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THE  
ROYAL VISIT  
TO  
WOLVERHAMPTON



COLLEGIATE CHURCH



WOLVERHAMPTON :

EDWARD RODEN, PRINTER AND PUBLISHER,

CHEAPSIDE.



TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
THE EARL OF LICHFIELD,  
LORD-LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY  
OF STAFFORD,

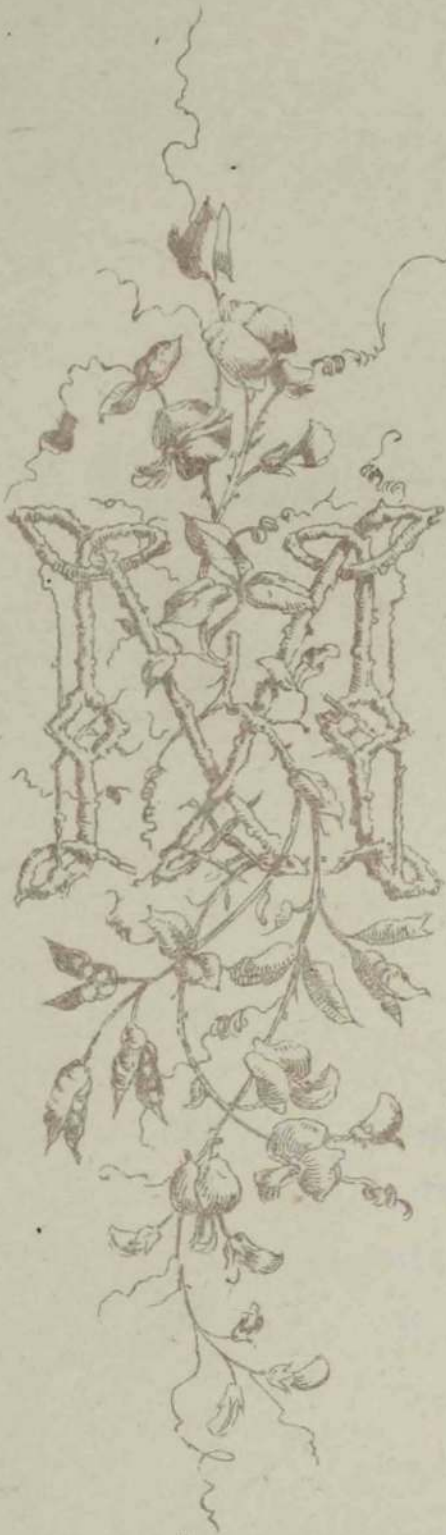
THIS VOLUME IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY HIS HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE PUBLISHER.





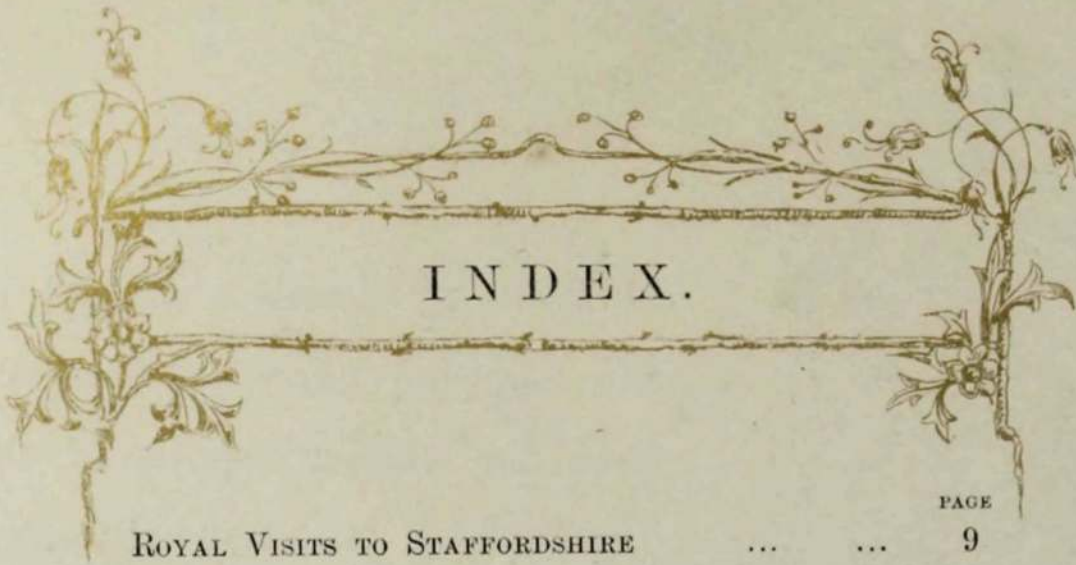


## PREFACE.

MOST of the details contained in the following pages are extracted from the various reports of the Royal Visit to Wolverhampton which appeared in the local Newspapers. A general desire was expressed for a connected compilation of these reports in a permanent shape. It is believed that the narrative comprised in this volume will be found to be an accurate and complete record of the inauguration, by Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen, of the Statue erected by the inhabitants of Wolverhampton to the memory of the great and good Prince Consort.

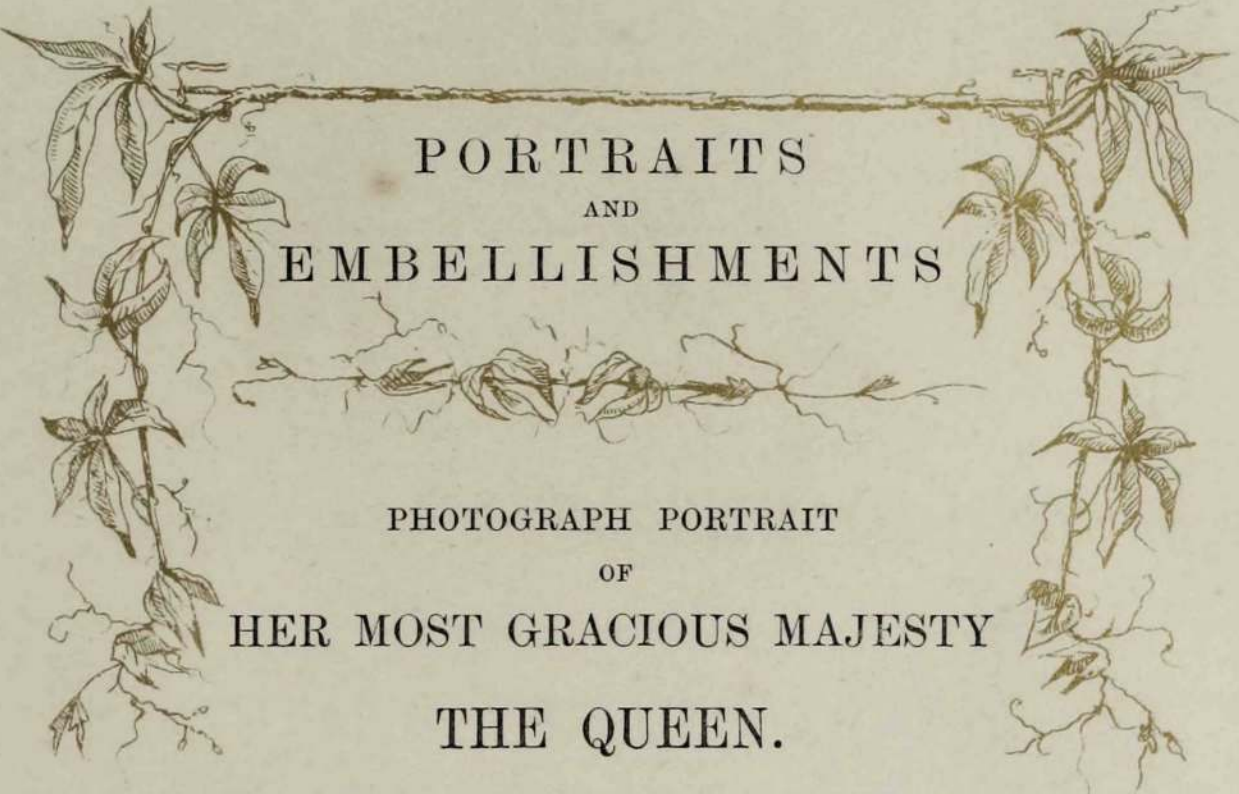
*Wolverhampton,*

*March, 1867.*



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PORTRAITS  
AND  
EMBELLISHMENTS

PHOTOGRAPH PORTRAIT  
OF  
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY  
THE QUEEN.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the Mayor, SIR JOHN MORRIS, Knight ; the Recorder, J. J. POWELL, Q.C. ; the Town Clerk, EDWIN JOHN HAYES, Esq. ; the Clerk of the Peace, HENRY UNDERHILL, Esq.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the Chairman of the Memorial Committee, G. L. UNDERHILL, Esq. ; the Vice-Chairman, J. HAWKSFORD, Esq. ; the Mover of the Address, M. IRONMONGER, Esq. ; the Seconder, H. H. FOWLER, Esq.

PHOTOGRAPH of the PAVILION AND GALLERY.

PHOTOGRAPH of the STATUE

TWENTY-NINE BORDER PAGES, INITIAL LETTERS, HEAD AND  
TAIL PIECES, &c.





VISIT OF  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,

ACCOMPANIED BY

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHRISTIAN

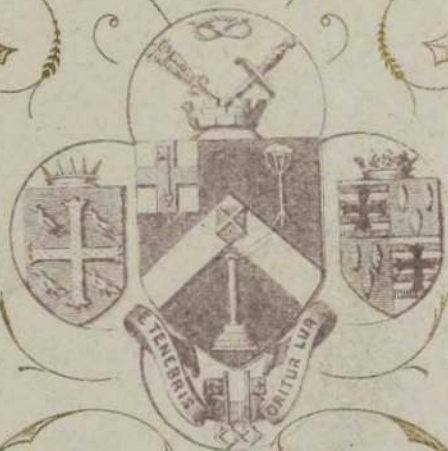
AND

PRINCESS LOUISE,

TO INAUGURATE THE

PRINCE CONSORT STATUE,

AT WOLVERHAMPTON.





ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.









## ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE



THE earliest Royal Visits of which we have any authentic record are those of King John, who had a country seat, if we may so term it, at Brewood, at which he is known to have resided, during portions of the years 1200, 1206, and 1207. Henry the First is presumed to have visited Staffordshire, as by a charter dated at Cannock, he granted free warren in all his lands at Tamworth and elsewhere to the son and heir of Marmion, whose high

estate may be gathered from the words of Sir Walter Scott :

They hailed him Lord of Fontenaye,  
Of Lutterward, and Scrivelbaye,  
Of Tamworth tower and town.

In 1251 King Henry the Third visited Lichfield.

In 1397 King Richard the Second kept his Christmas in the palace at Lichfield; two years later, namely, in 1399, he was again in the palace, a captive to Bolingbroke, on his way from Chester to London. In the night he

ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

attempted to make his escape from a window, but was discovered and re-captured. Baker, in his "Chronicle," says that "they rode on horseback from Chester to Nantwich; then to Newcastle; from thence to Stafford, and thence to Lichfield, and there rested Sunday; after that they rode forward to Coventry." In the words of Shakespeare alone do we find an adequate representation of the Entry into London:—

Where rude misgovern'd hands from windows' tops  
Threw dust and rubbish on King Richard's head.

Henry the Fourth, when proceeding against the insurgent Percys in 1403, lay at Lichfield; and advancing thence on July 19, outstripped Hotspur, who was marching from Stafford to Shrewsbury.

The Earl of Richmond, afterwards King Henry VII., having landed at Milford Haven, passed from Shrewsbury through Stafford, Lichfield, and Tamworth, previously to the battle of Bosworth Field.

Queen Elizabeth, in her brilliant "progress," immortalised by Sir Walter Scott in his tale of "Kenilworth," went from that splendid demesne to Lichfield, where she remained eight days, and then proceeded to Chartley, thence to Stafford; and after leaving Stafford, through Brewood to Chillington, where she was entertained by John Giffard, Esq., who had been High Sheriff of the County in 1573, and proceeded thence towards Worcester.

James the First passed through the county several times. On his return from his visit to Scotland, in August, 1617, he sojourned a day or two at Tutbury Castle, and the scene of his mother's captivity re-echoed with the wild hilarity of her son and his attendants. From

#### ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

the Parish Register of Alrewas, it appears that he was at Hoarcross on the 30th of August. On the 31st he slept at Lichfield. In 1619 he was again in the county, as shown by an entry in the Parish Register of Tamworth. From the same document it appears that in 1621 King James was at Wichnor, and dined at the Hall there.

Charles the First took up his residence at Tutbury Castle whilst on a tour through this part of the kingdom, 1634; he again visited Staffordshire in 1636, and during the Civil War he was frequently in various parts of the country. In the "Itur Carolinum," we find his movements in connection with this county thus mentioned:—  
"October, 1642, from Bridgnorth to Wolverhampton, where he rested three nights, and on to Bremickham, to Sir Thomas Holt's." During this visit a letter was sent from the King to the Magistrates of "the citty of Leitchfield," directing the inhabitants to send their arms, weapons, &c., to the Royal Standard at Nottingham, dated "Att our Court att Wolverhampton, the 17th of October, 1642."  
On the 15th of May, 1645, we find the King at "Hemly, (Himley) near Wolverhampton, Mr. War's." On the 16th the head-quarters of Prince Rupert were at Wolverhampton, and the King lay at "Bishbury, near Sturbridge, Mr. Grosvenor's" On the 16th of June, in the same year, immediately after the battle of Naseby, he marched through Lichfield, sleeping that night in the Close, to Wolverhampton, which he left on the following day. He slept at "Mrs. Barnford's, a widow." On Sunday, the 10th of August, occurs this notice: "Dinner near Wolverhampton, in campis, at Lichfield; supper at the Governor's in the Close;" next day at Tutbury Castle.

ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

The following narrative is appended to the pedigree of the Goughs, in Shaw's "History of Staffordshire":—"The unfortunate Charles I., during his troubles, slept at Wolverhampton, where he was entertained by Madame St. Andrew, who was either sister or aunt to Mr. Henry Gough, and that gentleman ventured to accommodate their Royal Highnesses Charles, Prince of Wales, and James, Duke of York. An antient tenement still remains at Wolverhampton, which is part of the house where these princely guests resided. A subscription being set on foot to aid the exigencies of the royal cause, the inhabitants cheerfully contributed according to their ability, but the most ample supply was expected from Mr. Gough, whose loyalty was as eminent as his fortune was superior, when, to the surprise and disappointment of every one, he refused any assistance, though strongly urged by the King's Commissioners, who retired in disgust and chagrin. When night approached, putting on his hat and cloak, Mr. Gough went secretly and solicited a private audience of his Majesty. He then drew from his cloak a purse containing a large sum of money, (by tradition of the family £1,200 is supposed to have been the sum) and presenting it, with due respect, said, 'May it please your Majesty to accept this, it is all the cash I have by me, or I would have brought more.' The gift was so acceptable to the King that an offer of knighthood was made to Mr. Gough, but this loyal subject, having no other view than to serve his Sovereign, declined the honour, which was afterwards conferred on his grandson Henry, of Perry Hall, when he was introduced at the Court of Charles the Second." The scene of this remarkable instance of devotion to royalty is supposed to be the Star and Garter

ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

Inn, in Cock Street; in King Charles's time, no doubt, a private house. It was an old but extensive half-timbered house, of the time of the Tudors, or perhaps of an earlier date, and pulled down about thirty years ago.

Charles the Second did not visit Wolverhampton. After the battle of Worcester, he rode as hastily as possible to Stourbridge, thence to Whiteladies and Boscobel, in Shropshire, being on the Shropshire side of a lane that divides Salop from Staffordshire. From Boscobel he went down a lane that still exists to Moseley, and from Moseley to Bentley Hall near Willenhall, which he left as a servant in the train of Miss Lane, for Bristol.

In 1687 James the Second visited Lichfield, and lodged at Lady Littleton's house in the Close. In June, 1670, King William passed through the city on his way to Ireland.

From this time we have no notice of any visits of Royalty, except some of a transitional character, until we reach the times of the Prince Regent, afterwards George the Fourth, who honoured the Marquis of Anglesey with a visit of several days in November, 1815, at Beaudesert.

In the year 1832, the Princess Victoria, accompanied by her mother, the Duchess of Kent, arrived on the 24th of October, at Shugborough, the seat of the Earl of Lichfield, the father of the present Earl, who is now the Lord Lieutenant of the County. The tour of the Princess and of her mother had a political character. The Orange party wished to place their Grand Master, the Duke of Cumberland, on the decease of King William, upon the throne, and it was only by a vote of the House of Commons, brought forward by Mr. Hume, that the conspiracy was

ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

broken up. The rights of the Princess and the liberties of the nation were in danger, and well do we remember the scene that the drawing room, at Shugborough, presented on the occasion of the Princess (now Her Majesty) receiving a loyal address from the Borough of Stafford. She stood in front, or rather in the centre and in advance of a circle of men and ladies devoted to her cause and to the welfare of the nation, her mother, handsome and firm, and intelligent, by her side. Her noble Host, the late Earl of Lichfield, with glowing loyalty and patriotism, was foremost in promoting the good cause to which he was attached, whilst the now Dowager Countess cordially beheld with exultation the exhibition of loyalty of which the mansion of Shugborough was the scene. But even beyond this was the demonstration when the Princess and the Duchess of Kent passed through the great wooden erection, used at Lady Bagot's archery *fetes*, and in which the Yeomanry were entertained at dinner; and it is not too much to say that this demonstration helped considerably to frustrate the Orange plot, and by doing so to secure the peace and prosperity of the kingdom. From Shugborough the Princess and her mother, accompanied by Sir George Anson, and other members of their household, went to Lichfield, where the Princess received an address in the old Town Hall of the city. The Princess Victoria passed through Wolverhampton with her mother on her way to Trentham Hall, and changed horses at the Lion Hotel, (now the Town Hall).

In November, 1839, the Queen Dowager visited Sir Robert and Lady Peel at Drayton Manor. While staying there she visited Tamworth and Lichfield. Next



ROYAL VISITS TO STAFFORDSHIRE.

year, in the month of July, Her Majesty paid a visit to the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury at Alton Towers. From Alton Towers Her Majesty proceeded to the seat of Earl Howe.

