

When Royalty Visits Us

Royal Bulgarian Party Will Not Be the First to Call Our Way—Notable Royal Callers Who Have Visited the United States.



Prince and Princess Fushima.

WASHINGTON, is excited by the prospect of receiving the royal party from Bulgaria. But the fact that its illustrious guests will travel incognito must rob their reception in the Nation's capital of most of its blaze and glory, its fusa and feathers.

According to the official code of etiquette, binding enlightened nations, President Wilson would have to go all the way to Sofia to return this royal visit, were it paid to our Nation officially. Inasmuch as American tradition forbids our President's going far overseas during his term of office, foreign monarchs, respecting that feeling, have refrained from paying visits of state to our domain.

Visit From an Emperor.

The only reigning monarch who ever visited our shores hitherto came unofficially. This was the Emperor Dom Pedro, of Brazil, who, with his consort, the Empress Theresa Christina, was welcomed at the New York quarantine April 15, 1878, by Secretaries Fish, Taft (the ex-President's father) and Robinson; also Major-General Hancock and Vice-Admiral Rowan.

Having lost his black slouch hat aboard, en route, the Emperor appeared on deck in a black silk cap and black broadcloth frock coat. Preferring to be received as a private personage, he refused to come into the harbor on the American sloop-of-war which awaited him at quarantine, where the local health officer unceremoniously refused the Brazilian minister's request to go aboard the vessel bearing his sovereign. Stepping into the Fifth Avenue Hotel almost unnoticed by the crowd which believed him to be aboard our sloop, this democratic monarch got busy at once in planning amusements. That night he and the Empress saw "Henry V" played at Booth's Theater, and the next day, after hearing mass at St. Patrick's, Dom Pedro visited Central Park, heard Moody preach at the Hippodrome, visited a newsboys' lodging-house, a fire engine-house and a police station, as well as the office of a metropolitan daily, at the late hour when it was going after watching on the following steamers load at Hoboken, he visited public schools and hospitals prior to taking a train for San Francisco.

Returning across continent to Washington, the strenuous monarch, after cab, surprised the clerk of the Arlington Hotel by registering there in the early morning of Sunday, May 7. Immediately after breakfast he put off for mass at St. Matthew's, following which devotion he visited the Capitol, where, despite his 250 pounds, he mounted the dome. Later he drove about the city, and the day following visited the Capitol again before calling informally upon President Grant and taking an afternoon train for the Centennial Exposition, in Philadelphia.

Although his Brazilian majesty thus far is the only reigning sovereign who

ever crossed our threshold, one ex-sovereign and quite a list of kings-to-be have put foot upon our soil.

