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BEAUTIFUL TITLED LADIES AND ACTRESSES.

Mrs. Langtry Has Made a Great Deal of Money Out of Royalties on Her Photographs—Their Faces Are Their Fortunes.

London Correspondence.  
There isn't any country in the world where it pays better to have a pretty face than it does here in England. That is—pays better in hard cash. Good looks always have been at a premium in this country and the public is fond of owning pictures of noted beauties, but in the last ten or fifteen years this craze has grown to such an extent that photographs here pay heavy royalties to handsome society and stage women in return for the exclusive privilege of taking and selling their likenesses.

I was told the other day by J. W. Downey, the leading court photographer of Ebury street, Belgrave, that at the present moment there are at least six women in England whose good looks bring them in from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a year in this way, and that there are at least 100 who are in receipt of incomes ranging from \$350 to \$1,250 a year from royalties on the sale of their photographs.

Mrs. Langtry is supposed to hold the record for this sort of money-making. When the craze over here was at its height 800,000 photographs of the Jersey Lily were sold in Great Britain, their fair subject receiving six cents a copy royalty and clearing \$50,000. Mary Anderson's photographs also had a huge sale, going at the rate of something like 100,000 a year for a decade. Maud Jeffries, the American girl, who played Mercia in Wilson Barrett's "Sign of the Cross," made \$10,000 in less than two years out of photographic royalties, while Edna May is supposed to have done even better. During the run of "The Belle of New York" in London the Syracuse girl's portraits were being distributed in this country at the rate of 5,000 a week.

There is no doubt what woman it is whose photograph now commands the largest sale in this country. Queen Alexandra enjoys this distinction, but, of course, etiquette forbids her majesty to make any profit out of the sale of her pictures. The most popular picture of the queen is one taken in the robes and cap of a Doctor of Music. This has sold by scores of thousands, and it is estimated that the total number of the queen's pictures disposed of must run well onto seven figures, and her majesty easily



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could make \$7,000 a year through their sale if she cared to do so.

There is nothing to prevent a beautiful society woman from "realizing" on the sale of her pictures. At a fashionable photograph shop in the West End, I was told yesterday that the picture of an American woman, the former Lady Randolph Churchill, was asked for more often than that of any other beauty. This seemed rather surprising, considering how long the present Mrs. Cornwallis-West has been in this country, but my informant considered it due to the titled American woman's constant social activity and prominence. The young Duchess of Westminster, whose husband is supposed to be the richest peer in this country, was named as the English society woman whose popularity with the buyers of photographs is second only to that of Mrs. Cornwallis-West. Oddly enough, the two are sisters-in-law, the duchess before her marriage having been Miss Shelagh West. Other society women, who undoubtedly gain a tidy amount of pin money through the sale of their photographs, are the Countess of Warwick, Lady de Grey, Lady Helen Vincent, and Lady Pol-Carew, who perhaps, can be described as the most classically beautiful woman in English society. I was told that the keenest buyers of photographs of British women of title are American tourists of the gentler sex.

Edna May still "sells" well, but according to the dealers the actresses who now are in all probability making most money out of the sale of their likenesses are Gertrude Miller, of the Gaiety, and Billie Burke, the American girl, who has made a hit at the Prince of Wales' "wells," well, but comparatively a new comer, but her good looks and talent have carried her along so fast that she is now the bright particular star at the Gaiety. She made her debut at the old Gaiety in "The Torador," where she sang "Keep Off the Grass," and "Captivating Cora," and promptly became the favorite of the queen, but her good looks and talent have carried her along so fast that she is now the bright particular star at the Gaiety. She made her debut at the old Gaiety in "The Torador," where she sang "Keep Off the Grass," and "Captivating Cora," and promptly became the favorite of the queen, but her good looks and talent have carried her along so fast that she is now the bright particular star at the Gaiety. She made her debut at the old Gaiety in "The Torador," where she sang "Keep Off the Grass," and "Captivating Cora," and promptly became the favorite of the queen, but her good looks and talent have carried her along so fast that she is now the bright particular star at the Gaiety.

afterward Queen Victoria commanded the photographer to take her portrait at Balmoral. Downey arranged his camera in a sitting room and waited. When the queen came in she said: "I can give you only five minutes, Mr. Downey, Lord Palmerston has an appointment with me, and I must not keep him waiting."

The picture was a success, and from that moment commissions to photograph royalty literally poured in. Downey considers, however, that he practically made his fortune through one photograph—that of the present queen, then Princess of Wales, carrying the Duchess of Fife, who at the time was a little girl, on her back. He sold 300,000 prints of this photograph, and made close on \$40,000 out of it. At the time of the diamond jubilee 1,000,000 prints were sold of a photograph of Queen Victoria, also taken by Downey.

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