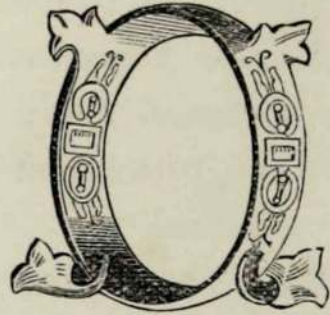
On the 28th November, 1843, Her present Majesty and the Prince Consort arrived from Windsor at Drayton Manor, on a visit to the late Sir Robert Peel and Lady Peel. During this visit the Queen and Prince proceeded to Lichfield, and inspected the city and cathedral.

In 1852, the Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort and several of the younger members of the Royal Family, passed through the High Level Railway Station Wolverhampton, and an address from the Corporation was presented to her by W. Warner, Esq., the Mayor; Her Majesty also graciously accepted a bouquet of flowers from Mrs. Warner.

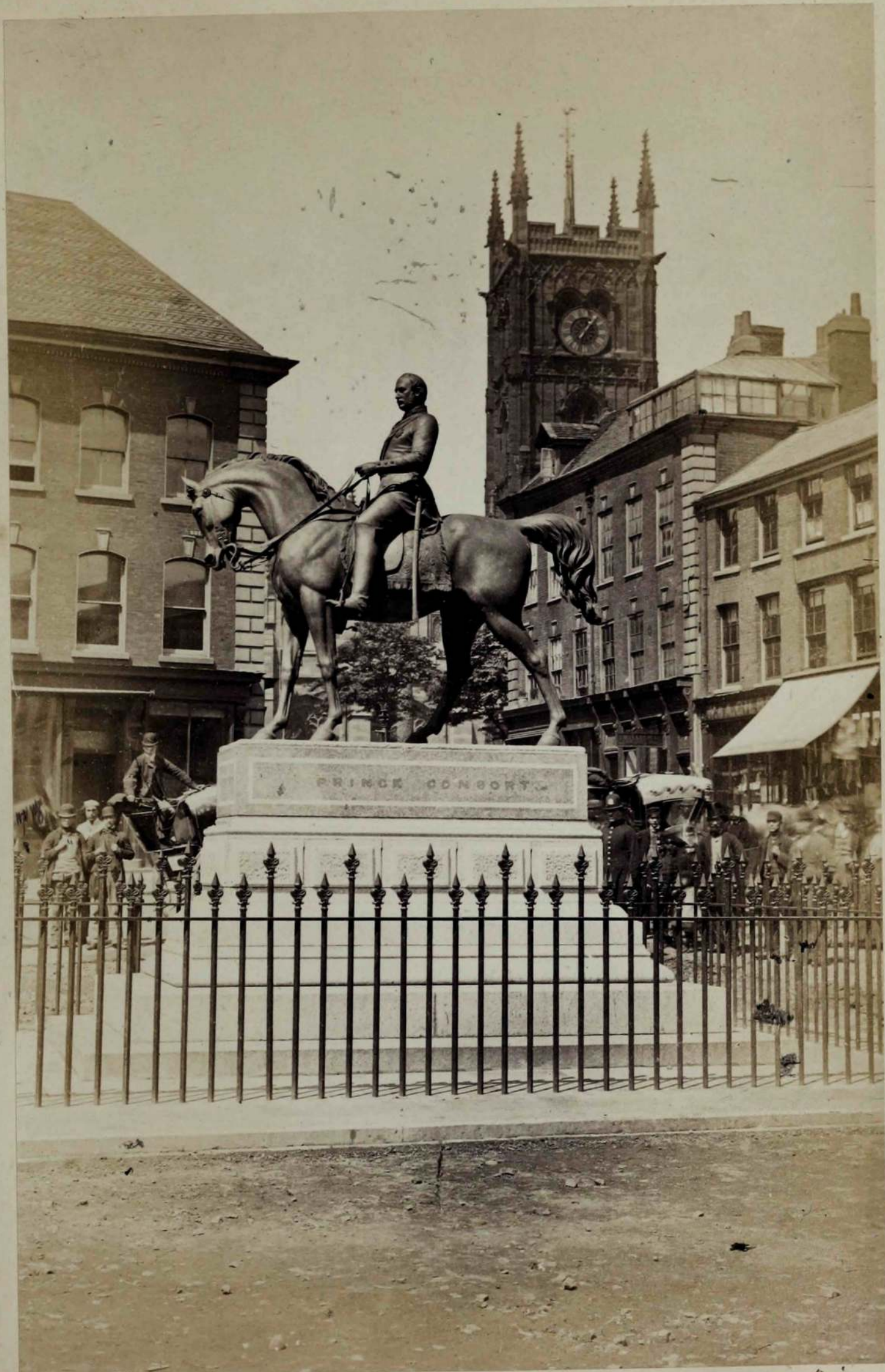


ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

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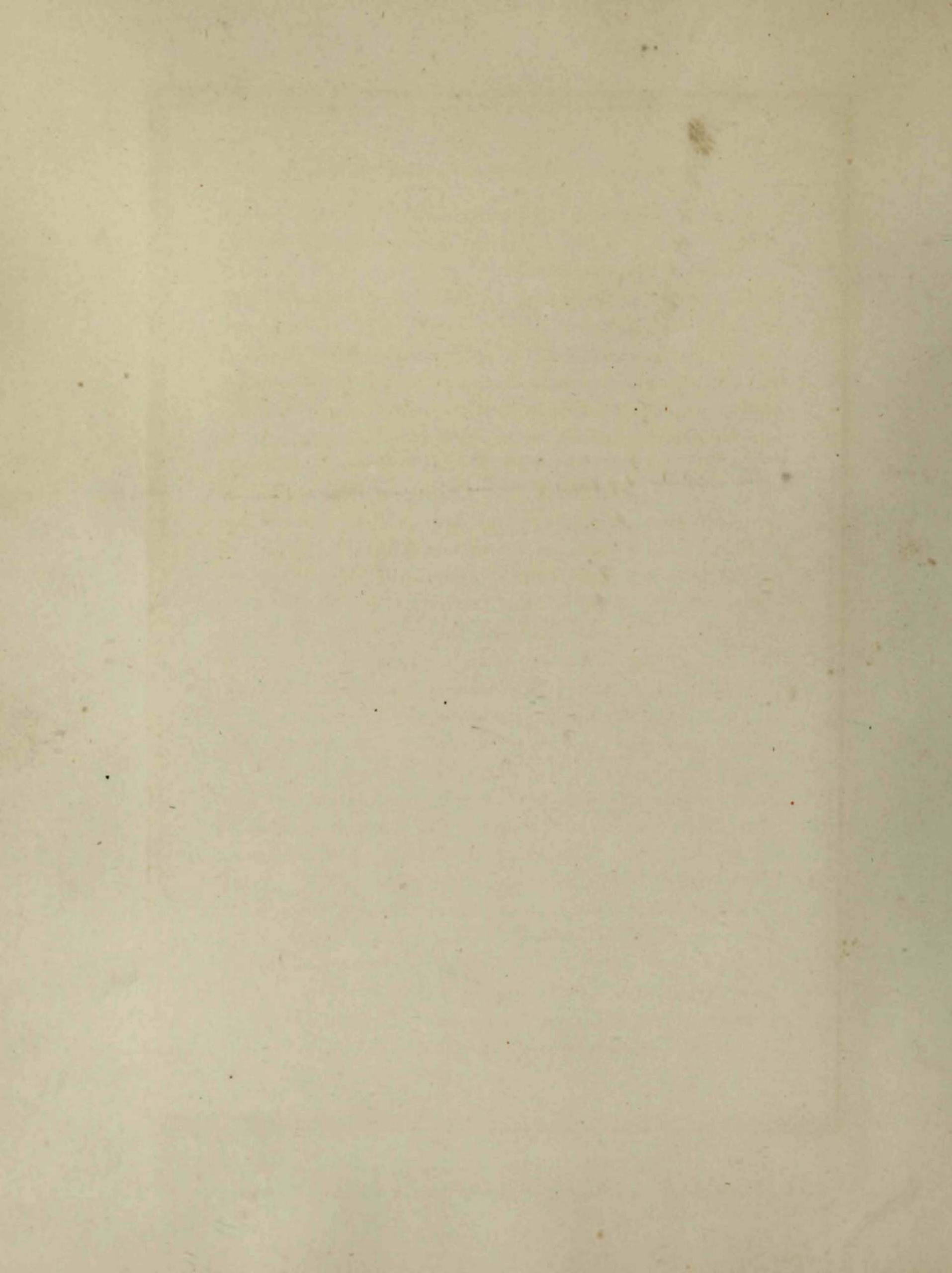


IN the death of the Prince Consort, steps were taken in Wolverhampton to erect a monument to his memory. Mr. Alderman Underhill was then Mayor, and he convened a meeting, attended by some of the leading gentlemen of the town, who agreed that a subscription should be raised to erect a memorial to the lamented Prince. The form of the memorial was a subject much discussed, and different opinions were expressed, but ultimately, in deference, we believe, to the expressed opinion of the Sovereign, it was decided that the Wolverhampton memorial should represent the late Prince Consort on horseback. The sculptor selected was Mr. Thornycroft, of London. For many months little was heard of the work, further than that it was progressing, but Mr. Underhill had by no means lost sight of it; his interest in the matter was unceasing, and he was always ready to afford information in answer to inquiries. To that gentleman the erection of the statue cost not only a large amount of personal trouble, but a considerable sum of money, he having had the granite pedestal put up at his own expense. It is due also to Alderman Hawksford, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, to say that he rendered Mr. Underhill, the Chairman, much assistance; in fact, at a meeting of the



R.W. Thrupp Photo.

Birney



#### ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

subscribers Alderman Underhill stated that the success of the work was in a great measure owing to the exertions of that gentleman.

The statue is in bronze, is about nine feet in height, or, with the pedestal, nearly sixteen feet. The Prince Consort is represented in the uniform of a Field Marshal, and the attitude chosen is that of returning the salutations of the people—the Prince at the moment, gently restraining his charger, which, with open mouth, appears to be champing and playing with his bit. It was a desire of Her Majesty that the Prince should be represented in military dress, although it was as a civilian that he was familiar to the view, as he was endeared to the hearts of the people. The Prince wears over the surtout the ribbon of the Order of the Garter, with the usual insignia; and the bold diagonal line thus presented from the shoulder to the waist forms a prominent element in the flow of the dress. Her Majesty visited Mr. Thornycroft's studio during the progress of the work, and to ensure exactness in the drapery of the figure, was graciously pleased to lend the sculptor the uniform worn by the Prince, as also the magnificent gold saddle cloth. The Prince's favourite charger was likewise placed by the Queen at the disposal of Mr. Thornycroft, who carefully studied the anatomy of the living animal. While preserving the contour of the noble charger, the muscles and tendons are brought out in minute detail. The pedestal is of grey Dartmoor granite, the upper portion polished, and has panels to receive the inscription. The statue was cast in bronze by Messrs. Elkington and Co., of Birmingham, from the model supplied by the sculptor.

ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

In August, 1866, the Granite Pedestal was erected, and in the following November the Statue arrived in Wolverhampton, and was placed in its position, and the subscribers were called together to consider the inauguration.

At that Meeting it was resolved:—

“That the Mayor of Wolverhampton be respectfully requested to convene a Meeting of the Corporation of Wolverhampton, to obtain its sanction for his inviting, in the name of the Corporation and people of the Borough, Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen to honour the Borough with her presence, at a time to be fixed by Her Majesty, on the occasion of the Inauguration of the Memorial Statue there erected in memory of His Royal Highness the late Prince Consort; and in the event of Her Majesty being unable, or declining to accept such invitation, to invite such member or members of Her Majesty’s Family as Her Majesty shall be pleased to represent Her on the occasion above referred to, and to add that, in the absence of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Princess Christian and the Prince (her husband) would receive a hearty welcome.”

A special meeting of the Council was held on Friday, November 16th, when it was unanimously resolved:—

“That the Resolution of the Subscribers to the Prince Albert Memorial now read, be received and entered on the minutes of this Council, and that the Mayor be respectfully requested to forward an invitation to Her Majesty the Queen in the substance of that Resolution.”

In order to ascertain the best mode of approaching the Queen, and, if necessary, the other Members of the Royal Family, on the subject, the Town Clerk communicated with the Borough Members, (The Right Hon. C. P. Villiers and T. M. Weguelin, Esq.,) forwarding to each of those gentlemen a copy of the Resolutions.

ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

On Tuesday, 20th November, a deputation consisting of the Mayor, Aldermen Underhill and Hawksford, and the Town Clerk, proceeded to London; they ascertained that a formal application to the Queen, through the Home Secretary, was requisite, and it was on that day prepared, signed by the Mayor, and lodged at the Home Office.

The deputation returned in the evening, leaving the Town Clerk in London, and on Wednesday Mr. Hayes was summoned to Buckingham Palace to have an interview with General Grey. He was accompanied thither by Mr. Villiers, and at the close of the interview telegraphed to the Mayor that the Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Christian, and the Princess Louise, would inaugurate the Statue on Friday, the 30th.

The news was made known in a few minutes throughout the town, by the peals of the Old Church Bells.

At five o'clock, a special meeting of the Town Council was held at the Town Hall, the Mayor presiding.

The Mayor (whose entrance, like that of Alderman Underhill, was the signal for loud cheering) said:—

“I need not remark that the joyous peals of our own bells have caused everyone present to feel the delight which every true-born Englishman would feel on such an occasion. [Applause.] We are aware that the most we hoped when we met last week was that Her Majesty would condescend to allow one of her Royal Family to attend the inauguration; but an old adage said that ‘whenever it rained it poured,’ and it seemed that the Queen had not only deigned to promise to come herself, but also to bring several of her family. [Cheers.] We have just cause to know that Her Majesty seriously entertained that step at the early part of the week; and the General Purposes Committee, which met on Monday morning, appointed a deputation to consult with the Lord Lieutenant of the county on the subject, which was done. Afterwards Aldermen Hawksford and Underhill, the Town Clerk, and myself went to London, for the purpose

#### ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

of ascertaining what the town might fairly hope. The result of that journey was that they had not the slightest doubt on Tuesday of what had been ratified that afternoon. [Renewed applause.] About twelve o'clock that morning he received a telegram from Mr. Hayes, the Town Clerk, who was left by the deputation in London on Tuesday. That message was as follows :—' I have received a telegram appointing for me to come to General Grey's room, at Buckingham Palace, at a quarter past twelve. I will telegraph the result.' [Applause.] All, I dare say, are anxious to hear the result of the interview. That result came in the following telegram, received from Mr. Hayes about four o'clock this afternoon :—' I have attended at Buckingham Palace, and am authorised to announce that the Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Christian, and Princess Louise, will herself inaugurate the statue erected to the memory of the late Prince Consort, on Friday, the 30th instant.' [Loud and prolonged applause.] We all have periods in our lives which are a source of great delight and pride to us ; but I am sure that when I anticipated many important events during my mayoralty, I had no expectation that I should have the distinguished honour of welcoming Her Majesty to Wolverhampton. [Cheers.] I am sure that you will all delight to do your utmost to make the visit a success, to give satisfaction to the Queen, and cause her no regret for the course she has taken, at the same time that they did honour to the town. [Renewed cheering.] Proceeding to business, their first course would be to organise committees to arrange for the commencement and completion of the various works that must at once be done. I will read you the names of the various gentlemen who have been appointed to serve on the respective committees ; but it must be understood that they have power to add to their number any gentleman in the town whose services were likely to be of any use to them. [Hear, hear.] I am a member of each committee, and move that the following gentlemen shall form the Reception, Allotment, Address, Correspondence, and Equipage Committee :—Aldermen Ironmonger, Underhill, Fowler, Hawksford, Ford, Smith ; Councillors Joseph Ford, Mander, Bantock, James Underhill, Matthews, Lewis, H. Underhill, (Clerk of the Peace.)' [Alderman Walker seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.] " And I move that the following shall form the Breakfast Committee :—Aldermen Hawksford and Ironmonger ; Councillors Mander, Smith, Weaver, Willcock, Sidney, Thurstans ; and that the Decorative Committee shall be as follows :—Alderman Hawksford ; Councillors Mander, Joseph Ford, Henry Lloyd, Thomas Lloyd, James Underhill, Willcock, Major and Turton. Works



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUE.

Committee :—Aldermen Mortiboy, J. Walker, and H. Langman ; Councillors T. Lloyd, H. Lloyd, Reeve, Hunter, Hill, Ashby, John Lees, Jones, Bagaley and Bantock.” [Both motions were carried without a dissentient.] “These committees, I think, will compose a sufficient nucleus for the development of the whole scheme.” [Hear, Hear.]

The following is a copy of a letter which was received by the Mayor from the Right Hon. S. H. Walpole, Secretary of State for the Home Department, conveying formal intimation of Her Majesty’s acceptance of the invitation to inaugurate the statue:—

“ WHITEHALL, November 22nd, 1866.

“ Sir,—I have had the honour of laying before the Queen the letter which you addressed to me, expressing the hope of the inhabitants of Wolverhampton that Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to inaugurate the Statue of the late Prince Consort, which has been erected in that town, and I have received the Queen’s commands to convey to you the satisfaction it gives Her Majesty to find herself able to comply with this request.

“ Her Majesty proposes to fix Friday, the 30th instant, for the ceremony, and to arrive at Wolverhampton between one and a quarter past one o’clock.

“ I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

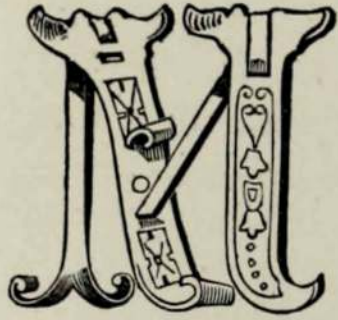
“ The Mayor of Wolverhampton.”

“ S. H. WALPOLE.”



PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

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ERRILY pealed the bells of the Old Church when it was announced that Her Majesty would come to inaugurate the Statue. On Wednesday afternoon, the 21st, the Town Clerk telegraphed to the Mayor, that the day for the ceremony was the 30th, leaving only an interval of eight days for making the necessary preparations. The work, however, was entered upon with enthusiasm, and the rapidity with which it was executed is astonishing. Every one engaged in it with an earnest goodwill, and with a determination to do everything in their power to exhibit their loyalty and personal affection to the Queen. The sentiment pervaded every class, high and low, rich and poor, one and all, and we may add that more especially were the poorer and working classes delighted when it became known that Her Majesty wished to take such a route as should not restrict her visit to appearing in the principal and the better streets of the town. In a few hours after the announcement of the intended visit, the busy hum of preparation commenced, and rapidly increased. Every man who could handle a pick, saw a board, or drive a nail, found employment, and never perhaps was a greater exemplification of the maxim that "Willing hearts and willing hands make light work," afforded. Night and day was the labour proceeded with,

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

and gas fitters, and professional decorators almost of themselves thronged the streets. All business except such as was connected with the ceremony was suspended. Looking to the whole of the arrangements, to their extent, to the very short time in which they were devised and completed, we may truly say that wonders were effected. Many hundreds of houses underwent most extensive transformations, their fronts being encased with galleries, trimmed with cloth of the brightest colours, while festoons and wreaths were also displayed with profusion. Indeed, it seemed as if some great magician, or rather a band of great magicians had united their efforts to bring about a wonderful transformation. And

\* \* \* \* in the air  
A thousand streamers flaunted fair ;  
Various in shape, device, and hue,  
Green, sanguine, purple, red, and blue,  
Broad, narrow, swallow-tailed, and square,  
Scroll, pennon, pencil, bandrol, there  
O'er the pavilions flew.  
Highest and midmost was descried,  
The Royal banner floating wide.

There was not, unfortunately, any point of view from which a *coup d'œil* of the whole of the spectacle could be obtained ; but viewed from one or two positions, it appeared as if lines of flags and decorations rayed forth to almost every extremity of the town, as from a centre, or more properly speaking, converged towards the High Green, for that was the nucleus of adornment, with a profusion that, like the innermost leaves of a rose, hid the appearance of anything else. The arrangements and preparations for the visit were conducted by com-

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

mittees of the Town Council (whose names have already been published) aided by various local gentlemen, including Mr. Bidlake, Architect, whose services in connection with the decorations carried out at the public expense were of great value.

If any one who had been absent from the town for a few days had returned on Friday he would scarcely have believed that he was in Wolverhampton, so great was the change which had been wrought in so short a space of time by the aid of decoration. The Town Council, through its decoration committee, formed only a few days previously, had done much in adorning the principal streets included in the route of procession, and the inhabitants had exhibited a thoroughly liberal spirit and exerted the most commendable efforts in the same direction. What might be called the minor in point of individual size, but so far as regards multitude and effect, the major decorations, showed an expenditure of wealth, skill, taste, and labour on the part both of the Borough authorities and its private citizens, which spoke with startling emphasis of the general appreciation of the Royal visit. Only the following streets of the route were decorated at the public expense:—Railway Street, Cleveland Street, Salop Street, Darlington Street, and Waterloo Road. The main features of these decorations consisted in the erection of long slender whitened poles along each side of the streets, and from the top of each of which floated a banneret, surmounted by a gilded spear-head. Attached to the upper part of the poles along the whole length of the streets there ran festoons of evergreens and paper flowers of varied hues. The appear-

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

ance was pleasing, and was heightened by the abundance of flags and banners across the streets and pendant from windows. This abundance of flags and banners formed the chief and most ample adornment of the other streets upon the route, the decorations of which had been left to the enterprise of their inhabitants. More than six miles of festoons were made, consuming upwards of forty loads of evergreens, kindly given by the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the neighbourhood; these festoons were made by Mr. Richard Lowe, under whose superintendence upwards of one hundred and thirty men and women were employed for the purpose.

Multitudinous flags and banners waved gaily with the passing breeze. The general decoration of Cock Street, (since named Victoria Street), was marked by a harmoniousness of design which none other presented; and the effect was heightened by the abundance of striking designs for transparencies and illuminations along the fronts of the houses.

Three places, however, deserve special notice—High Green, Dudley Street, and Queen Street. In the first, the very centre of the day's proceedings, great taste had been shown. The shops were decorated with banners and devices, and the Queen could not fail to read "God bless the Queen," "Albert the Good," "The Silent Father of Our Kings to be." The Swan Hotel bore the royal arms, and a fine display of banner trophies, and the Wolverhampton Bank, though out of view, was very handsomely decorated. In Dudley Street the ornamentations were most profuse. "God Save the Queen" in front of the premises of Mr. G. L. Underhill, inscribed

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

in white letters on a crimson ground, was most effective, and was visible as the procession advanced up Queen Street, a brilliant star of great size being placed above. Along the street enormous banners, festoons, masses of evergreens and flowers, and other decorations made the street a perfect fairy bower. The most striking features in Queen Street were the County Court and the Post Office. The former is well adapted for decoration. High above floated the Union Jack, beneath it and encircling a monstrous V was a trophy of varied flags, whilst "Albert," in large letters and semi-mourning, was stretched beneath. Spiral festoons of evergreens and flowers were twined round the columns, and others gracefully pendant stretched across the front. Below the balcony "Welcome," with the word "Victoria" on each side, was inscribed in letters of two feet six inches, in bright blue and yellow margin, on white ground, and V's and monograms filled up the other spaces. The Post Office was in similar style, on a less scale, but perhaps more satisfactory as a complete piece of decoration. The whole street looked very elegant, and amongst the hundred devices for the illumination, were some splendid stars in prismatic glass.

The first of the series of triumphal arches was erected at the entrance of the drive across the Great Western Railway Station, and was composed of coal, with designs in colliers' tools, characteristic of the trade of the neighbourhood. Some of the blocks were of immense size—weighing nearly three tons—and excited the wonder how such masses could be raised from their deep beds and placed in such an imposing, if not attractive,

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

position entire. Near the arch was a pyramid composed of the same material, the whole mass weighing about eighty tons, and which was forwarded to the Decorative Committee by Mr. Smith, agent to Earl Dudley.

Passing from the coal arch we come to the London and North-Western Railway Bridge, relieved by the bright and lively aspect of evergreens and artificial flowers, arranged in a very tasteful manner, and presenting a pleasing appearance. Over the large central arch was the word "Welcome," in flowers; and over the side arches were medallion portraits of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The Royal Arms were also displayed over the central arch, the Danish flag being beneath; and on either side were four Italian bannerets, the side arches being surmounted by trophies of flags. The reverse of the arch bore the same appearance with the exception that the motto was "Long live the Queen." Proceeding up Railway Street, Queen Street, and Dudley Street, to Snow Hill, down Cleveland Street and Salop Street, the next arch was at the bottom of Darlington Street, and was one of architectural design, in the Italian style, with three spans, those crossing the footpaths being supported on each side by double columns, with gilded capitals. Over the central arch was the motto "Long live the Queen," while beneath were the Royal and Borough Arms surrounded by the Royal Standard, having the Standards of England and Denmark right and left with a cluster of flags.

The next arch was the Trades Trophy, in School Street, it consisted of three arches, the centre and larger one spanning the road, and two smaller arches over

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

the footpaths. As indicated by its name, the arch was covered with the various hardware articles manufactured in the town. The bases of the columns were made of iron tubing, from the works of Mr. Brotherton; above these were a number of edge tools from Messrs. Perks'; higher still were a number of domestic hardware goods arranged in neat order, the top consisting of japanned goods, from the Old Hall Works and Messrs. Loveridge's. The corners and edges of the trophy were composed of stout three-inch cable, from the works of Messrs. Ironmonger. Over the centre arch were the words "Welcome to the Queen," and over the side arch the word "Manufacture." The whole were surmounted with evergreens, flowers, flags and banners. In the Waterloo Road was an arch of mingled architectural and floral design, of graceful structure; the centre space was crowned with the Borough Arms, having on each side the arms of the Earls of Lichfield, Dartmouth, Bradford, and Dudley, Lord Wrottesley, and the arms of the Giffards, all noble families associated with the neighbourhood. Over each side arch were the initials "V R," with flags and bannerets at the top.

At an early hour on Friday morning, the streets were crowded beyond the extent to which the population of Wolverhampton could have filled them. Throughout the early morning and forenoon, trains from every part of the "black country," from the whole of the Potteries district, from Birmingham, Worcester, Stafford, and other still more distant places, were pouring thousands of visitors into the town. Hosts of the working classes took possession of the thoroughfares. With them came



#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

hundreds who sought such vantage ground as the stands and platforms provided. With these again came scores of carriages of all varieties of structure and description from the rural districts, bringing country squires, clergymen, and rustics to take part in the rare demonstration which made Friday a red letter day. All classes known to the Midland Counties—the agricultural, the artizan, the trading, and the intellectual, were represented in the crowd, a good tempered, but often unruly crowd enough; and every element was visible that could contribute to a portraiture in little of the complex community of the district, which Her Majesty was about to honour with Her first public appearance since the sad bereavement that has made Her shrink too long from the demonstrative admiration of Her loyal subjects.

There was but little in the state of the atmosphere to lead the populace to plume itself on a day of what has long been called "Queen's Weather." The morning was cold and sharp; the air misty, and now and again drops of moisture, dripping on the pavements, seemed to threaten a wet day. Closed shops, the absence of ordinary business, the universal holiday which had been proclaimed and accepted, left only one subject of conversation. The Queen and her two fair daughters, whom the inhabitants of these Midland districts had scarcely seen before, formed the common topic of discourse. The general excitement was augmented by the continuous arrivals of volunteer troops. Each company had its own special admirers, who cheered it in its progress through the streets; and each seemed to have its own particular

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ROYAL VISIT.

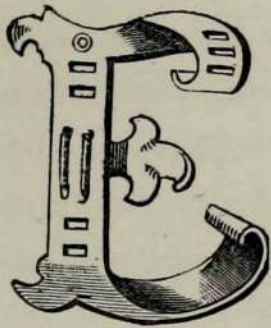
band, that played its own particular tunes, till the town resounded with the cheerful but discordant music.

It was late before the police, assisted by the volunteers, proceeded to clear the barriers and to make plain the route along which the Royal Procession was to pass; and when they did so their task was comparatively easy. Owing to the great extent of streets over which the route extended, there was, at one point or another, on the pavements, on the platforms, at shop windows and house windows, on carts and in doorways, ample room for all who wished to see comfortably what there might be to see; and for the better part of an hour before the Royal Standard on the tower of the Collegiate Church signalled the arrival of the Royal train, the people were in their places and waiting the coming of the Procession.



## THE ROUTE OF THE PROCESSION.

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NDEAVOURING to give the reader some idea of the nature of the route traversed by the Queen, we would recall the fact that the town stands on a long hill, and from the level of the Great Western rails to St. Peter's Churchyard, close to the statue, is a height of no less than seventy-five feet, whilst from the same level to the bottom of Darlington Street, right in front of the statue, and up which the procession had to climb, is a length of some five hundred yards. The ascent is ninety feet. Hence, the Queen starting from the Low Level on the eastern side, had to wind upwards by a circuitous route until she entered Queen Street, then with a slight rise up Snow Hill had to go downwards to the bottom of Salop Street, to a lower level than that from which she started, and up thence to the statue, back down the High Green with a turn to the left down Cock Street, and by other right angles into Skinner Street, and School Street, thence straight for some three-quarters of a mile, to the junction of the Stafford Road, and then up again to Queen Street, by Stafford Street, again to descend by Railway Street, and the Wednesfield Road to the Low Level Station. This may give an idea of the route of four miles.

Along the whole length strong barricades were fixed about three feet high between the footpaths and the road-

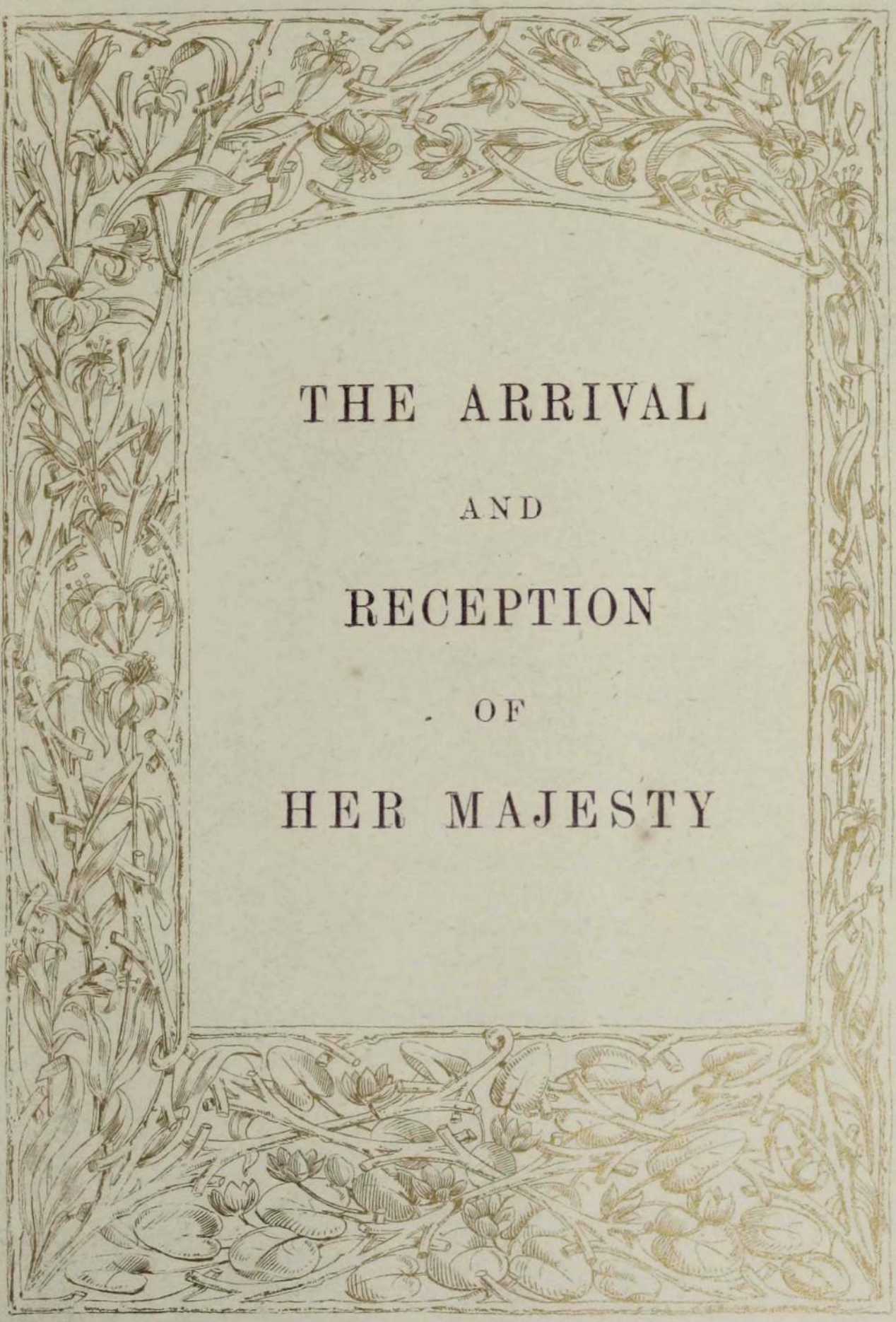
#### THE ROUTE OF THE PROCESSION.

way. Where the width of the route would admit of it, as on Snow Hill and in one or two other wide streets, a considerable portion of the carriage-way was left for the occupation of the public, and a moderate calculation gives spaces thus freely allotted to spectators, capable of holding a quarter of a million persons. In addition, upon every open space along the route stands, platforms, and galleries were erected by the proprietors or by enterprising speculators who hoped, and did not hope in vain, to secure a large profit out of the public curiosity.



THE ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY

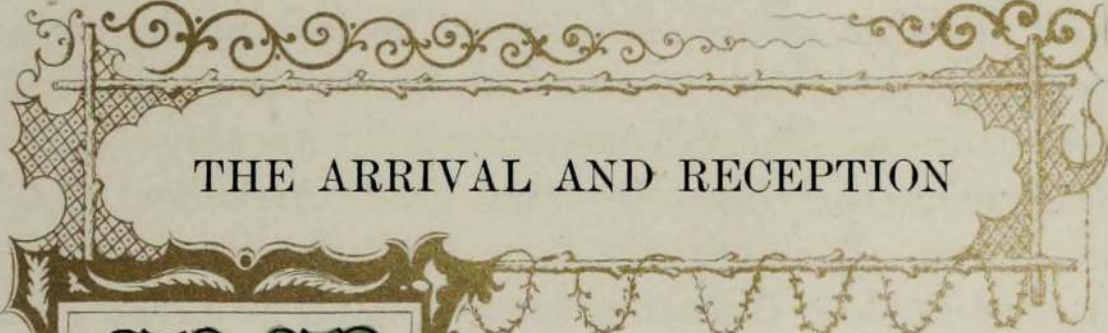


A decorative border in a light brown or gold color, featuring intricate floral and leaf patterns. The border is rectangular with an arched top and a slightly irregular bottom edge, framing the central text. The floral motifs include various flowers, leaves, and stems, creating a dense and detailed design.


THE ARRIVAL  
AND  
RECEPTION  
OF  
HER MAJESTY







## THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION



H

ER MAJESTY, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, and their suite, arrived at the Great Western Station from Windsor, shortly before ten o'clock a.m., Lord Derby being in attendance. Here they were received by the Chairman of the Great Western Railway, Sir D. Gooch, Captain Bulkeley, one of the Directors, and Mr. Grierson, the General Manager of the Line, who accompanied the

party to and from their destination. The locomotive in use was the "Lord of the Isles," which was shown in the Exhibition of 1851.

The scene presented at the Low Level Station at Wolverhampton was a brilliant one. This station being one of the largest in England, and entirely covered in by an iron and glass roof of imposing proportions, is well adapted to the purposes of a reception becoming the dignity of royalty. Profuse decorations covered

#### THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION.

every portion of the interior. The task of decorating the edifice had been intrusted to Mr. Lovatt, builder and contractor, of Wolverhampton, who was ably assisted with suggestive hints by Mr. Veall, Architect, of the same town. For the purposes of decoration the Admiralty supplied no less than two hundred and fifty flags, and liberal loans of the same gay emblems were made by the Inman Steamship Company, Liverpool, the Great Eastern Steamship Company, and others. These, artistically arranged, filled the station from floor to roof with a blaze of colour, the effect of which was heightened by rich broad festoons of evergreens, picked out with artificial flowers, and sweeping from column to column, and from beam to beam, trailing up the walls and passing over the heads of doorways. More than two miles of festoons were made in three days for this purpose. The choicest elements in the decorations were, however, the exquisite plants contributed by the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, Miss Hincks, Mr. Lowe, of Wolverhampton, (who supplied nearly one thousand plants) and Mr. Langley, of Castlecroft. Especially striking were the fruit-bearing orange trees, chrysanthemums, camelias, and other flowering plants, sent by Lord Stamford, which were displayed between the windows of the long range of offices and waiting rooms converted for the occasion into dining and waiting rooms for the Royal party. The floor of the platform was covered with crimson carpeting, and amongst the most striking items of detail were the presence, in every direction, of sententious expressions of loyalty and welcome. Along the parapet of the bridge over the down line were the words "Albert

#### THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION.

the Good." At the south end of the platform was a gallery capable of accommodating nearly three hundred persons. Ample provision was also made on the platform for the Guard of Honour of Her Majesty—a detachment of the 39th Foot—and for the band of the 11th Hussars, a troop of which escorted the Queen through the town.