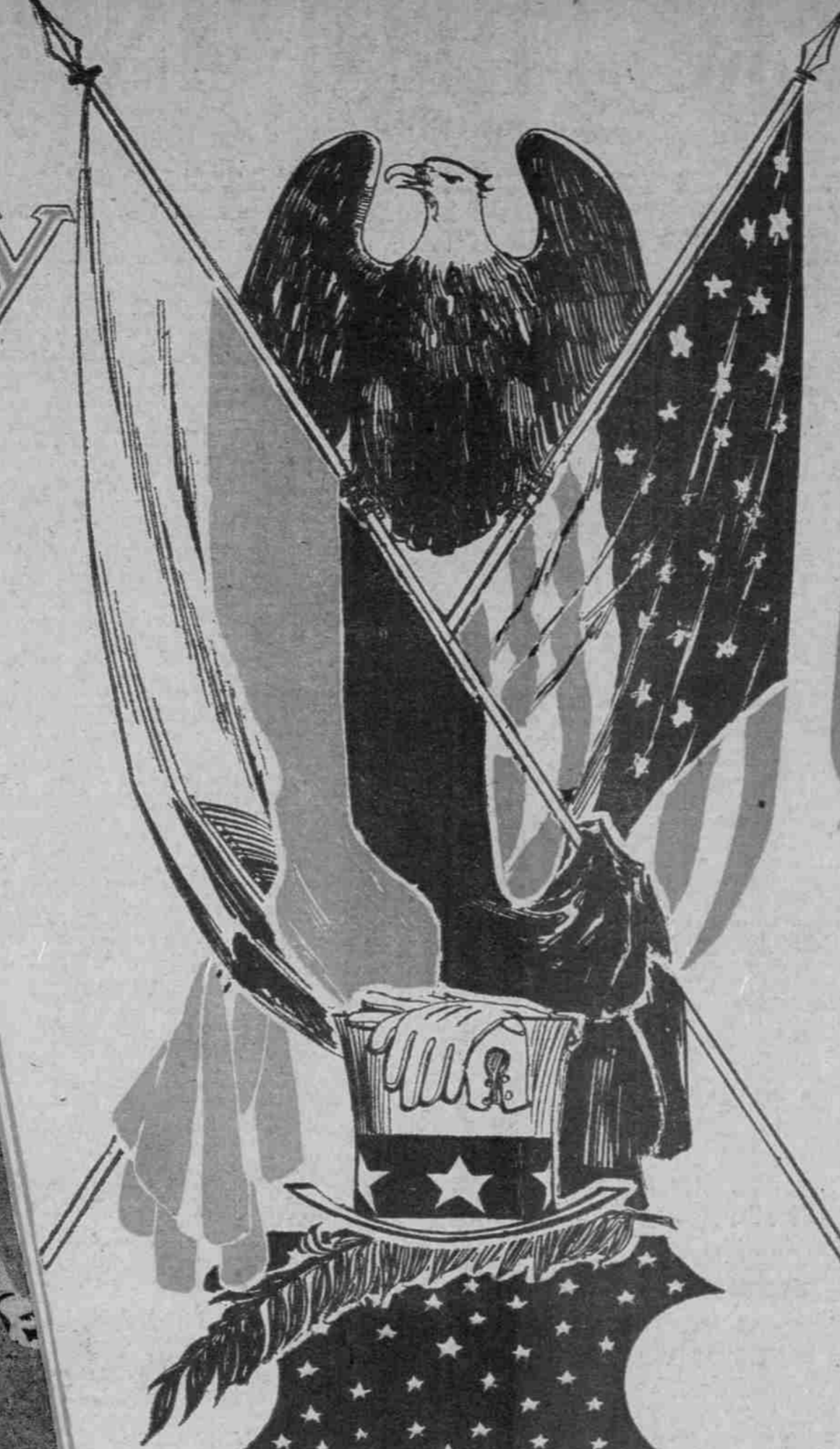
A century ago, soon after the battle of Waterloo, an American bark ran the gauntlet of two blockading British ships off Sandy Hook and brought into New York Harbor a distinguished-looking Frenchman, who had registered on the vessel's books as "M. Bouchard." Suspecting that his passenger was the great General Carnot, fleeing from the wrath of the allies, the skipper sent for the Mayor of New York and confided his suspicions. When the Mayor addressed the French gentleman as "General Carnot," M. Bouchard shrugged his shoulders and replied: "Your honor, here in America I can afford to disclose my identity, and have no hesitation in telling you that I am Joseph Bonaparte."

Thus the ex-king of Spain commenced his period of exile in the new world. Refusing to be wined and dined by New York's smart set, he bought a little country seat at Bordentown, N. J., after the New Jersey Legislature had passed a special act enabling him to hold real estate. By virtue of similar acts he acquired a mansion in Philadelphia and a summer place on the edge of Adirondack forest. His exile was shared by his two daughters and son-in-law, but his wife, sister of the Queen of Sweden, remained an invalid in Europe. After remaining in America for some 20 years he spent his last days in Florence.

King of Westphalia Guest.

But Joseph was not the first royal Bonaparte to know the United States. A dozen years before he commenced his exile here his younger brother, Jerome, then a captain in the French Navy, had, during a visit to our Atlantic seaboard, wooed and won Elizabeth Patterson, daughter of a wealthy shipowner of Baltimore. Jerome was only 19 at the time, and the match was declared null by his brother, the Emperor Napoleon. As a reward for deserting the empire and an admiral of the fleet, the French Senate named him as successor to the imperial throne in the event that Napoleon should leave no male heir, and the next year he was created King of Westphalia. Soon after his coronation he married Catherine Frederica, Princess of Wurtemberg, by whom he had three children.

