



ENGLAND BECOMING THE MOTHER OF QUEENS

EUROPEAN RULERS
FINDING OUT THAT
IT PAYS TO SEEK
OUT BRITISH PRIN-
CESSES FOR WIVES

ENGLAND is usurping the title "Mother of Queens."

Nearly every throne of Europe has some descendant of Queen Victoria for an occupant or close to the place of power.

It used to be said that the Queen of Denmark was the royal "mother-in-law" of Europe. Now the title seems to be destined to fall on the shoulders of her daughter, Queen Alexandra of England.

The latest English princess who stands in the shadow of a throne is Alexandra of Fife.

Although denial is made that she is to become the bride of the young King Manuel of Portugal, it is known to those within the inner circle that the chances amount virtually to a certainty that she will.

Diplomacy does things in a most unusual and slow moving way, and the betrothal of a monarch is so much a matter of statecraft that the royal advisers have far more to say in the matters than the clergy or the dressmakers.

Undoubtedly the announcement of the proposed union of the young King of Portugal to the granddaughter of Edward came a little too soon to suit the plans of the politicians, but it can be set down for a certainty that it will take place within the near future.

In following the example of the King of Spain, and going to England to find a wife, Manuel will be partly actuated by the advice of Alfonso.

The young King of Spain is very much in love, and he accounts it as the most clever and profitable act of his life when he sought out Princess Beatrice, now known as Queen Victoria.

He not only gained for his bride a beautiful and cultured woman who has already become very popular with his subjects, but he gained the powerful support of the English nation for his throne, and in a country where so much unrest prevailed, and whose fortunes had of late been so checked, this was a most valuable asset.

Like Alfonso, Manuel is in need of support and advice such as King Edward and his advisers could give.

The untimely taking off of Carlos by assassination brought a mere boy to the throne, and though he has shown judgment beyond his years there is still need of a guiding hand.

Until recently the Princess of Alexandra was only known as the Lady Alexandra, Duff.

She is a most charming and attractive girl, and has had that sensible home bringing up that was the policy that the Queen Victoria laid down for her line, and which has been closely

followed by her daughter-in-law, Queen Alexandra.

The Queen of Spain has made an ideal mother, and by her home virtues has won the admiration of the Spanish people. There is no doubt that should the Princess of Fife come to Portugal's throne, and be entrusted with the care of a royal family that she too, would know how to care for it.

The recently created Earl of Fife was only a mere earl when he married the eldest daughter of the king, but he has a large personal following in his own Scottish highlands, and himself, his wife and his daughter have all maintained a strong place in the affections of the entire nation.

Princess Alexandra was recently presented at court and made a most excellent impression by her common sense and her good appearance.

She has been raised in an outdoor life and enjoys robust health. Moreover, she is bright and accomplished, and would undoubtedly be successful at the court of Lisbon.

The most serious obstacle in the way of the union is a religious one.

Naturally the princess is a Protestant, while the king, like all members of the Braganza family is the strictest of Catholics.

But it does not follow that such a difficulty would be insurmountable.

Similar conditions existed in the case of the Princess Beatrice of Battenburg and the King of Spain, but the matter of religion was not allowed to keep the daughter of England from a throne.

With the entire approbation of her uncle, the Princess embraced the Catholic religion so as to be at one with her husband and with his people.

Of course, there was some mild protest throughout Protestant England, but

in the main the action of the Princess was accepted as a diplomatic necessity, and it did not have the effect of militating against her popularity at home.

When Princess Alexandra becomes the bride of the young King it will be another member of the British royalty added to the ruling powers of other nations.

Her aunt is already a Queen, now ruling over Norway.

She was formerly the Princess Maud of Wales, and when the partition between Norway and Sweden became an accomplished fact, it was her husband, a Danish Prince, who was elected to the newly made throne under the title of the King Haakon VII. He has made a most admirable ruler for the nation, and both himself and his queen have been honored by the people with the most loyal affection.

