QUEEN VICTORIA'S FATAL ILLNESS.

The Sad News Received With Sorrow by the Whole World.

ROYALTY'S GRIEF SHARED BY MILLIONS.

Prince of Wales is Indisposed—Arrival of the German Emperor—Met by the Prince of Wales—Queen Sensitive About Her Appearance and Will See Nobody But the Doctors, Nurse and the Prince of Wales—Kept Alive by Oxygen—She Has Long Spells of Unconsciousness—World-Wide Concern Felt—India Prays for Her—The Paris Press—Formalities in Case of Her Death—The Oath of Succession.

East Cowes, Jan. 21, 2 a. m.—The Queen yesterday morning was able to take a little nourishment for the first time in 48 hours, and her immediate attendants express the hope that her life may be prolonged for two or three days. Her family are rejoiced by the fact that she was fully conscious most of the day. The frequent use of oxygen was chiefly instrumental in the revival of her vitality. Her physicians are of opinion that the rally may be maintained by the present treatment until Tuesday, but it is impossible to expect life to continue by artificial means beyond that unless nature meantime makes a revival, which would be little short of miraculous.

The doctors' assurance of a respite for a few more hours is sufficiently relied upon for the family to arrange that the Prince of Wales and Duke of Connaught need not come to Osborne until noon to-morrow, unless they are specially summoned. It is again positively affirmed by the physicians that Her Majesty's critical condition is due to no specific disease. It is a

General Physical Collapse.

so complete that all the functions of the body have ceased except as maintained by artificial means. This is true even to the extent of respiration, which, as stated, is maintained by the use of oxygen, and it was much to the doctor's surprise that nutriment seemed to be assimilated to some extent to-day. In other words, the Queen is dying of old age and exhaustion. Her vital forces, had she been an ordinary patient, would not have survived yesterday, when it appeared that her repeated sinking spells and unconsciousness would merge into the last sleep. The doctors would not let her die, and their skill is still sufficient to hold her back for a brief spell in an existence that is not painful, but which must be unutterable weariness to a soul yearning for rest. It is said that one reason why no specialists or professional nurses are present is that it would greatly distress the aged sufferer and hasten her end if any strange face were at her bedside. Her antipathy for strangers in her home life has always been one of her characteristics, and it has been deemed wisest to respect her prejudices at this supreme moment. Therefore she will be permitted to go gently down into the dark valley surrounded only by those she loves.

Her Last Hours.

Cowes, Isle of Wight, Jan. 21, 5 a. m.—Her Majesty's physicians hoped that she might rally at 5 o'clock this (Monday) morning. If she does it is expected that she will live through the day. If she does not, all hope will be abandoned.

Immediately on the occurrence of the Queen's collapse about 10 last evening, a message was sent to London summoning the Prince of Wales and Emperor William.

The Prince of Wales was in such a condition of health that it was utterly impossible for him to leave London at that hour, but it is hoped he will start for Osborne House at 8 this morning.

An Ominous Bulletin.

The slight hopes encouraged during yesterday were destroyed by the ominous midnight bulletin. Those who know what caution and reserve hedge about the sick bed of a monarch understand only too well what those words mean. The official statement was accompanied by an unofficial admission that the Queen was not expected to survive the night.

Everybody is up at Osborne House, and terrible anxiety pervades all quarters. If the Queen lives until Tuesday she will surprise her doctors, who feared that she would not be able to survive beyond 5 o'clock this morning. It is understood that the physicians have resorted to artificial methods to prolong life, such as are used only in cases of persons in extremis. The Associated Press learns that the paralysis is chiefly evident in the face, one side of which appears to have lost all nerve and muscular power. At 6 o'clock last evening the malady had not reached the vital organs, although it had naturally caused an almost total loss of the power of speech.

Will See None.

What was so much feared was that the brain might be attacked. Keenly sensitive to her affliction and appearance, the Queen has absolutely refused to see anyone but her nurses and doctors, and it is understood that the Prince of Wales is the only exception to this rule, and that his interview with the Queen insted but a few moments. Hence the exact nature of the malady is known only to a very few, and it is the royal wish that the public should not be informed of the existence of paralysis.

The Queen's extreme weakness causes much more alarm than the stroke of paralysis which she sustained Friday. Much dificulty has been experienced in administering nourishment, for she appears quite unable to masticate. To this weakness are probably due the long spells of unconsciousness through which she has been passing, although it is impossible to distinguish these from the insidious encroachments of old age.

No Further Rally Expected.

