

chapel in the White Tower. Little Edward V's brief reign lasted two months.

The name of Edward VI is associated in the English mind with the Reformation in the Church of England. The boy king of ten makes a pathetic figure surrounded by grave counsellors who were hurrying the country through one of the most far-reaching revolutions in religion. He was precocious and clever, writing and speaking Latin and translating into Greek with ease. He kept a diary, the manuscript of which is in the British Museum, and this record is an authority for some of the events of the period. There is a quaint note about his elder sister who succeeded him on the throne. In March, 1550, he wrote :

"The Lady Mary, my sister, came to me at Westminster where, after salutations, she was called with my council, into a chamber, where was declared how long I had suffered her mass, in hope of her reconciliation, and how now being no hope, which I perceived by her letters, except I saw some short amendment I could not bear it."

It is idle to speculate on what would have happened if the boy had outlived his sisters. To realize the course of English history without the Marian persecutions and Elizabeth's reign is impossible.



KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH—ASCENDED
THE THRONE 1901

His Majesty Edward VII has reached the age of 61, and 350 years have passed away since a predecessor of that name occupied the throne. It is possible that the younger generation of to-day may live to see his grandson crowned as Edward VIII.

ALEXANDRA

LADY, on whose imperial brow doth rest
This Crown of England, emblem of our faith,
By which we knew that no mere shadowy wraith
Was that vast bond which knit us East and West,
And North and South, till in one lonely breast
Echoed the loyal love of half mankind;
Of that great heritage she left behind,
Lady, art thou inviolably possest.

'Tis meet we love thee : that of England's sons
The least in thy defence would serve : 'tis meet
The garnering winds lay homage at thy feet
Of all this world ; that, wheresoever runs
In English veins the pride of English blood,
Our Queen be crowned the rose of womanhood.