

STORY OF EVENTFUL YEARS OF VICTORIA'S LONG REIGN.

In the following biography of the queen's life up to recent times, Edward Rosenau in the August of the same year as Princess Victoria, and it is a curious coincidence, considering the future connection of the children, that Mrs. Siebold, the accoucheuse who attended the Duchess of Coburg at the birth of the young prince, had only three months before attended the Duchess of Kent at the birth of the princess. "How pretty the little Mayflower," writes her grandmother both of Albert and Victoria, the Dowager Duchess of Coburg, to the Duchess of Kent, "made up in a corner of the room, and said: 'Lord Durham, I hear that you have said things about me which are not true, and I desire that you will call upon me tomorrow with a witness to hear my positive denial, and I hope you will not repeat such things about me.' She was in a fury, and he in a still greater. He muttered that he should never set foot in her house again, which she did not hear, and after delivering herself of her speech she found her back again to her seat, and she said: 'I am proud of her exploit. It arose out of her saying that he should make Lady Durham demand an audience of the queen to contradict the things which she had said of her, and to her own Whig allies.' These were days in which party spirit ran high, and penetrated the whole fabric of society in England. Within two or three years of this time Princess Victoria had taken her place in that society as the heiress to the English throne.

In September, 1835, her royal highness was the guest of the Duke of Rutland, at Belvoir. While there she was once more seen by the duke, and at all other times she was in the society of the duke. The duke was then, as now, a place of residence for the members and protectors of the royal family, and on May 24, 1839, a party of twelve persons, including the duke, were at Belvoir. The duke was then, as now, a place of residence for the members and protectors of the royal family, and on May 24, 1839, a party of twelve persons, including the duke, were at Belvoir. The duke was then, as now, a place of residence for the members and protectors of the royal family, and on May 24, 1839, a party of twelve persons, including the duke, were at Belvoir.

HER FATHER. The third brother was Edward, Duke of Kent, then fifty-one years of age, and was not on terms of ordinary familiarity with any of his brothers, and was determined to marry. Victoria, daughter of Duke Francis of Saxe-Coburg, at that time thirty-two years of age, had taken the Duke's fancy, and in 1818, this lady became the Duchess of Kent, the future mother of the future queen of England. When the Duke was informed by his agent that he had the prospect of a daughter, he was so pleased that the child was born on English soil. The duke was attended with difficulty, for the prince was much pressed for ready money. The duke believed that the journey was made. The duke and the queen were installed at Kensington Palace, then, as now, a place of residence for the members and protectors of the royal family, and on May 24, 1839, a party of twelve persons, including the duke, were at Belvoir.

DEATH OF GEORGE THE THIRD. Six days after the death of the Duke of Kent the prophecy above mentioned was completely fulfilled by the death of George III. At half-past three, on the morning of January 29, that monarch, who had reigned for nearly sixty years, died peacefully in his bed, after a long and painful illness. The Duke of Kent, who had been in the palace for some time, was still not well, and was still not well. The Duke of Kent, who had been in the palace for some time, was still not well, and was still not well. The Duke of Kent, who had been in the palace for some time, was still not well, and was still not well.

THE WHOLE THING, comments Greville, was so civil and gracious that it could hardly be taken ill, but the young princess sat opposite and hung her head with not unnatural modesty at being talked of in so large a company. There was one person whom the king detested more even than his ministers—the mother of the princess, the Duchess of Kent, who had not been sparing in her criticisms on the reception she had met from the royal family in England. The Duchess had applied for a suite of apartments for her own use in Kensington Palace, and had been refused by the king. She appropriated the rooms, notwithstanding the denial. The king informed her publicly that he neither understood nor would endure conduct so disrespectful to him. This, though said loudly and publicly, was only the muttering of a storm which broke next day. It was the royal birthday, and the king had invited a hundred people to dinner. The Duchess of Kent sat on one side of his majesty, one of his sisters on the other, and the Princess Victoria opposite.