Cowes, Jan. 21, 2.10 a.m. — The Queen is in a comatose condition and is regarded as passing away.

3 a. m.—The worst is expected at any moment, and the members of the Royal family are now assembled in the Queen's bedchamber.

5.15 a. m.—The members of the Royal family are still gathered in a room adjoining the Queen's bedchamber. Her Majesty is unconscious, and the end is expected at any moment.

East Cowes, Jan. 21, 6 a.m. — A telephonic message from Osborne house to the lodge gate says that most of the members of the Royal family are lying down within easy call of the sick room. No further rally is expected.

At the Queen's Bedside.

Cowes, Isle of Wight, Jan. 19.—Hedged around with added dignity and great sorrow, Osborne House now seems more than ever detached from the local life of the island. It is now midnight, and the only evidence of the momentous hours that are passing is seen in the two Royal yachts, with steam up, awaiting the summons to fetch other relatives who are now hastening to the bedside. At the lodge and pier there is hushed activity among the message-bearers, but the request of Sir Arthur Bigge, the Queen's Private Secretary, that they shall not be approached is respected by everyone, despite the anxious and painful curiosity of all. This is merely one token of the islanders' deep reverence for the Queen.

The Prince Arrives.

Princess Beatrice received the Prince of Wales at Osborne. His sister took him to the Queen's bedside. When they touched hands, both were much affected. The Prince has not since left his mother's bedside.

The Princess of Wales arrived this evening. The fatigue of the journey, and the painful meeting compelled her to seek rest, which the more favorable evening bulletin showed she was justified in doing. Some other members of the Royal family followed the Princess' example.

Lady Amptnill and the Hon. Harriet Phipps have shown heroic and untiring devotion during the entire week.

The Queen has been weakening increasingly through fainting fits, which have developed at some periods into almost a state of coma. These fits were less marked last night than to-night.

The Bishop of Winchester, who is the Clerk of the Closet, has arrived.

The doctors now never leave the sick room.

There is an impressing sense that Her Majesty is very near the solemn and inevitable call, but all repress their curiosity out of respect to the Royal family, and to-morrow's church services, including the memorial of Prince Henry, of Battenburg, who died, Jan. 20, 1896, promise to pass with the same simple dignity as to-day's anxious hours.

Her Majesty's momentary recoveries have been remarkable. It is even said that on Friday evening she was physically able to affix her signature to some State documents, but her pitiful weakness is such that her functions have ceased to operate.

The Queen's faithful Scotch gillie and a lifelong attendant in Her Majesty's household, when asked by a friend here, "How is Her Majesty?" replied—

"Oh, mon, she is just a dear old woman dying. All majesty is gone out of her."

That feeling is shared now by all the dependants in the household in these last hours.

The world-wide concern in the Queen's life is shown by the enormous accumulation of messages which have necessitated the installation of a telegraphic plant and a corps of operators such as would be adequate for a town of 100,000 inhabitants, and even now the wires from Osborne House are working incessantly.

Outside the house all is silent. It is a starry night, and the only watchers near the lodge where the bulletins are displayed are the reporters, whose despatches have been handled with the utmost courtesy and expedition all night from the East Cowes telegraph office, which is half an hour's walk from Osborne.

Prince and Emperor.

The departure of the Prince of Wales for London shortly after 12 o'clock to meet Emperor William was quietly accomplished. The Queen had been informed of the Kaiser's coming, and had signalled her desire that the Prince should go to meet him. Rather against his will, the man who for the moment was practically King of England, obeyed his mother's wishes. It was rumored that the Queen wanted the Emperor to postpone his visit to Osborne House, as she did not wish to receive him in her present condition. Apparently in her lucid moments she believed she would be able to conquer the dread disease which had fastened itself upon her.

During the afternoon the long hilly road to the palace grounds was crowded with people, particularly young men and women, arrayed in their Sunday garb, cotting the land scape with vivid patches of color. The local gentry, after a church service, wrote their names on the visitors' book at the lodge.

Enquities of importance all came by telegram, and these were legion. Hundreds of people, all sorts and conditions of men, clergymen predominating, flooded Cowes with telegrams asking for the latest news.

The Emperor in London.

London, Jan. 21.—A bright spot in the universal gloom was the unexpectedly prompt sympathy displayed by Emperor William in giving up important engagements to come to the deathbed of his grandmother. "This," says the Daily Mail, "is calculated to endear his name to every Englishman, and we feel at such an hour what true sympathy means."

