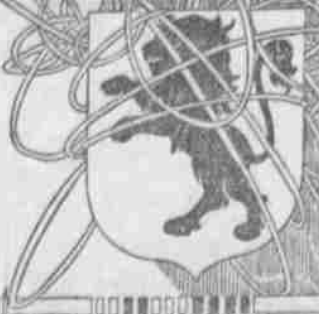


SNAPSHOTS OF ROYALTY

The promised visit of King Leopold of Belgium to America will satisfy a long felt want among the camera fields. It is said that during the tour of the country made by Prince Henry a camera clicked every fifth second. The number of snap shots of the German prince which have been published exceeded one thousand. Including the number of pictures, good and bad, which were actually taken throughout the country, the number



PRESIDENT LOUBET AND PRINCE GEORGE OF GREECE AT RAMBOUILLET.



KING EDWARD AT THE GRAND PRIX.



QUEEN OF SPAIN INFANTA DUCHESS OF ALBA



THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

SHAH OF PERSIA



EMPEROR WILLIAM OF GERMANY

doubtless ran into the tens of thousands.

A king of course is much bigger game to bay than any prince, and the enthusiasm of the camera brigades will know no bounds. The anxiety to get a good picture of royalty of course depends upon more than mere curiosity. Throughout Europe there is always a ready market for such photographs at a good price. Every reigning monarch of Europe, it is safe to say, has been caught by the snap shot artists many thousands of times, yet the demand for new pictures of this kind seems never to flag. In America, where the number of illustrated publications is even greater than in Europe, the demand for such pictures is certain to exceed any possible supply.

The approaching visit of several royal personages to the United States during the St. Louis exposition leads particular interest to this unique industry. In addition to King Leopold, President Loubet of France and the Prince of Wales have announced their expectation of visiting the exposition. It will be interesting to contrast the work of the snap-shot fraternity at home and abroad in this particular difficult work. Hunting for a king with a snap shot camera is naturally much more difficult than for any ordinary personage. Royalty is so closely guarded as to become an extremely difficult target.

So well recognized is the demand for such pictures in some parts of Europe that a special photographer is appointed to attend to this work. The Emperor of Germany has had a favorite photographer for years who accompanies him on his journeys by yacht or rail and occupies a front place at all important functions which need to be photographed. This artist is privileged to supply such photographs for general use, with the consent of the Emperor, and is encouraged in every way. It is said, and the statement is probably correct, that the German Emperor has been photographed more times than any other man in the world. A German paper recently announced that over eighteen hundred different photographs of the Emperor had been published in German papers alone in five years.

The accompanying photograph of Emperor William has been selected from a large collection. It has many

merits which are especially rare in the photographs of royalty. The expression both of face and figure is absolutely unconscious and unstudied. There has been no photographer to pose the head or the figure into awkwardness. The spontaneous smile which lights up the face is clearly not the sort which is called forth by the hackneyed request to "look pleasant." The pose of the figure is equally natural and life-like. Then, again, the crowd which greets him has been very happily caught and well repays careful study. The uplifted arms, the expressions of the faces varying from wild enthusiasm to cold scrutiny are clearly defined.

An even more faithful portrait is the snap shot of King Edward VII. It shows the King walking unattended at a race track at Paris. It will be seen that in the throng which surround the King few recognize him, which is in itself a remarkable setting. Meanwhile the King is smiling and in the very act of carrying his hand to his hat. The entire pose of the figure, the slightly jaunty angle of the hat, the evidence of careful dressing and grooming all distinguish at a glance the "First Gentleman of Europe."

In singular contrast to this is the remarkable snap shot of President Loubet of France and Prince George of Greece. The picture was taken just after a shooting expedition at the President's official summer residence. The party is regarding the bay. The wide trousers common among the poorer classes in France and the unassuming soft felt hat of the President contrast oddly with the raiment either of the German Emperor or the English King. The pose also very happily catches the familiar expression of the French President's character. The picture of Prince George of Greece standing at the extreme left of the group also catches a royal personage quite unaware.

Equally unusual in every respect is the snap shot of the Queen of Spain, which was taken while she was shopping recently in Paris. The royal personages are even plainly dressed and walking quite unaccompanied along the streets. The Queen, the mother of the present King of Spain, is on the inside, next comes her daughter, while the Queen's sister, the Duchess of Alba, walks next the

curb. The photographs show that they walk about unattended almost without remark. The picture tells the story at a glance. All three are walking rapidly and all are conscious of the presence of the camera flash, and are trying to avoid the inevitable.

The Shah of Persia is doubtless the least photographed of all the monarchs. The accompanying snap shot was taken during his visit last year to England. The Shah actually posed for the artist as the picture indicates. It is only while he is abroad that he allows any such liberties to be taken with his royal personage. In Persia a snap shot artist who approaches with a camera would be arrested long before he got within range. The story is told of the Shah that during his visit to England he was asked if he had any photographers about his palace. "I know but two," he is reported to have said, "and I shall have one of them beheaded as soon as I get home."

The Emperor of Austria is shown in another picture of the collection as he leaves the door of one of his palaces for a drive. Here again the artist has been very fortunate in catching an eminently characteristic pose. The Emperor is shown pulling his coat about him as he walks in a very natural manner while he regards the photographer with good natured tolerance.

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(McMinnville News.)

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