The exterior of the station was also very tastefully decorated; a large platform was erected, and a supplementary gallery was reared for the accommodation of school children.

An adequate suite of rooms for the reception of the Royal party was obtained. Accommodation for the attendants was provided in the rooms surrounding the central booking office. The whole of the rooms were re-papered, and were furnished with great elegance. Major Thorneycroft and Mr. Hartley sent tables, chairs, and carpet from Tong Castle, for the Queen's dining room. The plate and glass were lent by Lord Stamford, Mrs. Thorneycroft, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Corser, and Mrs. H. H. Fowler; and a Committee of Ladies, consisting of the Mayoress, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Mander, Mrs. H. H. Fowler, and Mrs. Hayes, kindly superintended the preparation of the Queen's rooms. Furniture was also lent by the principal upholsterers and tradesmen. The floral decoration of the room was undertaken by Lord Stamford's gardener. Mr. Sidney Cartwright furnished a collection of pictures for Her Majesty's dining and retiring rooms, and Mr. Lawrence, of Queen Street, lent a collection which were hung in the dining room of the Lords and Ladies in Waiting.

#### THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION.

In passing from the carriage to the reception rooms Her Majesty walked through lines of plants from all parts of the globe, interspersed with long graceful reeds of Pampas grass waving above the shrubs, and producing an effect as novel as it was beautiful.

By twelve o'clock nearly every seat on the platform and in the gallery was occupied by a fashionably dressed company. Probably the first official personage to arrive was the Earl of Lichfield, the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, who wore the scarlet and gold uniform of his office. His Lordship was soon joined by Colonel Lord Bagot, Colonel Lord Hatherton, Colonel Charles Bagot, the Mayor of Wolverhampton (J. Morris, Esq.), in his official robes; the Recorder of Wolverhampton (J. J. Powell, Esq., Q.C.); the Borough Members (the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, in the uniform of one of Her Majesty's Privy Councillors, and T. M. Weguelin, Esq., in the scarlet uniform of a Deputy-Lieutenant); the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, the Ven. Archdeacon Moore, the Mayor's Chaplain (the Rev. A. B. Gould), the Town Clerk (Mr. E. J. Hayes), the Clerk of the Peace (Mr. H. Underhill), the Mover and Seconder of the Address (Alderman Ironmonger and Alderman Fowler), the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Memorial Committee (Alderman G. L. Underhill and Alderman Hawksford), all in court dress, the General Commanding the District (Sir John Garvoek), &c.

At eight minutes past one o'clock the company were put on the *qui vive* by the signalled approach of the Royal train, which in a few seconds steamed slowly into the station. Her Majesty, who was dressed in mourning,



*R. W. Thrupp Photo. New St. Birmingham.*

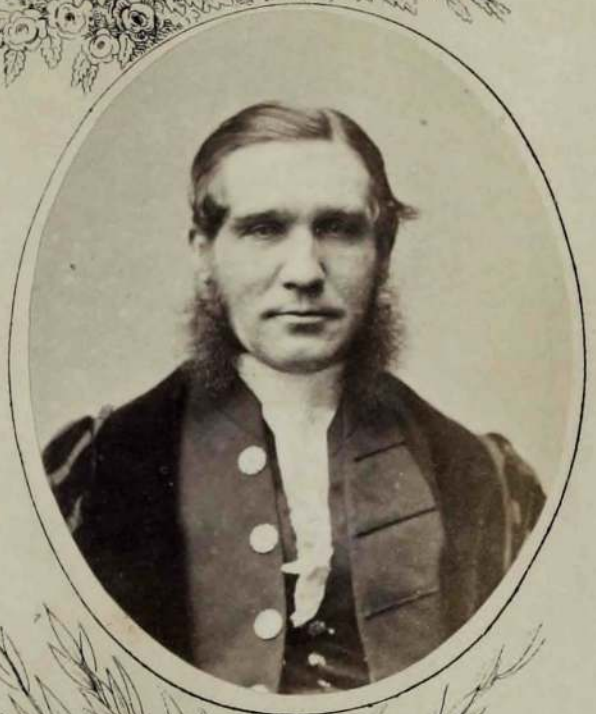
*Sir John Morris, Knight, Mayor.*

*E. J. Hayes, Esq., Town Clerk.*

*Henry Underhill, Esq., Clerk of the Peace.*

*J. J. Powell, Q.C., Recorder.*





*R. W. Thrapp Photo. New St. Birmingham.*

*Alderman G. L. Underhill.*

*Alderman Ironmonger.*

*Alderman Fowler.*

*Alderman Hawksford.*





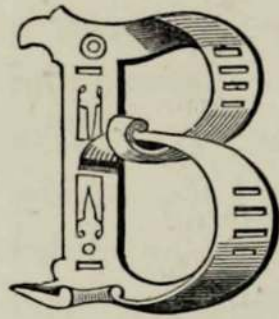
#### THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION.

trimmed with crape and edged with sable, with black bonnet and beneath it a white Marie Stuart cap, appeared to be in excellent health, and on alighting was received with deafening cheers, again and again repeated. By preconcerted signals, at almost the same moment, a royal salute was fired by the Artillery Volunteers, and the bells of St. Peter's clanged right merrily. The Guard of Honour presented arms, and the band of the Hussars struck up the National Anthem. The Lord Lieutenant presented the Mayor to Her Majesty, who advancing, greeted with a kiss the Countess of Lichfield and Lady Waterpark. Lady Lichfield presented the Mayoress to Her Majesty, who graciously accepted from Mrs. Morris a splendid bouquet consisting of the choicest exotics.\* Her Majesty was accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, and Princess Louise. The suite consisted of the Countess of Caledon, Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty; Lady Susan Melville, Lady in Waiting to Her Royal Highness Princess Christian; the Honourable Flora Macdonald, Maid of Honour; Lord Crofton, Lord in Waiting; Lieutenant-General the Hon. C. Grey, Major-General Sir Thomas M. Biddulph, K.C.B., Lord Alfred Paget, (Clerk Marshal), and Lieutenant Colonel G. Gordon, Equerry in Waiting to His Royal Highness Prince Christian. The Earl of Derby was in attendance upon Her Majesty.

\* Orchids, white roses, camellias, hyacinths, gardenias, ericas, epacris, jasmine grandiflora, rhynchospernum, myrtles, ferns, &c., &c.; from the establishment of Mr. Lowe. The bouquet was surrounded with deep blonde lace, and placed in an elegant silver holder, provided by the Mayoress.

THE ROYAL PROGRESS TO THE PAVILION.

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BEFORE one o'clock the royal carriages, sent down specially from Windsor for the occasion, arrived at the Station, and for a time became the centre of interest. The platforms, near the entrance to the station, were brilliant as much with the lively anticipation of coming pleasure depicted on the countenances of the occupants, as with the parti-coloured silks and other fabrics that composed their attire.

The first of the Royal carriages having drawn up at the entrance to the station, Lord Crofton (the Lord-in-waiting on Her Majesty), Sir Thomas Biddulph, and Col. Gordon took their seats. The second carriage then drew up and the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, K.G., in the Windsor uniform, wearing the star and ribbon of the Garter, assisted into the carriage the three ladies-in-waiting—Countess of Caledon, the Hon. Flora Macdonald, and Lady Susan Melville—and the carriage made way for the third. The Queen's carriage stood at the doors some seconds, during which the populace seemed to hold their breath, in readiness for a lusty cheer of greeting, which broke forth as soon as Her Majesty was seen. She was followed by Prince Christian (who wore the uniform of a general-officer), Princess Christian, and Princess Louise. Successively they were loudly cheered and acknowledged the tokens of loyalty and esteem thus given, in the usual way.

#### THE ROYAL PROGRESS TO THE PAVILION.

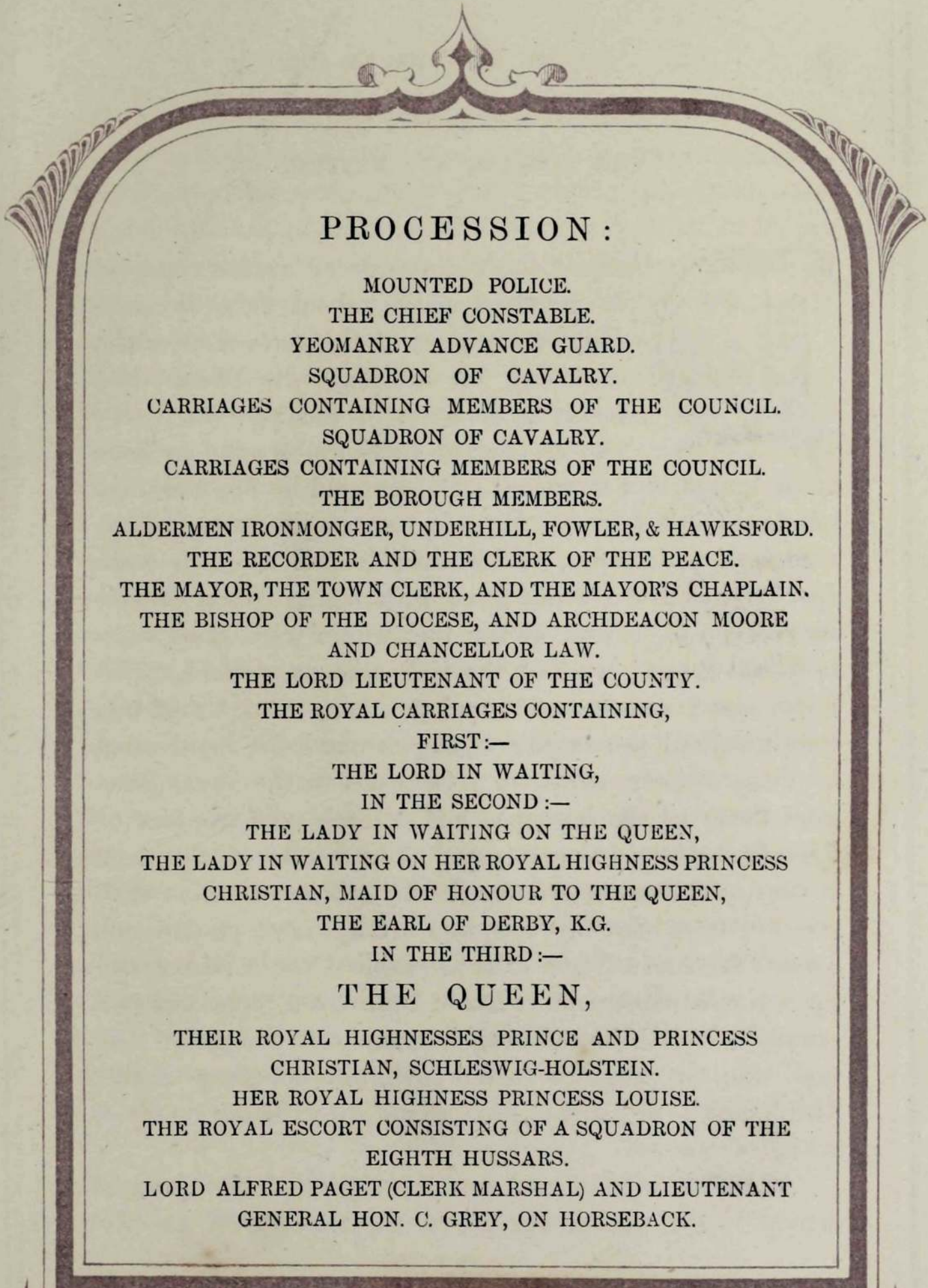
From the Station to the Pavilion in High Green, the vocal demonstrations of delight on the part of the populace, and the bowing of the occupants of the Queen's carriage, never ceased. Sometimes, where the crowd was denser, the cheering swelled into a roar, and everywhere without interruption, the people shouted "Welcome!" to the Queen, and the Queen and the Princesses silently thanked the people in return.

The bands of volunteers in the vicinity of the Great Western Station, at the Mitre Inn, Cleveland Street, and elsewhere, played the National Anthem with one accord, and the troops, regular and volunteer, presented arms along the whole route. The unanimity of sentiment exhibited in the applause of the crowd, the uniformity of the progress, which was almost devoid of everything that can be called incident, the well-kept barriers, the people orderly, and the police and soldiery good-humoured, made the progress from the Railway Station well-conducted and pleasant.

Her Majesty's attention seemed to be attracted first by the coal-arch on the Wednesfield Road: the quaint appropriateness of which could scarcely fail to commend itself to her mind. At the corner of Canal Street, where the junction of two thoroughfares affords a large space for the gathering of a crowd, a dense mass of people greeted the Queen with the heartiest cheer uttered up to this point; and the marked acknowledgment they received in response satisfied every delighted spectator that his applause had gone home to his Sovereign's heart. The grand demonstration was in Queen Street; this street was by far the most handsome scene of the whole

THE ROYAL PROGRESS TO THE PAVILION.

drama. Not only were the festoons of banners and flags arranged with great taste, and the temporary erections for the convenience of sight-seers constructed with some regard to the general architectural character of the street, but the windows, doorways, and roofs of houses, the platforms, stands and galleries, were crowded with well-dressed and happy-looking people in thousands; while from end to end the pavements were packed as densely as it is possible to pack human beings. The whole formed a spectacle of the most striking, and not least exhilarating kind. The eyes of the people beamed with pleasure; their hearty cheers told honestly their unrestrained delight; and, until Queen Street was passed, Her Majesty and her daughters were occupied incessantly in the laborious, but apparently not unwelcome duty, of bowing their appreciation of the respect thus demonstrated. From this point to High Green, through Dudley Street, Snow Hill, Cleveland Street, Salop Street, and Darlington Street, the exhibition of popular delight was maintained with equal spirit; and the applause of the crowds that lined those thoroughfares, and filled the houses on either side, was an appropriate prelude to the chorus of cheers which welcomed the Royal party upon its arrival, about a quarter before two o'clock, in sight of the grand Pavilion in High Green, in the following order of



PROCESSION :

MOUNTED POLICE.

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE.

YEOMANRY ADVANCE GUARD.

SQUADRON OF CAVALRY.

CARRIAGES CONTAINING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

SQUADRON OF CAVALRY.

CARRIAGES CONTAINING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

THE BOROUGH MEMBERS.

ALDERMEN IRONMONGER, UNDERHILL, FOWLER, & HAWKSFORD.

THE RECORDER AND THE CLERK OF THE PEACE.

THE MAYOR, THE TOWN CLERK, AND THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN.

THE BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE, AND ARCHDEACON MOORE

AND CHANCELLOR LAW.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY.

THE ROYAL CARRIAGES CONTAINING,

FIRST:—

THE LORD IN WAITING,

IN THE SECOND:—

THE LADY IN WAITING ON THE QUEEN,

THE LADY IN WAITING ON HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS

CHRISTIAN, MAID OF HONOUR TO THE QUEEN,

THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

IN THE THIRD:—

THE QUEEN,

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE AND PRINCESS

CHRISTIAN, SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

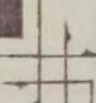
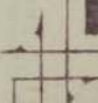
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS LOUISE.

THE ROYAL ESCORT CONSISTING OF A SQUADRON OF THE

EIGHTH HUSSARS.

LORD ALFRED PAGET (CLERK MARSHAL) AND LIEUTENANT

GENERAL HON. C. GREY, ON HORSEBACK.



## THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

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**D**URING the occurrence of events recorded in previous pages, about two thousand fortunate holders of tickets to witness the ceremony of unveiling the Statue, had taken their seats in the pavilion; this was an elegant structure, erected in front of the statue, and furnished and decorated by Mr. Banting, the Court upholsterer. Its sides were open, except from the crimson drapings, which were looped up with wide openings, and the white roses with which it was decked on every side, except at the top, where pink roses were adopted, showed well on the rich crimson ground. The royal crown which surmounted the dome-shaped roof was very fine, and the trophy of flags around the royal arms in front equally effective. Opposite to the royal arms were those of the borough, and at each pole trophies of flags looked exceedingly gay. The whole of the floor around the statue was covered with crimson cloth, and it was hid from view by a square arrangement of national colours fixed on a frame so as to enable them to be lowered by a single movement. Down Darlington Street the eye caught a long succession of festoons and banners. On each side the entrance to the pavilion a company of the Thirty-ninth Regiment, from Manchester, drew up as a guard of honour.

At a few minutes past one the signal of the Queen's arrival at the station was given, the bells of St. Peter's

#### THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

struck up a joyous peal, and the spectators raised a hearty cheer. Expectation was now getting to fever heat, the guard presented arms, and every mounted policeman who passed was looked upon as the first of the van guard of the procession. Soon the Staffordshire Yeomanry, which was represented by the Wolverhampton, Himley, Walsall, and Lichfield troops, and under the command of Colonel Lord Bagot and Major Thorneycroft, was seen ascending Darlington Street, and the cheers of the spectators caught the ear. At forty minutes past one they reached the back of the pavilion, and the members of the Town Council in their robes soon took their places in the pavilion to the left of the throne; whilst the Bishop, took up a place to the right of the throne, as did the members for the borough, the Recorder, the Mayor's Chaplain, the Town Clerk, the Clerk of the Peace, and Aldermen Ironmonger, Underhill, Fowler and Hawksford. The Lord-Lieutenant and the Countess of Lichfield, the Earl of Derby, General Grey, Major-General Sir Thomas Biddulph, K.C.B., the Ladies-in-Waiting and Maid of Honour to the Queen, Lord Alfred Paget (Clerk Marshal), &c., occupied the pavilion, and all was excitement when the royal carriage stopped and Her Majesty alighted, with Prince and Princess Christian, and Princess Louise. The Spectators rose and cheered with great enthusiasm, and Her Majesty advanced and bowed again and again, many, many times with an *empressement* of courtesy, and a gratified look that could leave no doubt how highly she appreciated the reception awarded to her. The band played "God Save the Queen," and again and again were the plaudits

#### THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

renewed, and ever as they were did Her Majesty bow her acknowledgments. The Queen carried a beautiful bouquet; Princess Christian wore a dress of alternate stripes of blue and black, and Princess Louise wore a light puce dress with brown stripes, and each carried an elegant bouquet. The Princesses and the Prince stood to the left of the Queen.

