PERMANENT RECORD OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S STATE VISIT TO DERBY, BRIEF RESUME OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN, AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE DERBYSHIRE ROYAL INFIRMARY; BIOGRAPHIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE INFIRMARY AND THE MAYOR OF DERBY

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SIR ALFRED SEALE HASLAM

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HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Prom a Photo. by Bassans, London.

PERMANENT RECORD

OF

QUEEN VICTORIA'S

STATE VISIT TO DERBY,

CONTAINING A COMPLETE, AUTHENTIC, AND NUMEROUSLY ILLUSTRATED ACCOUNT

OF THE VARIOUS CEREMONIES AND FESTIVITIES INCIDENTAL TO THE

OCCASION: TOGETHER WITH A

BRIEF RESUMÉ OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN:

AN

HISTORICAL SKETCH of the DERBYSHIRE ROYAL INFIRMARY;

Biographies of

THE PRESIDENT OF THE INFIRMARY

THE MAYOR OF DERBY;

AN INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF

FORMER ROYAL VISITS TO DERBY, &c., &c.



Derby :

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1891. EN

WITH THE GRACIOUS PERMISSION OF THE QUEEN,

THIS PERMANENT RECORD OF HER MAJESTY'S STATE VISIT TO DERBY,

TO LAY THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE NEW DERBUSHIRE

BOTAL INFERMARY,

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO HER MAJESTY

BT THE

MAYOR OF DERBY (SIE ALFRED SEALE HASLAM, KT.),

UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY THE WORK IS COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR OF THE "DERBYRHER ADVERTISER."

PREFACE.

HIS Memorial Volume is issued in conformity with a numerously expressed

desire, on the part of the loyal inhabitants of our town and county, for a permanent and authentic Illustrated Record of the Queen's State Visit to Derby on May 21st, 1991. The occasion in question far transcended in interest and importance any other Royal Visit recorded in our local annals; and it was felt on all sides to be only in accordance with the fitness of things, that to its history and description should be devoted a volume forming at once an artistic and enduring memento of the great event. The fact that the recent Royal Visit was the first State Visit with which Derby has been favoured by Her Majesty, imparted a uniqueness to the occasion which was the more marked and the more appreciated owing to the well-known rarity of such an occurrence. In a word, our citizens felt that they were the recipients not only of a great but an exceptional honour at the hands of their Sovereign; and they attested their sense of the distinction by affording Her Majesty a welcome which, it is no exaggeration to say, has never been surpassed, either in point of heartfelt loyalty or spontaneous enthusiasm. Moreover, the mission of benevolence-typical of Her Majesty's life-on which the Queen came amongst her devoted subjects in Derby struck a sympathetic chord in every heart, and shed additional lustre upon Her Majesty's sojourn in Derby on the memorable Twenty-first of May. The Derbyshire "Royal" Infirmary, as, by Her Majesty's gracious assent to the Mayor's application, the beneficent institution in whose behalf she visited Derby is now entitled, has at a time of grave difficulty and sore perplexity been favoured with the gracious presence and invaluable personal assistance of our Sovereign Lady the Queen. By consenting to come to Derby and lay the foundation-stone of the new Infirmary, so imperatively required for the welfare of our sick and suffering, Her Majesty gave such a stimulus to the scheme for erecting the new Institution as has already gone far towards carrying it to a successful issue. A considerable sum of money, it is true, still remains to be raised ere the total cost of the new buildings is fully provided for; and no efforts should be relaxed until the entire amount is forthcoming. At the same time, considering the very large sum required and the comparatively brief period during which the appeal has been before the public, the results already achieved are gratifying in the extreme, indicating, as they do, great liberality on the part of all classes of the local community, and an earnest determination to accomplish the object in view. It is, of course, neither possible nor desirable to assess in pounds, shillings, and pence, the precise extent to which Her Majesty's State Visit has already directly benefitted the building fund for the new Infirmary. But, as all who have watched the progress of the movement will gratefully acknowledge, Her Majesty's Visit-from the immediate date of its announcement-exercised a remarkably beneficial influence upon the scheme in whose behalf it was undertaken, imparting to it a powerful impetus, the value of which cannot be over-estimated. The new era in the history of our principal town and county charity, so graciously inaugurated by Her Majesty, cannot fail to be fraught for all time with such results as will cause the inhabitants of Derby ever to look back, with profound gratitude and delight, upon May 21st, 1891, as the most brilliant red-letter day in their local annals.

The various ceremonies and rejoicings so fully chronicled in this volume need no detailed comment in this introductory article. But this it is only right to say: their brilliant success was greatly due to the personal efforts and unstinted munificence of the Mayor of Derby (Sir Alfred Seale Haslam, Kt.), whose eminent public services received such distinguished recognition at the hands of Her Majesty. Sir Alfred expressed his determination that Her Majesty should be accorded a welcome second to none which she had ever received; and the loyal inhabitants of our borough followed his lead in a manner which left nothing to be desired. It is not too much to say that at this important spech our ancient and loyal borough not merely upheld its best and most cherished traditions, but added a chapter to its history which will ever redound to its honour and credit.

The account of Her Majesty's Visit and the various proceedings incidental thereto which is furnished in this volume, has been reproduced, after careful revision, from the columns of the Derbyshire Advertiser. By general consent, the reports which appeared in the Advertiser formed infinitely the best and most graphically-written record of the Queen's Visit; and there can be no manner of doubt that their re-publication in this handsome volume will form a most acceptable permanent memento of the ever-memorable event. With reference to the illustrations and portraits with which this work is so profusely embellished, the Editor begs to express his acknowledgments to Mr. W. W. Winter, from whose photographs the great majority of them have been engraved, and to the other artists, including Mr. B. Keene and Mr. Scotton, who have allowed him the use of their photographs.



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