London, Jan. 21.—Two hours before the train of His Majesty the German Emperor was due in London people began to gather about Charing Cross station. The crowd included not only the usual hangers-on, but many fashionable people and hundreds of Germans anxious to see the Emperor on his first appearance in London for years. The throng became so large that the railroad authorities erected wooden barriers, and a hundred of the tallest police of the Metropolitan force, with squads of mounted men, lined up the people on the streets, forming a line for two blocks to Nelson's monument in Trafalgar Square. Through this lane moved a procession of loyal carriages, each bearing two footmen in yellow livery behind. The carriages entered the railway station and drew up near the track.

The Prince of Wales arrived just before the train entered the station, which was at 6.20 p.m. The Duke of York, Prince Christian, Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein and Prince Arthur of Connaught completed the group of royal personages.

Meets the Prince.

Emperor William saluted the Prince of Wales by kissing him on both cheeks, and the Prince returned a similar salutation. He then embraced the Duke of York, and shook hands with the others. The people who looked on as the carriages drove off uncovered their heads, and Emperor William and the Prince of Wales acknowledged the courtesy by raising their hats. No cheers broke the mournful silence.

At 10 p. m. the Prince of Wales began a conversation by telephone with Osborne House which lasted nearly an hour. As a result of this the Emperor and the Prince decided to start for Osborne this (Monday) morning. Orders were given that a royal yacht should be kept in waiting to convey them to the Isle of Wight.

During the day the members of the diplomatic corps and other notable persons entered their names in the visitors' book at Buckingham Palace. The rumors that the Marquis of Salisbury and the Archbishop of Canterbury had been summoned to Osborne House were incorrect.

London, Jan. 21.—According to the Daily Telegraph, Emperor William who has expressed a desire to be received at Osborne House, not as Emperor, but as grandson, said on hearing of the Queen's illness—"I am my grandmother's eldest grandson, and my mother is unable from illness to hasten to her bedside."

Prince of Wales is Unwell.

London, Jan. 21.—In the closing moments of Queen Victoria's life another grave portent arises, namely, the serious indisposition of the Prince of Wales. So worried, tired and exhusted was he last evening tht he could not respond immediately to the summons from Osborne House. The most he could do was to promise that he would leave London at 8 o'clock this morning if possible. The Prince of Wales is spending the night at Marlborough House and Emperor William at Buckingham Place.

In Mosques and Temples.

Calcutta, Jan. 20.—There is the deepest distress here over the sad news from England, which will create intense feeling among the natives. Prayers for the recovery of the Queen are ascending in all the churches and the numberless mosques and temples.

Throne Never Vacant.

London, Jan. 20.—The theory of the British Constitution is that the throne of Great Britain is never vacant. In other words, the Sovereign never dies, the succession of an heir being instantaneous. Hence, as Debrette explains it, the ceremony of coronation is merely a solemn recognition and confirmation of royal descent, and the consequent right of accession to the throne, and is necessary for the security of the title to the Crown.

It is customary on the death of the Sovereign for the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chamberlain to notify the heir-apparent of his accession, though even this is technically superfluous. The notification to the people is made by proclamation through the Lord Mayors and the Lord Lieutenants of counties, etc.

The Proclamation.

The proclamation issued when Queen Victoria succeeded to the throne read as follows—

"Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to call to His mercy our late Sovereign and lord, King William IV., of blessed and glorious memory, by whose decease the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland is solely and rightfully come to the high and mighty Princess Alexandrina Victoria, it is therefore here published and proclaimed that the high and mighty Princess Alexandrina Victoria is now, by the death of the late Sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and rightful liege. Lady Victoria, by the grace of God Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, to whom let all, therefore, acknowledge faith and constant obedience, with all hearty and humble affection, beseeching God, by whom kings and queens do reign, to bless the royal Princess Victoria with long and happy years to reign over us. God save the Queen."

Formerly the death of a Sovereign itself dissolved Parliament and the Ministry. By the reform bill of 1885 this law was repealed, and now the existence of Parliament and Ministry is unaffected by the demise of the ruling sovereign.

The succession of the new Prince of Wales to that title is quite different. When the present Prince of Wales becomes King, the title merges in that of Sovereign. The King then confers it by letters patent upon his son, if he sees fit. The Sovereign's eldest son becomes the Duke of Cornwall.

The Succession Ceremony.

When the Queen dies, the Prince of Wales will be notified of his accession to the throne, no matter what hour in the day or night the end may come.

The Prince will take the oath of King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and its territories within an hour after the Queen's death.

Many of the highest officers in the Cabinet and in the Privy Council now at Osborne or near at hand will attend to the formalities of making the new King.

