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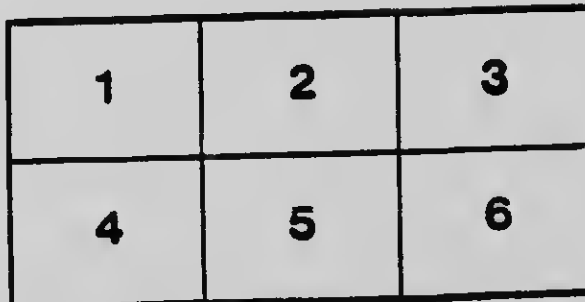
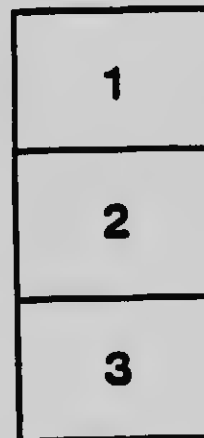
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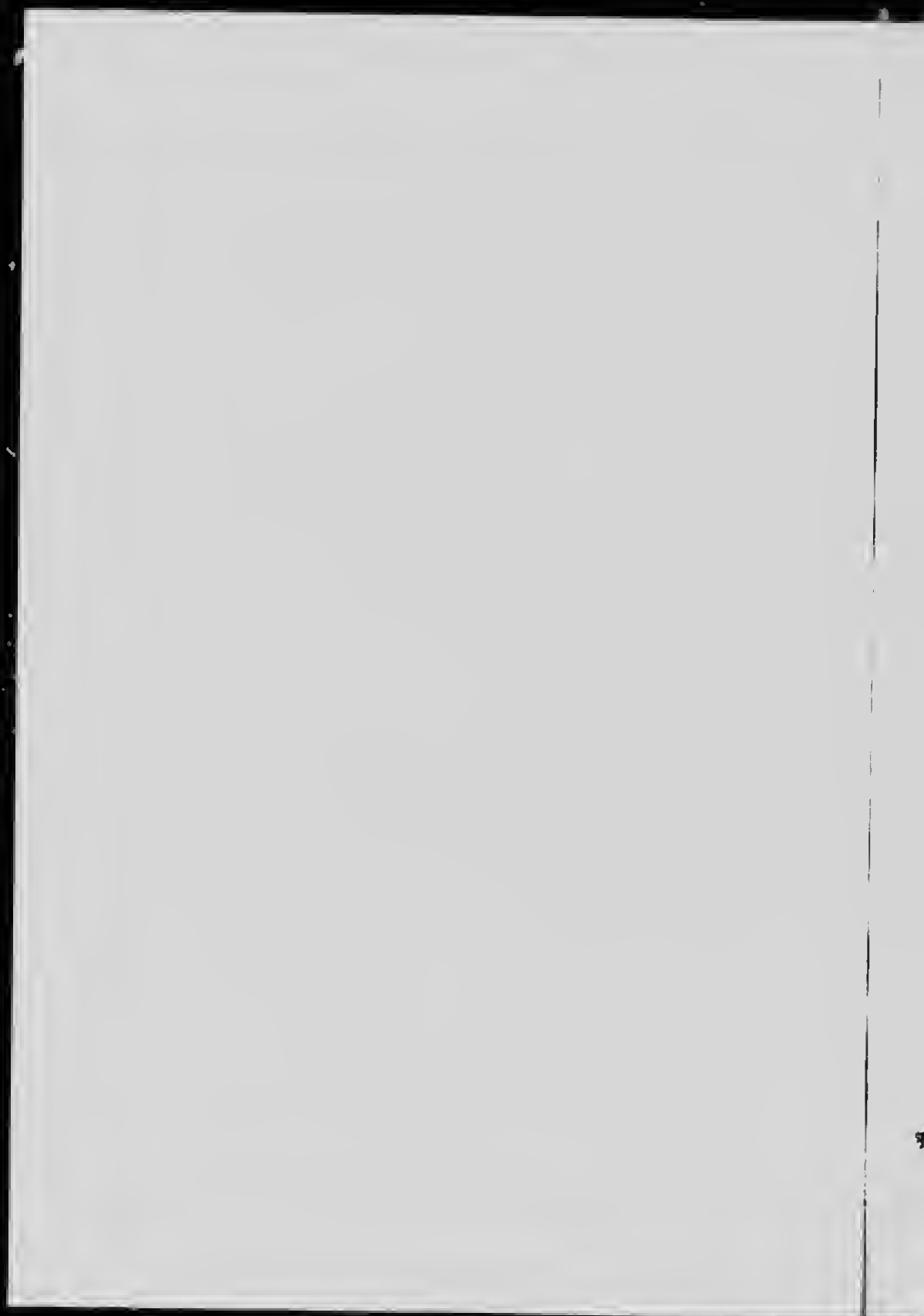
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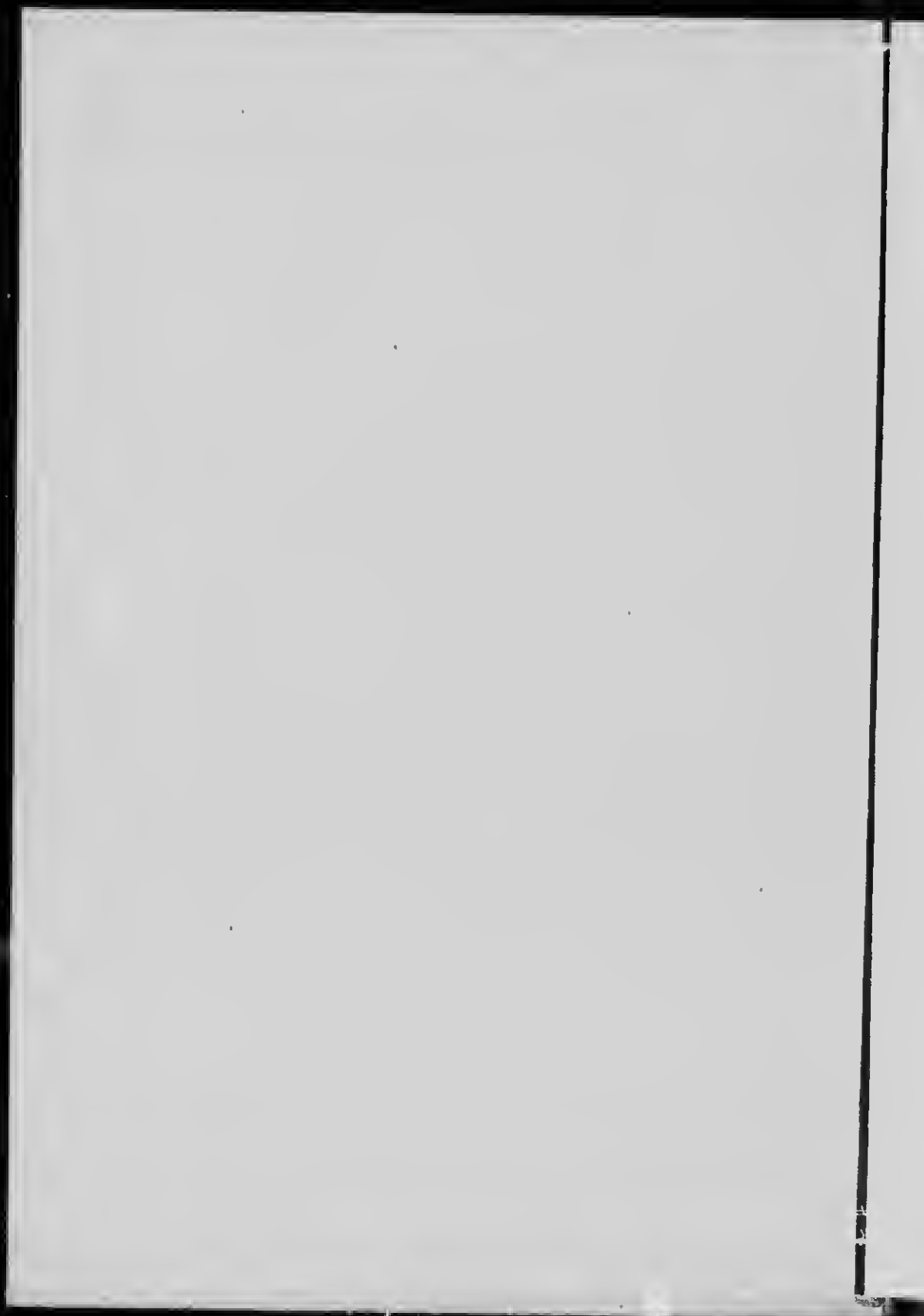




