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EDWARD VII., LATE KING OF ENGLAND

Character Study of the Distinguished Sovereign Who Was Europe's First Diplomat and Head of the Greatest Empire in History of the World.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON.
EDWARD VII. was the chief trait of King Edward VII. was fact. He was the master of form, of fashion, of etiquette. He was an embodiment of that much misused word "gentleman," an incarnation of conventional and the correct. He was high priest of the gospel of custom. With him courtesy was a fine art and usage was the highest authority. While his life knew many scandals, they were so decorous that they were forgiven. He was the gentleman even in his vices. As Prince of Wales his role was a difficult one—difficult in the sense that, while he was next to the throne and often called upon to represent the throne, yet he must never overstep the bounds and assume any of the prerogatives of the crown. The universal testimony is that he was letter perfect in the role. As king he showed another aspect of the same quality. He was his own foreign minister, the first diplomat of Europe. Here he was in a larger field of form, the etiquette of nations. It was the one field which by habit and training he was best fitted to fill. His nice observance of the proprieties extended to internal affairs. While he was king in fact as well as name, he never went beyond the close limits that free England had set about his office. To put it in a word, he never made breaks. Despite his punctilious regard for the formalities, it is said that the late

An Eminent Safe Man With Sound Principles and Attractive Human Qualities—Beloved by the British Masses—A Statesmanlike Peacemaker.

king's volunteer bodyguard. It was the conviction that Edward was "a good bloke," which was felt not only throughout Great Britain and her colonies, but in practically all lands, that gave him his hold on the heart of the world. His efforts to end the Boer war and magnanimous treatment of the burghers, his friendship for peace and diplomatic alliances with other European nations looking to a prevention of war, his aloofness from factionism and party, his personal leaning toward democracy, also toward advancement and humanitarian measures, his kindly attitude to Ireland and furtherance of liberal concessions in her behalf, his gentlemanly and considerate bearing, his exploits as a hunter of big game, his success as a farmer and raiser of prize stock, his popularity among the tenants on his estates, his social qualities and reputation as a good fellow and sport, his model qualities as a husband and father, his common sense and tactful deportment, the universal good will left him as a legacy by his mother—all these, coupled with the fact that he was head of the greatest empire in history, combined to give Edward VII. an enviable place in the world's esteem.

The World's First Gentleman.
He was not a great man perhaps, not a genius in any sense of the word, not a mighty captain, not a reformer or a leader of new departures, but an

place. Yet he was finely educated, had the most distinguished private tutors and finished his university course at Oxford. He spoke several languages with ease and in his day was perhaps the best royal linguist in Europe. The gift of many tongues is a social accomplishment, and in anything that pertained to social life he was at home. The first really important event in Edward's life was his visit to the United States and Canada in 1890. While in Washington he stayed with President Buchanan at the White House. On a visit to Mount Vernon he planted a chestnut tree by the side of the grave of Washington, the man who had whipped the prince's royal ancestor, George III. There is evidence that Albert Edward did not care much for King George, however, since he was inordinately fond of Thackeray, who lashed the four Georges with a whip as cutting as that of Junius. It is not on record that this trip to the United States had anything to do with Queen Victoria's friendship for the north during the civil war, yet it is by no means impossible that her mind was unconsciously influenced by talks with her eldest son and prospective successor. The very fact that he had been here and knew the situation at first hand would cause her to seek light from him. Americans may therefore owe the dead king more than they know.

Loyal to His Friends.
One of the most admirable traits of the king was his loyalty to his friends. It mattered not what fate overtook them, his hand was open to them still. There is the well known case of the officer in the Boer war who came home practically disgraced, but who found no change in his former cronies and then royal master. As Prince of Wales Edward had not access to state secrets, but this was more than made up to him by his freedom to form friendships with leading men all over Europe. One of the strangest and closest of these associations was with Gambetta, the republican leader of France. It was one of the most conspicuous intimacies of the prince's life, but was by no means the only indication of his liberal tendencies.

There must have been a peculiar charm about the person and manners of this king that gave him such sustained popularity throughout life, a popularity that enabled him to set the fashions for the English speaking world. So universal was the liking for him that even the scandals blazoned abroad were unable to shake it. Today about all the world remembers of the most notorious one of these episodes is the phrase coined concerning his efforts to protect the name of a woman, "He perjured himself like a gentleman."

Another charming trait of his character was his loyalty to his mother. Before his accession he uniformly forbade the drinking of his health standing, remarking that he was only a subject. He went often to the theater, but refused to have his coming or going noticed or announced. He also insisted on paying for his boxes and ordered that if he were late the play should not wait for him. The same thoughtfulness for others was shown in other ways. Lord Savile, who often entertained the king, was once asked about his royal guest.