Sweden also boasts an English princess for a Queen.

She was Princess Margaret of Connaught, daughter of the Duke of Connaught, a brother to the King of England, therefore Edward is her full uncle.

Her husband is the giant monarch of Europe, being the tallest of all the sovereigns. He is an artist and student and has just painted a portrait of himself that has called forth more than perfunctory praise.

The daughter of the Duke of Edinburgh, another brother of King Edward, but who is now dead, is the crown princess of Roumania. She will succeed to the throne when the venerable King Christian passes away.

Of the English princesses who are still single there are the Princess Victoria, daughter of the King, who will probably never marry; Princess Patricia, of Connaught, his niece, and Princess Maud of Fife, his granddaughter.

Of these the Princess Patricia has been more sought in matrimony than any

princess of Europe, and the rapidly with which she has turned down suitors has won for her the title of the royal flirt of Europe.

A flag of truce came from Sir Henry Clinton, claiming the prisoner as a Lieutenant in the British service. The answer of Putnam was a model of epistolary brevity and read:

"Headquarters, 7th August, 1777. Edmund Palmer, an officer in the enemy's service, was taken as a spy lurking within the lines. He has been tried as a spy, condemned as a spy and shall be executed as a spy; and the flag is ordered to depart immediately." Israel Putnam, P. S.—He has accordingly been executed."

Lines From a New Play.

New York Morning Telegraph.

Here are some lines from "The Florist Shop," now on Broadway. Oliver Herford is the author and unashamed:

"There is nothing wins a woman like cheek."

"Kiss every girl you meet. Nine out of ten of them will get angry, but eight out of nine of them will be glad you did it."

"There is no such thing as a bashful man."

"It is better to be on the safe side. To go not far enough is to tell altogether; to go too far—that is a matter of opinion."

"Men who marry brunettes become particularly sensitive to blondes."

"There is more charm in one little yard of mauve ribbon than in a big rainbow a mile wide."

"A wild bachelor makes a tame husband."

Queer Freak of Lightning.

Winsted (Conn.) Correspondent New York World.

During a severe electrical storm which swept over the southern part of Norfolk a bolt of lightning entered the house of Nelson Morris, removed a chimney from a burning lamp and set it on the floor unbroken. The bolt extinguished the light. A couple of smashed windows made the total of the damage. None of the family was injured by the ball of fire.

The First British Spy.

Indianapolis News.

The story of Major John Andre, his execution as a British spy, is known to most grammar school boys and girls. Not so many, perhaps, know that that blunt old son of Connecticut, General Israel Putnam, is due the credit for furnishing the first notable execution of a spy during the revolution, an occurrence in which Putnam showed a dispatch of justice re-



QUEEN VICTORIA OF SPAIN

markable even in that earlier and stressful time. And here is the story: In the course of the second year of the war for independence Putnam caught a man lurking about his post at Peekskill on the Hudson. A flag of truce came from Sir Henry Clinton, claiming the prisoner as a Lieutenant in the British service. The answer of Putnam was a model of epistolary brevity and read:

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CROWN PRINCESS OF ROUMANIA



QUEEN OF NORWAY

SPEND BILLIONS TO BETTER PARIS

Gigantic Scheme of Improvement of City Buildings Is Decided Upon.

PARIS, Aug. 28.—(Special.)—It has long been realized that such has still to be done for the improvement of Paris, as Baron Haussmann's scheme, colossal as it was, has only been partially executed, and, moreover, as time rolls on, a necessary touch has to be put here and there. It must also be admitted that Paris has been somewhat neglected of late years. Although any number of old houses had been pulled down and replaced by others with every modern comfort, and better rows of new streets had arisen, quite a number of desirable improvements remained to be effected. After some delay, and a considerable amount of study and discussion, the Municipal Council has gone in thoroughly for the project, and it has followed up its decision for the issue of a loan of upwards of \$100,000,000, by the adoption of a very practical and elaborate programme.

