



BERNSTORFF PALACE.

Favourite country residence of the royal family—eight miles from Copenhagen.

the Crown Prince and Crown Princess Denmark, and all the other members of the royal family.

"With the possible exception of Queen Victoria, no female personage of royalty has exercised for the last thirty years such a weighty influence on European politics as has Louise, Queen of Denmark; and to her, even more than to Great Britain's sovereign, is the title applicable—'the mother-in-law of Europe.' When the comparative poverty and humble station that marked the early married life of Christian IX. and his spouse Louise are considered, the results appear more remarkable.

"Prince Christian, the fourth son of the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, was, in 1850, a good young man of no expectations. Eight years before he had married for love, Louise, Princess of Hesse-Cassel. He had a small salary and she had

a small *dot*. Together the young officer and his wife managed to make things meet for ten years. In 1852, however, a change, in appearance, if not in material, came over their prospects. By the Protocol of London, Prince Christian was formally recognized as heir to his wife's cousin, King Frederick VII. of Denmark. The couple received the title of Royal Highnesses, and Christian secured a position, as became his new dignity, as Commander-in-Chief of Danish Cavalry, whose personnel existed chiefly on paper.

"At length, in 1863, Frederick died, and the poor Prince became Christian IX., King of Denmark. The late sovereign had been idolized by his subjects, and the Prince was not regarded with favour. The Danes had nothing against him, however, except that they did not consider his wife good-looking.