"My dear sir," he replied, "you would never know that he is other than an ordinary guest. He has the utmost consideration for every one, down to the servants, and nothing annoys him more than to think he has put any one out of the way. He falls in with any suggestions made for his entertainment, and I have in my time had many guests who occasioned me considerably more trouble."

His Marriage a Love Match.
The marriage of the Prince of Wales to Alexandra of Denmark was due to a love match. One of the incidents still remembered was the presentation of a ring to the bride, the setting of which was made of precious stones whose initial letters spelled his home name, "Bertie." They were a beryl, an emerald, a ruby, a turquoise, a jacinth and a second emerald. In his public treatment of his wife and sons the king always showed the same nice observation of the proprieties and conventions that marked all the other affairs of his life.

That this courtesy was natural and not assumed is revealed by an old story of a fire and a reporter. The Prince of Wales one day went to a fire with the Duke of Sutherland. Wanting to know the details, he asked them of a newspaper man. At the end of the interview he handed the scribe a cigar. Tearing a sheet out of his notebook, the reporter carefully wrapped this up and put it in his pocket. "Don't you smoke?" asked the prince. "Oh, yes, your royal highness," answered the reporter, "but I am not likely ever to get another cigar from the Prince of Wales." The prince laughed and, once more producing his cigar case, said, "You had better have another one, this time to smoke."

King Edward was about five feet eight inches tall and weighed in the neighborhood of 200 pounds. He was not especially devoted to athletics or exercise, but did more or less hunting and spent as much time as possible on his farm at Sandringham. He was an inveterate smoker, was fond of midnight dinners and liked the pleasures and comforts of life.

Graded School Commencement

The Graduating Class Numbered 12 this Year

THE HONOR ROLL
Fountain Pen Prize Won by Miss Lois Long—Other Prizes—The Program

The graded school closed the most successful term last Friday that has been known in the history of the school. Prof. Staley, who has been principal for three years, past, well deserves the credit for the splendid management and rapid progress of the pupils which have prevailed since the beginning of his work. Owing to the limited auditorium space, caused by using a large portion of the rear end for class rooms, a program of elaborate exercises could not be rendered, and, as it was impossible to have, as heretofore, exercises by the entire school, the tenth grade skillfully rendered a number of original productions in the morning at 10.30, after which diplomas were awarded. The program follows:

Harvest Song..... School Character Building..... Mary Lily Kirk
The Power of Money..... William McComb
Song of the Clock..... School Dominion of Mud..... Bertha Harris
Dignity of Labor..... Earl Whisenhunt
Whip-poor-Will Song..... School Music..... Marie Whitener
The Panama Canal..... Frank Elliott
Class Song

Awarding Diplomas and Prizes
Reading Honor Roll

The graduating class, numbering twelve, was a splendid one and a great amount of zeal was displayed in the orations and essays delivered by a greater number of the members of the graduating class follow:

Mabel Cooper, Frank Worth Elliott, Mary Beverley Field, Bertha Gertrude Harris, Grover Henderson Huffman, Mary Lily Kirk, William Whitener McComb, Addie May Michael, Earl DeWitt Whisenhunt, Virna Le Vert Whisenhunt, Henry Everett Whitener, Marie Anetta Whitener.

Among the essays "Character Building" by Miss Kirk and "Dominion of Mud" by Miss Harris, were suggestive ones, Earl Whisenhunt's oration on "The Dignity of Labor" was well delivered. The entire program was beautifully and skillfully executed.

After the awarding of diplomas a prize, a fountain pen, was presented to Miss Lois Long. At the beginning of the term Mace & Rhodes, now J. O. Rhodes, offered a fountain pen as a prize to the boy or girl who improved most in penmanship during the term. The prize was presented by Rev. J. G. Garth and it was his expressive desire that the recipient of this handsome prize write as many good things with the pen as was her penmanship artist.

Previous to the exercises the regular monthly banner was presented to the ninth grade. This banner had been presented monthly to the grade having the best attendance.

In addition to the regular honor roll, which was published monthly Prof. Staley had prepared an annual honor roll and all those who had not missed a day during the term were placed on this list. In reading this honor roll Prof. Staley asserted that he was informed that Miss Estelle Payne had not been absent a day in three years and that William McComb had been present every day since the opening of school in the present building. The names of the members of the honor roll follow:

First Grade, A section.—Donald Johnston, Joe Pearce, Virginia Bryan. B section.—William Ballaw.

Third Grade, A section.—George Johnston.

