

TWO ROYAL ILLUSTRATIONS.

I.

IF a herald from England's Queen pulled up at your gate, and gave you a message from Her Majesty signifying that it was her royal pleasure to adopt you into her family, to enjoy perpetually the favour of her company in all the intimacy of relationship, in what spirit would you receive the tidings? Would you deem it a fit topic for idle jest, and for the scoffs of contemptuous indifference? Would you indefinitely postpone your decision, with the secret hope that you might never find a necessity for accepting the offer? Unless you were infatuated or insane you would do neither; but with a heart full of gratitude for such undeserved kindness you would gratefully close with the offer, and at once endeavour to give practical proof of your appreciation.

II.

Why do I not associate with the world? Let the following illustration explain. Would a loyal subject of the Queen accept an invitation to some republican gathering, well knowing that the mention of Her Majesty's name would call forth derision and contempt? Would he not rather say, "I will not demean myself and dishonour my Sovereign by intimacy with any who do not share my respect for her person and for her throne. I would rather see no society at all than seek the companionship of those to whom Her Majesty's name is an unwelcome sound."

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