When all had taken their places and order was restored, the Bishop of Lichfield offered up the following

### PRAYER:

“Almighty God, who has taught us in Thy Holy Word that the memory of the just is blessed, grant, we beseech Thee, that the memorial of Thy departed servant now set up in this place, may be a remembrance of him for good to us and to those who shall come after us. We pray Thee that as he served his generation according to Thy will, not giving himself up to idleness or self-indulgence, but employing his great abilities and the opportunities of his high station in promoting the true welfare of all classes of people in this the land of his adoption, so the example of his unblemished and noble character, and of his virtuous, active, and beneficent life may stir up many to seek Thy glory and the good of their fellow-creatures in the several stations to which Thy providence has called him.

“We heartily thank Thee for the bright promise of light which through that honoured Prince Thou hast



THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

been pleased to bestow upon this nation. We bow humbly before the inscrutable wisdom by which it was ordered that his sun should go down while it was yet day with him. We earnestly pray that both by Thy mercies and Thy judgments we may be drawn nearer to Thee, and led to walk more and more in Thy faith and fear.

“We beseech Thee, O Lord, to pour upon our most gracious Queen, and upon all her family, the continual dew of Thy blessing. Give her that peace and those consolations which Thou alone canst give; and make her strong in Thy strength and happy in Thy favour. Endue her councillors with faithfulness and wisdom; preserve her long to rule over a grateful people; and grant that there may never be wanting in her House one to sit upon the throne of this kingdom and to rule after her example. All which we beg in the name and through the mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

The Bishop proceeded to repeat the Lord's Prayer, in which the assembly fervently united.

The Recorder then read the following Address which he had prepared, and which was beautifully illuminated and impressed with the Corporate Seal.

TO THE  
QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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**M**

AY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.—  
Your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Wolverhampton, crave permission to offer to your Majesty their humble thanks for your Majesty's gracious condescension in thus honouring this Borough with your Royal Presence.

“The inhabitants of the surrounding districts of every class and degree—unequal in their fortunes, but equals in their loyalty—also assemble here to-day to present their homage to your Majesty, our beloved and gracious Sovereign.

“Inspired by feelings of profound devotion to your Majesty's person, family, and throne, we presume to approach your Majesty, and each and all of us most heartily bid your Majesty—Welcome!

“We ask your Majesty's permission to welcome also their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Christian, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, whose affectionate and dutiful attendance on your Majesty has obtained for us the distinguished honour of the Presence of their Royal Highnesses.

“We pray that your Majesty will deign to honour with your gracious approval our earnest, though inadequate, attempt to testify our devotion to the memory of our late revered Prince, your Majesty's beloved and lamented Consort. We desire to-day, and in this place, to acknow-

ledge and commemorate the debt of gratitude we owe to His Royal Highness. Dwelling in a district of your Majesty's dominions where the resources of Science are constantly required to develop the productions of nature and adapt them for the use and benefit of man ; where Art is ever striving to add grace and beauty to material form, and where the necessities of a vast industrial population demand incessant efforts to ameliorate their physical condition, to educate their minds, and to teach them moral and religious truth, we have felt it to be our duty, as it has been our delight, to erect this Statue of His Royal Highness, and thereby transmit to posterity a faithful representation of that Illustrious Prince who, promoting Science by his judicious patronage, and Art by his enlightened precepts, also incited all men to all works of Christian duty by the force of his beneficent example.

“ We now humbly pray your Majesty to unveil this Statue, that henceforth your Majesty's loving subjects in this place may have ever present among them the image of the good Prince Consort, who, although prematurely taken away from us, still lives, and will ever live, in the imperishable remembrance of His virtues.

“ May God preserve your Majesty, and send your Majesty health, peace, and consolation.

“ Given under the Corporate Seal of the Borough of Wolverhampton, this 30th day of November, 1866.



“ JOHN MORRIS, MAYOR.

“ E. J. HAYES, TOWN CLERK.”

#### THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

The Address having been read by the Recorder, was handed by the Mayor to Her Majesty, which she was graciously pleased to accept.

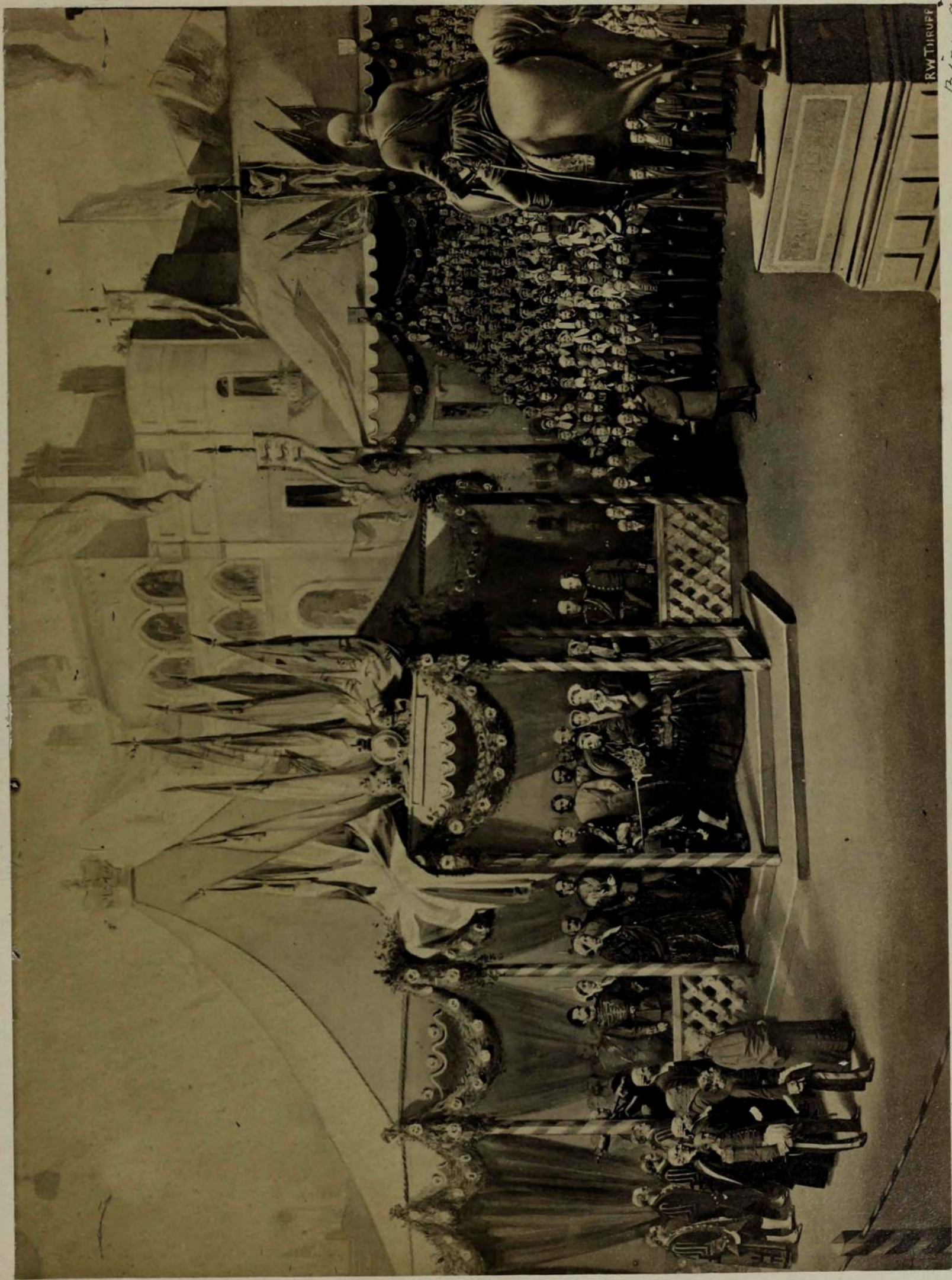
His worship was then standing to the Queen's right, and Her Majesty turning, spoke to the Earl of Derby, who communicated to the Mayor Her Majesty's intention to confer upon him the honour of knighthood. His worship, attired in court dress and official robes, promptly obeyed the command, and kneeling on one knee made the usual obeisance, when Lord Derby immediately handed Her Majesty a sword borrowed from Lord Alfred Paget, with which the "accolade" was bestowed on the kneeling Mayor, and he thereupon rose up Sir John Morris. The action was observed by the spectators, who, as well as the Mayor himself, seemed to be taken entirely by surprise; but the moment the intention of Her Majesty became apparent, a cheer rang through the pavilion which was fairly deafening, and was heartily echoed by the crowd outside, attesting the gratification felt at the honour thus conferred on the town and its Chief Magistrate. The dignity and grace with which the Mayor received the honour thus worthily conferred, was the subject of general remark.

Sir John then presented in succession Mr. C. P. Villiers, M.P., Mr. T. M. Weguelin, M.P., the Recorder, the Town Clerk, the Clerk of the Peace, Aldermen Ironmonger, Fowler, the Mayor's Chaplain, Aldermen G. L. Underhill and Hawksford—these, as they were presented, bowed and passed the front of the Pavilion to the left side of the Queen.

Her Majesty then signified her pleasure that the







RW THIRUPÉ

Biring

R. W. Henschel Photo.





#### THE PAVILION AND STATUE.

Statue should be unveiled, and Mr. Thornycroft, the sculptor, drawing a cord, the colours surrounding it gracefully fell, and the Royal Standard gradually ascended a staff in the centre of the Pavilion. The expression of Her Majesty's countenance, as the excellent likeness of the Prince came into view, betrayed Her emotion, and the feeling of the assembly, until now restrained, gave vent, and one exciting enthusiastic cheer expressed the approval of the assemblage. Her Majesty, touched by the evident feeling of the spectators, bowed repeatedly, and when the entire figure appeared undraped She left the Pavilion, and, accompanied by the Princesses, Prince Christian, and the Mayor, walked round the statue. Arriving at the further end of the arena, She noticed Mr. Thornycroft, the sculptor, to whose chisel Wolverhampton is indebted for this artistic gem, and calling him to Her, in a few words She expressed Her gratitude to him for his noble work, and Her satisfaction at the manner in which the memory of the Prince Consort had been honoured at Wolverhampton.

Again She was cheered, again She bowed low Her acknowledgments, and spoke with animation to Mr. Villiers as She returned to the dais. Turning to those who stood behind Her, the Queen spoke with manifestly gratified interest to the Earl of Lichfield, and conversed with the Mayoress and several persons. She remained on the spot for about twenty minutes, and as Her carriage drew up for Her return the cheers broke out afresh, and She returned to the front, bowing many times to all parts of the audience.

## HER MAJESTY'S RETURN.

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RETURNING from the Statue Her Majesty started on another two miles' drive, down Cock Street, Skinner Street, and School Street, where she passed under the hardware arch into Waterloo Road, at the corner of which She received from the assembled spectators a perfect ovation, by Stafford Road, Stafford Street, Princess Street, Queen Street, and Railway Street to the Low Level Station, everywhere greeted with renewed applause, and everywhere acknowledging Her reception with the warmest courtesy, She reached the terminus of Her long drive at the Great Western Station.

Luncheon had been prepared for the Royal party in one room and for the suite in another. The Royal party remained in their room for nearly an hour, their re-appearance being anxiously awaited by a very large number of those who had witnessed their arrival earlier in the day.

By this time it had become pretty generally known that Her Majesty had conferred on the Mayor the honour of Knighthood, and when the members of the Corporation had assembled on the platform, his Worship received their hearty congratulations on the event.

Previous to Her Majesty's departure, the Mayoress, accompanied by Miss Morris, Miss Ironmonger, and Miss

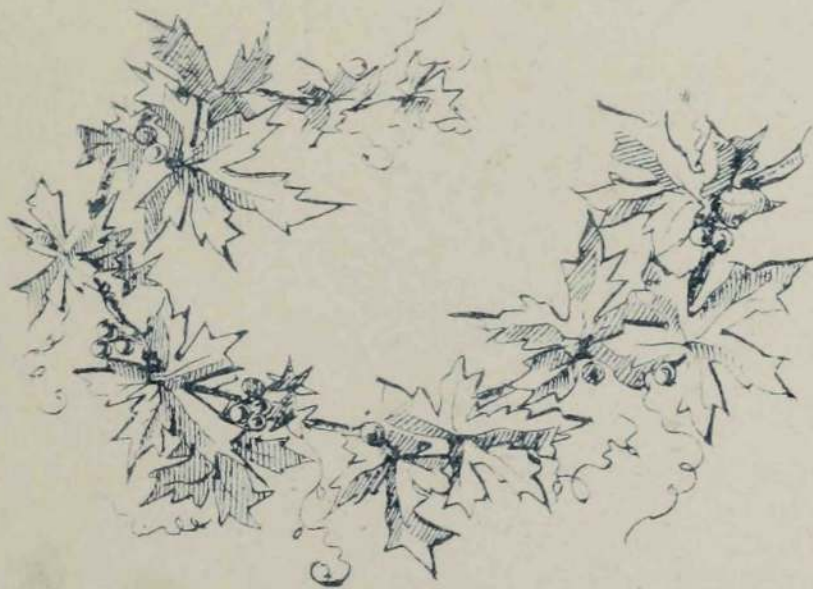
#### HER MAJESTY'S RETURN.

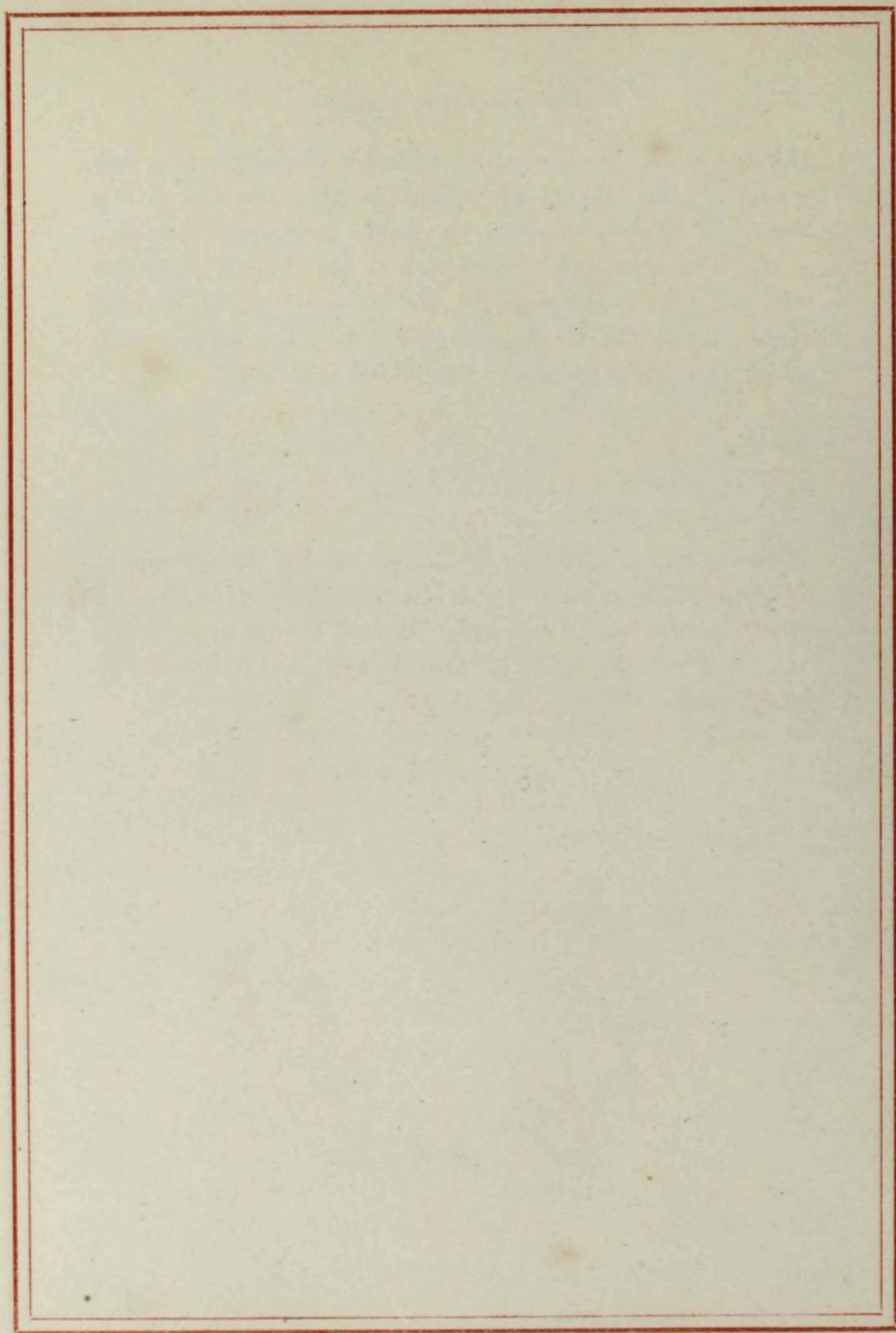
Mander, were introduced to Princess Christian, and presented to Her Royal Highness, in the name of a few ladies of Wolverhampton, a very handsome bracelet.

At a quarter before four o'clock the Royal carriages were brought to the platform, the band of the 8th Hussars again played the National Anthem, and the train moved off amid the cheers of the assembled multitude.



Since the interesting ceremony of the Inauguration, an appropriate railing, the design for which was approved of by the Sculptor, has been erected round the Statue. The cost of the railings was generously defrayed by the Mayor.





THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON



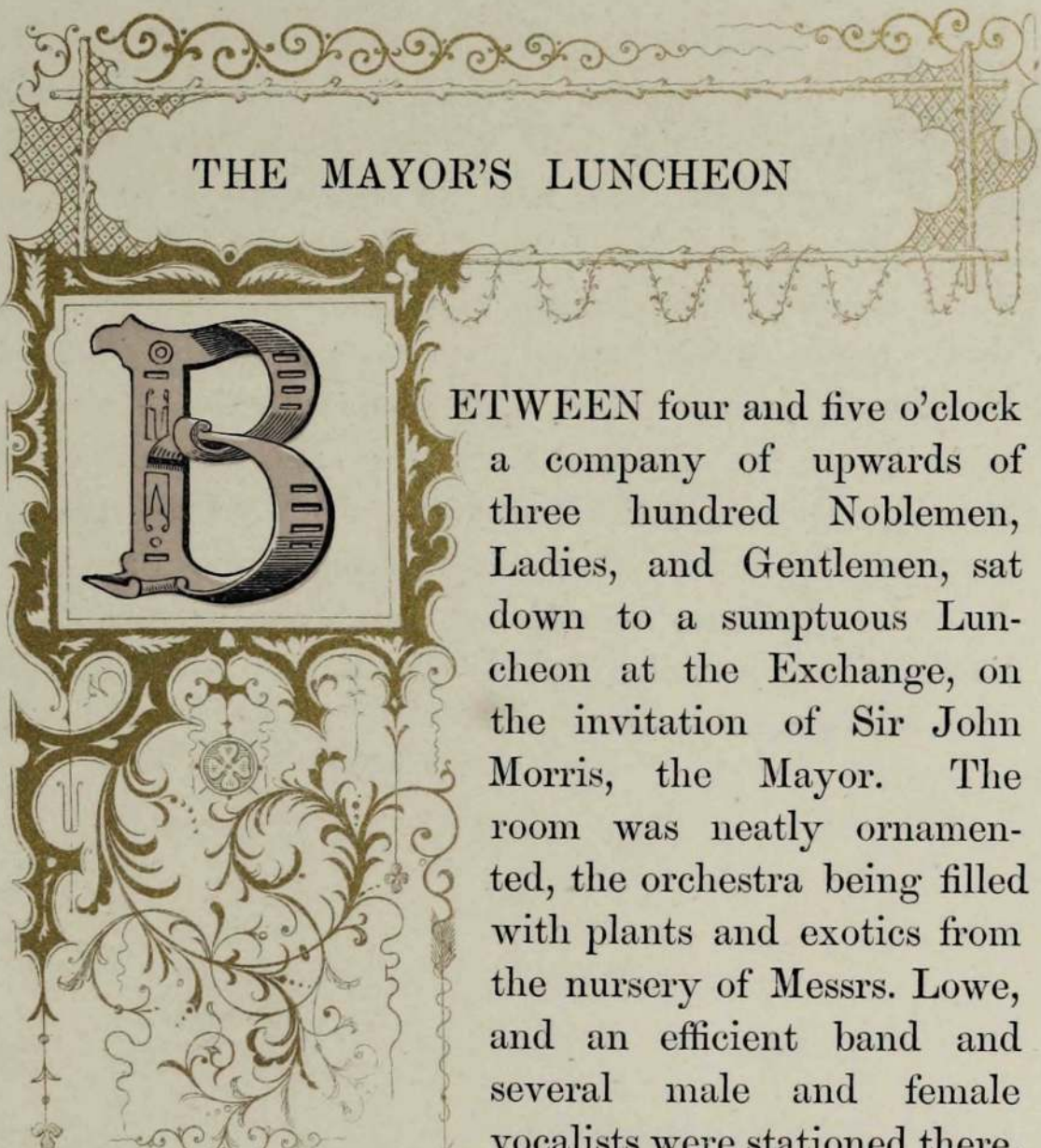


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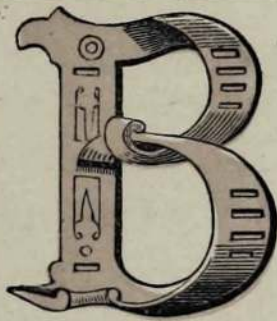
THE  
MAYOR'S LUNCHEON  
AT  
THE EXCHANGE







## THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON



B


ETWEEN four and five o'clock a company of upwards of three hundred Noblemen, Ladies, and Gentlemen, sat down to a sumptuous Luncheon at the Exchange, on the invitation of Sir John Morris, the Mayor. The room was neatly ornamented, the orchestra being filled with plants and exotics from the nursery of Messrs. Lowe, and an efficient band and several male and female vocalists were stationed there.

Robes and uniforms were worn, and the company looked very brilliant. In addition to the ladies in the body of the room, the galleries were occupied with members of the fair sex, who were supplied with tea and coffee.

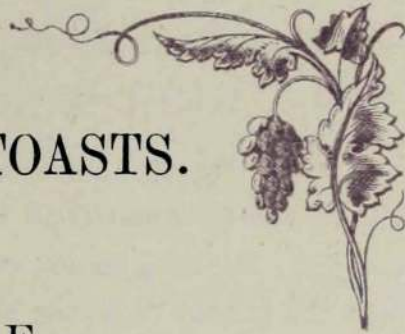
The Mayor presided at a cross table, supported on the right by the Countess of Lichfield, the Recorder, the Earl of Dartmouth, the Bishop of the Diocese, Lady Bagot, the Right Honourable C. P. Villiers, M.P., W. O. Foster, Esq., M.P., the Rev. A. B. Gould, the

#### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

Mayor of Birmingham, Mr. Thornycroft (the sculptor); and on the left by the Earl of Lichfield, Lady Morris, (the Mayoress), the Earl of Bradford, Miss Lonsdale, Lady Waterpark, the Earl of Harrowby, Mr. T. M. Weguelin, M.P., Mrs. W. O. Foster, the Mayoress of Birmingham (Mrs. Dixon), and General Garvock. The other tables were headed by the ex-Mayor, Councillor Mander, Alderman Ford, and Councillor Thurstans, who were faced by Councillor Sidney, Mr. Edward Griffin, Mr. A. Morris, and Councillor J. E. Underhill. A copy of the bill of fare, the list of toasts, and of the National Anthem, was placed before each guest. The luncheon was provided by Mr. Reynolds, of High Green. The following was the



PROGRAMME OF TOASTS.



GRACE CHORALE.

Composed by his late Royal Highness the PRINCE CONSORT.

THE QUEEN.

“God Save the Queen.”

THE PRINCE & PRINCESS OF WALES & THE  
REST OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.

SONG AND CHORUS.

“God Bless the Prince of Wales.”

THE BISHOP & CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE.

SONG.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT.

SONG.

THE CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN OF  
THE COMMITTEE.


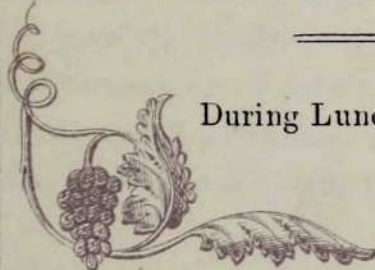
SONG.

THE LADIES.

SONG.

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During Luncheon the Band played a Choice Selection  
of Music.



### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

The Rev. A. B. GOULD having said grace,  
SIR JOHN MORRIS rose and said—

“My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I rise to propose a toast which I know will be received in this room with enthusiastic emotions of sympathy and joy. In doing so let me say, as the representative of the town of which I have the honour to be the Mayor, that I am sure we shall drink this toast, not as it is sometimes drunk, as a matter of form, but as those who feel that our nation is deeply interested in the desire we express, that her gracious Majesty may long enjoy the blessing of health. (Loud cheers.) And have we not cause for wishing so?—(hear, hear)—for as a nation we are essentially loyal. We have found by long experience that whatever the defects our Constitution and Government may be, we enjoy the blessings of personal liberty, prosperity and happiness, and therefore for our own sake, from the highest peer in the realm to the apprentice in the shop, every Englishman has cause to say ‘God save the Queen.’ (Cheers.) But then there are considerations which intensify our loyalty and joy. We have a Queen whose palace, whose court, have for a long series of years been a perfect model of domestic virtue, purity, and excellence—(loud cheers.)—and therefore, considering the influence of Her Majesty’s example throughout the land, I venture to say there is no parent in Great Britain with a particle of right feeling but is prepared, on this ground also, to join heart and soul in the prayer, ‘God save the Queen.’ Nor is this all. We must remember that not only is Her Majesty our Queen, but in the inscrutable providence of God, she is our widowed Queen, and that she has this day unveiled the statue which we have erected in our midst in token of gratitude to God for giving us for a time one who proved himself so great a prince, so good a husband, and so wise a father. (Loud applause.) But we must not forget that that very act must have brought to Her Majesty’s recollection the loss which as long as she lives she will have to deplore. Deep sympathy, therefore, will blend with our earnest prayer, when we say ‘God save the Queen.’ (Cheers.) And while every subject in the land will join in this sentiment, we shall make it, in a peculiar sense, our own. (Applause.) Our town has the honour of being the first in England which has had the opportunity of welcoming back Her Majesty to public life after a long and painful seclusion. (Great applause.) I cannot trust myself to advert to the great honour which has been conferred upon me this day—(renewed applause)—but would say that while I feel a signal honour has been conferred upon myself, I also feel that it is a mark of great

### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

respect towards our town. (Cheers.) I will therefore only add the prayer that God may long preserve the Queen and her Royal house in health and prosperity; and that, I am sure, is the earnest desire of the inhabitants of Wolverhampton."

The toast was drunk with repeated rounds of cheering.

After a short interval SIR JOHN again rose and said—

"I have the honour to propose the health of those who, after our gracious Queen, are most justly entitled to our loyal affection, 'the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.' (Cheers.) The eyes of Great Britain rest on His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the future monarch of this realm. May the day of his accession be far distant—(applause)—but when in the providence of God it does come, we can wish nothing more conducive to his own happiness, or to the happiness of this nation, than that he should walk in the footsteps of his Royal parents. May the lives of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family ever shed lustre on our country; and when the Prince ascends the Throne, may he, like his illustrious parents, command the admiration and affection of a loyal and devoted people. (Loud cheers.)"

The RECORDER proposed the next toast. He said—

"Mr. Mayor, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I have been requested to propose a toast which I am sure you will receive with pleasure equal to that which I have in proposing it; and the more so because I feel it would be as presumptuous in me to enlarge upon it, as you would deem it unnecessary that I should do so. It is 'The health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese.' You will all feel with me that in proposing to you the health of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lichfield I am proposing to you the health of one who has spent a long life, not only in the profession, but in the practice of Christian virtue. (Applause.) I feel sure also that when I name to you the Clergy of this diocese, you will agree with me that they are a body of men whose doctrines and whose lives coincident, exhibit lucid proof that they are honest in the sacred cause. (Loud applause.) My official duties in connection with this borough give me opportunities of hearing much of what the clergy are doing, and I believe that there is no diocese in the land, and, I am proud to add, no town in the diocese in which the clergy more honestly and faithfully perform their duty than in the diocese of Lichfield and the town of Wolverhampton. (Applause.)"

### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

Therefore, without enlarging to you upon merits with which you are even more perfectly acquainted than myself, I ask you to join me in drinking 'The health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese.' (Loud applause.)"

The BISHOP OF LICHFIELD, in reply, said—

"On the part of the clergy of this diocese and myself, I thank you for the toast which has been so kindly proposed and so cordially received. I am sure, ladies and gentlemen, you will not expect me to speak at large upon the occasion which has called us together to-day. I could say nothing upon it but what you all know and feel; but this I will say, that no persons can have taken a more cordial interest in to-day's proceedings, or have sympathised more heartily with them, than the clergy. The clergy must be a loyal body. The clergy cannot forget that the commands to 'fear God and to honour the King' are joined closely together; and the clergy know full well that, so to speak, there is a natural connection between the two—the one leading to the other. I should also like to say that this day has not only been an occasion of great gratification to us, as enabling us to show our love for our Queen—our respect for her officially, and our love for her personally—(applause)—but it has this great recommendation also, that it brings together people of different opinions and different views on most matters. We differ on politics, we differ on higher matters than politics—but one great lesson we all have to learn and practice is to think as little as we possibly can of our differences, and as much as we possibly can upon those things on which we are all agreed. It is a great happiness that we can meet together and agree cordially upon an occasion like this. It is a great blessing, and we should all turn it to account. I will not detain you with a long speech, but will only venture to say that I hope we shall go away from this meeting thankful for the opportunity we have had of celebrating the memory of a great and good Prince, and also with a sincere desire of cultivating, as much as we possibly can, without the sacrifice of principle, cordiality and brotherly kindness towards each other. (Loud applause.)"

The LORD LIEUTENANT, on rising to propose a toast which was not on the list, said—

"He was somewhat out of order, but he thought he should be excused when he told them that his object was to ask them to join him in drinking health and long life to Sir John Morris, Mayor of Wolverhampton. (Loud applause.) He need say very little in the way of congratulation to the town

### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

on the great honour which had that day been conferred upon it ; that honour was of too distinguished a character to require any words from him in speaking of it ; but he would say it was an honour upon which not only Wolverhampton, but the nation at large was to be congratulated. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He was perfectly convinced that there was no one in the whole community but would rejoice at the honour conferred on the borough of Wolverhampton this day by Her Majesty having in its favour, for the first time, quitted that seclusion which had been so consistent with her deep sorrow and great bereavement, but which had undoubtedly deprived the people of this country, on many occasions, of the great gratification they always experience in receiving their sovereign. He firmly believed that there was no way in which the deep attachment so unmistakably exhibited by the people of this country, whenever occasion presented itself, towards their Queen, could be so well and so graciously reciprocated as by Her Majesty granting them that gratification which her presence amongst them invariably affords to her faithful subjects. (Hear, hear.) He could not refrain from congratulating the people of Wolverhampton upon the admirable reception which Her Majesty had met there that day. (Applause.) He had the pleasure and the honour of following Her Majesty's carriage through the whole length of the procession, and would undertake to say that of all the occasions on which she had appeared in public she had never received a more gratifying welcome. (Loud applause.) They had met on that occasion with but one object in view—to do honour to the Queen, and were they to occupy their time in paying compliments to each other, they would be doing that which would not only be unnecessary but inappropriate to the occasion. He must, however, congratulate the Mayor upon the events of the day, and in doing so must be allowed to express an opinion that it was mainly owing to the great courtesy and consideration which the Mayor had invariably shown towards everybody with whom he had been connected in making the arrangements for the reception of Her Majesty that the day's success was due. As one of those who had taken part in those arrangements, he begged most sincerely to thank Sir John Morris, and he heartily drank health and long life to him, and prosperity to the town which, by having placed him in the high and responsible position of its Chief Magistrate, had been the means of enabling Her Majesty to confer upon him, with her own hands, a distinguished honour. (The toast was drunk with loud and prolonged cheering, the company standing, and followed by 'one cheer more for Lady Morris.')

### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

SIR JOHN MORRIS, on rising to acknowledge the toast, was again greeted with hearty applause. He said—

“My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I am greatly embarrassed to know how to reply to the exceedingly kind manner in which my health has been received. I feel deeply sensible of the kind wishes which the Lord-Lieutenant has expressed in reference to me. All I can say is, that in taking the part I have taken in connection with the great demonstration of to-day, I knew that I was doing my duty. I may say too that I have done no more than I believe the whole Council have done. In acknowledging this toast it would be affectation on my part to treat it as a personal compliment to myself, I would rather regard it as a recognition of the borough. Wolverhampton was incorporated at a time when I was entering the busy walks of life. Twenty years of municipal existence will, I venture to say, fully realise and justify the principle of self-government. Little did I imagine when I first assisted in the public affairs of this my native town, that I should be honoured by the unanimous selection of its citizens, to fill, at so early a period in my life, the chief post in our local parliament. I should not deserve the position I occupy if I did not fully appreciate the honour whilst recognising the duties of the office, and if I am spared to look back in after years to this, the proudest day of our town history, I shall never forget that when Her most Gracious Majesty condescended to pay us a visit, she was received by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood with a loyalty and devotedness beyond all praise. (Hear, hear.) I cannot sit down without informing you of the gracious manner in which the Queen stated to me when I presented the address to her the great delight at the loyalty shown, and the manner in which she had been received. (Loud cheers.) At such a moment I was too excited to catch Her Majesty's very words, but in substance they were how greatly she was delighted at the manifestations of loyalty of her people in Wolverhampton. She desired to express those as her sentiments. I beg again very sincerely to thank you for the kind manner in which you have drunk my health.”

Mr. HARTLEY, in proposing the next toast, said—

“It would be exceedingly bad taste for any one present to say of the subject of the next toast what in his absence might be said with very great propriety. The very eminent services which my Lord Lichfield renders to this county on all occasions—(great applause)—whether as head of the Magistracy,



### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

or in connection with every movement having for its object the religious and social welfare of the people of this great county, demand from this company and the county at large the warmest gratitude. (Loud applause.) I have, therefore, the greatest possible pleasure in proposing 'the health of the Lord Lieutenant.' (The toast was drunk with repeated cheers for His Lordship and Lady Lichfield.)"

The LORD-LIEUTENANT, in response, said—

"I return you my most sincere and cordial thanks, ladies and gentlemen, for the manner in which you have received the toast, and in doing so you must allow me to adhere strictly to the principle which I laid down as one which I considered to be our duty to observe on this occasion—that our object in meeting here was to do honour to the Queen. I will therefore simply say that did I not have the honour to occupy the high position I hold in this county, as a mere native of the county of Stafford I should feel proud of the manner in which the Queen has been received here this day. I think we have had this day on the part of the whole of the population of this large district an exhibition of loyalty to the Queen, and of deep attachment to the Crown and institutions of the country, which, to say the least of it, is an example which may well be followed by the rest of the country. (Loud applause.) I do sincerely hope that the opportunity will be afforded in many places, as it has been in Wolverhampton to day, to show that what has taken place here in the reception the Queen has met with from all classes of the community from the highest to the lowest, is simply an echo of that which is felt in the hearts of the people, no matter what their class may be, throughout the whole of Great Britain. Ladies and gentlemen, I most sincerely thank you for the honour you have done me in drinking my health."