In the first place, according to the plan which was adopted quite recently by the Municipal Council, the mairies of the different wards are to be restored, enlarged, or entirely rebuilt. All the edifices belonging to the city are, indeed, to be thoroughly overhauled, the barracks for the quartering of the Municipal Guard are to be modified, and the Carnavalet Museum and the St. Fargeau Library are to be completed.

Parks Planned, Too.

There has long been complaint that Paris is badly off for open spaces and public gardens in the interior of the city. This defect is to be remedied, and, moreover, kiosks for bands are to be installed. With equal regard for the public health, the buildings of the various hospitals are to be repaired and put into proper condition, this at a cost of nearly \$7,500,000. In the same order of ideas, a number of dwellings which are pronounced to be

hotbeds of infection, and certain of which their death-rate are to be demolished, and money is to be given to companies which make it their business to run up houses at an economical price, to enable them to replace these undesirable habitations.

There has long been an outcry at the state of the pavement, which has in many a thoroughfare been sadly neglected. This glaring defect is to be remedied, and arrangements are to be made for the planting of more trees, and for a better system of lighting. Subterranean passages, with which an experiment has just been made in the Champs Elysees, are to give long-suffering pedestrians a chance in congested streets, and special attention is to be paid to the neatness and cleanliness of the thoroughfares.

Add to Markets.

The slaughter-houses at the Ville are to be reconstructed at a cost of nearly \$200,000, and two more pavilions are to be added to the Central Markets. School buildings are to be renovated on a large scale, and at an outlay of as much as \$5,000,000. The water supply will be improved, as well as the canals.

These are the principal items of a very important project, which is being welcomed by all classes of the population. I have referred to certain houses as being hotbeds of infection. A special committee of the Municipal Council has been studying this question for several years, and the report now issued shows how urgent this case is. It is described in this report as the evil of dilapidated dwellings.

In one quarter of Paris the average of deaths from this scourge alone has been more than 64 per 10,000 inhabitants, while in a healthy one it has not amounted to seven. Overcrowding of the population is also set down as a direct cause of mischief.

"It is one of the most active, if not the most active, factor of tuberculosis," says a leading doctor. "At the present

moment there are in Paris 52 streets specially infected by tuberculosis, where the mortality is for this reason higher than in the rest of the city. Nine inhabitants out of 100 have died annually during the past 11 years of this deadly, while other contagious diseases only kill two."

As a matter of fact, it was urged during the discussion of the plan that before proceeding to the rebuilding of hospitals it would be more practical to deal with these 52 streets and the 174 houses, which lodge as many as 60,000 persons, who are foredoomed to be the prey of tuberculosis, and to crowd these very hospitals.

Residents May Stay.

The question as to whether the working class, which occupies these unhealthy dwellings, might not be compelled to leave these districts for good, having been raised, it was decided that these houses should be replaced by others, the occupation of which would be quite within their restricted means.

In order to give a more complete idea of the havoc which has been wrought by tuberculosis in some of these hotbeds of infection, it may be mentioned that in one lot of 12 streets, containing 281 houses, with 9715 inhabitants, upwards of 13 deaths occurred two years ago. This will be the first work seriously undertaken by the municipality. The whole programme, of course, implies an undertaking on an immense scale, and the work will of necessity be extended over a certain number of years.

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JEAN LAFITTE, THE PIRATE KING

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relate he lost it back to his client at cards.

Wise Mr. Livingston.

Patriot.

