

# VICTORIA LEFT VAST ESTATE

## Two New Senators.

**Died Worth \$125,000,000.**

Queen Victoria was the first English sovereign who ever had property to leave. All her predecessors upon the throne bequeathed their successors nothing but debts, which parliament was called upon to pay. While the queen permitted the nation thus to settle the liabilities of her uncles, King George IV. and King William IV., she made a point immediately after her accession to pay off in full the very large debts contracted by her father, the duke of Kent. This, the portioning of her daughters, as well as some of her granddaughters, who have in each case received from her a dowry of \$500,000 on marrying, and the settlement on one occasion of some very pressing liabilities of the prince of Wales, may be said to have constituted the only very heavy expenses which the queen had been called upon to meet since she ascended the throne in 1837.

**Had Large Privy Purse.**

From that time forth she was in receipt of a civil list amounting to close upon \$5,000,000 a year. Of this the major portion was assigned to definite heads of royal expenditure. But \$200,000 a year was devoted to what is called the queen's privy purse and constituted her pocket money, of which no account was ever asked. Besides this she had at her disposal the net revenues of the duchy of Lancaster, which have amounted on an average to \$300,000 a year more. From this it will be seen that after having all the

QUEEN VICTORIA, BORN MAY 24, 1819; DIED JANUARY 22, 1901.



way by agreeing to call her "Empress of India." Hence her majesty permitted him a freedom of address never endured from any other of her ministers, except Lord Melbourne.

No sovereign was more successfully managed by a prime minister than was Queen Victoria by Lord Beaconsfield. He recognized fully the truth of the royal saying that ladies must be humored and he pleased the queen by obeying all her little whims. He was wise enough, too, to cultivate John Brown and to place himself in the good graces of that worthy servant.

Gladstone could never forget himself or fail to hint, if he did not clearly show, that he had a mind of his own. He always was masterful in his way, and never hesitated on occasion to suggest to the queen that his way was the best—often the only way—to proceed. Hence Gladstone was never a favorite with her majesty.

**Insisted on Purity.**

To obtain purity in her court was one object which the queen sought with strenuous vigilance. By some means she learned the peccadilloes of all personages likely to come into contact with her, and when justified she hesitated not a moment, no matter what their power, to exclude them from her favor.

If an author, a painter or a musician made a stir in the world she was as eager to know all about him as any



**Career of M. E. Clapp.**

Moses E. Clapp, the newly elected senator from Minnesota, is 49 years of age. He was born in Deplhi, Ind. When he was 7 years of age his parents moved to Wisconsin. He secured his common school education in Wisconsin and graduated from the Wisconsin Law school in 1873. He moved to Fergus Falls, Minn., in 1880, where he took up the practice of law, permanently locating in St. Paul in 1891. Mr. Clapp was elected attorney general of the state in 1886, 1888 and 1890, and has always been prominent in politics. He was candidate for the republican nomination for governor in 1896, but was defeated by Gov. Clough. He enjoys a large law practice. He is an orator of ability and is familiarly known as the "Black Eagle of Minnesota."



**Hon. Henry E. Burnham.**

William E. Chandler, the fiery brilliant senator from New Hampshire, whose defeat for re-election was one of the greatest surprises in recent political fights, will be succeeded by Henry E. Burnham, who is a man of fine ability and whose temperament is antithetical to that of Chandler. He is conservative, judicious and deliberate and will undoubtedly become in time one of the solid men of the senate. Born in Durbarton, N. H., fifty-six years ago, he graduated from Dartmouth college, and upon his admission to the bar began practice in Manchester, where he has ever since resided. He has held many county offices, including that of probate judge, and has served in the house of representatives of his state. He will take his seat March 4.

## Some New Ideas.

**Auxiliary Bureau Mirror.**

The invention illustrated below has for its object to provide a supplemental mirror having an adjustable connection with the bureau, and adapted to be set at different angle to the large glass to aid in showing a rear view of the person dressing at the bureau. Of course, it is a woman's invention, as it would take one of the gentler sex to appreciate the merits of such an arrangement, and the patent has been granted to Mary Blanche Holton of Texas. The invention is formed of a light framework of either metal or



SHOWS A REAR VIEW.

wood, and is so arranged that the several parts will fold in small compass when not in use, the sections being hinged together to facilitate both the folding and adjustment of the mirror in relation to the main glass. Much latitude is allowed in the movement of the glass, and it will give a view of the bottom of the skirts equally as well as a view of the arrangement of the hair, thus doing away with all the craning and twisting to obtain a view of the back of the dress. The advantage over the hand mirror used for the same purpose is that it leaves both hands free to adjust the hair or garments, and also gives a steady view when once set in a certain position, which it is impossible to obtain with the hand glass.