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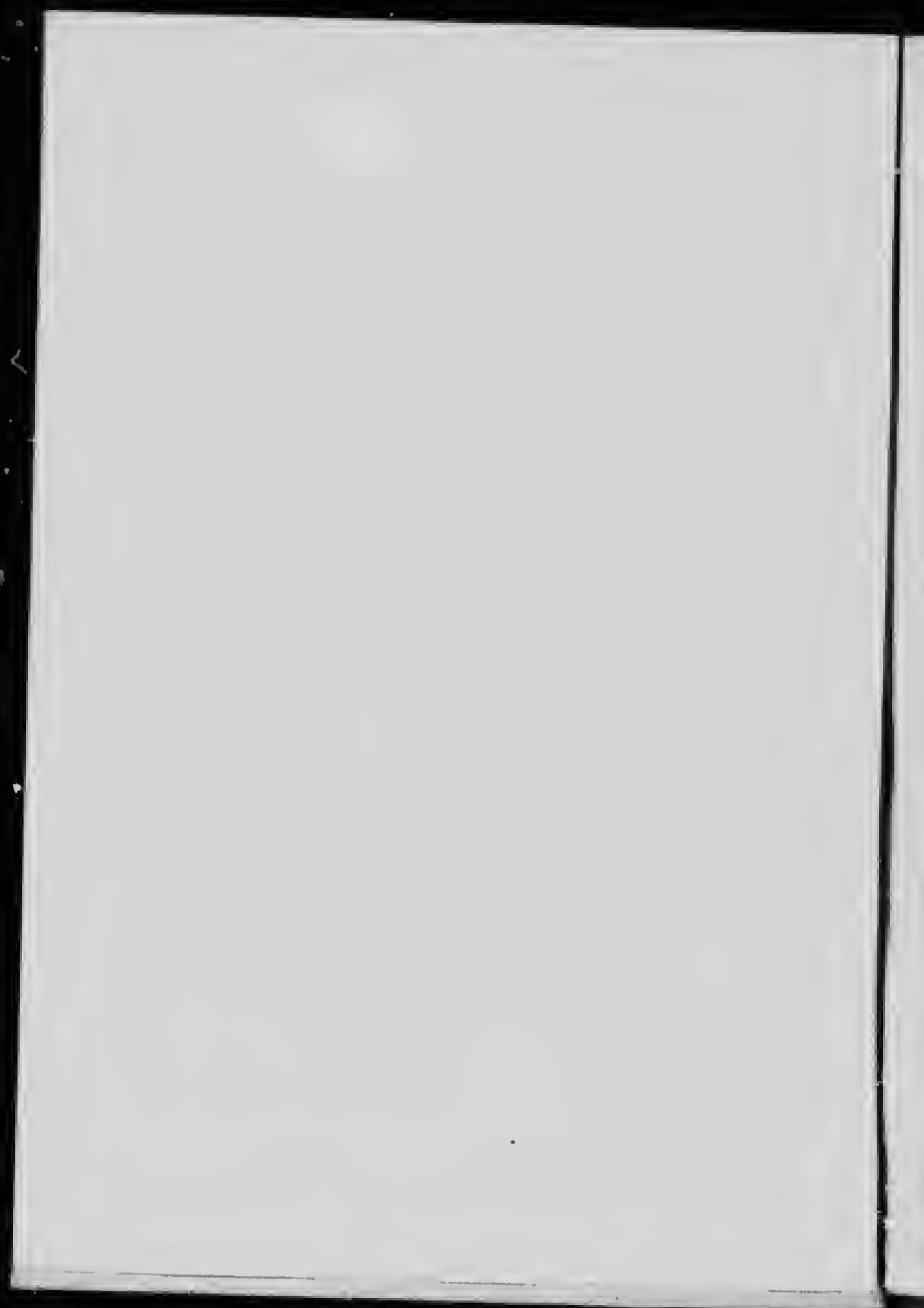
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Revised and authorized by the Publishers  
of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle



