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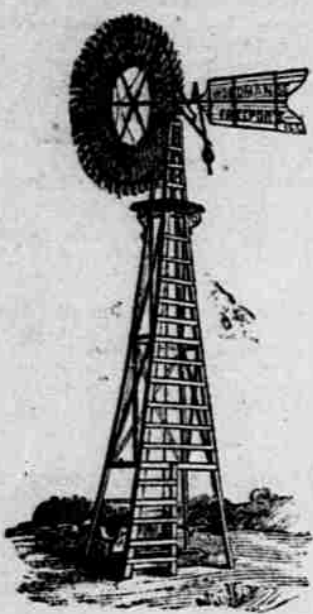
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EUROPE'S ROYAL WOMEN.

Victoria and Alexandra—Ex-Queen Isabella—Olga, of Greece.
(Olive Harper in New York World.)
Queen Victoria I saw twice while in England—once on the platform of a railway station, and a second time walking in the grounds of Windsor castle. The first time she was accompanied by her suit and probably by her faithful John Brown, and the second time she had two little girls with her and a tall man servant walking sedately in the rear. The queen looked just as do her pictures, with the exception that her color and her eyes, her mouth and her gross figure all give her a very common appearance, and she looks like one who, were she not a queen, would be called a hard drinker, judging from her appearance. There is nothing regal, nor even dignified, in her manner or walk. She wears very large shoes, and dresses in deep mourning, with a widow's cap. She has no grace of figure or outline, and, in short, her whole appearance knocks to splinters the theory of patrician birth evidenced in appearance. Of course this is but a superficial judgment. Her daughter-in-law Alexandra, however, has every grace and dignity and attribute we involuntarily bestow upon princesses. She is everything that is noble and engaging, and she draws all hearts to her. Her children resemble her. Her features and form are those of the highest Russian type, and that type is model. Mrs. MacGahan, the widow of the war correspondent, who is now, I believe, in Toledo, and who is a Russian lady, resembles the Princess Alexandra very closely.

The Princess Alexandra is very often seen in London, driving about with one or more of her children, and is often met in the South Kensington and British museums, where I have seen her. She always dresses on these occasions with the most extreme simplicity. The empress of Austria, on the contrary, dresses with the greatest elegance at all compatible with the occasion. I have seen her many times in the Vienna exhibition, always dressed magnificently in satins and rare laces. She mingles freely among the people and displays her rarely beautiful smiles for all alike. She has the most superb head of chestnut hair, wavy and glossy, that I ever saw, and she walks erect and with a grace of motion seldom seen in women. She has large eyes, full of fire and spirit as well as affection, and altogether a most beautiful woman, tall and lithe. I have seen her in royal pageants dressed in regal state, and on horseback, where she is indeed a splendid sight, dressed in velvet, gold-laced and jeweled riding habits, and I have seen her on the Prater in the evenings, at the opera at night, and severest test of all, at the exposition, under the hard and searching light of day, and I declare still that she is a beautiful woman. Once at the exhibition she stepped on my toes, and I must admit, hurt my most precious corn, and she made more apologies than I should have thought necessary had I been the one to squeeze her imperial toes, and when she found that I could not speak anything but "American," she held quite a little chat with me, much to the scandal of her followers.

Very different to her in manner was the ex-Queen Isabella, whom I also met with the young King Alfonso, who, however, was not a king then, but just a nice boy of somewhere about 20. She is short, gross and fat, and with a most repulsive countenance wherein it seemed to me all the low passions predominated. She was dressed very plainly as to material and color, though it does not seem to me that any amount of jewels or robes could transform her into anything more regal. The went about cheapening different articles like a market-woman, and puffing and panting along, her huge bust and stomach shaking as she walked, and pudgy hands thrust into immense gloves, altogether making a picture not pleasant to see.

Queen Olga, of Greece, I also saw at the Vienna exhibition, as well as afterward, when I was in Athens, and she is one of the handsomest women I have ever seen, queen or otherwise. She is rather tall, most exquisitely built, with small hands and feet, thick dark hair, large brown eyes, with eyelashes that are simply wonderful, and with a pure, cream complexion as rare as it is beautiful. She is very fond of horseback riding and looks well in the saddle, but I love her best when with her children or with ladies. She is irresistibly lovely and charming then. It is but fair to say that she is adored by her husband and her people. She is fond of knitting lace-work, such as is done in Turkey, and giving it to ladies who please her in any way.

I saw the empress of Prussia once only, and then but indistinctly. She was with the emperor, and they visited Vienna together. After sitting for hours to see the royal cortege pass the window, at last my patience was rewarded by seeing a carriage dash by as rapidly as possible, and in it were seated the grizzly old emperor William and a withered, frail-looking old woman almost hidden in wraps and laces, and that was her majesty the empress of Prussia.

The Logic of Conquest.
(The Current.)
It is safe to say that, if there shall prove to be any way for England to keep Egypt, the land of the Pharaohs will be retained as a part of the British empire. Napoleon always favored confederates. They consumed time and bound nobody to anything. From the first gun that opened on Alexandria and Arabi in 1882, conquest has been the secret and logical thought. Says the first fisherman: "Master I marvel how the fishes live in the sea!"—and the second fisherman might have answered as aptly: "Why, as nations a-land—the great ones eat up the little ones."

Not Anonymously.
(The Current.)
James Payn, in his "Literary Recollections" now in course of publication in The Independent, earnestly advises young authors not to publish their works anonymously. "If one," he wisely says, "has any personality belonging to one (whether it is spelt with an 'I' or not) is just as well to claim it otherwise some one is sure to do so."
Professor W. A. Henry: There is perhaps one farmer in ten that keeps records.

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