**Improved Life Raft.**

This invention relates to a self-inflating life-raft, which is capable of being folded into small compass when not in use, and which inflates immedi-



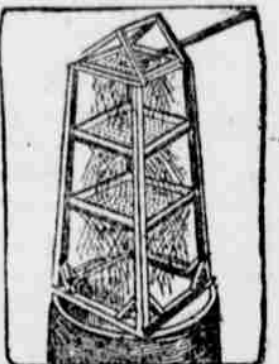
THE LIFE RAFT.

ately when taken out of its rack, without waiting until it strikes the water. The raft is intended for the use of several persons if necessary, and can also be utilized for carrying supplies. To accomplish its inflation a chemical compartment is provided with a quantity of any suitable sodium or potassium, which will be attacked by an acid, so as to evolve a sufficient quantity of gas for the expansion of self-inflating life preserver. The air-tight ring. In order to provide the raft with means for giving a day or night signals the central mast is hollow and contains a quantity of calcium carbide, which forms an illuminating gas as soon as submitted to the action of the water. As the tube is provided with burners at either end, it makes no difference which side up the raft falls. For day signaling a flag is lashed to the mast. The netting in the

center is tightly strung and will support several persons, being suspended above the water level to keep the passengers as dry as possible under the circumstances.

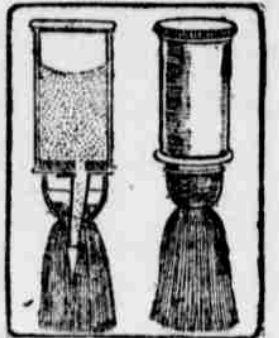
**Air Currents Cool Water.**

In some parts of Mexico it is customary to place water in a porous jar and when it has moistened the outside of the jar is swung in the air by the straps attached to the handles, the action of the air currents cooling the surface of the jar and then the contents. The invention, which we illustrate above is a simple method of cooling water by aeration and evaporation, which has lately been patented. It applies practically the same principle as the Mexican method, except that here the entire quantity is subjected to the action of the air instead of a small portion. The device consists of a series of perforated trays suspended in a wooden frame over the water receptacle, with a feed pipe at the top. As the water trickles from one tray to the next it forms a spray, which is partially evaporated by the air currents. The latter may be either natural or artificial and the moisture taken up by the air serves to cool the remainder of the water as it falls into the tank below.



**Soap in Brush Handle.**

We illustrate below a shaving brush which will be found particularly serviceable for traveling men, as it may be readily carried in the pocket and is already provided with the necessary soap for making the lather. To facilitate the use of the soap in the form of a powder, which may be inserted in the handle of the brush by unscrewing the cap at the end. The illustration on the left shows a sectional view of the brush, exposing the perforated tube through which a small quantity of the powder is sifted into the face. A slight twist of the handle opens the valve and allows a portion of the powder to sift out, when it is only necessary to dip the bristles in water and apply the brush to the face to prepare the skin for shaving, thus doing away with the necessity for carrying a mug and piece of soap separately. To protect the brush when not in use a metallic cap is provided which engages the shank close to the soap holder, forming a tubular arrangement which is clean enough to be carried loosely in the traveling case or pocket.



FOR TRAVELERS' USE.

**To Exterminate the Prairie Dog.**

The prairie dog will soon follow the buffalo out of existence. The agricultural department has found that the dogs kill the grass and ruin good grazing land. The department's chemists have put up a compound which the little beasts will like, but which will kill them no less surely.

Mrs. Ynaga, grandmother of the duke of Manchester, who is now visiting her at her home in Louisiana, is herself very rich and owns three of the finest plantations in all the south, the Ravenswood, the Consuela and the Wakefield.



EDWARD VII, NEW KING OF ENGLAND.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA, CONSORT OF EDWARD VII.

expenses of every conceivable character, down to her very charities and servants' wages, defrayed out of the civil list, she had a sum of at least \$600,000 each year to dispose of and which she is known to have set aside. This in itself, when added up, represents a minimum of \$36,000,000, and when it is remembered that the revenues of the duchy of Lancaster are all the time increasing, the net revenues for last year being no less than £90,000, or \$450,000, as compared with £60,000, or \$300,000, ten years ago, and that, moreover, the queen's savings have been most judiciously invested, for the most part in land which has increased almost tenfold in value during the last half century, it is no exaggeration to estimate the present fortune of her majesty from these sources alone as in the neighborhood of \$100,000,000.

**Prince Consort Left Millions.**

The prince consort is known to have left a will bequeathing his entire fortune to the queen, although it was never admitted to probate or officially divulged. During the twenty-three years that intervened between his marriage and his death he had received from the English treasury an annuity of \$150,000, besides which he had a private fortune of his own which yielded him about \$20,000 a year more. As the queen's husband, he had practically no expense of any kind to meet, since they were all defrayed, like those of her majesty, out of the assigned portions of the civil list, and it is known that he was able to set aside and invest at least \$100,000 a year throughout his married life. This amounts net to \$2,300,000. The major portion of this was most judiciously invested in land at South Kensington, which was at that time little else than a waste ground, but which today is covered with the most costly and luxurious mansions in London and is worth far more for the square foot than it was forty years ago for the acre. The

fortune bequeathed by the prince consort to his widow is estimated to have attained at the present day the minimum value of \$25,000,000.

