

sible, Mr. Brock, R.A., was obliged to build an additional studio—being the third in which this great work was carried on.

From the commencement the Lord Mayors of the City of London have kindly acted as Treasurers of the Fund. Statements of Account were furnished from time to time by Sir William Soulsby, C.B., and submitted to King Edward.

The total amount of subscriptions received is £323,609, contributed by Great Britain and Ireland, by the Dominions, Colonies and Dependencies of Your Majesty's Empire, by Your Majesty's Subjects resident in foreign countries, and also by Citizens of the United States of America.

A financial statement will hereafter be prepared by the Lord Mayor and submitted for Your Majesty's information, showing a list of the countries and parts of the Empire represented by the Contributors.

The Committee would be failing in their duty to Your Majesty's beloved Father and their late Sovereign were they to refrain from laying some stress upon the magnitude and character of the Memorial to Queen Victoria.

An attempt has been made on a large scale to treat a public memorial in an architectonic spirit, and under the auspices and largely at the initiative of King Edward the Memorial and its surroundings may be said to be the first example in recent times of Town Planning in the Metropolis.

To Sir Aston Webb thanks are due for the devotion which he has shown throughout in maintaining the broad lines of the original scheme and for the elaborate care he has bestowed upon its details.

The Committee find it difficult to express their sense of what is due to the genius of Mr. Brock. The Monument itself stands as the best testimony of his work.

The successive Lord Mayors of the City of London, from 1901 to the present time, as Treasurers, and Sir William Soulsby, as Secretary, have been unfailing in their co-operation, while without the generous assistance of the Commissioners of Works and their Staff the Memorial could not have been satisfactorily completed.

In humbly submitting this Report to Your Majesty, it is impossible to conclude without an expression of deep gratitude to Your Majesty's beloved Father, by whom the Committee were carefully and wisely guided through many difficulties, and from whom they invariably received the most cordial support and encouragement.

ESHER (Chairman).
BEAUCHAMP.
PLYMOUTH.
REDESDALE.
SCHOMBERG K. McDONNELL.
JOHN STIRLING-MAXWELL.

16th May, 1911.

His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

We are met together to celebrate the completion of the noble monument raised to Queen Victoria by her people all over the world.

Ten years have passed since those who were chosen for this Trust from the foremost men of both great parties in the State began their labours. My beloved Father during this period had watched over and guided the work with tender interest and close attention, anxiously looking forward to the ceremony now to be performed. Though, alas! not spared to see the completion of the Memorial, King Edward VII is more than ever in our loving thoughts to-day.

The Committee have deserved the public approbation for the care and judgment which they have bestowed upon the honourable duty confided to them. The Memorial itself alike in beauty and situation does justice to the art of the Sculptor and the skill of the Architect. It now stands complete before our eyes to revive for us and to convey to our descendants, the lustre and fame which shine upon that happy age of British history, when a woman's hand held for a period which almost equalled the allotted span of human life the sceptre of the Empire, and when the simple virtues of a Queen comforted the hearts of nations.

The Dominions and Colonies beyond the seas which grew vastly in prosperity and strength during Her reign and whose loyalty centred ever more directly upon Her august Person have from every part and quarter of the globe united to enshrine her memory: and this monument represents the tributes of races and regions more various in character and circumstance than have been combined before upon a common purpose.

It is a source of deep satisfaction to me and to my family that my dear cousin the German Emperor, accompanied by the Empress, is present at this historic ceremony. His Imperial Majesty is the eldest grandson of Queen Victoria, whom he always loved and venerated with natural affection, and his presence and sympathy with us during the last days of her life and afterwards will never be forgotten by me and my people. Strong and living ties of kinship and friendship unite our Thrones and Persons. The nation rejoices with me that he is here to-day to share in the unveiling of this Memorial.

I pray that this monument may stand for ever in London to proclaim the glories of the reign of Queen Victoria, and to prove to future generations the sentiments of affection and reverence which Her people felt for Her and for Her memory. As time passes and the years unfold, events are revealed in their true character and proportion. We are sure that the tributes we pay to-day will not be disputed by posterity. Her life was devoted to the discharge of Her solemn public duty. Her authority was exercised on all occasions with sincere respect for constitutional usage and tradition. No Sovereign in history reigned so long over so many millions of mankind: no ruler saw so many wonderful changes come to pass or witnessed such a vast expansion in the scale and power of human arrangements. No reign in this Kingdom ever gathered up more carefully the treasure of the past, or prepared more hopefully the path of the future. No woman was ever held in higher honour. No Queen was ever loved so well.