

# VICTORIOUS



## Rule Britannia

*being a useful*

## Reference Guide

*to Great Britain*

*in the Age of Super Mankind*



*Compiled by Mike Stewart*

# VICTORIOUS

## RULE BRITANNIA GREAT BRITAIN IN THE AGE OF SUPERMANKIND

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# RULE BRITANNIA

## GREAT BRITAIN IN THE AGE OF SUPERMANKIND



### INTRODUCTION

*“What’s past is prologue”*

– *The Tempest*, William Shakespeare,

**T**he Victorious role playing game is based, first and foremost, in the early industrial age. This era is encompassed by the reign of Queen Victoria of England, who ruled from 1837-1901, though the exact dates of the era’s beginning and ending continue to be debated even today. Yet both Steampunk genre and the Superheroic genre are more about iconic displays than true reality. Steampunk is all about goggles, top hats, corsets, industrial slums and glittering ballrooms. Superheroics are all about masked crimefighting, hidden personas, frequent misunderstandings by law and society, and the story of the individual standing against overwhelming odds. None of these are historically accurate, or if they are more by their exceptions than realities.

Yet both view a world and time as it “should be” and not necessarily how it actually is. Steampunk can portray the evils of the nineteenth century such as exploitation of the poor, racism, gender inequalities, and Euro-centric Imperialism. These are in most works of Steampunk either mitigated to a large extent or ignored entirely to the tenets of the story at hand. Superhero stories and comics ignore reality itself if the dictates of the story

or character demand it. A hero that can bounce bullets off his chest one day is rendered unconscious by a falling brick the next.

What is my point then? The supplement you are about to read has a foundation in the history and culture of the United Kingdom of the latter Nineteenth and early Twentieth century. It is not however a history book. It is written to adhere to history where possible to provide a rich background setting for a Genteel Magistrate (GM) and her players to enjoy adventuring. As such, some history is modified or downright ignored if its inclusion would interfere with the GM’s use of Great Britain as a location for heroes and heroines to battle evil; in whatever form they view such to be.

Those wishing a more accurate look at the history of this country during the period are encouraged not to take any statements within this work at face value. Peruse the Suggested Bibliography at the end of this book and research for yourself if something is ‘real’ or just a fanciful view of reality to excite and entertain. Your humble author makes no claims to complete historical accuracy. What he can do is hope that his research and writing will provide those playing the Victorious game a setting in which they feel verisimilitude (real in the context of the setting) as opposed to strict authenticity. Where both can be successfully imposed, it has been done. Where it was not, the former always takes precedence.

Now good reader, hang onto your cape and goggles and bound nobly into the cradle of civilization, the British Empire!

# WHEN BRITAIN WAS GREAT

## A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO NINETEENTH CENTURY BRITAIN

**M**ost people today know there was at one time something known as a British Empire, but it seems lost in the mists of antiquity. Americans know it was the nation we rebelled against to become the United States, but there was much more to this empire than simply a bunch of wig-wearing redcoats who were so arrogant we had to shoot at them.

In fact the British Empire lasted into the 1960s, though after World War I it was renamed the “British Commonwealth” when the idea of empire fell out of fashion. It was still an empire, and at its height ruled one quarter of the planet. The British had colonies or territories on every continent and naval fleets in every ocean and sea. While the United Kingdom (British Isles) had a 1900 population of about 40 million, the British Empire had a population of over 400 million; a vast country by any measure. Put simply, during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901), Britain was the world’s “sole superpower” as the USA is called today.

After victory against Napoleon Bonaparte (“Ol’ Boney” as the lads called him), Britain was the unquestioned ruler of the seas. As the wellspring of the Industrial Revolution, British manufactured goods were in high demand throughout the century. From textiles to railroads, steel to ships, chemicals to scientific instruments; Britain was the standard all other countries measured themselves against.

Yet unlike America after the Cold War, Britain didn’t bother itself with alliances or international summits. They engaged in what would be called “Splendid Isolation” for foreign policy. Put simply, unless something had to do with immediate British interest, then London would ignore the squabbles of other countries. Queen Victoria once asked her Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli if Britain had any permanent friends. He replied “None, your majesty. On the other hand, we have no permanent enemies.” That was British foreign policy in a nutshell, at least until the late 1890s.

That’s not to say that other parts of the empire felt as secure as the home islands. Canada was always worried about invasion by their larger neighbor to the south, though after the American Civil War it was curiously less a concern about an invasion than in Britain turning over Canada to the Americans in return for benefits elsewhere. India was always threatened by the Russians, whose moves into Central Asia at the time left the British Raj (Basically the viceroyalty of India under a British official) in constant concern about the northwest frontier. Egypt was threatened by a radical Islamist insurgency from the Sudan, and the other European powers such as France, Germany and Russia trying to cut parts of China away from Beijing and British trade zones. South Africa was butting up to the Boer states of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, with friction leading to several wars before the largest one in 1899. In short, troubles for the British lion seemed to be rising no matter where one looked.

Thus by the last decade of the century the United Kingdom’s isolation was looking to be less and less splendid. The eternal enemy France was building an empire to rival the British, with many territories overlapping English holdings. Germany had little interest in a colonial empire until the rise of Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1889. This young man, the grandson of Queen Victoria, was determined to be more “British than the British”, and he started with his navy. This force was meager until the mid-1890s, at which the building tempo began to concern London. Any German navy would by default and simple position on the German coast have to be a threat to the Royal Navy’s command of the North Sea and the eastern English coastal cities.