When replying to the speech in which his health had been proposed, the king burst forth in a bitter tirade against the duchess. "I trust in God," he exclaimed, "that I may have the satisfaction of leaving the royal authority on my death to the personal exercise of that young lady—(pointing to the princess)—the heiress presumptive to the crown, and not in the hands of a person now near me, who is surrounded by evil advisers, and who is herself incompetent to act with propriety in the station in which she would be placed. I have no hesitation in saying that I have been insulted, grossly and continually insulted, by this person, but I am determined to endure no longer the course of behavior so disrespectful to me."

The king particularly complained of the manner in which the princess had been prevented from attending at court by her mother. "For the future," he said, "I shall insist and command that the princess do upon all occasions appear at my court, as it is her duty to do."

Having begun with an anathema, the king ended with a benediction, speaking of the princess and her future reign in a tone of paternal interest and affection. The effect, however, which the royal utterances produced was alarming. The queen looked in deep distress, the Duchess of Kent said not a word, but soon after leaving the room announced her immediate departure, and ordered her carriage. There had been as much sullen obstinacy and vanity on the part of the king. She never missed an opportunity of provoking nor he of retaliating with insult. "Where's the queen?" he asked one day when dining. "The queen is in the room," answered the Duchess of Kent. "That woman," he shrieked, "is a nuisance!" His majesty's health had been for

BY EDMUND YATES IN NEW YORK HERALD.

some little time in a falling condition. His physical weakness was aggravated by his constitutional irritability. He spoke of his ministers as if they were thieves, he treated his guests, personal friends and relatives alike, always with rudeness, and sometimes with brutality. One day at dinner King Leopold, who was on a visit to Windsor, called for water, when the king asked, "What's that you are drinking, sir?" "Water, sir," "God damn it," rejoined the other king, "why don't you drink wine? I never allow anybody to drink water at my table." There was but one event which his majesty wished to live to witness in his "God forsaken realm." He devoutly prayed that he might live till the Princess Victoria was of age. His prayer was just granted, but only just.

For national purposes the princess completed her majority on the eighteenth anniversary of her birth. WILLIAM IV DIES. On June 2, nine days after this event had taken place, the king was desperately ill. On the 11th he was in his own opinion, though scarcely in that of his physicians, better. He sent a letter to the princess Victoria, offering her £10,000 (\$50,000) a year, by Lord Conyngham, with a special command that it should be delivered directly in her hands. The Duchess of Kent came forward to receive it, but, hearing the royal command, drew back and the princess took the dispatch. The offer was accepted, but it was not fated to be fulfilled. On June 13 he was sinking fast. The Archbishop of Canterbury was called in to administer the sacrament. His majesty was asked whether he was in need of anything. "This," was the reply, "is the 18th of June. I should like to live to see the sun of Waterloo set." Later in the day the Duke of Wellington asked Greville, whether Melbourne had had any communication with the Princess Victoria. Greville thought not. "He ought," said the Duke, "I was in constant communication with the present king for a month before George IV died."

Two days afterward it was all over. The king died at twenty minutes after two on the morning of June 20, and the young queen met her council at Kensington Palace at eleven a. m. the same day. "Never was anything," wrote the clerk of the council, "like the impression she produced or the chorus of praise and admiration which was raised about her manner, and certainly not without justice. It was very extraordinary, and something far beyond what was looked for. The first thing to be done was to teach her first lesson, which for this purpose Melbourne had himself to learn. He asked her if she would enter the room accompanied by the great officers of state, but she said she would come alone."

After having received the two royal dukes, the two archbishops, the chancellor and the prime minister—Lord Melbourne—the proclamation was read to the council, the usual order passed, the doors were thrown open and the young queen entered.

DISRAELI'S DESCRIPTION OF SCENE. In a passage in his novel "Sybil," which will probably live as long as English royalty itself, Benjamin Disraeli, with the assistance and data given him by Lord Lyndhurst, who was present on the occasion, has described the scene. "In a sweet and thrilling voice and with a composed mien, which indicated rather the absorbing sense of august duty than an absence of emotion, the queen announced her accession to the throne of her ancestors and her humble hope that divine Providence would guard over the fulfillment of her lofty trust."

