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SETTING UP FOR HIMSELF. Miss Spence, a well-known character, was one day driving cattle through Edinburgh.

Royalty's Wormwood.

"As happy as a queen!" How keenly do we realize the incongruity of this time-worn and rather pleasant expression when reading of some of the earlier European queens.

There are few stories more sadly interesting than that of the wife of Charles II., of Spain, Marie Louise, niece of Louis XIV., and granddaughter of Charles I. of England.

Charles II. in his impatience to see the young queen went to meet her at Quintanapalla, a wretched village of a few peasant huts.

Charles II. was born in the days of his father's deepest humiliation, and when the cadaverous, proud, but gentle-hearted monarch was in a dying state.

Her married life lasted ten years, and after hersudden and tragic death by cholera, the king sank deeper and deeper into a melancholy lethargy.

October 14, 1793, her trial began; she was accused of having plundered the French nation, of having engaged in criminal correspondence with foreign powers.

The brilliant, pedantic, eccentric and selfish woman, Christina, proved not the great queen whom Gustavus Adolphus hoped to leave as his successor to the crown of Sweden.

Nor was the life of Queen Marie, who married Charles VII. of France, of the happiest. The young queen had an affectionate and versatile character and bore a great love for the king.

Her brother's wife had brought to the court among her maids of honor a young and beautiful girl of some seventeen years named Agnes Sorel.

sense of the services she had rendered the king by awakening him from his apathy as regards state affairs; she advised and encouraged him, and, indeed, inspired all the energy which the young king displayed.

The king presented a castle with all its appurtenances to Agnes Sorel, naming the place "Manoir de Beaute."

The most persevering enemy of Agnes Sorel was the son of Charles VII. So intense became his hatred of her that she in time exiled herself from the court to reside at the "Manoir de Beaute."

The happiest days of Marie Antoinette were passed at Little Trianon. When playing the part of a dairy-maid at her little farm, the queen exclaimed: "God be praised, I am no longer a sovereign."

In 1790, the royal family left Trianon and traversed Paris, amid insults and threats. As the mob crowded about them, Marie Antoinette appealed to them: "See, see, we are starving!"

Marie Antoinette began in a storm her life which was to end amid a violent eruption. When she wedded Louis XVI. she was the most beautiful princess in the world.

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that, uncertain as the wind, she was to be trusted only for just what the mood of the moment was worth.

The coronation of Christina took place in the cathedral of Upsala with such magnificence as the simple Swedes had never before witnessed or dreamed of.

To console herself for her uncongenial surroundings, Christina determined to become the patroness of learning, she invited to her court the most distinguished virtuosi and learned men of her day.

She had long tired of being queen, and as a profound secret, told the ambassador of her intended abdication.

The following year she abjured the Lutheran faith, and by this act, more than by all the follies of her reign, alienated the affections of the Swedes.

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There was a fascination in her lively intelligent and earnest conversation that might have won confidence, but she soon convinced her subjects by her waywardness, restlessness of mind, and want of steadiness of purpose.

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had expected. Thoughtless prodigality involved her in pecuniary difficulties, and a vivid regret for the regal state which she had cast aside often betrayed itself.

Her indiscreet language having caused Alexander VII. to remonstrate with her, Christina was so deeply offended that she again turned her steps toward Sweden.

Cash System Adopted by N. G. & J. McKechnie.

We beg to inform our customers and the public generally that we have adopted the Cash System, which means Cash or its Equivalent, and that our motto will be "Large Sales and Small Profits."

We take this opportunity of thanking our customers for past patronage, and we are convinced that the new system will merit a continuance of the same.

N. G. & J. McKECHNIE