Fifth Grade, B section.—Crowell Sherrill, Lina Johnston, Josephine Dysart.

Sixth Grade.—Myra McFall, Joe Cilley, Paul Dellinger.

Seventh Grade.—Mary Huffman, Emma Bell McFall, Corolla Guy Kennedy.

Eight Grade.—Kate Elliott, Antha Lytle, Millie Kate McComb.

Ninth Grade.—Leroy Deaton.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

A National Liqueur Law

It is Bound to Come and Smash the Jug Trade

MR. R. L. DAVIS SPEAKS
Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League Preaches to a Big Congregation in Presbyterian Church

Rev. R. L. Davis, superintendent of the State Anti-saloon league, preached to a congregation which completely filled the First Presbyterian church on Sunday night, in spite of a rainy night. He found the 28th chapter of Isaiah particularly applicable to present day conditions, taking his text from the 2nd verse. He said: "The duty of overthrowing this great evil of liquor is laid upon the church." He paid a high tribute to the Prohibition party, and said it was actuated by the spirit of Almighty God, "As to the two old parties, sir," continued the speaker "they will look into the face of King Alcohol and say, 'What wilt thou have me to do?'"

LENOIR COMMENCEMENT
A Splendid Program Provided For May 21 to 25.

The nineteenth commencement of Lenoir College will be held from May 21 to 25, and a delightful occasion is anticipated this year.

The program is as follows:

Saturday, May 21, 8:15 p. m.—Annual Dramatic Entertainment.
Sunday, May 22, 11:00 a. m.—Baccalaureate Sermon, The Rev. C. Armand Miller, Charleston, S. C.
Sunday, May 22, 8:15 p. m.—Address before Missionary Societies. The Rev. Robert L. Patterson, Charlotte, N. C.
Monday, May 23, 1:30 p. m.—Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
Monday, May 23, 2:00-5:00 p. m.—Art Exhibit.
Monday, May 23, 8:15 p. m.—Junior Orator's Contest.
Tuesday, May 24, 10:30 a. m.—Annual Address before Literary Societies.
Tuesday, May 24, 2:30 p. m.—Annual Address before Alumni Association. The Rev. John C. Dietz, Cherryville, N. C.
Tuesday, May 24, 3:30 p. m.—Annual meeting of Alumni Association.
Tuesday, May 24, 5:00-7:00 p. m.—Annual Alumni Banquet.
Tuesday, May 24, 7:15 p. m.—Expression Contest.
Wednesday, May 25, 9:30 a. m.—Senior Class Day Exercises.
Wednesday, May 25, 10:30 a. m.—Graduation Exercises.
Wednesday, May 25, 8:15 p. m.—Annual Contest.

Meeting of North Carolina Classis.
The annual meeting of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church was held in Lenoir last week and adjourned on Saturday passing through Hickory on their way home Saturday and Monday. The meeting was interesting. Dr. Murphy preached the opening sermon and Rev. W. W. Rowe was elected president. The stated clerk is the Rev. Dr. Leonard. The report of the committee on religion showed that the membership had made a net increase of 6 per cent. Since the last meeting and that the contributions for congregational purposes was 40 per cent. net gain since the last annual meeting.

Dr. J. L. Murphy, J. C. Leonard, J. D. Andrews and C. B. Holler were elected delegates to the General Synod which meets in Ohio in 1911.

Dr. J. H. Shuford, C. C. Bost and H. D. Warlick were elected trustees of Claremont College. The next meeting will be held in Thomasville.

Indigestion and constipation upset the entire system—cause a wide range of other ailments. You needn't suffer from any of these troubles. There's certain relief in Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea, 35c at all druggists. Moser & Lutz.

State News.
The Daniels-Bailey reform wing of the Wake county Democracy have called a mass meeting for May 14 to fight "the ring."

Rev. J. D. Harte is preaching most acceptably in the Baptist church in Lincolnton this week.

Dyspepsia is America's curse. Burdock Blood Bitters conquers dyspepsia every time. It drives out impurities, tones the stomach, restores perfect digestion, normal weight, and good health.

At a meeting of the stockholders in the B. & B. R. Turnpike held in Boone last Monday, Mr. Wiley Lentz of Blowing Rock was elected president and the old board of directors were reinstated for the ensuing year. —Watauga Democrat.

