

AT the Court at *Saint James's*, the 23rd day of *January*, 1901

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HIS Majesty being this day present in Council was pleased to make the following Declaration:—

"Your Royal Highnesses, My Lords, and Gentlemen, This is the most painful occasion on which I shall ever be called upon to address you.

"My first and melancholy duty is to announce to you the death of My beloved Mother the Queen, and I know how deeply you, the whole Nation, and I think I may say the whole world, sympathize with Me in the irreparable loss we have a'l sustained.

"I need hardly say that My constant endeavour will be always to walk in Her footsteps. In undertaking the heavy load which now devolves upon Me, I am fully determined to be a Constitutional Sovereign in the strictest sense of the word, and as long as there is breath in My body to work for the good and amelioration of My people.

"I have resolved to be known by the name of Edward, which has been borne by six of My ancestors. In doing so I do not undervalue the name of Albert, which I inherit from My ever to be lamented, great and wise Father, who by universal consent is I think deservedly known by the name of Albert the Good, and I desire that his name should stand alone.

"In conclusion, I trust to Parliament and the Nation to support Me in the arduous duties which now devolve upon Me by inheritance, and to which I am determined to devote My whole strength during the remainder of My life."

Whereupon the Lords of the Council made it their humble request to His Majesty that His Majesty's Most Gracious Declaration to their Lordships might be made public, which His Majesty was pleased to Order accordingly.

*A. W. FitzRoy.*

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PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

His Royal Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein.

Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lord Chancellor.

Archbishop of York.

Lord President.

Lord Privy Seal.

Duke of Norfolk.

Duke of Argyll.

Duke of Portland.

Duke of Northumberland.

Duke of Fife.

Marquis of Lansdowne.

Marquis of Hertford.

Marquis of Ripon.

Lord Steward.

Lord Chamberlain.

Earl of Chesterfield.

Earl of Coventry.

Earl of Kintore.

Earl of Rosebery.

Earl Spencer.

Earl Cadogan.

Earl of Cork and Orrery.

Earl of Yarborough.

Earl of Kimberley.

Earl of Selborne.

Earl Carrington.

Lord Robert Montagu.

Lord George Hamilton.

Viscount Knutsford.

Viscount Goschen.

Viscount Ridley.

Lord Arthur Hill.

Lord Colville of Culross.

Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

Lord Suffield.

Lord Ribblesdale.

Lord Rowton.

Lord Hobhouse.

Lord Ashbourne.

Lord Stalbridge.

Lord Morr-s and Killanin.

Lord Burghclere.

Lord Rathmore.

Lord Pirbright.

Lord Brampton.

Lord Robertson.

Lord Alverston.

Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons.

Mr. Ritchie.

Mr. Chamberlain.

Mr. Brodrick.

Mr. Evelyn Ashley.

Mr. C. R. Spencer.

Sir Frederick Peel.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach.

Sir J. C. Dalrymple Hay.

Sir Richard Couch.

Mr. James Lowther.

Sir W. Hart-Dyke.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt.

Sir M. E. Grant Duff.

Mr. Shaw Lefevre.

Sir Charles Dilke.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman.

Sir Edward Malet.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff.

Mr. A. J. Balfour.

Sir Arthur Otway.

Mr. John Morley.

Mr. J. W. Mellor.

Sir Henry Fowler.

Mr. L. H. Courtney.

Sir J. E. Gorst.

Mr. W. L. Jackson.

Mr. Akers-Douglas.

Sir Francis Jeune.

Sir Archibald Smith.

Mr. Arnold Morley.

Mr. Asquith.

Mr. A. H. D. Acland.

Mr. J. Bryce.

Mr. Jesse Collings.

Mr. Seale-Hayne.