Fortune had not ceased to make sport of Jean Lafitte. One day in September, 1814, while he was preparing to leave Barataria a British warship, the Sophia, arrived off the pirate stronghold and fired a signal gun. Lafitte rowed out to learn what the visit meant. Before he had proceeded far a boat put out from the warship. It contained Captain Lockyer and two officers. When the boats met the captain asked if Lafitte was in Barataria and added that he had an important letter for him. Lafitte did not disclose his identity, but invited the men ashore. Then he told them who he was and opened the letter. It was from the commander of the British forces in the gulf and made an offer to Lafitte and his followers to join the British. A captaincy in the British navy and a large sum of money were to be Lafitte's reward. Amnesty was to be granted to the Baratarians for all they had done to British commerce, and they were to receive pay for their services. With the letter was a proclamation announcing the intention to invade Louisiana and calling upon all loyalists to join the British.

Lafitte told Captain Lockyer he would have to consult his people, many of whom were bitter against the British. He could not win them over without argument, he said. He asked two weeks to consider the proposition.

This seemed reasonable to the captain, and after smoking some of Lafitte's choice Havanna and drinking some excellent wine he went aboard the Sophia and the warship sailed away.

Before the Sophia had lifted anchor Lafitte was on his way to Governor Claiborne's mansion. He laid the British proclamation and the letter offered on the Governor's desk and then he offered his own services and those of all the Baratarians for the defense of New Orleans.

In return he asked that he and all the Baratarians be forgiven by the Government and that no further proceedings be taken against them for old offenses.

Clairborne called a council of his advisers, and they rejected the proposition. They not only questioned the genuineness of the proclamation and the British letter, but they declared it was against the dignity of the Government to treat with pirates. Not only that, but an expedition was sent to Barataria and some of the warehouses of Lafitte destroyed and various persons arrested.

Amnesty.

When Captain Lockyer returned, two weeks after his first visit, he fired signal guns until he got tired. There was no response.

But Lafitte was not through. He offered his services to General Jackson. At first Old Hickory spurned him. Later he was delighted to have Lafitte and all of Lafitte's followers join him. They fought behind the cotton bales in the battle of New Orleans against the veterans of Pakenham, and that they fought well may be believed from Jackson's official report.

"Captains Dominique and Beluche, lately commanding privateers at Barataria, with part of their former crews, were stationed at batteries 3 and 4." It says. "The General cannot avoid giving his warm approbation . . . of the manner in which they redeemed the pledge they gave to defend the country. The brothers Lafitte have exhibited the same courage and fidelity, and the General promises that the Government shall be apprised of their conduct."

President Madison granted amnesty to all of them.

"Offenders who have refused to become the associates of the enemy in war upon the most seducing terms of invitation," he wrote, "and who have aided to repel his hostile invasion of the territory of the United States, can no

longer be considered as objects of punishment, but as objects of generous forgiveness."

In the celebrations in New Orleans over the victorious battle, the Lafittes were prominent figures. Never, it seemed, was Jean Lafitte more popular. He might have put piracy aside forever and become a staid and respected citizen, but he had the lust of the corsair in his blood. He knew the game of piracy was nearly over, but he determined to play it to the end. Turning his back on New Orleans he sailed, with a goodly number of his followers, to the island of Galveston. There were perhaps 500 in the party, and the flotilla was made up of seven ships. He got letters of marque from Cartagena and did some of his old business on a reduced scale and with small profit. Then when one of his followers made the mistake of capturing a United States ship laden with a rich cargo and considerable money the Galveston establishment was broken up and Lafitte's party dispersed.

Next Lafitte moved to Yucatan, and there, in 1823, he died. Only a few of his old companions had remained with him after he was driven away from Galveston. He died penniless and practically alone, disfigured with life, broken in spirit and believing that he was a much-abused man and that posterity would judge him as a hero.

Early to Bed, for Wealth.

John Jacob Astor.

The man who makes it the habit of his life to go to bed at 9 o'clock usually gets rich and is always reliable. Of course, going to bed does not make him rich—I merely mean that such a man will in all probability be up early in the morning and do a big day's work, so his weary bones put him to bed early. Rogues do their work at night. Honest men work by day. It's all a matter of habit, and good habits in America make any man rich. Wealth is a result of habit.