By breaking his commandments up into small detached bodies General Dewet, the strategic Boer commander, is succeeding in getting a large number of his troops into Cape Colony, his intention being to ultimately amalgamate them into a single column and then make a dash for Capetown. Paralyzed by this sudden change of tactics and the fears of a Dutch uprising at the Cape, Lord Kitchener is making desperate efforts to guard the mines and prevent the Boers from moving on Capetown, from whence most of the wealthy residents are fleeing.

By breaking his commandments up into small detached bodies General Dewet, the strategic Boer commander, is succeeding in getting a large number of his troops into Cape Colony, his intention being to ultimately amalgamate them into a single column and then make a dash for Capetown. Paralyzed by this sudden change of tactics and the fears of a Dutch uprising at the Cape, Lord Kitchener is making desperate efforts to guard the mines and prevent the Boers from moving on Capetown, from whence most of the wealthy residents are fleeing.

RULERS OF ENGLAND.

William I. (conqueror).....	1066
William II. (Rufus).....	1087
Henry I.....	1100
Stephen.....	1135
Henry II.....	1154
Richard I.....	1189
Henry III.....	1216
Edward I.....	1272
Edward II.....	1327
Richard II.....	1399
Henry IV.....	1399
Henry V.....	1413
Henry VI.....	1422
Edward IV.....	1461
Edward V.....	1483
Richard III.....	1485
Henry VII.....	1485
Henry VIII.....	1509
Edward VI.....	1547
Mary.....	1553
Elizabeth.....	1558
James I.....	1603
Charles I.....	1625
The protectorate of Cromwell.....	1649
Charles II.....	1660
James II.....	1685
William III. and Mary.....	1689
Anne.....	1702
George I.....	1714
George II.....	1727
George III.....	1760
George IV.....	1820
William IV.....	1830
Victoria.....	1837
Edward VII.....	1901

Longest Reigns in English History.

Henry III.....	56 years
Edward III.....	50 years
Elizabeth.....	45 years
George III.....	60 years
Victoria.....	64 years

Melbourne—the proclamation was read to the council, the usual order passed, the doors were thrown open and the young queen entered.

Just after this an incident occurred curiously significant of the feeling that existed among the statesmen of the time. Every one admired the speech which Brougham, who said to Peel in a tone of irritated criticism: "Amplification—that is not English; you might perhaps say 'melioration' but improvement is the proper word."

"Oh," said Peel, "I see no harm in the word; it is generally used."

"You object," said Brougham, "to the sentiment I object to the grammar."

"No," said Peel; "I don't object to the sentiment."

"Well, then, she pledges herself to the policy of our government," said Brougham. "Peel told me this, which passed in the room and near to the queen. He likewise said how amazed he was at her manner and behavior, and her apparent deep sense of her situation, her modesty, and at the same time her firmness. She appeared, in

fact, to be awed, but not daunted and afterward the Duke of Wellington told me the same thing, and added that if she had been his own daughter he could not have desired to see her perform her part better."

The young queen, was the verdict of a beheld was a decorum and propriety beyond her years, and with all the sedateness and dignity the want of which had been so conspicuous in her uncle.

By the succession of a female sovereign to the throne of Great Britain was severed the connection between the two kingdoms of England and Hanover, which had subsisted since the accession of George I., and the establishment of which had cost the English people blood and money quite disproportionate to its advantages. The first signature to the Act of Allegiance that was presented to the queen was that of her eldest surviving uncle, Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, King of Hanover.

THE CORONATION. The coronation of Victoria took place a year after the accession, on June 28, 1838. The actual fall of the Melbourne administration was delayed two years, when, having to face Parliament with a deficit of nearly \$10,000,000 in the treasury, trade being in a deplorable state and the manufacturing districts over-run with pauperism and distress, Lord Melbourne ventured to submit the national confidence in the financial capacity of his administration to a strain that it would not bear by proposing a fixed eight shilling (sterling) duty on the importation of foreign sugar and timber, which terrified the commercial interests.