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# Victoria:

Being a Tribute to our  
late beloved Queen

By St. Clair McKelway,  
A. M., LL. D.

Revised and authorized by the Publishers  
of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle.



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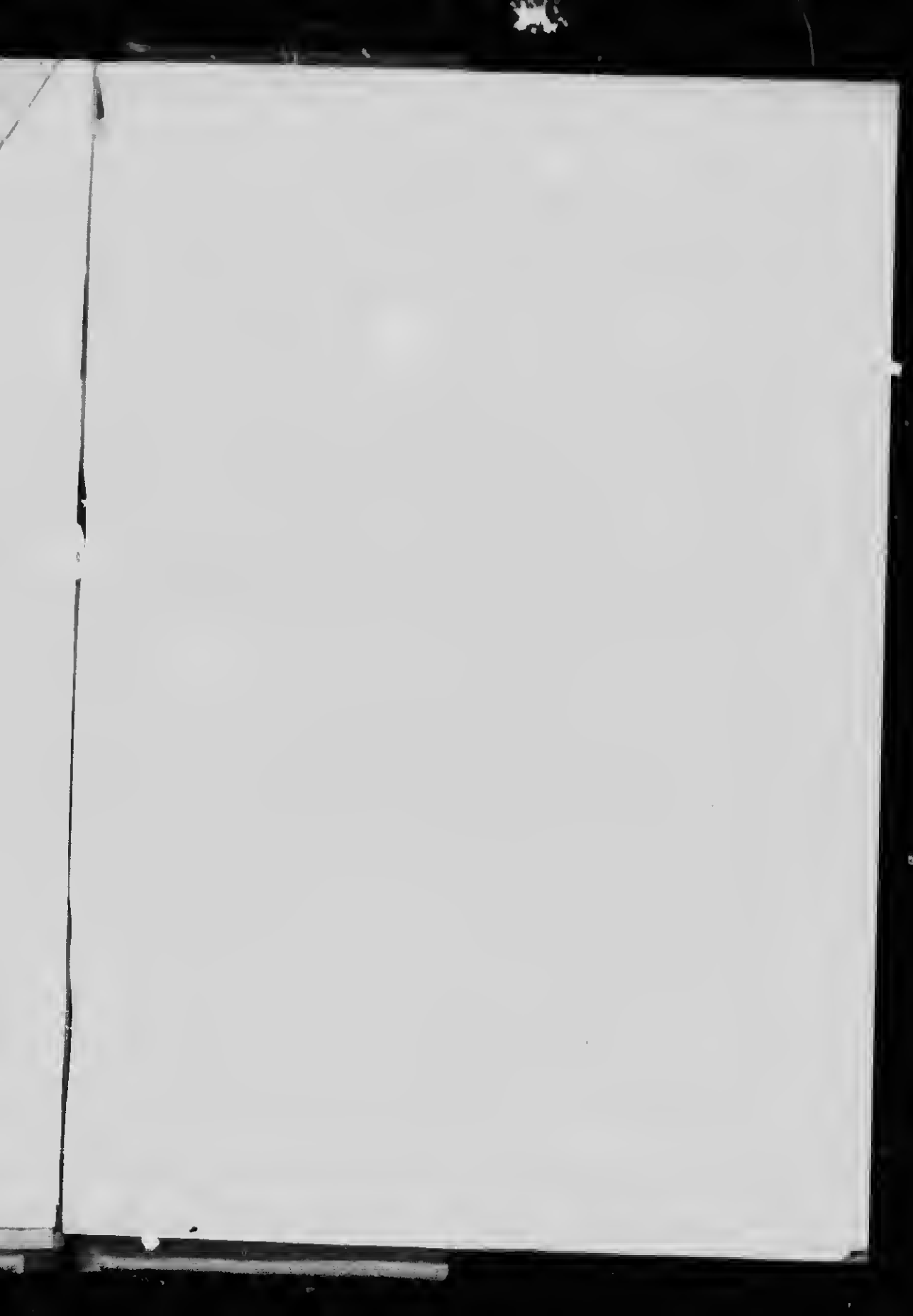