The Prince of Wales will appear before the Earl of Halsbury, the Lord High Chancellor, and Frederick Temple, the Archbishop of Canterbury, in one of the private apartments of the castle.

Lord Halsbury will formally notify the Prince of the death of the Queen and of his accession. Then the Prince will take the oath, as follows:

The Oath.

Lord Chancellor: Is Your Majesty willing to take the oath?

The King: I am.

Lord Chancellor: Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the dominions thereto belonging, according to the statutes in Parliament agreed on and the respective laws and customs of the same?

The King: I solemnly promise so to do.

Lord Chancellor: Will you to your utmost power cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all your judgments?

The King: I will.

Lord Chancellor: Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel and the Protestant Reformed religion established by law, and will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the United Church of England and Ireland and the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof as by law established within England and Ireland and the territories thereunto belonging, and will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of England and Ireland and to the churches there committed to their charge all such rights and privileges as by law do or shall appertain to them or any of them?

The King: All this I promise to do.

Grief at Cape Town.

Cape Town, Jan. 20.—Keen regret is expressed here over the Queen's serious illness. At the cathedral today the dean made a touching reference to the news, saying it was the worst that had been received during a trying year.

France Unsympathetic.

Paris, Jan. 20.—So far as this city is concerned, the interest in the condition of Queen Victoria is rather sensational than sympathetic. The bitter anti-Britishism on the boulevards, the expression of which is generally vented in denunciation of the policy in South Africa, tinges most of the press comments. The Temps and Journal des Debats are the most moderate of the prominent papers. The Temps says—"Whatever the verdict of posterity may be upon the war, the sanguinary occurrences of which have darkly crimsoned the glory of the Queen's declining years, and no matter what responsibility can be attached to Her Majesty for the British Imperialistic policy, nobody will hesitate to affirm that the sixty-four years' reign of Victoria has been the model of a constitutional sovereign. She incarnated the empire, its unity, grandeur and traditions. She did not deserve to bear the burden of the aggressive policy and violence and disaster of a Chamberlain."

The Journal des Debats declares that the war has been a great sadness for the Queen, who was kept in ignorance of the facts. She did not deserve that this be added to her other griefs."

The yellow journals are as rabid as ever. The Patrie, for instance, says that during Victoria's reign the world has been deluged in blood and massacre.

King Christian Anxious.

Copenhagen, Jan. 20.—It is understood that King Christian was with difficulty disuaded on the ground of his age from proceeding to London on Saturday. The British embassy here is overwhelmed with callers. The papers publish constant reports from London and Osborne.

The Pope's Grief.

Rome, Jan. 21.—The Pope yesterday telegraphed Cardinal Vaughan in London to express to the British royal family the feeling of sorrow which all Christendom shared with England regarding the illness of Queen Victoria, adding—"The liberal reign of the Queen, which has permitted the Catholic Church to increase in the United Kingdom, will leave an indelible trace upon all Christian hearts."

The greatest interest and sympathy are displayed here regarding the condition of the Queen. The newspapers print hourly editions. A majority of the papers express an earnest wish for Her Majesty's recovery.

HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

CELEBRATED DUEL FOUGHT.

Baron R. Rothschild and Count Lubersac Meet.

DE LUBERSAC WAS WOUNDED

Paris, Jan. 20.—The long-expected duel between the Count de Lubersac and Baron Robert de Rothschild was fought with swords at 11 o'clock this morning on Baron Edmond de Rothschild's estate at Bonogne sur Seine. The carriages with the principals, seconds, doctors and a few friends arrived there from Paris shortly before 11. Count de Lubersac's seconds were M. Sonege and Count de Laborde, and those of Baron de Rothschild were Baron Leonio and Viscount de Bondy.

The duel began at 11.10 and lasted ten minutes, when Count de Lubersac received a lunge, perforating his arm at the elbow to the armpit. The duel was then stopped. Both Count and Baron fought most determinedly; neither flinched and neither showed the slightest desire to spare the other. Sixteen engagements took place, all of a desperate character. The combatants attacked each other furiously. The sleeves of their shirts were literally torn to pieces by the points of their swords, as the duellists repeatedly lunged at each other. Several times they came to close quarters, and their seconds were oibliged to separate them.

