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## EDWARD VII, ENGLAND'S NEW KING.

### The Kind of Man Who Comes to the Throne of Great Britain After Many Years of Waiting --- His Gracious and Noble Queen, Alexandra --- Some Facts About the New Heir Apparent.

Edward VII, the new King of England and Emperor of India, is his sixtieth year. He is well preserved, of average height, of portly build, firm as to complexion and of an even, placid temperament.

In the shadow of the throne he has lived an almost uneventful life. While waiting for the scepter and royal robes he has had little chance to show what kindly mettle was in him.

The world knows him only as a jolly prince who has done nothing very good nor any great evil. Perhaps the most notable feature of his life thus far has been his fondness for sports. He has raced horses, sailed yachts, shot birds, played cards and gambled more or less, with more or less discretion.

He might have come to the throne as Albert I, starting a new line of kings,

there was universal gratulation. Profuse and unreserved congratulatory messages were sent him from all quarters. From the moment of his accession he has been hailed by the masses with a rapture which has not been known since the coronation of Victoria.

A few weeks later, on the occasion of the prince's baptism in the Royal chapel of Windsor, he was shown from the balcony to a large group of persons, who went wild with delight.

The husband of the prince was uneventful. His early education was conducted at home under the tutelage of the Rev. H. M. Nichol, rector of Prusswick; Mr. Gibbs, barrister at law;

in the summer of 1862 the prince paid a visit to Canada and the United States. Everywhere he was received with highest esteem.

The United States failed to present to receive him with open arms. At Hamilton, the first place in Canada where he landed, he had spoken some kindly words, which evoked general approval here.

"My duties," he said, "as representative of the queen cause this day, but in a private capacity I am about to visit before my return home that re-



THE NEW PRINCESS OF WALES.

markable land which claims with us a common ancestry and in whose extraordinary progress every Englishman feels a common interest.

In 1882, accompanied by Miss Stanley, he made a journey to the east, including a visit to Jerusalem. The young prince was now of a marriageable age. Speculation was rife as to who would be the lady of his choice.

The question was settled in the early part of 1883, when his engagement was announced to Princess Alexandra, the eldest daughter of the king of Denmark. She was three years younger than the prince and, though comparatively poor, was beautiful and accomplished.

All England rejoiced over the event. Trapsna, who had just been made poet laureate, wrote one of his best poems, "A Welcome to Alexandra," on this occasion. The princess soon made herself very popular with all classes of the British public, not only by her outward grace of manner, but also by her virtues and amability.

The affection and esteem in which the prince has always been held, Ward McAllister called him "the great social dictator." It was largely through his influence that many Americans—a nation whom he has always liked—have received their entry into the inner circle of the British aristocracy.

Since then the prince has been putting in several years of quiet work, taking a great deal of the responsibility that

soon became professor of it. Within a very short time he had dispatched a confidential emissary to Denmark to carry his suit to the princess. The emissary was struck by the simplicity of the royal personages, but particularly by the grandeur and beauty of the young princess. Because of her status home training the princess was best suited for the pomp and honor of her station.

Her character is at once strong and sweet, and she shows a kindly consideration for all who approach her. As a mother she is ideal. Her children were reared and educated as best their station, and their discipline is a matter of common sense.

Of late years Marlborough House has become the center of the prince's social and official life. His study, where none but his intimates are admitted, looks like the room of a hardworking man of business. He works at an old-fashioned pedestal desk.

No political party has ever been able to rightly claim the Prince of Wales as an adherent, or even as an active sympathizer. He has always managed to keep completely clear of party or sectional interests and still remain an aggressive Englishman.

Americans know the new king as a game sportsman. He began that career early. When he was only 15 years old, accompanying his father on deer stalking expeditions, he was the best shot in his family.

While on one can confidently say what political changes the advent of the new king will make—and it is possible that his rule may materially affect the course of British politics—it is known that he has always had liberal feelings.

Queen Victoria during her long reign has shown herself to be more a man than a woman. Her conduct in time of trouble has been calm and serene, and in time of peace she has displayed the stolidity so admired by Englishmen.

The strongest feature displayed by the new queen of England is her elegance. No one ever knew Victoria to have an intimate friend. Even Mrs. Altham has her friends and falls out with them in a woman's way.

At one time she loved Lady Brooke, but her love cooled; at another she and Lady Randolph Churchill were inseparable—but at a later date she took Lady Grove's interest and insisted that she become one of her ladies of honor.

For years Alexandra has been noted for her taste in dress—an asceticism never made of Queen Victoria.

An admirable characteristic Alexandra is not wanting. She is the only one of Queen Victoria's royal daughters-in-law who has been able to get along with her. Even her daughters have found little sympathy in the cool rigidity of the throne.

The prince immediately became struck by the beauty and simplicity of the young woman in the picture and

young prince, like his brother and sister, was brought up with the most studied simplicity both in London and at Sandringham and much more like the child of a plain country gentleman than the son of a royal prince as such bringing up is understood in other countries.

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## HIS FIRST RECOGNITION.

The opening scene in the career of the new king of England.

There was a man in his forties all the time," said Mrs. Hawthorne. "Finally one evening he went to her and said that he had written something which he would like to read aloud. The work amounted to very little, but still he would like to read it. All that evening he read, but as the romance was unfinished and he told his wife to do no comments, knowing that she would be a critic until she had heard the whole."

He had not all night to read the manuscript and looked at her in amazement. "Do you really feel it so much?" he asked. "Then there must be something in it."

The next day the manuscript was delivered to the publisher, and on the following morning Mr. James T. Fields, the publisher, appeared at the author's door. When he was admitted, he caught the title boy of the family in his arms and asked, "You sprang little fellow, do you know what a father you are?"

## FRANCE THE TEUTONIC.

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EDWARD VII.



THE NEW PRINCE OF WALES.

attached to sovereignty of his mother's lands. He visited India and Ireland, engaged in solidifying the empire.

A very pretty and romantic story is told of how the Princess of Denmark became the wife of Prince Albert Edward of Wales.



QUEEN ALEXANDRA OF DENMARK.

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but many years ago he announced that when he ascended the throne he would use his second name, Edward, and be known as King Edward VII.

His eldest son, the Duke of York, who becomes the Prince of Wales by his father's accession to the throne, has also an Edward in his long list of names, and his eldest son, who will be king of England some day, if he lives, has also an Edward in his name.

It was long the fond hope of Victoria's heart that her son should reign under the title of Albert, the name of his father, her beloved husband.

It was on the morning of the 24th of November, 1911, that an anxious group of persons waited in the great rooms of Buckingham Palace.

"It is a boy!" anxiously asked the Duke of Wellington of the nurse.

The Rev. C. F. Tarver and Mr. H. W. Fisher. He then studied for a session at Edinburgh and later entered Christ Church, Oxford.

At the laying of the foundation stone of the Lambeth School of Art at Vauxhall, after the death of his father in December, 1861, he naturally became the most desirable functionary at all ceremonies in which beneficent or charitable undertakings were to be recognized by royal approval.

Indeed no prince of any country has ever personally exerted himself more faithfully to render services of this sort to the community.

Among the members of the royal family the Prince of Wales has been called Bertie from his childhood.

An adoring British aristocracy has applied all sorts of names to the popular heir apparent, which have been taken up by many Americans who have met him and a great many more who have not.

When it was announced that the hopes and wishes of a nation had been fulfilled and that a boy had been born,