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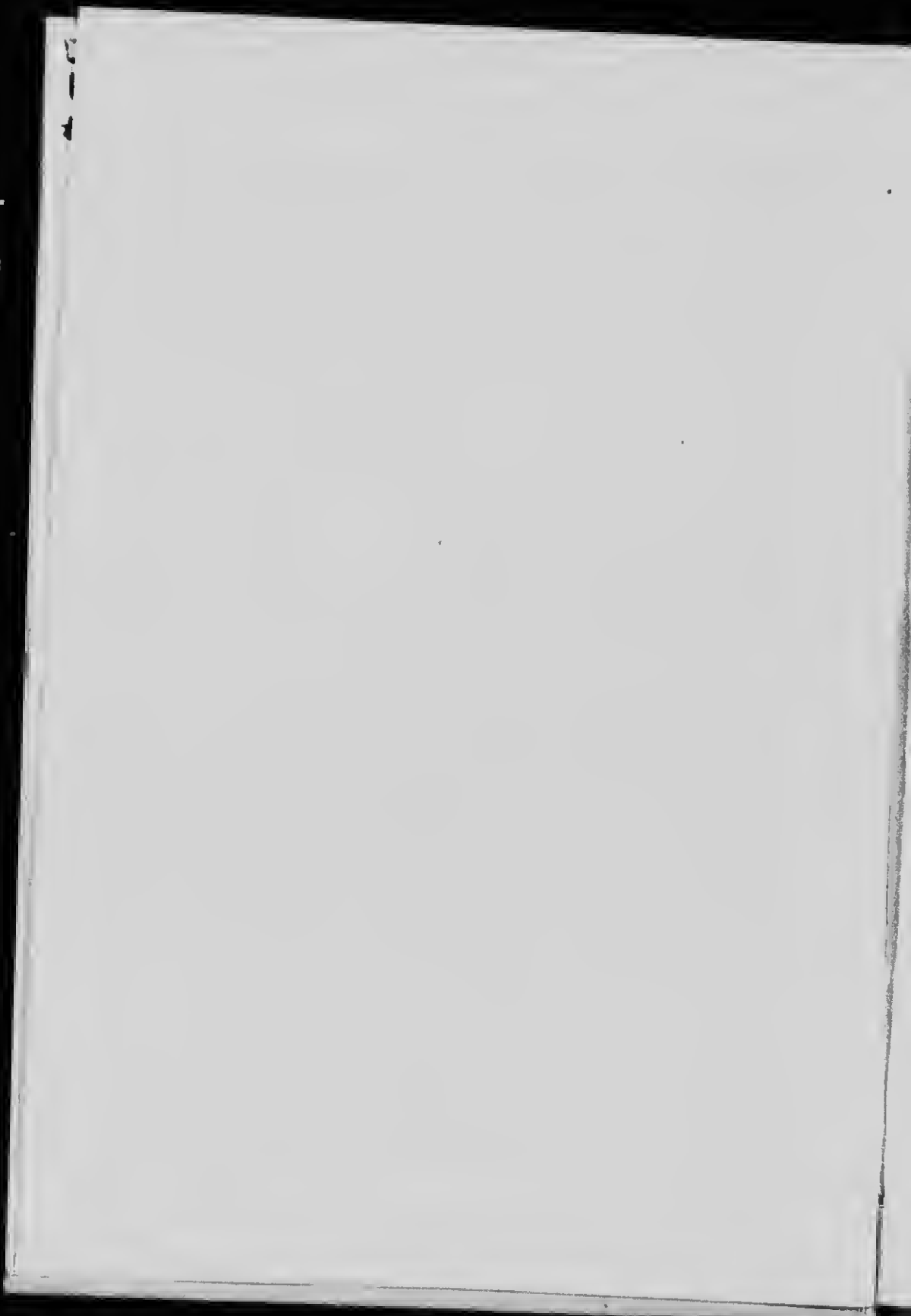
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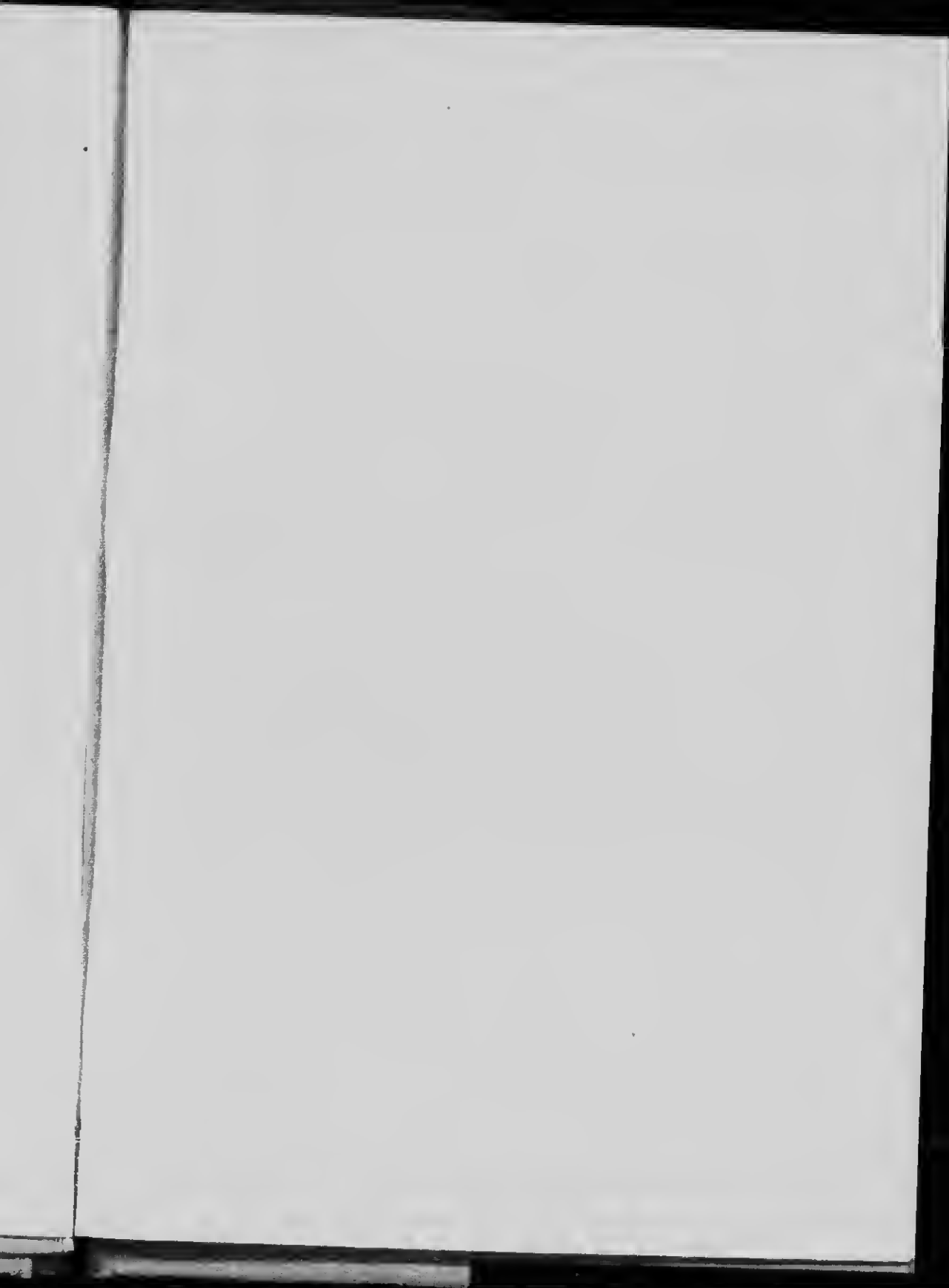
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*J. J. Keyes*