This was in 1841, four years after the accession of her majesty; but meanwhile the hope of her grandmother had been fulfilled, and the two cousins were united by the English people, and on October 14, 1843—that is, four days after her lover had reached Windsor—the queen informed Lord Melbourne that she had made up her mind. "With this she wrote to Baron Stockmar: 'I do feel so guilty I know not how to begin my letter, but I think the news it will contain will be sufficient to insure your forgiveness. Albert has completely won my heart, and all was settled between us this morning.'"

"I feel certain he will make me very happy. I wish I could say I felt as certain of my making him happy, but I shall do my best. Uncle Leopold must tell you all about the details, which I have not time to do."

The official and public announcement of the betrothal was not made either in Germany or England till the close of the year. The intelligence was received with satisfaction as Lord Melbourne had predicted by the English people, for two reasons; first, because universal report spoke well of the Prince; second, because it promised to sever finally the connection between England and Hanover.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO PARLIAMENT. The forthcoming royal marriage was mentioned in the speech from the throne at the opening of parliament on January 10, 1840. On January 9 Baron Stockmar had arrived in England as the representative of the Prince to settle the terms of the treaty of marriage and the necessary arrangements for the prince's future household. Some little difficulty arose as to the appointment of a secretary for his royal highness. The discussions which grew out of his annuity and the definition of his status were more serious. The country had heard with relief, what was at first not specifically declared, that the future husband and near to the queen was a solid Protestant.

The Tories opposed the grant of £50,000 (\$250,000) which was suggested as the annual allowance to be made to the prince. On the motion against it of Colonel Sibthorpe, supported by Sir Robert Peel, it was reduced to £30,000 (\$150,000). The debate on the social dignity which should be recognized as invested in the prince were lengthy and tedious. Eventually parliament confined itself to the simple naturalization of his royal highness.

Leaving the question of precedence to be dealt with by royal prerogative, which it was, in these terms, "that the prince should thereafter upon all occasions and in all meetings, except when otherwise provided by act of parliament, have hold and enjoy place, precedence and precedence next to her majesty." The distinctive title was accorded him. Nor was it till July 2, 1857, that the title and dignity of Prince Consort were granted to him by royal letters patent, long after that name had been conferred upon him by the spontaneous voice of the nation.

Notwithstanding the cordiality with which the prince, and the satisfaction with which the announcement of the marriage, had been received, it soon became apparent that the husband and wife were the object of much national suspicion and unpopularity. It was regretted after the event that the queen had not married an English prince. It was protested that the influence of a foreign prince on the councils of the crown must be dangerous to the empire. The prince found his position one of extreme difficulty. He had at once to maintain his rank and to disarm distrust. "In my home life," he wrote, May, 1840, "I am very happy and contented, but the obstacle to filling my place is that I am only the husband and not the master in the house."

GREAT DETERMINATION. In this critical conjuncture the queen exhibited rare tact and great determination. She persistently declined to yield to those who were bent on detaching the prince as much as possible from herself. By her manner she showed her determination to honor and obey him, and that vow she showed herself resolute upon faithfully executing. Meanwhile the prince, who profited much from the friendship and advice of his attendant, Baron Stockmar, having "laid down for himself the rule that no act of his

DOMESTIC LIFE.

The existence of the royal family much resembled that of many of the more considerable of the queen's subjects. There was the season in London, which her majesty, ceremonially, in which her majesty and the Prince Consort took a chaperonage party, and after the season was over there were journeys to Scotland, sometimes to Ireland, and occasionally to the continent. On the 10th of July, 1840, the queen, accompanied by a brief period of residence at Osborne, in the Isle of Wight, purchased from Lady Lister Blithfield in 1844, its grounds being gradually laid out under the superintendence of and from the designs of Prince Albert himself—or a long stay at Windsor.

