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FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1899.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
April 13, 1899.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Queen's Birthday will be celebrated, in London alone, on Saturday, the 3rd of June next, and at all other Stations, Naval and Military, on Wednesday, the 24th of May next

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
May 5, 1899.*

NOTICE is hereby also given, that His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales will, by command of The Queen, hold a Levée at St. James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, on Monday, the 29th instant, at two o'clock.

N.B.—The Knights of the several Orders are to appear in their Collars on the 29th May, it being a Collar-day.

It is The Queen's pleasure that Presentations to Their Royal Highnesses at the Levée shall be considered as equivalent to Presentations to Her Majesty.

REGULATIONS

TO BE OBSERVED AT THE QUEEN'S LEVÉES TO BE HELD AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE, ON BEHALF OF HER MAJESTY.

By Her Majesty's Command,

Gentlemen who propose to attend Her Majesty's Levées are requested to bring with them two large cards, with their names *clearly written* thereon, one to be left with The Queen's Page in attendance in the Corridor, and the other to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain, who will announce the name to His Royal Highness.

PRESENTATIONS.

Gentlemen who propose to present others must send in writing the name of such Gentlemen to the Lord Chamberlain's Office, not later than *two days* previous to the Levée, in order that the Lord Chamberlain may submit the names to Her Majesty, when, if they are approved, Presentation Cards will be forwarded. Forms for the purpose can be obtained at the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

Gentlemen who wish to be presented officially should communicate with the heads of their Department, who will provide them with the necessary cards and instructions.

It is particularly requested that the names of the Gentlemen to be presented be *very distinctly written* on the Presentation Cards delivered to the Lord Chamberlain at the Levée, in order that

there may be no difficulty in announcing them to His Royal Highness.

The State Apartments will be open for the reception of Company coming to Court at half-past one o'clock.

HOPETOUN,
Lord Chamberlain.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
May 8, 1899.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Drawing Room will be held at Buckingham Palace, on Friday, the 9th of June next, at three o'clock.

HOPETOUN,
Lord Chamberlain.

Whitehall, May 18, 1899.

THE following Address was presented to Her Majesty on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, on the 17th instant.

The Right Honourable Sir Mathew White Ridley, Bart., Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, was in attendance on Her Majesty:—

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, approach Your Majesty with the expression of our heartfelt affection and loyalty.

It is interesting to note, in connection with the ceremony in which Your Majesty has so graciously consented to take part, that the germ of the movement which expanded into the formation of the South Kensington Museum can be traced to the auspicious year of Your Majesty's Accession.

Beginning with the purchase, in 1837, of a few objects for the purpose of instruction in Design and Ornamental Art in a School of Design which was opened at Somerset House on the 1st of June in the same year, a Museum of Ornamental Art (including a large number of objects purchased for the Nation from the Great Exhibition of 1851) was inaugurated at Marlborough House on the 6th of September, 1852.

It was subsequently decided to form a systematic collection representing the application of Fine Art to industry of all periods, the first, as it is appears, of its kind in Europe, and; with the view to rendering it in the highest degree instructional, attention was specially directed to the illustration of the progress and highest excellence attained in manufacture, as to treatment, workmanship, and decoration.