

ing ledge being one on Howe's mound. It also appears as a base in quartz containing the precious metals, as, also, does galena. Salt springs exist in various places, but have never been put to practical use.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

ON the twentieth of June, the queen of England (see portrait on page 413) will have completed a full half century upon the throne of the most wealthy and powerful nation in the world, covering a period of peace, prosperity and advancement in the arts and sciences previously unequalled in the history of the world. Victoria Alexandrina, of the house of Hanover, is the only daughter of Edward, duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III. She was born at Kensington palace, London, May 24, 1819, and before she was a year old her father died. Upon the accession of her uncle, William IV., to the throne, in 1830, he being the only male preceding her in the direct line, she became heiress-presumptive to the crown of Great Britain and Ireland, and upon his death, June 20, 1837, assumed the throne. She was formally crowned at Westminster abbey, June 28, 1838, and in 1876, also assumed the title of empress of India. On the tenth of February, 1840, she married Prince Albert, of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Their domestic life was a most happy and beautiful one, until it was terminated by the death of the prince consort, December 14, 1861. Nine children were the fruit of this union, the oldest of whom, Albert Edward, the prince of Wales, is heir-presumptive to the throne.

The reign of Queen Victoria has been

marked by some of the most important reforms in the annals of the English nation. Prominent among these are the repeal of the corn laws, the reform bill of 1866, and the introduction of the ballot and gradual extension of the elective franchise to the masses. The creation, growth and organization of the colonies of Australia and New Zealand, the extension of British authority in India and the federation, under parliamentary control, of the disconnected provinces of British America, thus creating the powerful Dominion of Canada, are three of the most important events, or gradual achievements, in the history of the nation. Though, in the main, this was an era of peace, war's rude alarms have not been entirely unknown. British valor has shed lustre upon the nation's arms, and British blood has freely flowed at the behest of duty, on the fields of the Crimea, in the jungles of India, in the mountains of Afghanistan, in Abyssinia, Zululand, the Dutch colonies of Africa, and in the desert wastes of Egypt.

In the list of eminent men whom she has called to her aid in administering the affairs of government appear the names of Lord Melbourne, Sir Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, Earl Aberdeen, Lord Palmerston, Mr. Benj. Disraeli, Mr. W. E. Gladstone and Earl Salisbury. It is but seldom in the history of the world that a ruler occupies