VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO WALMER CASTLE.

(From the *Times*.)

HER MAJESTY'S PROGRESS.

Yesterday morning, at half-past seven, her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal, attended by the Dowager Lady Lyttelton, Preceptress to the Princess Royal; Lady Portman, the Lady in Waiting; Viscount Sidney, the Lord in Waiting, Lord Charles Wellesley, the Equerry in Waiting on her Majesty; and Col. Wylde, the Equerry in Waiting on his Royal Highness Prince Albert, left the Castle for Slough.

The Royal carriage, which consisted of three carriages and four, escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards, arrived at the Slough station a few minutes before eight. Mr. Sandham, Secretary to the Great Western Railway Company, and Mr. Brunel, the company's chief engineer, received her Majesty, and accompanied the train to the terminus at Paddington.

The Hon. C. A. Murray, the Master of the Household, and several others of her Majesty's suite, left Slough as early as half-past six, to enable them to reach their place of destination in time to receive her Majesty and his Royal Highness on their arrival at Walmer Castle.

The Royal party were escorted by a body of light cavalry, through Hyde Park, Grosvenor-place, over Vauxhall Bridge, through Camberwell, New Cross, and Deptford, to the Green Man Hotel, Blackheath, where they halted to change horses. It having been unofficially reported that the Royal horses would reach Blackheath by half-past eight o'clock, a vast concourse of the elite of the neighborhood had assembled in front of the hotel to evince their loyalty on the occasion. The whole of the front rooms of the hotel were occupied by ladies, and the large assembly front of the hotel was literally filled with the fair and the young possess from the numerous seminaries in the vicinity, who had been invited by Mr. Whitmarsh, the worthy host. On the outside of the hotel there could not have less than 1,000 well-dressed persons, who received her Majesty and the Prince with loud acclamations. Mr. Whitmarsh, superintendent, and a body of the Blackheath Police, were on the spot, and rendered every assistance in their power. Mr. Whitmarsh was commanded by her Majesty and Prince Albert to wait upon the Princess Sophia Matilda to express their kind regards, and inform her Royal Highness that her Majesty and family were quite well. The Royal cortège, after a stay of about five minutes, departed at half-past nine o'clock precisely, at a rapid pace, for Walmer, by Shooter's-hill, Dartford, Rochester, and Canterbury.

Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and suite, passed through Rochester yesterday morning about 12 o'clock.

CANTERBURY, THURSDAY NIGHT.

The circumstances that attended the progress of her Majesty to Walmer Castle to-day must have sufficiently convinced her that her subjects in this portion of the kingdom by no means yield to their fellow subjects elsewhere in loyalty and affection towards her Majesty's person.

At every stage of her journey she was met by crowds of persons on the road-side, or filling the streets and lining the houses in the towns—who all hailed her appearing among them with the most lively demonstrations of regard and attachment.

At more than one town on her route it had been the wish of the authorities and of the principal inhabitants to offer her some formal demonstration of their respect, in the shape of deputations, with addresses; but an early communication from Sir James Graham to the authorities of Canterbury put a stop to any such attempts, as her Majesty was particularly desirous to reach Walmer on the evening of the day of her departure from Windsor. For that reason alone it was that her Majesty, through the Secretary of State for the Home Department, intimated her wish to decline receiving any of the proposed addresses.

The absence of all such points of attraction to the inhabitants, however, perhaps only served the more to show that their feeling in such instances is not they did not wait for Queen their feelings and feelings were those of personal affection and respect towards her. The demonstrations of regard made to her Majesty passed through the different towns nearer to London were so general and so hearty, that it make it unnecessary to particularise them.

At Gravesend, Rochester, Chatham, Sittingbourne—indeed at every available point on the route—the population poured out to a man to welcome her and her illustrious family.

At Canterbury particular preparations were made to meet her, as well by the authorities as by the inhabitants. The preparation of an address being decided on, the preparation of the city could not meet her Majesty adequately, but they did what the etiquette of the case allowed to welcome her. The Westgate of the ancient city, which had been converted into a triumphal arch, through which her Majesty would pass. It was gaily, profusely with evergreens, and surmounted by flags, in the centre of which the Royal initials were displayed, and the royal arms on either side of the arch. A range of seats in the amphitheatrical form, was raised, on which had been assembled with the different authorities of the town a large concourse of ladies, who had been invited by the Mayor bearing appropriate devices expressive of loyalty to her Majesty. From this point the whole line which forms the principal street of Canterbury was fitted up with a greater or less degree of taste. There was not a single house in this long range of buildings that was not in some way embellished in order to afford an external symbol of welcome to her Majesty. Some had the front of the house were hung with evergreens, but there were at every other house also flags and different devices, some very handsome. The mottoes bespoke the feelings of those who put them forth, and blessings and wishes for long life to her Majesty, her Consort, and the Prince and Princess were those that predominated. The scene was very animated, quite as much so as a similar one would be in the metropolis. Nor were the loyalties wanting that make a Royal procession in London so delightful to sight. Every window of every house was crowded with anxious faces, and with the exception of a few street striking was, that almost every hand held a small bough of evergreen to wave in welcome to her Majesty. The long line of street was thronged with people; indeed, it was surprising whence so numerous a concourse could have come.

At the extreme end of the town, on the road to Sandwich, there was a triumphal arch, much smaller, of course, than that which was formed by the ancient gate of the city.

Her Majesty was expected much sooner at Canterbury than the hour at which she actually arrived, in consequence of the relays of horses for the attendants having been ordered for a quarter-past 12 o'clock, and the horses for the Royal carriage for a quarter to 2 o'clock. It was also stated that her Majesty entered Canterbury. A few minutes before that time her approach was announced by the firing of signal guns from the top of Westgate Tower, and the Royal cortège proceeded towards the town of Deal, belonging to the city played the national anthem. The ringing and waving of handkerchiefs and of the evergreen boughs was very general, and bowed repeatedly to the crowd on either side, as did also Prince Albert. The people of Canterbury seemed highly delighted at the succession of the Royal pair, but more especially with the two little children. While their anxiety was shown by marks her Majesty in these public journeys, the mores have derived such to hold one child to each side of the carriage, so that the people on each side saw either the Princess or the Prince. The Royal cortège passed through Canterbury at the rate of about five miles an hour. They changed horses at the Fountain, and after a delay of a quarter of an hour, proceeded towards Deal, which, accompanied by the cheers of the people, and also an immense crowd of persons of all ranks who ran after them. Her Majesty was escorted to Broughton Hill by a troop of the 7th Hussars, now in barracks at Canterbury, who were again relieved by another troop of the same regiment, which proceeded to Deal. The escort, which also a guard of honour (as we understood), the 54th Infantry.

The Royal cortège proceeded through St. George's-street and Broad-street, Deal. Each window was thronged with the Deal road, and turned off at the turnpike-gate at Upper Deal.

The following is the address which was to have been presented to her Majesty from the corporation of Canterbury:—

"TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"May it please your Majesty,

"We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the city and borough of Canterbury, beg leave to approach your Majesty with our congratulations on your Majesty's safe arrival in this the ancient city of Canterbury, accompanied by your Royal Consort and family, and to offer to your Majesty this humble tribute of our most ardent attachment to your Royal person and Government, and to your Majesty to accept this as a proof of our gratitude for the constant anxiety you evinced, since for the welfare and prosperity of your subjects.

"We fervently pray that the Almighty may grant to your Majesty, to your Royal Consort Prince Albert, and your illustrious offspring, health, peace, and happiness to the end of your lives.

"Given under our common seal this 9th day of November, 1842."

DEAL, THURSDAY, THREE O'CLOCK.

The inhabitants of this town and of the village of Walmer have been on the alert from an early hour this morning in making the most loyal and extensive preparations for the reception of her Majesty, who is expected to arrive, and proceed through the upper portion of the town, about four o'clock.

Every shop has been closed since one o'clock, at the suggestion of the authorities, in order that every one might participate in the general happiness of receiving the Queen and her illustrious Consort upon their entering within the jurisdiction of the borough.

Shortly after two o'clock, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Council, and several hundred of the inhabitants met, at the Town Hall, whence a procession was marshalled to proceed to Upper Deal, to receive her Majesty at the confines of the borough.

The procession left the Town Hall in the following order:—

Numerous Boatmen, bearing the Flags of All Nations, preceded by the Royal Standard.
The Children of the Deal Charity Schools, two and two.
Band of Music.
The Mace Bearer.
The Mayor.
The Rev. Mr. Backhouse.
Aldermen of the Borough.
Town Councillors.
The Inhabitants of Deal, consisting of several hundred, four deep.
The Deal Pilots.
The Deal Boatmen.

Upon the arrival of the procession at the triumphal arch, which had been erected across the road leading from Sandwich to Deal, the Mayor and Corporation, with the clergy of the neighbourhood and the civil authorities, stationed themselves near the park palings of Mr. Iggulden, where they awaited the arrival of their Sovereign.

The officers of the Dock-yard and the officers of the Custom House, and the whole of the Fellowship Pilots, mingled themselves with the Corporation.

Upwards of 1000 of the inhabitants lined the road for a considerable distance on either side.

The boatmen of Deal were stationed along the road in detachments of twenty, every other man bearing, alternately, a flag and a torch.

Her Majesty, upon proceeding along this portion of her route from Sandwich, was received, and infused throughout the whole distance, with the most loyal and affectionate demonstrations of regard and attachment.

The town of Deal, Walmer, and indeed the whole neighbourhood, will be splendidly illuminated to-night.

An account of the arrangements which have been carried into effect in that part of the interior of the Castle appropriated to the use of her Majesty and suite may interest your readers.

