluck the beards of the Celtic chieftains, as