**Changes in Empire.**

The territorial growth of the British empire during the reign of Queen Victoria has been prodigious. In Asia between 1837 and 1858 the territory of Sindh, the Sikhs, Tanjore, Lower Burma, Nagpur, Sattara, Jhansi and Oude were brought under British dominion. In the latter year all British India was transferred from the British East India company to the crown. And since that date Upper Burma, the Shan states, Beluchistan, Manipur and Chitral have been annexed. Nor must the little but enormously valuable territory of Hongkong be forgotten as one of the acquisitions of the reign.

Passing from Asia to Australasia, even greater changes have occurred. Before 1837 New South Wales and Tasmania were the only organized colonies in that region and the rest of the great islands were practically unknown land. Since then New Zealand, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and West Australia have been added to the mighty cluster of British colonies which now dominate that quarter of the world. Fiji, part of Borneo and of New Guinea and many smaller island groups are now also to be colored with British red on the world's map.

**Few Changes in West.**

In the western hemisphere there have been few changes in territorial lines. British title to the northwestern territory has been confirmed and the area of British Guiana somewhat enlarged. The development of the Dominion of Canada has, however, been almost equal to the discovery and annexation of a new continent. Finally, in Africa, there has been stupendous progress. Sixty years ago Great

Britain owned Cape Colony and two or three other mere footholds. In these three-score years she has acquired in the southern part of the dark continent the territories of Natal, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Zululand and finally the vast territory administered by the British South Africa company, extending north to Lake Tanganyika. The recent acquisition of the Trans-



VICTORIA'S PRIVATE DINING ROOM AT OSBORNE HOUSE.

vaal and the Orange Free State gives her absolute control of South Africa. In the east she had practically taken Zanzibar and nearly half a million square miles of "hinterland" extending to the Congo state in the heart of Africa and northward to the Egyptian Soudan. In West Africa she secured an imperial domain in the Niger country and in the north she has a temporary control over Egypt, of which the end no man can yet discern.

It is an empire, compared with which those of Alexander, Trajan and Solymian seem insignificant. At the beginning of the reign the total population of the British empire was about 127,500,000. Today it is 383,500,000, or more than one-fifth of that of the whole world. The area of the empire is now 11,334,391 square miles. That is equal to nearly three times the area of Europe, or to about one-fifth the land area of the globe. In the United Kingdom itself there were sixty years ago only 16,000,000 inhabitants. Now there are about 39,000,000.

**Humored by Beaconsfield.**  
Beaconsfield pleased the queen in one

diligent reader of the popular press. There was not a prominent politician whose relations with his family were not fairly well known to her. Not long ago she refused to sanction the appointment of a very able man who had been recommended by the government for an important office. The reason for her refusal was that the appointment would bring the man into



VICTORIA'S PRIVATE DINING ROOM AT OSBORNE HOUSE.

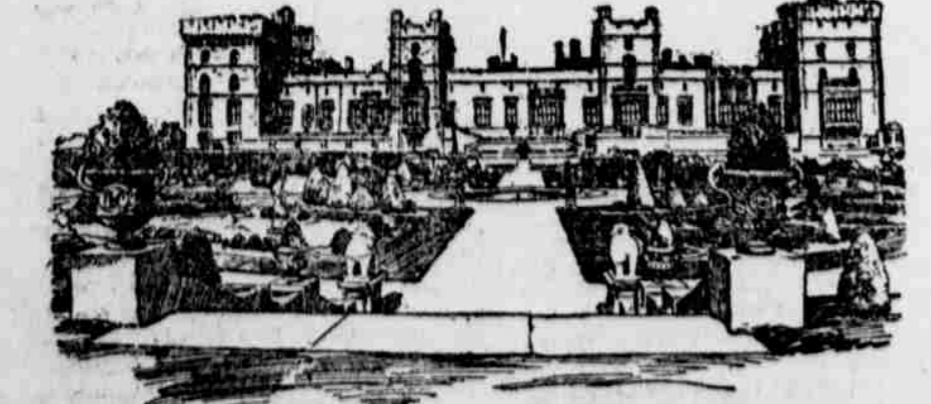
personal relations with her, and the result would be uncomfortable for him, because she would not receive his wife.

For obvious reasons it was necessary for her to be more charitable regarding the foibles of the Prince of Wales.

**Victoria's Life in Brief.**

Here are a few of the most important events in the late Queen Victoria's life: Born at Kensington Palace May 24, 1819; ascends the throne June 20, 1837; married to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha Feb. 10, 1840; first daughter, Empress Frederick of Germany, born Nov. 21, 1840; first son, Prince of Wales, born Nov. 9, 1841; death of the Prince Consort Dec. 14, 1861; proclaimed empress of India May 1, 1876; celebrates her golden jubilee June 20, 1887; celebrates her diamond jubilee June 20, 1897.

There is now before the Missouri legislature a bill providing for a monument to Thomas H. Benton, Governor Dockery, the mayor of St. Louis and three others, to be chosen by the governor will form a commission to have the matter in charge.



WINDSOR CASTLE, VICTORIA'S PRINCIPAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE.