

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The British Empire consists of :—

I. THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

II. INDIA, THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, AND DEPENDENCIES.

Reigning King and Emperor.

Edward VII., born Nov. 9, 1841, son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha; married March 10, 1863, to Princess *Alexandra*, eldest daughter of King Christian IX. of Denmark; succeeded to the crown on the death of his mother, January 22, 1901.

Children of the King.

I. *George Frederick*, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and York, Duke of Rothesay in Scotland, the heir-apparent, born June 3, 1865; married July 6, 1893, to Victoria Mary, daughter of the Duke of Teck. Offspring :—(1) Edward Albert, born June 23, 1894; (2) Albert Frederick, born December 14, 1895; (3) Victoria Alexandra, born April 25, 1897; (4) Henry William, born March 31, 1900; (5) George Edward, born December 20, 1902; (6) John Charles, born July 12, 1905.

II. Princess *Louise*, Princess Royal, born February 20, 1867; married July 27, 1889, to the Duke of Fife. Offspring :—(1) Alexandra Victoria, born May 17, 1891; (2) Maud Alexandra, born April 3, 1893.

III. Princess *Victoria Alexandra*, born July 6, 1868.

IV. Princess *Maud Charlotte*, born November 26, 1869; married July 22, 1896, to Prince Karl of Denmark, now King Haakon VII. of Norway.

Brother and Sisters of the King.

I. Princess *Helena*, born May 25, 1846; married, July 5, 1866, to Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. Offspring :—

Albert John, born Feb. 26, 1869; Victoria, born May 3, 1870; Louise Auguste, born Aug. 12, 1872, married to Prince Aribert of Anhalt, July 6, 1891; the marriage was dissolved December 13, 1900.

II. Princess *Louise*, born March 18, 1848; married March 21, 1871, to John, Marquis of Lorne, who became Duke of Argyll, April 24, 1900.

III. Prince *Arthur*, Duke of Connaught, born May 1, 1850; married, March 13, 1879, to Princess Louise of Prussia, born July 25, 1860. Offspring:—(1) Margaret Victoria, born Jan. 15, 1882, married June 15, 1905, to Prince Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden; (2) Arthur, born Jan. 13, 1883; (3) Victoria, born March 17, 1886.

IV. Princess *Beatrice*, born April 14, 1857; married, July 23, 1885, to Prince Henry (died January 20, 1896), third son of Prince Alexander of Hesse. Offspring:—(1) Alexander Albert, born Nov. 23, 1886; (2) Victoria Eugénie, born Oct. 24, 1887; married May 31, 1906, to Alfonso XIII., King of Spain; (3) Leopold Arthur Louis, born May 21, 1889; (4) Maurice Victor Donald, born October 3, 1891.

Cousins of the late Queen.

I. Prince *Ernst August*, Duke of Cumberland, born Sept. 21, 1845, the grandson of Duke Ernest August of Cumberland, fifth son of King George III.; married, December 21, 1878, to Princess Thyra of Denmark, born September 29, 1853. Offspring: Princess Mary Louisa, born October 11, 1879; married July 10, 1900, to Prince Maximilian of Baden; Prince George William, born October 28, 1880; Princess Alexandra, born September 29, 1882; married June 7, 1904, to Frederick, Grand-Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin; Princess Olga, born July 11, 1884; Prince Ernst August, born November 17, 1887.

II. Princess *Augusta*, daughter of the late Duke Adolph of Cambridge, sixth son of King George III., born July 19, 1822; married June 28, 1843, to Grand Duke Friedrich Wilhelm of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; widow, May 30, 1904.

The King's legal title rests on the statute of 12 & 13 Will. III. c. 3, by which the succession to the Crown of Great Britain and Ireland was settled on the Princess Sophia of Hanover and the 'heirs of her body, being Protestants.' By proclamation of November 4, 1901, under the Royal Titles Act, 1901, the title is declared to be "Edward VII., by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India."

