GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

(United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.)

Reigning Sovereign and Family.


Cousins of the Queen.—1. George V., ex-King of Hanover, born at London, May 27, 1819, the son of Duke Ernest Augustus of Cumberland, fifth son of King George III. 2. Prince George, Duke of Cam­bridge, born at Hanover, March 26, 1819, the son of Duke Adolphus.
of Cambridge, sixth son of King George III.; field-marshal commanding-in-chief the British army. 3. Princess Augusta, sister of the preceding, born at Hanover, July 19, 1822; married, June 28, 1843, to Grand-duke Friedrich Wilhelm of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. 4. Princess Mary, sister of the preceding, born at Hanover, Nov. 27, 1833; married, June 12, 1866, to Prince Franz von Teck, born Aug. 27, 1837, son of Prince Alexander of Württemberg, and of Claudine Rhéday, Countess von Hohenstein. Issue, one daughter, and two sons, Victoria, born May 26, 1867, Albert, born Aug. 13, 1868, and Franz Joseph, born Jan. 9, 1870.

Aunt of the Queen.—Princess Augusta, born at Cassel, July 25, 1797, the daughter of Landgrave Friedrich of Hesse-Cassel; married, July 7, 1818, to Duke Adolphus of Cambridge, youngest son of King George III.; widow, July 8, 1850.

The queen reigns in her own right, holding the crown both by inheritance and election. Her 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 death of King William and Queen Anne, without issue, on the Princess Sophia of Hanover, and the ‘heirs of her body, being Protestants.’ The inheritance thus limited descended to George I., son and heir of Princess Sophia, she having died before Queen Anne; and it has ever since continued in a regular course of descent.

The civil list of the queen consists in a fixed Parliamentary grant, and amounts to much less than the income of previous sovereigns. By the Revolution of 1688, the duty of the king to bear the expenses of government out of the State income allotted to him was abolished, and certain portions of the income of the country were assigned to the king to meet the expenses of the royal household. Under George I. this sum amounted at times to 1,000,000l. sterling. If it did not reach 800,000l. the deficiency was covered by Parliament. In 1777, the civil list of the king was fixed at 900,000l., and the income over and above that sum from the hereditary possessions of the Crown passed to the Treasury. But at this period the king had to pay from the civil list the salaries of the judges and ambassadors, and other government officers. Under William IV. the civil list was relieved of many burthens, and fixed at 510,000l. By 39–40 Geo. III. c. 88, it was settled that the king might have a private and separate estate. It is established by 1–2 Vic. c. 2, that as long as Queen Victoria lives, all the revenues of the Crown shall be a part of the Consolidated Fund, but that a civil list shall be assigned to the queen. In virtue of this Act, which received the royal sanction Dec. 23, 1837, the queen has granted to her an annual allowance of 385,000l. for the support of Her Majesty’s household, and of the honour and dignity of the Crown.