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*St. Clair McKelway*  
*N. Y. N. Y.*

Speaking of the author of the following pages, *The Fourth Estate*, of New York, says:

"The editor-in-chief of the *Eagle* is St. Clair McKelway, A.M., LL. D., whose name as a writer and speaker is so well known as to scarcely need further mention. He was born in Columbia, Mo., but came east with his parents in 1853. He studied law, and in 1869 was admitted to the bar. Early in life he showed an inclination for newspaper work. While at school he became a correspondent for a number of papers, among them the *Eagle*, and it was on that paper that he did his first real work.

"After finishing his studies he joined the *Eagle* staff and soon became its Washington correspondent, after which he was called to Brooklyn to write editorial leaders. In 1878 he became editor of the *Albany Argus* and filled that position until 1884, when the death of Thomas Kinsella, then editor of the *Eagle*, caused a vacancy which he was invited to fill.

"The important duties of his position have been ably filled. Mr. McKelway brought with him a wide range of knowledge of national affairs and of men and matters. As a public speaker, whether on serious or social occasions, he is as constantly in request as any man in this country."



*Wm. Blair, No. Kellogg  
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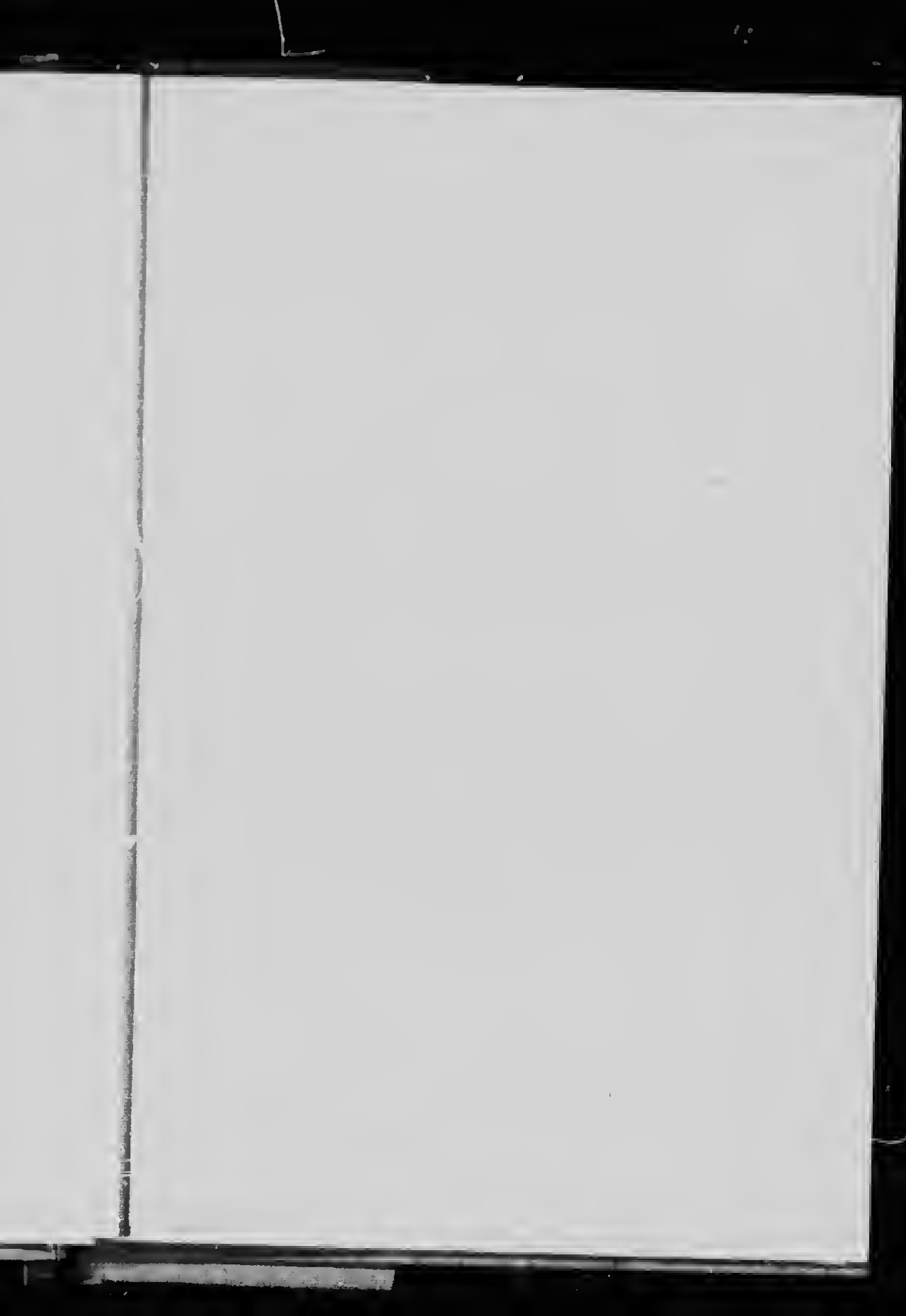
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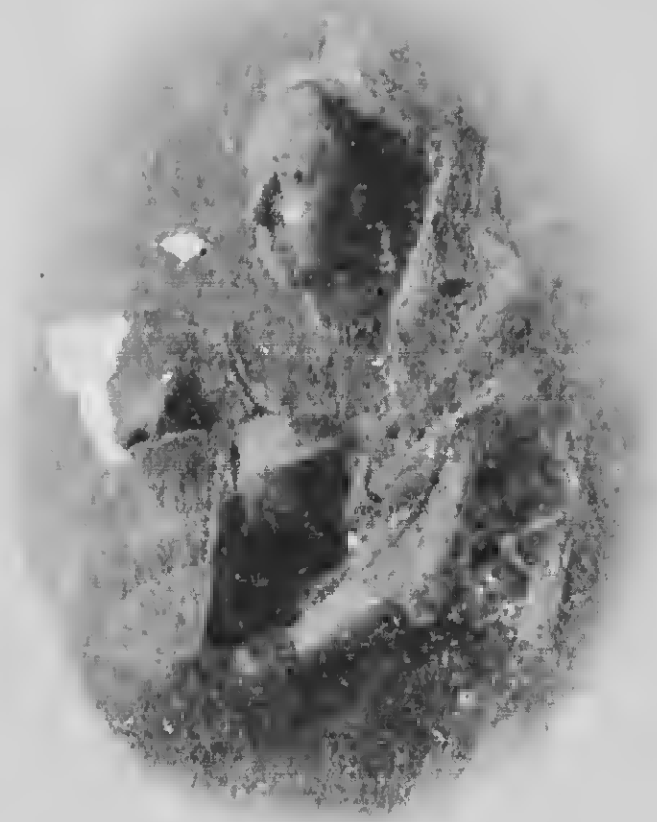
*Victoria*