In 1845 and 1846 the condition of England and Ireland was highly critical. In the former country there was great social distress; in the latter there were both distress and disaffection, and the queen was obliged indefinitely to postpone her visit to her subjects on the other side of St. George's Channel. The Spanish marriage, which was announced, and which took place shortly after the accession of Lord Russell to the Foreign Office, violating as they did the principle of European neutrality, were the prelude to the first grave diplomatic complication of which the queen had had experience. But such events, however, as the French insurrection and the Russian difficulty, which immediately followed these marriages, served not only to try the powers of the queen, but also demonstrated that she possessed capacities of a high order, which she was not slow to recognize.

Two years later the queen and prince went to Ireland. Such a day of jubilee, which the queen and prince never before beheld in the ancient capital of Ireland since first it arose from the banks of the Liffey. No evocation of olden times, enriched with the spoil of conquered nations, and illustrations of the wealth of captured kings, was so glorious as the triumphant entry of Queen Victoria into Dublin. The visit was repeated in August, 1853, and again in 1861, when, with the two sons, the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, the royal pair made a tour of Killarney, an expedition to the Curragh camp.

THE COUNTRY OF HER HEART. But Scotland was the country of the queen's heart. For many years of her married life she spent some weeks and often months, every summer and autumn at or near Balmoral Castle, and after her death it was in Scotland that she chiefly lived.

On May 1, 1851, the long cherished ambition of the prince consort was fulfilled by the opening of the great exhibition at London. London, an event which collected a greater number of people than had ever been previously known in London. The queen left Buckingham Palace a little before 12 o'clock. Nine carriages conveyed her majesty, Prince Albert, two of the royal children, with a number of visitors and attendants, up Constitution Hill and along Rotten Row to the northern entrance of the industrial palace. As the cortege drew up the reception of her majesty and her entourage, and she entered the building amid a burst of genuine good feeling.

The same year the queen enjoyed an ovation at Manchester and Liverpool, and the exhibition closed. The sum realized by this sale was £267,307. 7s. 7d. (\$2,555,532), including season tickets, catalogues and refreshments. Of the money received at the doors £275,000 (\$2,750,000) in silver and £80,000 (\$800,000) in gold.

The next year the queen was to sustain what was in a public sense the greatest loss of her reign in the death of the Duke of Wellington. At the time this occurred her majesty was in the Scotch Highlands.

"I had just," she wrote in her diary, "sat down to sketch when Mackenzie returned bringing letters. Among them was one from Lord Derby, which I tore open, and which I found contained the confirmation of the fatal news that Britain's pride her glory, her hero, the greatest man she ever had produced, was no more. Sad day! Great and irreparable national loss!" "His experience and knowledge of the past were so great, too. He was a link which connected us with bygone times—with the last century. Not an eye will be dry in the whole country."