To Consolidate With Lenoir

Plan to Link Mt. Pleasant College with Her

THE N. C. SYNOD ACTS
If Scheme Should Go Through it Would Enlarge Hickory's Already Splendid Institution of Learning

The consolidation of Mt. Pleasant College with Lenoir College is probable through action taken at the North Carolina Lutheran Synod at Albemarle last week. A committee was appointed consisting of three ministers and four laymen to negotiate with the Tennessee Synod as to this consolidation. The Charlotte Observer's correspondent said: "This resolution provided that if after sixty days the committee should fail to come to satisfactory terms with the Tennessee Synod in regard to the institutions, they were to give all cities and towns within the jurisdiction of the North Carolina Synod a chance to make offers and that the place making the best bid, all other things equal, would get the new college. It provided, however, for the running of another term at Mount Pleasant, but the adoption meant a removal from Mount Pleasant."

When the report was read by Rev. W. A. Snider quite an interesting discussion immediately took place. Mr. J. W. Cook of Concord made a touching plea for Mount Pleasant. "I love old North Carolina College," he said. "She is as a mother to me; she has made it possible for me to grow three blades of grass where only I could grow but one but for her." He objected to consolidation with Lenoir College, stating that the Tennessee Synod had not a fee simple title to the college property. He said this was not mere hearsay, but that he had investigated the matter and positively that the title was invalid. He said Mount Pleasant was as good a site as was necessary, citing the State university and other institutions in the woods, as he said, as examples proving that it was not necessary for an educational institution to be in a larger place. His fight was a gallant one. The majority was against him, however, and the resolution was adopted and North Carolina College will shortly be a matter of history.

Announcement.
I wish to announce a summer term of instruction in acting, elocution, oratory, and memory and mental culture, commencing on Monday, the 16th of May, at my new studio, 1338 1/2 Union Square.

Children (ages 8 to 15) wishing to enroll in the primary department, and adults (ages over 15) wishing to enroll in the intermediate department, should see me at once. See my advertisement elsewhere in this paper.

Samuel Lawrence. Amusement Directors, Dramatic Coach.

Two Cotton Mills Combine
The Monbo Manufacturing company, which operates a cotton mill at Monbo, on the Catawba side of the Catawba river, is to be consolidated with the Turner Mill Company, which is completing a big textile plant at east Monbo, on the Iredell side of the river, and the two mills will be operated under the name of the Turner Mill Company. The present capital stock of the Turner Mill company is \$150,000 and that of the Monbo Manufacturing Company is \$90,000, but under the amended charter the capital of the two mills combined will increase to \$350,000—\$220,000 in common stock and \$100,000 preferred stock.—Statesville Landmark.

Itching, bleeding, protruding or blind piles yield to Doan's Ointment. Chronic cases soon relieved, finally cured. Druggists all sell it.

HICKORY PRODUCE MARKET.
Corrected weekly by Whitener & Martin.
Hens, per lb.....12c
Spring Chickens, per lb.....22c
Turkeys, per lb.....12 1-2c
Eggs, per doz.....16c
Butter per lb.....15 to 25
Apples, eating.....2.50 a bu
Sweet Potatoes.....1.75 a bu
Irish Potatoes.....\$1.00 a bu
Cabbage, per lb.....3 to 4c
Strawberries.....5 to 7c a qb



THE LATE KING EDWARD VII.

king personally disliked fuss and feathers. If so he managed to conceal the fact most effectually. He probably had more fuss and feathers than any other man on earth, except the kaiser. If he did not enjoy that sort of thing he was both a great martyr and a great actor. It does seem rather amusing that modern up to date nations rig out their kings in plumes and glitter and ribbons like a schoolgirl or a butler, but perhaps it is no more amusing than the fact that they have kings at all. Maybe the two things go together and are in keeping. But it is not surprising that the gorge of a full grown man should rise at it. So if Edward did not like fuss and feathers the fact is much to his credit.

His Genial Popularity.
Another thing is to be said in his favor. Aside from his office, he was popular as a man. This was true when he was Prince of Wales and true when he was king. It was frequently stated that if Great Britain were a republic and plain Albert Edward Wettin offered himself as an independent candidate for the presidency he would have been elected by an immense majority. An amusing though touching illustration of his general popularity comes to mind. An Australian gentleman was once in London and, observing a carriage with two mounted policemen in front, asked his own bus driver as to what personage was inside the closed carriage. "What! He?" was the reply. "Don'tcher know? That's 'is most grysibus!" "What! The king?" "Yuss; that's 'im, right enough." Surprise was expressed that the escort was so small. How were these two policemen to protect the king in case of a row? The driver laughed.

"Why, 'oo's goin' to 'urt 'im, mister? There ain't no one in London 'ud touch a 'air of 'is 'ead. 'E's a good bloke, 'e is."

This expressed the feeling of the man in the street, who in the case of danger would have been his savior.