QUEEN VICTORIA, whose coronation from — eighty — the most holy ground of the news of today, was regarded with course of the trade of the sea as a friend of America. At that time a friend indeed was a friend indeed. The Union was locked in battle with slavery. The necessity of the South was not to be intervention. Many conditions to be or a movement in the mind of the Emperor of the French. He wished to dispel discontent and unrest at home by the glamor of glory abroad. An army of his sustained in Mexico. Austria France and usurped the throne. Could Great Britain be brought with the Latin nations to side with the South, the Union had been dissolved and much of this continent partitioned among Imperial powers.

Motive or pretext for England to join with them was not wanting. Cotton, our staple, was the pabulum of her manufacturers. The export of that into which it was made was a large part of her commerce. Deprivation of it enforced idleness and want on her industrial millions. American politics in all parties was marked by a deference to a course here which sought to make the United States the avenger of political wrongs and the attorney of the hates for which, through centuries, the government of Great Britain was held responsible. There was nothing in the way of





*Plate*

*From the  
Brooklyn  
Daily  
Eagle,  
January  
20th, 1901.*



**QUEEN VICTORIA**, whose cessation from sovereignty is the melancholy burden of the news of to-day, was regarded with cause on this side of the sea as a friend of America. At that time a friend in need was a friend indeed. The Union was locked in battle with slavery. The necessity of the South was in foreign intervention. Many conditions to favor it moved in the mind of the Emperor of the French. He wished to depress discontent and unrest at home by the glamor of glory abroad. An army of his sustained in Mexico an Austrian Prince on a usurped throne. Could Great Britain be brought with the Latin nations to side with the South, the Union had been dissolved and much of this continent partitioned among Imperial powers.

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intervention by England but the identity of the Confederacy with slavery. Yet the United States were then under constitutional and politic bonds not to be or to seem against slavery as such, but only against a rebellion which it had begun. Unless history has been displaced by romance, Mr. Gladstone, whose inherited wealth came through trade in the products of slaves, and other ministers were not averse to the Napoleonic scheme against liberty at that time.

That the Queen by a rare, by an almost revolutionary revision of the despatches of her Cabinet, an act to which she was encouraged by her noble and tactful consort, changed the proposition of intervention from decision to debate, with the result that it perished, has become part of the settled belief of this nation. And nearly forty years afterward, when demonstration was given of the friendly attitude of Great Britain, under the same Queen, towards the United States in our late war with Spain, this country was profoundly affected with gratitude because of the proof of renewed friendship and of the quickened memory of old. It is not too much to say that the stability of the Union, the abolition of slavery, and the displacement of hate by love between the North and the South were appreciably due to the course of the Queen, when her action was a vital co-efficient in the balances of liberty on the earth.

It is this which gives the human touch and the sense of personal sorrow to every American who realizes that as a fact or force or figure of sovereignty this woman has passed into history.

Great events and long duration made her reign signal. At her birth the Bourbon was on the throne of France. During the last thirty years of her political period France was a Republic. At the beginning of her regal work Prussia was a third-rate power, and Germany a discordant series of inconsequent Imperial asteroids. Austria was the dominant figure on the Continent, Italy was, as Metternich put it, "but a geographical expression," and Russia was a slumbering and inert barbarism affected by anti-Moslem hates which periodically stirred the theocratic despotism superimposed upon it.

This woman saw the German Empire pass from the hands of its founder into those of the husband of her oldest child, and thence into those of her grandson. She beheld the Bourbon, the Orleans and the Napoleonic traditions revive and perish across the Channel. She witnessed the decadence of Austria and the transfusion into it of new life from the coarser and stronger blood of Hungary. She observed the evolution of Italy into unity and the disappearance of the temporal power of the Pope. She noted the expulsion of Spain from every foot of this hemisphere, whereof Spain at

one time claimed the major part. Those of her blood shared in the middle or autumn period of her life the thrones of Germany, of Greece and of the new Russia in the world. There was no court in Europe that could meditate an act unfriendly to Great Britain, without a sense of personal affront to the woman whose blood coursed in the veins of its rulers. And this woman also coincided with the growth of the United States to an area, to a population, to a power, and to resources that transcended all dreams of possibility the year she began her long and illustrious agency in the affairs of the two centuries into which she lived.