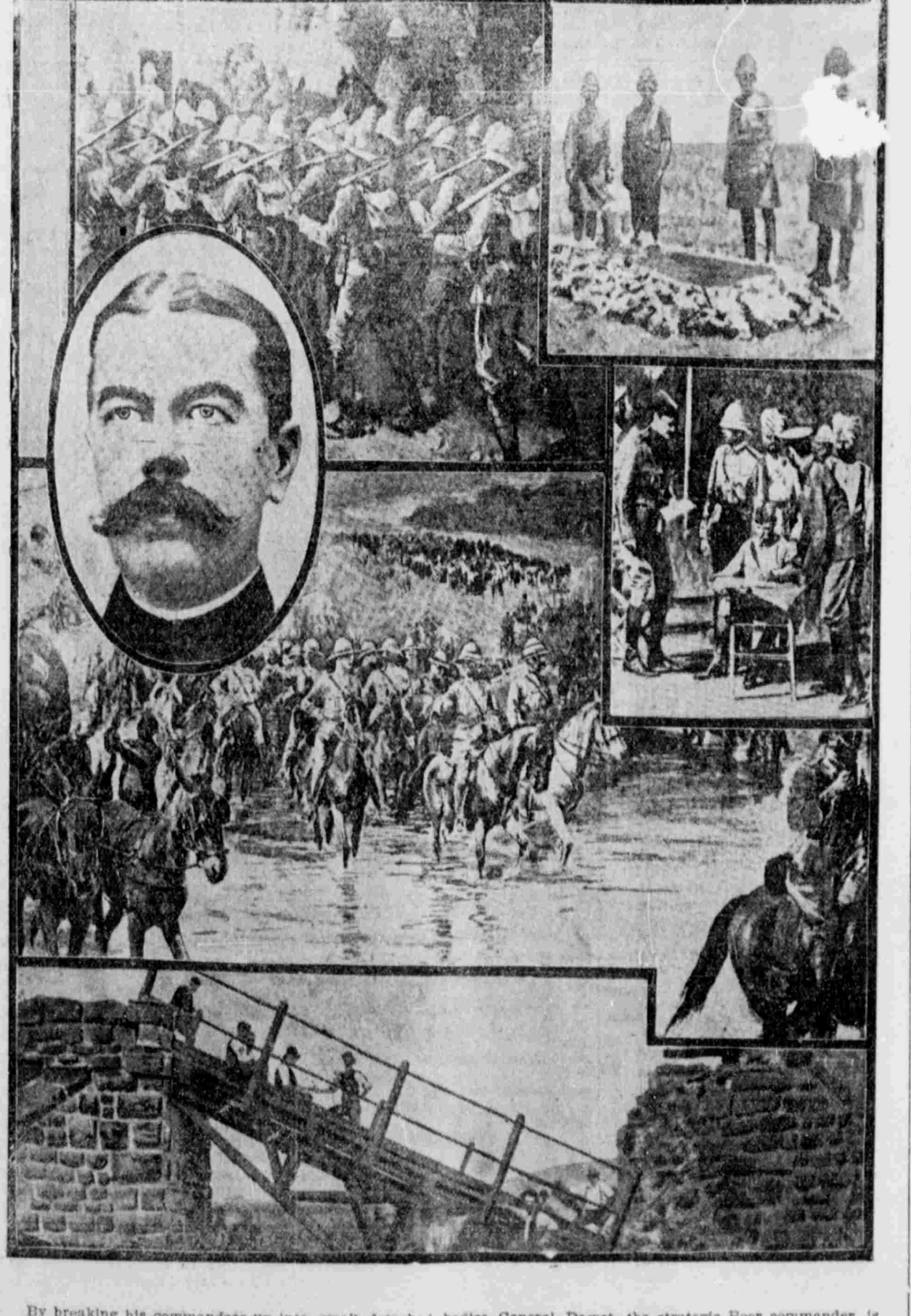
THE CHILMAN WAR. Within two years of the death of the Duke of Wellington the prophetic forebodings of coming ill which her majesty had long felt were realized by the outbreak of the war with Russia. While this bloody contest was going on the queen endeavored herself to her subjects by losing an opportunity of exhibiting her sympathies with those at home whose relatives were ordered for foreign service.

"Let Mrs. Herbert," she wrote in 1854 to Mr. Sidney Herbert, secretary for war, "tell me that I wish Mrs. Nightingale and other ladies to tell these poor, noble, wounded and sick men that no one takes a warmer interest and feels more for their sufferings and admires their courage and heroism more than the queen. Day and night she thinks of her beloved troops. So does the prince."

On the night of September 18, 1855, came the news of the capture of Sevastopol, and it was this notified in the royal journal of that date—"Our delight was great, but we could hardly believe the good news, and from having so long so anxiously expected it one could not realize the actual fact. Albert said they could go at once and fight the battle which had been prepared when the false report of the fall of the town arrived last year, and had remained ever since waiting to be fought in a few minutes. Albert and all the gentlemen, in every species of attire, (Continued on page 20.)

SITUATION WORSE AT CAPE TOWN.

Five Thousand Yeomanry Cavalry, Being Rushed From England to Protect South African Capital, Now Facing Against Dewet's Column.



PRINCE ALBERT. The future husband of the queen and her cousin was growing in Germany. Prince Albert, the son of the Duke of Coburg, was born at