The first incipient king to put foot upon our soil was the youthful Prince William Henry of England, later William IV. When a midshipman of 18, on leave in London, this princeling fell in love with a girl of his own age whom he ardently desired to marry, but because she was not of royal birth his stern sire, King George IV, cut short his holiday and packed him off to sea. Arriving in New York aboard a man-of-war in September, 1781, he took up his quarters in Hanover Square with General Clinton, the British commander-in-chief. Although the revolution was then at its height the young prince went about New York unguarded and often unattended. This indifference to personal security tempted Colonel Ogden, of the First New Jersey Regiment, to form a conspiracy to seize the future king and hold him as a hostage. This



The King and Queen of Bulgaria.

verely hazed by his brother midshipman that he has ever afterward entertained a strong antipathy for things American.

America's affectionate regard for Edward VII, who always interested us far more than any other royal personage, resulted from the tact and utter lack of affectation displayed by him when, in 1869, he enjoyed the most intimate hospitality which we have ever extended to a distinguished foreigner. No other National guest has ever been quartered at the White House, and the fact that he had known President Buchanan when the latter was minister to England made the mansion's hospitality all the warmer, although Buchanan proved at to be somewhat of a kill-joy, for when the royal visitor proposed a dance with the younger guests at a levee, the President, fearing the criticism of the "plain peep-ool," frowned upon the frivolous suggestion. But later, while the Prince was sailing upon the Potomac, during an official trip to Washington's tomb, near which he planted a horse chestnut tree—the deck of the vessel bearing him was cleared for action—corpses of military men and their youthful highness gave each pretty lass aboard a merry whirl, which she has never forgotten. It is recalled that at all of the balls given in his honor in America he tactfully devoted his first attentions to the matrons, who afterward, in confidence to a young belle, he designated as the "old chaps." At a Georgetown seminary he merrily played tennis with the fair students.

After his arrival at the White House there was a grand reception followed by fireworks. Then there were two state dinners, at which the Cabinet and diplomatic corps were bidden in turn "to meet Lord Renfrew"—for such was his incognito. The British Minister also dined with him. At the Executive Mansion he occupied the two northern corner chambers of the upper floor, still known as the "Prince of Wales" rooms.

At Philadelphia he heard Patti sing, visited Independence Hall, attended the races at Point Breeze, and from the balcony of the old Continental Hotel witnessed the turbulent mob that crowded Chestnut street upon the election night immediately preceding the outbreak of the Civil War. For use at a magnificent ball given in his honor at the Academy of Music, New York, there was prepared a special service of gold and china bearing his motto, "Ich dien."

Two Unpleasant Incidents.

The metropolis honored him also with a torchlight parade by the volunteer fire department, and a procession by the state militia, in which latter an Irish regiment, the 89th, refused to take part, a course of conduct which, besides making a stir on both sides of the Atlantic, resulted in the regiment losing its colors, the regrettable incident occurring during the procession which escorted the Prince and his suite from the station at Boston. When an Englishman in his party remarked upon the red coats of some American troops, one of the Bostonians replied: "Yes, we took them in '76, don't you know?"

After sitting through a chorus of 1200 Boston school children the Prince went to a banquet at the Hotel Marlborough, with a bona fide veteran of that battlefield. Despite the fact that he was a lad of only 19, and that his American hosts seemed to take pride in constantly dangling before him reminders of "the late unpleasantness," his visit greatly strengthened the ties between Britain and her rebellious daughter.

We all remember well the excitement caused by the visit of King Edward's brother, the Duke of Connaught, to President Taft, January 25, 1912.

Grand Duke Alexis Comes.

Many of our citizens still living recall the flutter caused by the formal visit paid to the Nation in 1871 by the young Grand Duke Alexis, uncle of the present Czar, who came to America as the special representative of his father, Czar Alexander II. After a long and stormy voyage he arrived November 19 in New York on the Russian frigate Sweland, and was greeted in the harbor by an American squadron and by Vice-Admiral Rowan, selected by President Grant to attend the royal guest while in this country. When the Grand Duke's frigate sailed south 21 guns of the Russian flag was at once raised by all of our ships, which returned the cannonade. Following the speeches of welcome delivered down the bay, the Grand Duke and his suite entered a procession of carriages and were escorted by a division of militia to the Clarendon Hotel, where his highness stepped out upon a balcony to review the 22 regiments of his escort.