What a notable companionship of soldierhood and of statesmanship was hers! From Melbourne to Salisbury, from Wellington to Roberts, the time is not short and the line is long. Those who made, preserved and increased the greatness of England were her ministers, her councillors and her friends. The names of Liverpool, of Brougham, of Peel, of Palmerston, of Russell, of George Grey, of Derby, of Disraeli, of Bulwer, of Northcote, of Malmesbury, of Clarendon, of Cranbrook, of Macauley, of Trevelyan, of Devonshire, of Ashbourne, and of others in their likeness, suggest the ability and the wisdom that were at the service of her mind. And her reign in law coincided with the reign in letters of Wordsworth and of Freeman,

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of Tennyson and of Froude, of Carlisle and of Martineau, of Stanley and of Arnold, of Thackeray, of Dickens, of Darwin, of Huxley, of Tyndall, of Max Muller and of Ruskin, and of numberless others who make the Victorian era strong and fine in the domain of the highest of the arts. Hers was a queenship which honored literature, invention, authorship, the stage, the pulpit, sculpture, oratory, exploration, philanthropy and valor with the awards and rewards which strengthen empire by constantly allying with its continuance the labor and the lustre, the genius and the greatness of the best life, the best thought and the best deeds of its times, in the persons of the naturally great.

The fascinating record of her reign could be indefinitely prolonged, merely by calling the roll of her contemporaries in great departments of thought and of work. Every name would lift to the eye a splendor of achievement. While every one of them did well and nobly in himself and by himself, the doing of every one of them drew ease and eminence from the favor of this sovereign to the finer sides of creative power in her land, in her time and in the world.

But the life of the Queen is also told in the broadening of the base of liberty in her days. Few could vote when she began. Even less than few could not vote when rule dropped from her aged

hands. Suffrage was continuously broadened. Representation was systematically adjusted to righteousness. Parliaments that were the creation of influence or of corruption surely yielded to Parliaments more sensitive to opinion than any other legislatures in the world. Oppressive imposts and duties and unfair monopolies and privileges gave way to honest exactions that commended the supreme power of taxation by the just use of it toward property franchises, income and bequests. Education was made compulsory as well as universal. Protection with its iniquities gave way to free trade with its equities. The working class took its place with the ballot by the side of the upper class and of the middle class. Catholic emancipation and Jewish enlargement were effected. Commission by purchase was abolished. The purity as well as the freedom of the ballot was assured. The idiocies of chancery practice were destroyed.

Abroad, the achievements paralleled those at home. In this woman's time the holdings of Great Britain in North America and in the southern seas were knit into a federation of freedom. The frontier of the empire in India was rectified in the interests of the securities of civilization. The Suez Canal was made a highway for the commerce of the world. Egypt was saved from herself, and the Soudan was redeemed from fanatical barbarism.

The flag of England on the Congo, in the Indies, in Burmah and in China enforced respect for the claims of religion and of exchange, and for the way and sway of right and light. An informal union of action, based upon a sincere consciousness of sympathy and on an honest oneness of purpose, was noticeable between the United States and Great Britain, and, as already shown, had its stimulation and its ratification in the equal personal regard of both countries for the Queen.

The duration of her reign had a great relation to the Imperial policy of her Empire, which proved splendidly compatible with personal and with local freedom. For sixty-four years to have been ruled by the Queen, to have acclaimed the Queen, to have toasted the Queen, to have been commissioned by the Queen, to have served the Queen, and to have sung "God Save the Queen" made the Queen the habit as well as the idol of her subjects, and idealized to them the institutions and the flag which were personified in her. Ministries went, and came, and recurred. The Queen named, surveyed and survived them all. Nearly four generations worked and worshipped, married and were given in marriage, lived and loved and did and died in her time. Her personality was the oldest and thereby became the strongest fact in the Imperial system. And her dignity in it, her conduct in it, the claims to love and to homage which



closed in her, as mother, wife and Queen, gilded with the perfection of propriety and sanctified with the holiness of affection, her thought for her people and their thought of her. What here we mean when we hail the Union or the flag, in Great Britain and all over that Empire, whose drum beats follow and salute the sun in his journey round the world, was meant and signified and signalized when the subjects of the Queen honored her name and glorified her goodness. We to whom government is more a legality than a personality cannot understand this without travel. And even then it is not easy to understand. But the understanding of it has been made somewhat easier by the assaults alike upon the republic and upon the Empire of recreants or invertebrates who would make them smaller and keep them small. It was the privilege of this Queen, as it has been the privilege of our President, to be identified with events which set off those who love their country from those who doubt and defame it.

Victoria did more than any sovereign that ever lived to harmonize monarchy with liberty, and to make royalty more regnant than itself by its compatibility with the best results of republicanism. Personal freedom is nowhere more secure than in her Empire. The equality of all before the law is nowhere more complete. The justice, the certainty and the celerity of law are nowhere more apparent

and more real. Toleration of speech, right of petition, immunity of thought, peacefulness of assemblage, efficiency of unmeasured complaint against grievances are nowhere more evident. The lines of distinction are drawn on social planes, not on law planes. The press, the bar, the hustings, the forum, the courts, the marts and the homes are free to a degree oftener the boast than the fact of lands and systems deemed to be more democratic. Much of this was due to the serenity of her court amid and to the superiority or indifference of her court unto political division, factional disturbances or any sort or measure of popular agitation. Her court was as neutral as calm among them all. The Commons were the safety valve and the House of Lords was the brake, while over all, respected by all and revered by all was the Queen. No constitutional sovereignty was more truly a personal one. No absolutism had less power, yet no Governor or President more skilfully veiled the maximum or suggested but the minimum of power. Now only the barest outline and the merest suggestion of her reign must content the mind. Space has to be made for and approach has to be created to the full realization of the import of that reign by the help of reflection and by the factor of time.