Provision is made for the support of the Royal household by the settlement of the Civil List soon after the commencement of each reign. Formerly hereditary Crown revenues from land, excise duties, and other sources, supplemented by revenues specially assigned by Parliament, were applied to the maintenance of the Royal household and also to the general civil administration of the country. Over the expenditure of this money Parliament exercised no direct control until, in 1760, George III. surrendered the greater part of the hereditary revenues in England and agreed to accept, instead, a Civil List of 800,000*l.* per annum. The Civil List was from time to time relieved of many civil charges, but its amount proved insufficient. Besides annually paying the stipulated sum which in 1777 was increased to 900,000*l.*, and by 1816 had risen to 1,803,730*l.* per annum, Parliament, during the reign of George III., paid Civil List debt to the amount of 3,398,000*l.* In addition to the Civil List for England, George III. enjoyed the hereditary revenues of both Scotland and Ireland, unsundered. George IV. (1820) having surrendered most of the hereditary revenues of England and Ireland, the civil charges on the Civil List were further diminished, and the allowance was fixed at 850,000*l.* for England and 250,000*l.* for Ireland, the hereditary revenues of Scotland (unsundered) being to the average amount of 109,000*l.* William IV. (1830), having surrendered the hereditary revenues of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the burdens on the Civil List were almost all removed, and the annual allowance was fixed at 510,000*l.* On similar conditions Queen Victoria's Civil List (1837) was fixed at 385,000*l.*, free of all charges for the public service. By Act of 1 Ed. VII. c. 4 (July 2, 1901), the Civil List of the King, after the usual surrender of hereditary revenues, is fixed at 470,000*l.*, of which 110,000*l.* is appropriated to the privy purse of the King and Queen, 125,800*l.* for salaries of the Royal household and retired allowances, 193,000*l.* for household expenses, 20,000*l.* for works, 13,000*l.* for alms and bounty, and 8,000*l.* remains unappropriated. The Civil List Act, 1901, also provides for an annuity of 20,000*l.* during the present reign to the Prince of Wales, and of 16,000*l.* to the Princess of Wales, or 30,000*l.* to the Princess if she should survive the Prince. To each of the three daughters of the King there is granted an annuity of 6,060*l.*, and to Queen Alexandra, in the event of her surviving the King, an annuity of 70,000*l.* Civil List pensions may be granted, but are not chargeable on the sum paid for the Civil List. All these payments are charged on the Consolidated Fund, into which the surrendered hereditary revenues are carried. The King has paid to him the revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster, which in the year 1906 amounted to 93,078*l.*, and the payment made to his Majesty for the year was 63,000*l.*

On the Consolidated Fund are charged likewise the following sums allowed to members of the royal family:—25,000*l.* a year to the Duke of Connaught; 6,000*l.* to Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein; 6,000*l.* to Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll; 6,000*l.* to Princess Henry (Beatrice) of Battenberg; 3,000*l.* to the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; and 6,000*l.* to Princess Helena of Waldeck, Duchess of Albany.

The Heir Apparent has an income from the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall, which in the year 1906 were 125,753*l.*, the sum paid to the Prince being 80,331*l.*

The following is a list of the sovereigns and sovereign rulers of Great Britain, with date of their accession, from the union of the crowns of England and Scotland:—

<i>House of Stuart.</i>	<i>House of Stuart.</i>
James I. 1603	Anne 1702
Charles I. 1625	
<i>Commonwealth.</i>	
Parliamentary Executive . . . 1649	
Protectorate 1653	<i>House of Hanover.</i>
<i>House of Stuart.</i>	George I. 1714
Charles II. 1660	George II. 1727
James II. 1685	George III. 1760
<i>House of Stuart-Orange.</i>	George IV. 1820
William and Mary 1689	William IV. 1830
William III. 1694	Victoria 1837
	Edward VII. 1901