Mr. Alderman FOWLER, who was received with much cheering, said—

"I am sure that the whole assembly will feel with me that it is proper that we should pay our tribute of respect to those gentlemen who this evening represent the body of subscribers from whom the town has received that statue, the inauguration of which has already marked the 30th day of November as the red-letter day of the Wolverhampton calendar. (Cheers.) Flattery on an occasion like this would be unusually offensive, and the ordinary compliments of after dinner recognition would be simple impertinence. Never-

## THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

theless, I feel it to be fit and right that I should, as representing the Corporation of this Borough, express here what the community at large already recognizes as an inseparable part of the history of this memorable day—that it is to the enlightened public spirit, the indomitable personal energy, and the unflagging munificence of Mr. Alderman George Underhill—(loud and continued cheering)—that we owe the erection of that monument, which will in all future time rank as the proudest possession of the town and Corporation of Wolverhampton. Those of us who know Mr. Underhill well, and who remember the determination he showed under difficulties of no ordinary character, that Wolverhampton should perpetuate its appreciation of England's greatest Prince in a manner worthy of itself, rejoice with him on the success which has crowned his labours. (Cheers) He has already received the approval of his sovereign. We cannot supplement that, but we can tell him as we do tell him now, that his colleagues and his fellow citizens recognize, appreciate, and are grateful for the great service he has rendered to his native town. (Renewed cheers.) Nor do we forget the invaluable assistance which he received from his colleague, the Vice-Chairman of the Memorial Committee, Mr. Alderman Hawksford. The work they had to do taxed the energies of them both to the very utmost, and Mr. Hawksford no less than Mr. Underhill responded to the claims of the duties he had undertaken, and by his judicious counsels and undaunted perseverance contributed no small part to the successful working out of the wishes of the subscribers, and the hopes of the public. But, before I ask you to endorse the remarks I have made by drinking the health of the gentlemen whom I have named, perhaps you will permit me to give the proposal of this toast a still wider scope as involving a recognition of the Memory which the subscribers who have erected this statue desire to honour—the Memory which the Queen Herself came here to honour—the Memory which to the latest day of English history will shed its brilliant lustre on the British Crown. (Cheers.) I venture to assert that there is no branch of government, no department of statesmanship, no development of science, no culture of art, no onward movement for the moral and material welfare of the people, which cannot claim the teaching and example of the great and good Prince Consort as a part of their inheritance. Without detracting from that assertion as a whole, I presume to think that the interests—I use that word in its highest sense—which predominate in the district of which Wolverhampton is the centre and the capital are pre-eminently linked with the life and labours of that illustrious Prince. (Hear, hear.) Drawing no invidious or improper distinctions of

## THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

class, I yet may say that we especially represent the middle and the working classes. (Applause.) No man ever more accurately gauged the marvellous triumphs which the union of those two classes has already achieved—no man ever had a keener insight into the difficulties and dangers to which those two classes, both separately and unitedly, are exposed—no man ever had a nobler faith in the beneficent results which an enlightened combination of educated capital and educated labour is destined to accomplish. Therefore, in this town and in this district we (to quote the eloquent expression of the learned Recorder in the address of to-day), ‘feel it to be our duty and our delight to honour one who promoting science by His judicious patronage, and art by His enlightened precepts, incited all men to all works of Christian duty by the force of His bright example.’ (Applause.) The pomp and pageantry of to-day will soon be a thing of the past—the brilliant circumstances which have characterised this inauguration will be toned down, even in the most enthusiastic minds by the mellowing influences of time ; but as long as Englishmen, to quote the Prince Consort’s own words, are ‘devoted to the noble work of fostering the arts of peace, and endeavouring to give a wider scope to the blessings of freedom and civilisation,’ so long will the ‘Silent Father of our Kings to be’ have a monument more enduring and more beautiful than sculptor ever chiselled, or artist ever drew. (Loud applause.) I ask you, on behalf of the Corporation of Wolverhampton, to acknowledge the gift which the town has this day received by drinking the health of Aldermen Hawksford and Underhill. (Cheers.) The toast was drunk with very hearty cheering.”

Alderman UNDERHILL, who was loudly cheered on rising, said—

“I am greatly obliged for the honour you have done myself and Alderman Hawksford, but I hope the meeting will not expect a speech from me, but will be content with the glorious termination of the labours of this day. The death of the late Prince Consort was one of the unfortunate events of my Mayoralty, and we thought that some memorial should be raised in Wolverhampton to the memory of the great Prince. So far everything was unanimous. I did myself the honour of calling a meeting of the Corporation and leading inhabitants of the borough and neighbourhood, and then all unanimity seemed to have disappeared, for every one had a separate scheme to propose. Some were for scholarships, others for alms-houses, others for children’s wards, some for church windows, and some for drinking fountains ; but the most general feeling was in

### THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON.

favour of a statue, and here I will take the opportunity of thanking those who came forward to support that scheme. There was only one person who felt sanguine that Her Majesty would visit Wolverhampton, and that was Mr. Alderman Hawksford, who never despaired. (Cheers.) I feel proud of Wolverhampton for the reception which the town has given to Her Majesty, for if the Lord-Lieutenant feels proud on that account, how much more reason have I, a native of the town, to feel proud of the honour which Her Majesty has conferred upon the town, not only by her visit, but by conferring the honour of knighthood upon Sir John Morris. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Alderman HAWKSFORD, in response to numerous calls, also acknowledged the toast. He said—

“ I thank you very heartily for the kind manner in which you have received the last toast. It has been my good fortune to live through Her most gracious Majesty's reign, a period to Her of domestic happiness never alloyed until it pleased Providence to take away her beloved Consort. When that event occurred, it did appear to me that, although we could offer no sympathy to Her Majesty in her bereavement, it was but reasonable and proper that we should endeavour to perpetuate the memory of those virtues which had adorned the late Prince's life. It was with this feeling that I co-operated with my friend Mr. Alderman Underhill to perpetuate in this old town of Wolverhampton the memory of those virtues. (Applause.) It was no ordinary task which the late Prince took upon himself when He left the country of his fathers and became the counsellor of our Queen. It was no easy matter for Him to labour as he did for years in the acquirement of our language, our laws, and our history, and to adapt Himself to our habits and feelings. The Prince devoted his whole life to Her Majesty and Her subjects, and it was but reasonable and proper that Her subjects should pay respect to His memory. (Cheers.)

The MAYOR having, in suitable terms, proposed the toast of “ The Ladies,” the company separated.

## THE ILLUMINATIONS.

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COUNTLESS thousands of people were in the town in the evening to witness the Illuminations in honour of the Queen's Visit, and many of the designs and the manner in which they were carried out were generally admired. Never in the history of Wolverhampton had the streets presented so brilliant and splendid an appearance. Not merely to the principal thoroughfares were the illuminations confined, but in every street of the least importance was to be seen a good variety of gas devices, Chinese lanterns, and other brilliancies. Immense crowds of people were parading about till a late hour viewing, with evident amazement and delight, the glittering objects that met their gaze; and in Dudley Street the concourse of people passing up and down was occasionally so great that the roadway was completely blocked up. It would be fruitless to attempt to describe the array of dazzling splendour which blazed forth on every side; but we might mention that Dudley Street, Queen Street, Cock Street, the High Green, and other thoroughfares were illuminated with great taste—expense in the reception of Royalty not being even thought of—and many of the devices were so arranged as to have a most charming effect. Messrs. Chubb's establishment, near the carriage drive to the High Level Station, presented a very pretty and novel aspect, the whole of the windows having the

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

appearance of being filled in with Diaphane, whilst in the front of the premises were some very pretty gas designs. The illuminated representation of Her Majesty, supported on either side by the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Prince and Princess Christian, which was displayed over the entrance to Mr. Walker's Liquor Vaults, in Cock Street, was universally admired.

Queen Street—The chief illuminations in this street were those in front of the County Court, and comprised the following devices:—In the centre of the pediment, below the flag trophy, was a large star, and below this a coronation crown surmounted by the Prince of Wales plume, with the initials V R and A A on either side; a large Brunswick star was fixed over the principal entrance, and the initials V R at the top of the gates at each end. The Post Office exhibited an Alexandra star with the initials A A in the centre, and V R on each side. The Athenæum displayed a large brilliancy, a Brunswick star, which was very attractive. A pretty device, the rose, shamrock and thistle, and a star were exhibited by Mr. Sanders. Returning to the other side of the County Court, Gibbs Brothers had a device, an anchor and chain; from there to Mr. Langman's was a succession of stars and jets, but in front of the house last named the uniformity was broken by a Brunswick star with a Staffordshire knot and V R. From corner of Market Street to corner of Dudley Street there was a succession of stars with a line of blazing jets, except in front of Mr. Pearce and Mr. Tustin's premises, where a large V R was displayed, and Mr. Hands had a large star and V R. On the opposite side of the street Mr.

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

Richards had a handsome star and crown, flanked with V R. Here too, a succession of stars and jets lightened up the Street. Mr. Rowland showed a large shield, and from here to the end of the Street the devices were chiefly V R's and stars.

Dudley Street—This was one of the best illuminated streets, and presented a long flood of light of dazzling brilliancy. The most effective was the illumination in front of the premises of Mr. G. L. Underhill, who had an Alexandra star about eight feet high, with a V R of equal proportions. Messrs. Andrews had four large brilliancies representing the Brunswick star and garter. Mr. McGregor displayed a crown and V R surrounded by a radiated device. Mr. Masters lighted up a large shield; Mr. Baker, large centre star and jets; Mr. Lord the monogram A A. At the opposite corner, Messrs. Bradshaw had a V R, and from there along the premises of Mr. Tolfree and Mr. Shaw were a succession of stars. Mr. Giles and Mr. Langman had a star and V R, of large dimensions. In front of the Red Cow Inn was a large crown, and Mr. Devereux at the adjoining Inn, had a V R and large star in the centre. Mr. Perry, a crown, and Mr. Benjamin a handsome crown flanked by V R of large proportions. A large crown and the Royal initials were shown on the fronts of Mr. Banks and Mr. Walker. The other large devices in this locality were a V R and crown in the centre at Mr. Parke's; at Mr. Lloyd's, a Prince of Wales plume and stars; Mr. Leary had a large star; Mr. Neale, V R and Prince of Wales plume over the King Street window.

High Green—The illuminations here, like the decora-

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

tions, were upon a very extensive scale, and excited general admiration. At the Swan Hotel was a crown of large dimensions; Mr. Fleeming, V R of large size, separated by a crown; Mr. Davenport, V R with large star in the centre; on the liquor vaults at the opposite corner, a V R and fleur-de-lis with motto, "ich dien;" Mr. Cope, a star; Mr. Dawson, Prince of Wales plume and crown; Mr. Walker, V R, with the rose, shamrock and thistle intervening. The Bilston District Bank had a neat illumination comprising a star and jets; Messrs. Sidney and Son, V R and star in the centre, above, a crown surmounted by a star; Messrs. Sollom and Wootton, each a transparency of an attractive character; Mr. Frantz, a star; Messrs. Lowe, V R with a crown; Mr. Shoolbred, V R; Garnett Brothers, crown and star; Mr. Plank, a crown; Warner Brothers, V. R; Mr. Wright, a large star; Mr. Jones and Mr. J. Steen, each various neat designs.

The Old Churchyard—The chief illuminations here were at the Bank, and consisted of a royal crown with the letters V R and two stars in gas. There were also some very pretty Chinese lanterns arranged underneath, and a number of coloured lamps. Over the entrance porch of the Collegiate Church was a device representing the Crossed Keys of St. Peter, surmounted by the initial P.

Darlington Street—Among the principal illuminations here were the following:—Alderman Hawksford, a large star and the monogram V R; the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Company, a large star; Deakin and Dent, V R of large size and a star; Mr. Lovatt, V R,



#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

surmounted by a crown; Mr. Horsman, a star and other decorations; Mr. Cooke, V R and a star; Mr. Clear, A A, surmounted by a device; Mr. Roebuck, V R and a crown.

Cock Street—The following were some of the principal illuminations:—Mr. Chittoe, three devices; Mr. Nendick, A A, with a large star; Mr. Weaver, a line of jets; the Midland Bank, a very handsome and expensive illumination, undoubtedly the most attractive in the street, consisting of three crystal stars of large size, surmounted by a crown; Mr. Tunnicliffe, V R, a star, and lustres with wax candles. Messrs. Ironmonger exhibited a brilliant Brunswick star.

Worcester Street and Road—Among those worthy of notice was Mr. Tyler's, the letters V R and a crown; Mr. Hamp had a neat device; Mr. Smith, a transparency; St. Paul's Terrace was very effectively lighted up with a row of jets the entire length of the terrace, and other devices, coloured lamps were also suspended from the trees. There were several others of minor importance.

Exchange Street—At the entrance to the Exchange Buildings was a star and crown; at Mr. Hampton's liquor vaults, a plume of feathers, enriched and flanked by two stars; at the office of the Clerk of the Peace were the letters V R and two stars; at Mr. Cooling's was a small crown, V R, and a plume of feathers, and ranged on each side were several similar stars.

North Street—The Town Hall, being an official building, was, of course, the chief point of attraction in this street. Across the front ran the words "God save the Queen," in very large characters, and above was the

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

monogram V R, surmounted by a large crown; Mr. H. Willcock exhibited the letters V R, surmounted by a star, with surroundings; at the head quarters of the Fourth Battalion of Volunteers was "4th S R V," in large letters, and the Overseers, who occupy the same building, had the monogram V R with a star. Mr. Riley exhibited a crystal star with ruby cross in the centre. Mr. R. Jessop, lower down the street, showed a star.

Waterloo Road—The illuminations here were very numerous. Messrs. Corser and Fowler exhibited a Staffordshire Knot and a star; in front of the Library was the fleur-de-lis. At nearly all the private houses in this road were illuminations of some kind, as Chinese lanterns, gas jets, coloured lamps suspended from the trees, coloured fires burnt, &c. Mr. Fuller exhibited a handsome crystal star with St. George's cross in the centre.

Stafford Street and Road—The devices in this street worthy of notice were at the Elephant and Castle Inn, consisting of a large star flanked with the initials V R, and surrounded with other adornments, and a star over the doorway of the Black Horse. At the Railway Sheds five stars were ranged along the front, the centre one being seven feet in height.

Lichfield Street—This street was very prettily illuminated, not only by gas devices but by Chinese lanterns, &c., strung across the streets in several places. Among the more noticeable features were V R over the Lamb Inn; a star over Mr. F. Raby's; a crown, flanked by the letters V R at Mr. Fryer's Bank; a star and the

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

letters V R over Mr. Stanton's; and a crown, flanked by V R over the entrance to the Noah's Ark Inn.

Berry Street—The principal illumination in this street was over the doorway of the Castle Inn, and consisted of a plume of feathers.

Market Street—In front of the "Chronicle" and "Express" offices were some handsome illuminations, they consisted of a large crown, flanked by the letters V R and two stars.

Bilston Street—At the manufactory of Ready and Son was a large crown and star, surrounded by flags and other adornments, flanked by the letters V R, and under this was the word "Welcome," flanked by two smaller stars. The Concert Hall came next, and besides the ordinary Prince of Wales plume, there were two devices—a crown and star. There were also stars over Mr. Skidmore's, and Messrs. Forder and Traves; Cozens and Co. showed a large crown.

Garrick Street—The chief illuminations here were at the Police Station, there was a large crown, having a small star on either side, and the words "Welcome to the Prince and Princess Christian;" at the Garrick's Head Inn was exhibited a Prince of Wales plume, with the motto "Ich dien;" over the entrance to the Old Hall works were three stars.

Snowhill—Some of the illuminations here were very good; in front of the Peacock Hotel was a large star and V R, and at Mr. Barnett's, opposite, was a crown and star; Mr. Holiday had a neat device consisting of a crown ornamented with variegated lamps. Mr. Corns, at the corner of Cleveland Street, had a star and V R;

#### THE ILLUMINATIONS.

Mr. Denton displayed a large Alexandra star, with the letters V R on either side. The Agricultural Hall was also illuminated with a regal crown and V R; Mr. York had a pretty device, consisting of a Brunswick star. On Mr. Davies's premises were the letters V R and a star. There was also a large star at St. George's Hall.

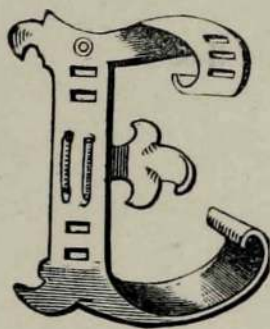
Horseley Fields—The principal illumination in this thoroughfare was at the Shakespeare Foundry, it consisted of a regal crown, surmounting the Staffordshire knot, and flanked by the letters V R, underneath which, stretching to some length, were the words, "Long live Her Gracious Majesty." Messrs. Rogers in Union Street had a large crystal star with V R and motto; in Mill Street, a large and effective device over Mr. Norton's Mill consisted of a Prince of Wales plume and two large stars. Returning to Horseley Fields, Moreton and Co. had a Brunswick star; Langley and Co. a crown and V R; at St. James's Vicarage, a star; Bamford Brothers had a large crown and V R, and many others exhibited sundry devices of less magnitude.

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We may add that the gas consumed on the occasion amounted to the enormous quantity of one million fourteen thousand cubic feet, supplied from the two stations of the Wolverhampton Gas Company.

## THE FIREWORKS.

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IGHT o'clock in the evening was the hour appointed for the commencement of the Pyrotechnic Exhibition, when there was a general rush to the Course, (lent gratuitously for the occasion by the Race Committee,) where a very fine display of fireworks, of endless variety, was exhibited at the public expense. The Grand Stand and the adjoining stands, which were open to the public free of charge, the paddock, and every available spot where a sight of the display could be obtained, was thronged, and many thousands of persons congregated on and around the Course.

The programme included the usual selection of shells, mines, mortars, tourbillions, numerous rockets of excellent quality, and coloured fires of every hue; interspersed were about ten large and magnificent set pieces, one of which was unusually attractive—it consisted of a transparency of the late Prince Consort on horseback. At intervals during the evening the new signal lights adopted by the French and American navies, were fired in various parts of the town, and large balloons, of sixty feet in circumference, were released, and floated high in air. The Fireworks concluded with a grand discharge of one hundred rockets. The crowd gave repeated tokens of their satisfaction by cheering lustily.

## A WELCOME.

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Lady of the Empire of the valiant and the free,  
Queen of lands in every clime, and kiss'd by every sea ;  
With its loyal heart of iron, Wolverhampton welcomes thee !

Wreaths of blossoming garlands bring ;  
Bells, your jubilant chorus ring,  
Carry their music swift winds as ye fly ;  
Smile, O sun ! through our soot-dimm'd sky ;  
Flags, and banners, and streamers gay,  
Fluttering, float in the breeze to-day ;  
Factory, furnace, forge, and mine,  
    Poor man's alley, and rich man's street  
Let your teeming crowds combine  
    The Lady of the Isles to greet !