The world sympathizes with Great Britain because of a condition which has suspended the

activities of Governments and converted the feeling of mankind into solicitude and into sorrow. The world wishes for Great Britain the trust and the fortitude which are there severely strained. The world wishes for the kindred of the Queen, and for all her people, all the aids of condolence and of religion which they so sorely need. The world wishes for itself the wisdom, the calm and the strength to adjust, within each and among all of its great divisions, the forces and habits of thought and of action to the changed considerations wrought by a stupendous event.

*From the  
Brooklyn  
Daily  
Eagle,  
January  
21st, 1901.*



AMPLE comment, in the *Eagle* as well as in other papers, has been made on the events and the duration of the reign of the Queen. Intelligent readers have discriminated between what was directly due to her and that with which her period of power coincided. When that account is straightened, the larger credit due to progress and to civilization does not affect the still large account due to Victoria herself.

The kingdom over which she ruled has had an experience of stupid, of bad and of weak monarchs within times history calls modern. The comparison of their reigns with that of the Queen suggests the large influence of the throne on government, upon which the fashion of reviewers is to rate its influence as slight, as well as on society, over which its influence is rated as absolute. The concentration of power under the Third George and the Fourth in the hands of rapacious and reactionary ministers was not accidental. The revolt against that tendency, amounting almost to revolutionary demand for the recognition of rights and for the relief of wrongs, under the Queen's immediate predecessor, the sailor king, was not accidental. In the case of the last two Georges, long wars abroad silenced reforms at home, but the spirit of the court, working down among the people, made politics stupid and sodden;

while the conduct of George the Fourth made society itself take on his preference for the animal vices.

When William IV. succeeded, the wrongs redressed by the reform bill had themselves created the irresistible demand for it. That ruler learned that something had to give way and that the something was not the people, but the throne and the lords. The recourse of his ministers to a large increase of the peerage, to pack the upper house for reform, was revolution under the form of law. It was effective, but had it not been, a larger creative draft would have been drawn on the same force. When iron shutters became a necessary protection to the house of the Iron Duke, all knew that the people were in earnest. A hero was humiliated, but liberty was broadened and imperialism was forced to adjust itself to freedom and to suffrage. Under neither of the last two Georges were conditions such as to make that surely possible. Under William IV. they were such as made that certain. Occurrence of it eased the ways for the young Queen. Her reign concurred with the evolution of rights. Her character and conduct made that concurrence natural.

The character of the Queen not only made her agreement with the new order of opinion easy, but her youth, modesty, dignity and piety made it gracious and made her people's love the crown

of her crown. Never a premier in her time was an offender against the principles of her life. Not a place at her court was occupied by a debatable character. Not an influence at that court needed defense, explanation or antidote. The tone of government was raised with the tone of society in a land of defined classes in which society holds the final trusts of power. This concurred with her marriage for love, with the birth and her own nurture of her nine children, with the independent healthfulness and simplicity of her home life, with her sorrow under affliction, with her fortitude under suffering and her unaffected sympathy with the suffering of others. She was an intensely human and absolutely exemplary and sincere "mother, wife and queen."

The effect of this for more than sixty years attached Britons to imperialism. It made imperialism reconcilable with liberty. It commended a practical and immemorial system to the most practical people in the world who would rather make what ought to be out of what is than seek for it by an experiment at more drastic processes. Any one can enlarge on the little power of the throne on government. Any one can glibly, too glibly, say the monarch reigns, but does not govern. The truisms or the platitudes to such or like effect can be rung, until the changes on them are exhausted. But no publicist entitled to respect for knowledge

is unaware that the Queen was a constant and powerful part of the government. Her personal influence was conclusive with party rule, not against it. The throne accepted the verdict of every election, but every cabinet modified every programme by the ascertained judgment of the Queen upon it, and every appointment of importance was commendable to her or the idea of it was abandoned, whether in navy or army or in state or church. Hers was a reign which singularly united an elastic attitude toward democracy with an assertion of the royal initiative or assent as tenaciously maintained as it ever was by any of her stuhborn ancestors. Thus the primacy and power of royalty in which Britons delight were harmonized with the progress of actual liberty and with conformity of government to opinion on which Britons insist even more resolutely than Americans.

If the private station had been hers, if the white light that beats upon a throne had in her case been exchanged for the protective shade of domestic life, a student of her character and of her faculties would have found that her personal greatness resided in the uniform excellence and in the fine equilibrium of all her qualities, and could be explained by the pre-eminence of none of them. The Queen was not a genius, but the Queen made no mistakes of judgment. The Queen was not an accomplished writer, but wrote with accuracy and

good taste, and appreciated the best literature. The Queen was not a musician of rare skill, but only the highest and truest music was liked by her. The Queen was not a political diviner, but knew just what the people would have or would "stand." The Queen was not fluent, but others' fluency never misled her. The Queen was not only a mistress of statecraft, but she also knew the straight avenue to the hearts of her subjects, and statesmen encouraged in her intuitions better than their wisdom, while demagogues realized that devices came to naught in her mind. Her power to say no words till others had spoken, to postpone decision till reflection had intervened, to prefer simplicity to artificiality, sense to sentiment and tactful truth to insincere glitter, made her incapable of flattery and rarely subject to its spell from others. Wise, true, simple yet stately, consistent, conscientious, devout, reverent, diligent, considerate, faithful to friendship, affectionate to kindred, grateful, observant, tenacious of prerogative but loyal to law, the Washingtonian virtues and abilities of her even and admirable mind would have made her paramount in any sphere. They made her occupation of the greatest throne in the world more grateful, more helpful and more significant to a people whom she neither feared nor fawned on, but whom she always respected and whom she served as well as ruled, than it was ever made by any of her predecessors in the nearly thousand years of their past.



