

position on the rug. She had been the first to recover her spirits, but was inclined to be peevish that afternoon because, though the sun shone, Lottie decided that she had no time for a walk.

"Why don't you go into the garden with Ronald?" Lottie suggested.

Nessa made a little grimace. "I am sick and tired of the garden," she declared. "Oh, Lottie, I wonder how long this life is to last! Will there ever, ever be any change?"

"I don't very well see how it's to come," returned Lottie, and she too could not repress a little sigh. She, too, would have liked to see a little more of the world; she would have liked

to go to London and to have seen St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey, and the South Kensington Museum, and perhaps—but this was almost too great an improbability to even think of—to go to a theatre. She could quite sympathise with Nessa, but what was the use? There was no money for any such delights. Even her father seldom went from home, though the following week he was going to visit a friend at some distance where he would have to stay all night. He was going to meet a Bishop—not his Bishop—who had been much struck by one of his magazine articles, and had expressed a wish to make his acquaintance. Lottie was glad he was going; the visit

and the exertion he would have to make might help to rouse him from the great depression into which he had fallen.

"Run, Nessa!" she exclaimed a few minutes after, "here is the postman at the gate."

Nessa sprang up willingly. The postman did not often come to their gate, and never with any letters to Lottie and herself, but still his coming was something of an excitement; there was always an element of uncertainty about it, and the two girls had a theory that some day something would come to them through the post.

(To be continued)



THE PRINCESSES ROYAL OF ENGLAND.



HERE are books about the Queens of England, and about the Princesses of Wales; but no history has yet been published of the Princesses Royal, the eldest daughters of the English Kings and Queens. Without

going back to earlier times, there have been not a few of these princesses of remarkable character and with romantic history. A collected record of their lives would form a book of great interest, especially as connecting the history of our own country with the contemporary annals of other lands, to which these "daughters of England" were transplanted.

The daughter of Henry I. became the wife, first of Henry IV., Emperor of Germany, and secondly of Geoffrey Plantagenet, Comte d'Anjou, and son of the then King of Jerusalem. The eldest daughter of Edward II. became Queen of Scotland. Henry IV. had two daughters, the eldest becoming Queen of Arragon and her sister Queen of Denmark. Mary Tudor, the daughter of Henry VII., became Queen of France, and when Queen Dowager, her second marriage was with Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. Of the two daughters of Henry VIII., the gloomy Mary, of dark memory, married King Philip of Spain—an evil match for England, which was made up for by the glorious reign of Queen Elizabeth, her maiden sister.

The only daughter of James I. who reached maturity was the wife of Frederick, the Elector Palatine. The life of this beautiful and unfortunate Princess, Elizabeth Stuart, is a romantic though sad story, well worthy of a separate record.

James II. left two daughters, who each became Queen Regnant of England. The first, Mary, reigned in conjunction with her cousin and husband, William of Orange, our William III., who was son of Mary, eldest

daughter of Charles I. The other daughter, Anne, married Prince George of Denmark. The only daughter of George I. became the wife of the Elector of Brandenburg, afterwards King of Prussia. Of the five daughters of George II., three married foreign princes, and two died unmarried.

Of the numerous family of King George III. and Queen Charlotte, six were daughters. The eldest, the Princess Royal of that time, became Queen of Württemberg.

We have named enough of these alliances to show how many must be the cousinships and relationships, more or less remote, between the Royal Family of England and other reigning houses. In some cases these complicated alliances were multiplied by the marriage of brothers and also of younger sisters of the Princesses Royal. It was usually the custom, and latterly the law, to avoid marriage with subjects. It was not easy to get alliances with foreign princes, who were not always to be found among first-rate powers, and rarely indeed among Protestant Royal houses. Hence the frequent recourse to petty German States for Royal marriages.

The Princess Mary, daughter of George III., married her cousin, William Frederick, Duke of Gloucester, an English subject, and son of an English lady, widow of the Earl of Waldegrave.

In earlier English history such alliances with subjects were more frequent. Thus, Eleanor, daughter of King John, was married to William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, to the great displeasure of her brother Henry. He became afterwards reconciled to the match, and on the death of the first husband the King gave with his own hand the Countess of Pembroke, after seven years' widowhood, to another English nobleman, famous in our annals, Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. Joan, the second daughter of Edward I., was first married to Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and secondly to Sir Ralph de Monthermer, a knight in her own household. The King was much displeased, because this second match was made without his consent or knowledge; yet he forgave the offence, and authorised Sir Ralph to sit in Parliament as Earl of Gloucester during the life of the countess.

Edward IV., who had himself married a subject for love, was the father of eight princesses, three of whom were united to English noblemen—Cicely to John, Viscount Wells; Anne to Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk; and Katherine to William Courte-

nay, Earl of Devonshire. Cicely, indeed, took as her second husband a commoner, a Lincolnshire squire, representative of an old county family with the unfamiliar name of Kyme.

These numerous alliances—and there were others besides what we have mentioned, and not reckoning illegal matches—account for the various claims in genealogy and heraldry for connection with Royal lineage, however remote the pedigree may reach.

Such marriages, it will be noted, were at least legal, and the consanguinity was allowed. As late as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Frances, Duchess of Suffolk, the daughter of the Queen Dowager of France by her second husband, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, received from the Queen an augmentation of arms, consisting of the Royal Arms of England within a bordure, or and azure, "which shall be an apparent declaration of their consanguinity to us."

In subsequent times the inconvenience of these alliances with subjects led to the passing of a statute commonly called "The Royal Marriage Act," according to which none of the Royal Family can contract matrimony without the previous consent of the sovereign, signified under the Great Seal, and any marriage contracted without such consent is void. But after the age of twenty-five, and with twelve months' notice given to the Privy Council, such marriages may be solemnised, even without the consent of the Crown, which (for instance, during the long mental illness of George III.) cannot always be given unless both Houses of Parliament shall, before the expiration of the year's notice, expressly declare their disapprobation of such intended marriage. The last time that this Royal Marriage Act came to have any political and national bearing was in 1844, in the Sussex Peerage Case, when Augustus Frederick d'Este claimed to be Duke of Sussex, as the son of Augustus Frederick, sixth son of George III., his mother being Lady Augusta Murray, daughter of the Earl of Dunmore. The parents were married by an English clergyman at Rome, according to the marriage rites of the English Church. The judges, however, decided unanimously that the marriage, whether valid or not at Rome, was invalid by the law of England, and the claim was disallowed.

These details may seem dry to some of our readers, but they may be useful for reference, and they touch upon some interesting points in English history.