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THE SECRET OF ENGLAND'S GREATNESS.

It is a familiar story that when, early in her reign, a foreign prince inquired the secret of England's greatness, the young Queen handed him a copy of the Word of God as the answer to his question. Truer words were never spoken. Not her forts and fleets and armaments, not her conquering army or proud navy,—not these, but the principles of righteousness and truth and justice, as taught in the Word of God, on which the throne is based. These are the secrets of England's greatness.

THE QUEEN'S SYMPATHY WITH SUFFERING.

Queen Victoria has always shown a tender sympathy for the sufferings and the sorrow of her people. Whenever a great shipwreck, or mining disaster, or a similar catastrophe has occurred, the Queen has been foremost with her words of sympathy and donations from her private purse. She has also frequently visited the hospitals of her veteran soldiers and sailors, of sick children, and of her suffering subjects.

The accompanying picture presents such a scene, and shows the delight of the little patient at the kind words of the sovereign, who is also a tender-hearted woman.

Nor are these sympathies confined to her own nation. When bereavement invades a foreign court, her autograph letters convey the expression of her heartfelt condolence. Nothing touched the American people more than the words of sincere sorrow from our widowed Queen to the widows of the martyred Presidents of the United States, Abraham Lincoln and James A. Garfield.

She has always been the friend of peace, and at the time of the "Trent affair,"



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when war feeling ran high, and in the later strained relations between Great Britain and America, the influence of the Queen did much to assuage bitterness of feeling and promote peace and good will.

THE QUEEN AND THE SICK CHILD.

A few years ago the Queen went to open a new wing of the London Hospital. For some days previously nothing else was talked about in the papers and on the



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streets but her Majesty's intended visit. There was a little orphan child lying in one of the wards of the hospital, and she too had heard that the Queen was coming. She said to the nurse, "Do you think the Queen will come and see me?"

"I am afraid not, darling," said the nurse; "she will have so many people to see, and so much to do."

"But I should so much like to see her," pleaded the little patient; "I should be so much better if I saw her." And day after day the poor child was expressing her anxiety to see her Majesty.

When the Queen came the governor told her Majesty, and the Queen, with her large, kindly heart and motherly instinct, said, "I should like to see that dear child; would you just take me to the ward?" and Queen Victoria was conducted to the bedside of the orphan girl.

The little thing thought it was one of the women come in the crowd to see the opening of the hospital, and said, "Do you think the Queen will come and see me? I should like to see the Queen."

"I am the Queen," said the visitor. "I hope you will be so much better now;" and she stroked down the fevered, wasted, pale brow, gave some money to the nurse to get some nice things for the child, and went her way.

The child said, "I am ever so much better, now that I have seen the Queen."

A greater than the Queen is always near to praying souls, even the Kings of kings, and we would all be much better if by faith we realized his presence.

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Make sure that however good you may be, you have faults; that however dull you may be you can find out what they are; and that however slight they may be, you would better make some patient effort to get quit of them.