Bring your flowers, and garlands green,  
And all unite with heart and tongue  
To swell to heaven the jubilant song—  
    Long live our gracious Queen !  
        Love, befriend her !  
        Peace, attend her !  
        God, defend her !  
            God save the Queen !

We mourn amid our Jubilee, the spirit that hath flown,  
And we dare to mix our sorrows with the sorrows of the throne ;  
For we lov'd the Great Departed, and we claimed him as our own !

In strifes of Peace he won his fame ;  
He gave to Toil its noblest aim ;  
Labour and Art he strove to wed,  
Science to Worship's fane he led !  
Letters with Virtue he combined,  
The throbbing heart, the soaring mind ;  
For God and Good he toiled alone,  
That Love may reign, and Hate may cease ;  
He built the pillars of our throne  
On virtue, charity, and peace !

Sea of hearts, by strange emotions toss'd !  
Queen and people weep before high heaven  
Tears of woe, that such a Prince is lost,  
Tears of joy, that such a Prince was given !  
Breathing art, and garlands green,  
Be our tribute to a life so rare,  
Take them, lady ! with thy people's prayer,  
" God bless our widow'd Queen !  
Love, befriend her !  
Peace, attend her !  
God, defend her !  
God save the Queen ! "

Lady of the Empire of the valiant and the free,  
Queen of lands in every clime, and kiss'd by every sea ;  
With its loyal heart of iron, Wolverhampton welcomes thee !

J. C. TILDESLEY.

## THE QUEEN'S LETTER.

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*[The following Letter was written by Command of the Queen to the Mayor of Wolverhampton, by Lieutenant-General the Hon. C. Grey, Private Secretary to Her Majesty, on the day after Her Visit to the Town.]*

Windsor Castle, December 1st, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR JOHN,

An official answer to your address will be sent from the Home Office. The Queen has desired Mr. Walpole also to express her satisfaction with all the arrangements made for her reception, yesterday, at Wolverhampton. But Her Majesty is anxious that you should hear, less formally, and, as it were, more directly from herself how much she was gratified by the heartiness and cordiality of the reception she met with from every individual of the vast assemblage that yesterday filled your streets, and how deeply—how very deeply—she was touched by the proof which the day's proceedings afforded of the respect and affection entertained at Wolverhampton for the memory of her beloved husband. The arrangements for the preservation of order and to prevent confusion were beyond all praise, but even these would hardly have been sufficient had you not been seconded by the excellent disposition of the people themselves. I have also been requested by Princess Christian to say how much she has been gratified by the kindness shown yesterday to herself and Prince Christian, and that she will have much pleasure in wearing the beautiful bracelet presented to her at the station, as a remembrance of a most interesting and gratifying day.

Believe me, yours very faithfully,

C. GREY.



INCIDENTS  
OF THE DAY.

## ADVENTURE OF THREE LOYAL YOUNG LADIES.

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WHILE Her Majesty was preparing to return, the following amusing incident in connection with the Presentation of a Bracelet to the Princess Christian, is probably without a parallel :—It had been arranged that four young ladies, Miss Morris, Miss Ironmonger, Miss Hartley, and Miss Mander, who were to present the Bracelet, should leave the pavilion in a carriage a few minutes after the departure of the Queen, but from some cause the carriage did not arrive, and the crowd round the pavilion was so dense that a quarter of an hour elapsed ere they could leave it, accompanied by Mr. Hartley and Mr. Kitson. It was impossible to get to the Railway Station where the presentation was to take place, in the face of the vast crowds who blocked the way, and an effort was therefore made to gain the back way by the Horsefair ; some time, however, was spent in vain, and the party had to beat a retreat ; in the hope of meeting with a carriage, they went to the Town Hall, but finding none, Mr. Hartley, considering the task impossible, relinquished it on the part of himself and daughter. Mr. Kitson, however, chivalrously offered to assist the ladies, and promised them success if they would take *nil desperandum* for their motto, and follow him as their leader ; their chance consisted in making a long *detour*, so they started by the Townwell Fold, where they happily met the brother of Miss Morris and another young gentleman, and continued their course as fast as they decorously could, as time pressed, along Skinner-street, Bell-street, Snowhill, Cleveland-road, Bilston-street, Walsall-street, Union-street, across Horseley Fields, the High Level Railway, until they approached the object of their desire, the Great Western Railway Station. Here, however, the obstacles were so great with cavalry keeping the ground and crowds of people that a second *detour* became necessary, and passing on, they succeeded in getting to the rear of the station, but were effectually stopped by a high fence which they could not surmount. Calling to their aid a railway policeman, and explaining their mission, he managed with the assistance of several others to remove a part of

#### ADVENTURE OF YOUNG LADIES.—KEEPING THE LINE.

the obstruction, they then ran down the steep bank of the railway, clearing the wires for the signal posts and the ditch at the bottom, but encountered a formidable obstacle in the shape of a long luggage train. There was no time to lose, however, so they must needs pass under it as best they could, and so they succeeded in gaining the platform side of the station, hot and weary, but carrying the Bracelet in triumph, and in time to present it to the Princess Christian, through the Mayoress, Lady Morris, as Her Majesty passed to her carriage.

During this time the friends of the young ladies were anxiously awaiting them at the station, and, not knowing the cause of their detention, a mounted orderly was sent in search of them; and, again, as Her Majesty was expected to depart every minute, Captain Segrave kindly sent off a carriage, with two mounted orderlies, to make diligent search for them. This, however, proved unnecessary, for directly afterwards they took their friends in the rear, in the manner we have described.

We have been careful in giving the route, as it would be impossible otherwise to appreciate the difficulty of the task so cleverly accomplished, and which reflects so much credit upon all concerned, especially upon our three fair young townswomen.

The Bracelet was furnished by Messrs. Handcock and Co., Jewellers, of London, and was worth, we understand, £150. It was a very beautiful piece of jewelry, designed with much taste. A number of large oval amethysts were set round a gold band, each amethyst bearing in its centre a letter set in brilliants, and all the letters so formed composed the word "*Souvenir*."

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#### KEEPING THE LINE.

The arrangements for keeping the line were entirely under the supervision of the Chief Constable, (Captain Segrave,) and were most admirably planned and efficiently carried out. The forces engaged were the Police and the Staffordshire Volunteers. Of the first-named, the total number present was eight hundred and eighteen, viz:—Wolverhampton Borough Force, sixty-eight men, under the supervision of five inspectors. The Staffordshire County Constabulary, three hundred men, under the command of Chief

#### KEEPING THE LINE.—ACCIDENT.

Constable Congreve and Deputy Chief Constable Major McKnight. Walsall, twenty men, under the command of the Chief Constable. London, two hundred and thirty men, (of the A division,) under the supervision of Superintendent Walker. Birmingham, two hundred men, under the supervision of two Superintendents. The Volunteer Force was composed of the different Battalions of the County, under the command of their respective Colonels, and numbered altogether three thousand two hundred men. The different forces of police and volunteers were stationed alternately outside the barriers all along the route, and the manner in which they all, to a man, performed their duty, was highly creditable. The volunteers, especially, deserve great praise for their steadiness and soldierly demeanour. Captain Segrave exerted himself most energetically in seeing that his orders, down to the minutest details, were attended to, and the result was gratifying in the extreme, not the slightest confusion being observable from the commencement to the end.

Ample provision was made at the Agricultural Hall for the entertainment of the Volunteer forces who came to assist in preserving order in the different streets through which Her Majesty passed. The Hall was decorated for the occasion, and after the party had partaken of the viands provided for them, they were further entertained by the lively strains of their bands.

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#### ACCIDENT.

Unfortunately a rather serious accident happened to one of the artillerymen who was engaged in firing the Royal Salute from one of the cannons stationed on the Racecourse. The unfortunate fellow, William Bridgeway, was about nineteen years of age, and the gun at which he was assisting had been fired twice, but whilst Bridgeway was loading it again, from some undiscovered cause, the charge went off. His hand was blown off, and his arm fractured in three places, besides which his face was badly bruised. He was removed to the General Hospital, where his forearm was amputated, and, has since recovered.

It will be seen, by one of the letters from Sir T. M. Biddulph to Sir John Morris, that Her Majesty, with her usual kindness, has settled a life annuity of £20 upon William Bridgeway.

EXTRACTS  
FROM  
THE LONDON PRESS.

FROM THE TIMES.

The Queen has received an enthusiastic welcome here. It is barely a week since Her Majesty consented to honour the town with a visit, on the occasion of what is called "the inauguration" of the Statue of the Prince Consort. There was thus brief time for preparation, but the Municipal authorities and the townspeople together worked with a will, and worked with little ceasing. They have been rewarded by a great day in the local annals, a day which, in spite of considerable difficulties and some anxiety for the public convenience and safety, has passed over so far with absolutely nothing to mar the general rejoicing. Nothing could exceed the enthusiasm and devotion displayed by the whole population, town and country, assembled in the streets. The colliers, puddlers, and the forgemen from the iron districts, the workers in metal, japan, papier mache, and the hollow ware, which have of late years been added to the staple trades of Wolverhampton, lined the barriers, and raised a mighty shout when the Royal carriages appeared in sight, renewing it again and again with a heartiness which could not be mistaken. Those who thought that the population of the Black Country, though well disposed and thoroughly loyal, might prove unruly in such a crowd were agreeably disappointed. The orderly behaviour of the people, often under trying circumstances, showed that all were on their best behaviour.

FROM THE DAILY NEWS.

There probably never was collected a larger crowd in any spot in the United Kingdom—perhaps excepting the metropolis itself—than that which poured into Wolverhampton on Friday morning from every town, village, and hamlet in the midland and northern counties. The railway accommodation afforded by our principal lines was taxed to the utmost, but in addition every road was covered long before daylight with vehicles and toiling pedestrians, all hurrying to see their Queen perform a solemn act of devotion to the memory of her late illustrious consort. The pageant of the day was splendid, considered merely as a pageant; but far more imposing were the loyalty and affection exhibited by hundreds of thousands of people, and the spectacle they afforded of the enormous physical force of the country. Those who only know Wolverhampton in its ordinary work-a-day livery of smoke and soot would hardly have recognised the change which the will of a people in earnest and the skill of practised decorators had effected in one short week.

FROM THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

A second essential element in the acknowledged success was the admirable organisation in every department. Carefully designed and excellently carried out, the whole worked to perfection ; the plan of details, therefore, may be studied with advantage by all who in time to come may emulate the honour which has been achieved by the good Borough of Wolverhampton. Columns might be filled merely with descriptions of the decorations of the town and the appearance of the streets. For our present purpose it must suffice to say that from the moment Her Majesty left the Royal Train her progress was beneath a canopy of flags, banners, evergreens, and triumphal arches, and between two compact masses of loyal and delighted subjects.

FROM THE MORNING HERALD.

Wolverhampton had but a week to prepare, and it certainly made the most of the time. We believe that the presence of the Queen at the inauguration of the statue of the Prince Consort was hardly hoped for, although it was requested. It was believed that Her Majesty would depute the Prince and Princess Christian to act in her stead ; but when the Queen promised not only that they and the Princess Louise should go down, but that she herself would go to the town of locks, Wolverhampton went to work with a will, and at a cost which will never be known, but which was partly derived from the private purses of the tradespeople.

FROM THE MORNING POST.

This (Friday) has been a great day for Wolverhampton, and the inhabitants may well pride themselves on the honour that has been done to their town—an honour of which they have shown their full appreciation by the manner in which they have received the royal visitor. \* \* The good folks of Wolverhampton may well pride themselves on the result of their enterprise, for that their town should have the honour of being the first in England which, since the death of the lamented Prince, has been honoured with a state visit, while Liverpool and other places of greater note had failed in inducing Her Majesty to break through her retirement after her great sorrow, is no small feather in its cap, which it wore on Friday with a jauntiness that seemed quite foreign to the normal condition of the “Black Country.” No sooner were Her Majesty’s intentions made known, than the town rose as one man to do honour to the occasion.

FROM THE STANDARD.

Dr. Johnson said that he remembered Queen Anne, but only "as a stately lady in black and with diamonds." The people of South Staffordshire—and Dr. Johnson was a Staffordshire man—in days to come will recal to memory the days on which they saw Queen Victoria, a "little lady in black and without diamonds" They saw her on Friday, a hundred thousand of them ; and they were much delighted, as well they might be, since their fellow citizens of Liverpool and Manchester were unfortunate enough to lose the honour which was frankly accorded to Wolverhampton. But both Liverpool and Manchester made their application at a time when it was impossible that Her Majesty should accede to them. The capital of the Black Country, more lucky, asked for the presence of the Queen when no very lengthened journey was necessary, and when no domestic or social duties intervened. And it has shown that it well deserved the favour that has been manifested by the Sovereign. Little more than a week has elapsed since an intimation was given of the Queen's acceptance of the invitation, and already the day has come and gone, and Wolverhampton, festive and gay beyond any one's conception of its capacity, has received Her Majesty and parted from her ; cheered her coming and cheered her going ; made bo'd to press closely, yet not rudely, upon her carriage ; and come to the conclusion that it is beyond question a happy thing that the Queen has once more come among her people, and undertaken those little social duties which, perhaps, are not worth much in a "practical" point of view, but which are precious links in the chain of affection that binds the people to the throne.





## LETTER FROM THE HOME SECRETARY.

[*The following Letter was received by the Mayor from the Right Hon. S. H. Walpole,  
Her Majesty's Secretary of State.*]

Whitehall, December 4th, 1866.

SIR,

I have it in command from Her Majesty to express to you her entire satisfaction with all the arrangements made for her reception at Wolverhampton, on Friday last, and for the inauguration of the Statue of the Prince Consort.

Her Majesty could not but be deeply touched by the devoted loyalty manifested to herself by all classes of her subjects on the interesting occasion ; but she felt yet more deeply the appreciation shown in your address of the character of those services which were rendered to his adopted country by him whose loss she can never cease to deplore, and of the motives of Christian duty under which the services were rendered, and by which he stimulated others to follow in the path which he had traced out.

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, as the representative of that large and industrious population who were gathered together to do honour to his memory, the feelings with which Her Majesty has received your loyal and dutiful address.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S. H. WALPOLE.

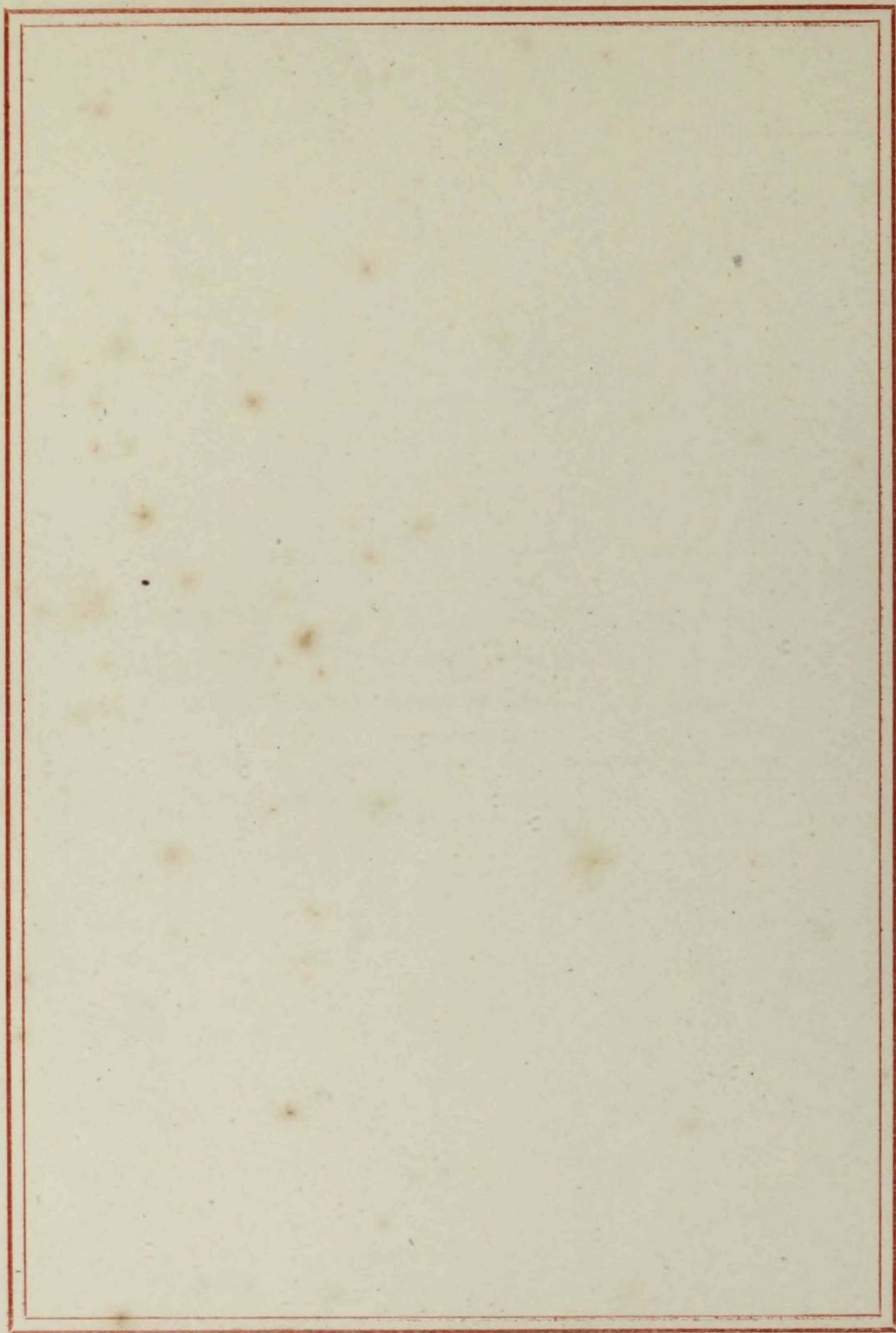
To the Mayor of Wolverhampton.

NOTE.—The Portrait of Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen  
(by Messrs. DOWNEY, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne,) was taken by special  
desire of Her Majesty at Balmoral, in 1866.

The "Roman Ribbon" Initial Letters used, were designed by  
M. F. R. CHRISTMANN, of Frankfort-on-Maine.

1867 :

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