He then hurried to the Greek Church, on Second avenue, to offer up thanks for his safe arrival, and the same morning went aboard a gorgeously decorated ferryboat, which carried him to a special train "elegantly fitted up." Arriving in Washington, he was taken to the Arlington Hotel, where he occupied the whole south wing, known

as the Johnson House. The next morning Secretary of State Fish called on his highness, who, at 10 o'clock, drove up to the White House, whose portico swarmed with cheering people. After a formal exchange of felicitations in the blue parlor, where President Grant and his Cabinet received the Nation's guest, Secretary Fish escorted Alexis to the red parlor, and presented him to Mrs. Grant and other ladies there assembled. Following a trip to Annapolis, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Niagara Falls, the Grand Duke made an extensive tour of Denver and New Orleans, ending his visit at Pensacola, whence his frigate took him home by way of Havana. He later became High Admiral of the Russian navy, and died a bachelor in 1904.

Our next royal visitors, the Maharajah of Kapurthala, the Duke of Veragua and the Infanta Eulalia of Spain, who came to view the World's Fair at Chicago, also allowed themselves to be ceremoniously received, and we all distinctly remember the visit to America made by the present King of the Belgians, when he was the Crown Prince Albert.

Belgian King Remembers U. S.

We were just upon the eve of our war with Spain when this visit was paid to us by the present King Albert, then only 22 years old. Arriving in Washington early in March, 1898, he made an informal call upon President McKinley, at noon, accompanied by the Belgian Minister and Colonel Theodore A. Sinschlag, the White House master of ceremonies. After this reception had been concluded in the red parlor of the White House President McKinley accompanied the royal party upon a drive about the city.

That same evening the President gave in the Prince's honor a state dinner, reserved exclusively for the state dining-room being too small. Previous to the dinner the President received his royal guest in the east room, which was reserved for the party's occasion. Before returning home Prince Albert visited also Philadelphia, New York, Hartford, Boston and Harvard University.

The warmest welcome which we have ever extended to a royal guest was that given Prince Henry of Prussia, the German Emperor's brother, in 1902. Loaded with presents, Prince Henry reached New York February 22. Having been received at the metropolis with official honors, he proceeded the next day to Washington, where he immediately called upon President Roosevelt, who returned the call at the German embassy within 15 minutes. The same night the Prince was tendered, in the East room of the White House, the most elaborate dinner ever given by a President of the United States.

Present King of Siam.

The present King of Siam is another ruler who, like King Albert of Belgium, Louis Philippe and Edward VII, visited us before ascending to his throne. With his younger brother—a prince with name unpronounceable and well-nigh unappellable—he arrived in New York in October, 1902, and after being formally met in the harbor, was carried by special train to Washington, where several troops of cavalry escorted him to the White House to receive formal welcome from President Roosevelt. A special White House reception was held in his honor. Secretary Hay dined him, a cavalry drill was given, and the President's yacht Sylph took him to Mount Vernon, where he placed a wreath upon the tomb of George Washington. Then our Government sent him upon a tour of the country, covering six weeks, during which time Herbert Hoover, our United States Secretary of State, acted as his guide and spokesman.

The last royal personage to visit us was Albert Honoré Charles, Prince of Monaco, who after a tour of the United States was received by President Wilson last October. Like Jerome Bonaparte, this prince had contracted an unhappy union with an American woman. In 1889 he married the widowed Duchess de Renellan, formerly Marguerite Alice Heine, daughter of Michael Heine, a retired New Orleans banker, and a Christianized Jew. She bore the full title of princess for 13 years, at the end of which period their romance ended in a divorce. (Copyright, 1914, by John Elfreth Watkins.)



King Albert of Belgium.



Prince Henry of Prussia, Our Guest in 1904.



Grand Duke Alexis, When Here in 1871.

plan had the sanction of Washington, but an inkling of it reached Clinton, who augmented the guards about his royal highness and saw that he was safely conducted aboard the warship that carried him back to his parental home.

Visit of Louis Philippe.

When Duke D'Orleans, Louis Philippe, embraced the doctrines of the French Revolution he performed brilliant services from France at the close of that struggle, he taught school for a season in Switzerland and—after his father was beheaded—traveled under an assumed name in northern Europe. In 1782 he took passage as a Danish subject on board the ship American, and landed in Philadelphia, during the Autumn. Here he was joined by his brothers, the Duc de Montpensier and the Comte de Beaujolais.

These three princes toured the United States traveling through New England, exploring the Great Lakes, viewing the valley of the Mississippi, surveying the future site of Washington and visiting

President Washington at Mount Vernon. This was a generation before