The rooms selected for the use of the Court are 20 in number, the greater portion of them facing the eastward, looking towards the Downs and Sandwich Bay. The fine clear weather, uninterrupted views, even with the naked eye, of the lighthouse at Calais, the mill on the French heights, the spire of Calais Church, and other prominent objects on the opposite shore.

The Duke's dining-room and an adjoining bedroom (the principal sleeping apartment at the Castle) have been thrown into one, for the dormitory of her Majesty and his Prince. There are two convenient dressing-rooms leading from either end of this apartment, for the Queen and his Royal Highness. The dining-room portion of this apartment is ornamented with several rare old prints of various English and foreign ports.

The Duke's dressing-room, an apartment of very convenient dimensions, has been converted into a dressing-room for the Queen. This room, which is elegantly yet neatly furnished (partaking, in many respects, of the well-known plainness and simplicity of his Grace), contains numerous valued engravings of the illustrious sovereigns and statesmen, amongst which I observed the Emperor Nicholas I. of Russia, the late George IV., from Northcote's picture; the Duke's own portrait, by Lucas; the Marquis of Londonderry, by Sir Thomas Lawrence; the Duke, when Sir Arthur Wellesley, from Hoppner, &c. There are likewise engravings from the whole of Raphael's Cartoons. This apartment, and an ante-room adjoining, face the east, looking across the Straits towards the French coast.

Another sitting-room, formerly used by the Duke as his small dining-room, facing the south-east, contains the portraits of Lord Nelson, Lord North, William Pitt, George IV., Lord Thurlow, George II., Lord Liverpool, the Earl of Mansfield, Lord Hawkesbury, and several other distinguished persons.

The prevailing colour of the hangings and furniture of the whole of these apartments (the same as at Apsley House) is yellow.

The portion of the fortress appropriated for the exclusive use of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, the Dowager Lady Lyttelton, and the attendants upon the Prince and Princess, are in the centre, or the north tower, with the windows facing a northerly direction. Four rooms have thus been set apart for the department of the Royal nursery.

There are four additional sleeping rooms, and a sitting and ante-room for the occupation of the Lord and Lady in Waiting, the Hon. C. A. Murray, the Master of the Household, &c., have been prepared in other convenient portions of the Castle.

A large house, about three-quarters of a mile from the fortress, has been engaged by Mr. Saunders, the inspector of stables, for the accommodation of the Lord Groom, and Equerry in Waiting, and other members of the Royal Household, the scenes at the Castle not being sufficiently numerous to afford sleeping apartments for the whole of her Majesty's and Prince Albert's suites.

The flooring of a long, stone-paved, wide, open avenue, leading from the drawbridge, through the archway, to the principal entrance of the principal tower of the Castle, has been boarded over, and a carpet laid down throughout the whole distance. The whole of this passage has been enclosed with the handsome Gothic Gothic tent of Tippoo Saib, and now forms an avenue of eight feet in height, and of about the same width.

This passage, as well as a great portion of the long passage in the tower, has been warmed by means of hot air from a large stove of a peculiar construction, erected, out of sight, behind the awning of the tent.

It may be here observed, that nothing has been neglected to be done which could in any degree tend to add to the comfort and enjoyment of her Majesty and her illustrious Consort during the visit of the Court to the ancient fortress, which, from the following time-worn inscription upon the Keep Gate, must have been cambridge, appears to have been built upwards of 300 years:—

"This Castle was built
"In the years 1539,
"This wall was built
"In the years 1861."

The Thunderer, 84 gun-ship, Captain Daniel Pring, arrived last night from Plymouth, and has anchored off Walmer Castle, about three miles from the shore.

There are now upwards of 100 vessels lying in the Downs, giving to this part of the coast a most lively and animated appearance.

The Duke of Wellington slept last night at the Ship Inn, Dover. His Grace arrived this morning at Walmer, and proceeded to see the arrangements and alterations which had been finally completed for the reception of her Majesty at the Castle. The Duke appeared most anxious that the domestic comforts of the Queen and the Prince should be most seriously considered in the extensive alterations which had just been completed throughout the interior of the fortress. After remaining at the Castle for about half an hour, his Grace returned to Dover to receive her Majesty a little more than a mile from that port, where the Duke's jurisdiction commences as the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

The Royal cortège arrived at Walmer (shortly before 11 o'clock) was received by Mr. John J. Watts, the captain of the Castle.

The Lord Chamberlain, who had just previously arrived, and Mr. Saunders, of the Lord Chamberlain's Department (who has had the superintendence of the various alterations at the Castle for the reception of the Queen), accompanied the Royal cortège through the interior of the fortress.

His Grace, I am happy to observe, looked remarkably well, and in excellent health.

The Queen arrived at Canterbury for Dover yesterday at two o'clock; and, after having had a conference with Earl Delaware, the Lord Chamberlain, at the Fountain Hotel, proceeded thence to Dover.

The Mayor of Canterbury immediately waited on her Majesty, who was