At the sixteenth onslaught Baron de Rothschild lunged at the Count, who tried to parry but failed, and the Baron's sword penetrated his arm just above the elbow and issued at the arm-pit. Spectators hastened to the wounded man, and two well-known physicians, Drs. Berger and Pirrier, examined the wound. They declared the Count's life was not in danger, but that it was impossible to continue the duel. Count de Lubersac was then driven back to Paris. Baron de Rothschild is still performing military service with the 54th Regiment of Infantry in garrison at Compiegne. He only attained the majority yesterday, and lost no time in settling his account with Count de Lubersac.

A hurricane has swept over the Suez Canal. Several steamers are detained. The Austrian Lloyd steamer China is aground and obstructing navigation.

SMALL FIGHTS OCCUR DAILY.

One Small Garrison Stood a Fortnight's Siege.

GEN. COLVILLE RETIRED.

Botha Urging a Raid in Natal, But Recruiting is Brisk in That Colony—Cape Civilians Giving Up Arms—Eight Thousand Burghers Under DeWet.

Cape Town, Jan. 18.—The Duke of Edinburgh's Volunteers, a Cape Town regiment, which has been garrisoning Daniel's Kuil, Griqualand West, was surrounded by 400 Boers from January 5 until yesterday, when the Boers, who were without big guns marched away in the direction of Rietfontein.

The Boers fired on the garrison every day from 5 o'clock in the morning until 7 o'clock in the evening, but only three men were seriously wounded.

Kirsmen, the Boer commandant, demanded the surrender of the garrison, which was refused. The Boers threatened that if the surrender was not forthcoming they would raze all the houses in the place.

A party of Boers has visited the Beaufort West district, of Cape Colony, 339 miles from Cape Town, and commandeered everything they required.

The Boer prisoners of war at Delagoa bay refuse to consider a proposal for their removal to Portugal.

Proclamation Welcomed.

Cape Town, Jan. 18.—The Times today warmly welcomes the extension of martial law to nearly every district in Cape Colony, and the proclamation that the Peace Preservation Act will be enforced in other places. Under this act all civilians are compelled to deliver up any arms they may have in their possession, and its enforcement will remove some causes of irritation and possible danger.

In response to a call for the surrender of arms and ammunition a quantity of curious and sometimes obsolete weapons have been brought in by natives. A large number of sporting and other rifles have been given up, but it is estimated that only half of the available weapons in the district have as yet been surrendered. Further instructions relating to penalties to be imposed for seditious utterances, for serving soldiers with drink, for overcharging by traders, for holding any meetings whatsoever without permits, and for spreading alarmist reports will be issued today. These instructions will also define the responsibilities of hotel and boarding-house keepers in connection with concealed arms found on their premises.

Joined the Fighters.

Pretoria, Jan. 18.—Two influential Boers who were released from Pretoria for the purpose of persuading the rank and file of the Boer commandoes to surrender, and who passed through here, were seen by Kaffir scouts to meet four other Boers, and after a friendly palaver to go on to Rustenburg, where they stated that they had seen no Boers. They have since gone westward, and are probably now cleaning up their rifles.

Prieska Rebels Cautious.

Prieska, Jan. 16.—The fortifications in this district have been greatly strengthened, owing to recent news of the invasion.

Everything is in perfect readiness for giving the enemy a hearty reception should they invade the district, which at one time was their objective.

All the loyalists have joined the town guard here, and volunteered to assist in the military defence of the district.

One of the enemy's advance scouts was captured between here and Houwater by two men of Nesbitt's Horse, and was lodged in jail. He had surrendered in Orange River Colony last March, but had taken up arms again. A wounded man was also captured.

The district is quiet. Rebels are too much frightened to throw in their lot with the enemy again, and many would seek the protection of the military if the invaders entered the division.

To the Bitter End.

Standerton, Jan. 17.—Louis Botha recently paid several visits to Bethel and urged the burghers to continue fighting to the bitter end, saying that even if they were all killed their children would carry on the struggle.

Recross Orange River.

Cape Town, Jan. 17.—The Boer commando which lately occupied Sutherland has now gone west toward Calvinia. Scattered commandoes have appeared at Ceres, apparently proceeding to Vanrhynsdorf. The Aliwal commando has recrossed the Orange River. Still another commando is moving toward Willowmore.

The Government reports under 500 Cape Dutch altogether have joined the invaders.

Robbed Post Office.

Cape Town, Jan. 18.—During the occupation of Aberdeen by the Boer invaders they looted the stores and recruited 25 Dutch rebels. Two of these were civil servants, who robbed the Post-office before leaving.

Tucker in Command.

Pretoria, Jan. 18.—Gen. Tucker has been appointed to the command at Bloemfontein, vice Gen. Hunter, who has been invalided.

Gen. Clements is in command here.

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