

The New Ruler of Sweden and His Family

King Gustave V., His Ancestry, His Relations With His People and the Popular Queen Victoria.

THE new king of Sweden, who has taken the title of Gustave V., is a great-grandson of a boy who ran away from his home in Pau, France, to go to sea, but got caught in the maelstrom of the French revolution and became a skillful general, minister of war and marshal of France under Napoleon and finally king of Sweden and Norway. His original name was Jean Baptiste Jules Bernadotte. Anybody who has read that once popular book, J. T. Headley's "Napoleon and His Marshals," will remember that Bernadotte galloped all through its pages, now here, now there, at Wagram, at Austerlitz, always showing high skill and gallantry.

Napoleon, who disliked Bernadotte, preferred to have him fight for rather than against him. Accordingly in reward for the marshal's brilliant services at Austerlitz he made Bernadotte Prince of Pontecorvo, a little Italian



QUEEN VICTORIA OF SWEDEN.

town. Some years later the Swedish diet elected Bernadotte crown prince of Sweden, hoping thus to gain the favor of Napoleon. Bernadotte's elevation, however, was extremely distasteful to the French emperor, who knew that his former marshal cordially despised him. These are the facts of history, and they are in direct opposition to the popular supposition that Napoleon placed Bernadotte on the Swedish throne.

Gustave V., therefore, is but three generations from a humble French citizen. However, by marriage of Bernadotte princes during those generations with royal princesses the new ruler has several strains of kingly blood in his veins. It is said that he is the first of the Bernadottes to be accepted or cordial terms by the aristocracy of Sweden, this proud element having scorned old Jules Bernadotte and his son and grandsons because of their plebeian extraction. Gustave is assumed by the aristocracy to have a preponderance of truly royal blood.

By the elevation of Gustave to the throne a daughter of one of Europe's proudest families becomes queen of Sweden. Gustave's wife is Victoria, daughter of the Grand Duke of Baden and granddaughter of old Emperor William I. of Germany. Queen Vic-

BARON KANEKO'S CAREER.

His Harvard Degree and His Little Son's Expectations.

Baron Kentaro Kaneko, who is said to be in favor of a treaty between Japan and the United States giving free trade between the Philippine Islands and the mikado's empire, is reputed to be a very close student of the affairs of the United States, as well as of



BARON KENTARO KANEKO.

those of his own country. According to the proposal discussed, the United States would give the Philippines a market for their products in Japan and thus avoid the necessity of entirely demolishing the tariff wall now existing between the Philippines and the Amer-



KING GUSTAVE V. of Sweden.

toria is a first cousin of the present German emperor. She is described as an extremely clever woman, fond of painting and sketching and talented as a writer. She is also an excellent cook, in which fact she is said to take much pride. The new queen has endeared herself to the people of Sweden by her consideration for the poor.

King Gustave is forty-nine years old, a year older than Emperor William, whom he greatly admires and whose military bent he is said to emulate. When Gustave was a youth he was poetic and dreamy. This is not to be wondered at, since his father, the venerable King Oscar, who has just died, was the author of many meritorious poems. To cure him of his dreamy tendencies Gustave was sent into the country, where he became an enthusiastic hunter. He is still exceedingly fond of the chase. Another thing young Gustave did in the country—he fell in love with a pretty girl, the daughter of a rural pastor. He wanted to marry her, but reasons of state caused him in 1881 to wed the Princess Victoria. He is very tall, as was his father. He is of a taciturn disposition in public, but is said to be quite genial and affable among his personal



KING OSCAR'S WIDOW, QUEEN SOPHIE.

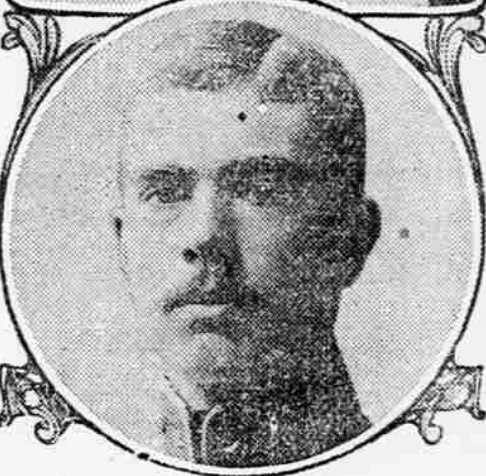
friends and associates. Gustave is much more popular than he was in his youth. His reserved manner was mistaken for haughtiness. As crown prince Gustave was constantly under comparison with his father, King Oscar, who was the most democratic and perhaps the best beloved monarch in Europe. No matter what Gustave did or omitted doing, the people insisted upon estimating him according to his

The New Crown Prince and His Bride, an English Princess. The Widow of King Oscar, Queen Sophie.

father's standard. This difficult position the crown prince bore with manly patience. Having reached a mature age before being called to the throne, he has proved his inherent good qualities and his devotion to Sweden. Gustave served several times as regent during the illness or absence of his father and therefore is not without administrative experience.

Gustave Adolph, the new crown prince, is a popular young man of twenty-five who married the pretty Princess Margaret of Connaught a year ago. Thus England supplies, if events take the natural course, the next queen of Sweden.

Future Bernadotte rulers of the Swedish people must maintain a high standard to measure up to their prede-



THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS.

cessors of that house. Of the four Bernadotte kings who have completed their reigns not one has betrayed his trust, not one has failed to appreciate his high responsibilities, his duty to the people. Old Marshal Bernadotte, as Charles XIV., though a famous general, turned his attention to the internal improvement and development of Sweden and Norway, the united kingdoms which he ruled. His son Oscar, a studious man, with a leaning toward literature, followed his example. Oscar's eldest son, who reigned thirteen years as Charles XV., left no son to succeed him, but he left a legacy of wise and helpful administration. His brother, Oscar II., whose reign of thirty-five years was the longest of any Bernadotte ruler, became known as the most able monarch in Europe.

The widow of Oscar, now the dowager Queen Sophie, was a princess of Nassau. She was married to Crown Prince Oscar in 1857. For fifty years this royal couple lived together as happily as they might have lived had the king been merely Oscar Bernadotte, citizen of provincial France.

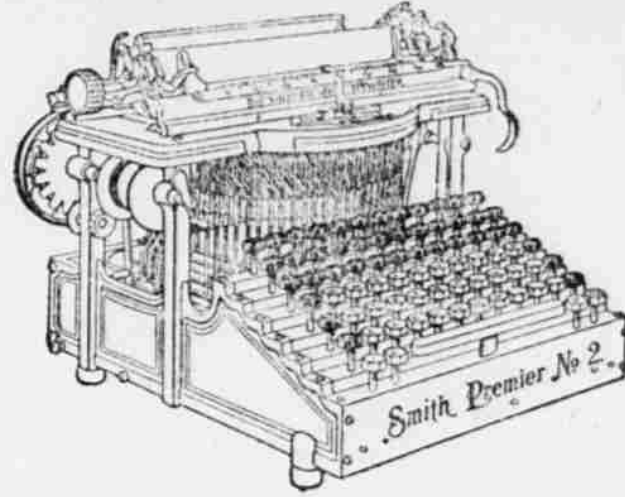
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