As noted earlier, the Russian Empire was always considered a threat to British India throughout the century. What’s more, the issue that upset the average Briton was that Russia was the last absolute monarch of Europe, with the tsar (Russian for “Caesar”) wielding theoretically unlimited power. The Tsar’s government used a brutal secret police and military force as well as Siberian gulags to keep the people in subservience. This behavior flew in the face of British preference for individual rights and free speech, and as a result many Russian activists for liberty found themselves forced to shelter in England when the Russian government decided to send them to Siberia. British refusal to either extradite or even muzzle the émigré’s statements and publishing further jarred relations between the two nations. As a result by the end of the nineteenth century the United Kingdom saw far more enemies than friends due to their unilateral policies as a superpower with little concern for others.

## THE (SOMEWHAT) UNITED KINGDOM

The British isles of this era consisted of England (central, east and southern Britain), Wales (Western Britain), Scotland (North Britain), and Ireland. Though all the territories within Britain were theoretically equal, England was certainly more equal than the rest. Not only were they the largest in population (26 million), but London and the government were both firmly settled within the English state. Wales to the west of England and Scotland to the northern third of the island were both part of the Kingdom (Wales in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Scotland after the ascension of James I in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century) yet each territory had distinct national characteristics. Both elected MPs (Ministers of Parliament) to the House of Commons as well as sent aristocrats to the House of Lords. Both were Protestant nations and though distinct and resentful of their English neighbors, were relatively happy being part of the United Kingdom.

Ireland was an exception. To the west of the island of Britain, the Irish had been a source of recurring rebellions to English overlords for centuries. With the 19<sup>th</sup> Century becoming a century of improved education, the concept of an ‘Irish Nation’ in the modern sense began to take form. Rebel groups such as the Finians and the Irish Brotherhood engaged in terrorist

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attacks throughout the century, with special emphasis in the 1880s-1890s. What was worse was that the northern counties of the island (called 'Ulster') were Protestant and had no desire to live in a free and unified (i.e. Catholic) Irish state. So, they were just as determined to maintain their membership in the United Kingdom and engaged in terrorist activities themselves. Readers today might think that the Irish strife began in the 1970s, it did not. It was simply the upswing of a war that had been going on for well over a century.

Still, if there was one thing most British subjects of the Queen could agree on, it was that foreigners were strange. If the idea of the "Ugly American" – an arrogant American tourist inconsiderate of the culture and feelings of local nationalities – is a stereotype today, then in the nineteenth century that role was better described as the "Ugly Briton." Much of the British Raj was run by second sons of Irish and Scottish landholders who had no prospects of inheriting family property, so they went to India to make their fortunes. Many did, and it was the creation of that bureaucracy that gave India its foundation for independence after World War II; though not without some grumbling on the part of some Britons who lamented the loss of the 'jewel' in the crown of empire.

## GOVERNMENT

The national assembly of Britain, called Parliament, is known today as the "Mother of Parliaments." This is true, as its development in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries created the ideals and regulation of a collection of representatives voting the interests of their constituencies. Which is odd for a nation that still has no written constitution, but some feel that is its strength not a weakness. English constitutional law is mostly based on legal precedent instead of written code.

Of course, being a representative didn't necessarily mean you were elected by a plurality of the public. Indeed, there wasn't much of a voting public in Britain until the latter half of the nineteenth century. The lower chamber, the House of Commons, was comprised of ministers representing certain set regions. The upper house, the House of Lords, was made up of landed nobility and churchmen who held either land or ecclesiastical territory in their own right. When Parliament was first formed, the House of Lords was clearly the superior house, but by the late Victorian era power of the purse had moved to the House of Commons and it wasn't too long until the removal of the House of Lords veto in the early twentieth century.

The position of the sovereign is a curious one. During the reigns of Victoria's grandfather and uncles (Kings George III, George IV, and William IV) there was a constant battle between the royal prerogatives and the power of Parliament. By Queen Victoria's ascent to the throne there was a sort of tacit agreement between the Parliament and the crown.

In short, this country still requires the Queen to give her permission, or Royal Assent, for an Act of Parliament to pass into law. However, it is understood that the crown will give permission when asked. If they did not, there would be a political crisis that could spell the end of the monarchy. So, Parliament

pretends to ask the crown for permission to do something, and the sovereign pretends they have a choice but agrees anyway. This has continued right to the present day, with Queen Elizabeth II being asked for her permission for parties to form governments, to approve bills, and she opens the Parliament every year by royal authority. Even after this, the monarch's gold mace is set in a place of honor in the house, a continual symbol of the royal presence.

Each seat in the House of Commons represents a district of the country; usually a large city or part of the countryside. Curiously, a person doesn't need to actually live in a region to run as a representative for that district's seat. This way, someone who loses in an election in one district can run again in another one on the other side of the nation.

True power in the United Kingdom is held by the Prime Minister. He is a member of Parliament that is elected to the post by the joint Houses, and can be either a member of the Commons or Lords. As noted above, this candidate has to go to Buckingham Palace to ask the Queen for permission to form a Government. Again, the monarch doesn't reject the candidate, even if they despise the person in question (as Victoria felt about W. E. Gladstone.) If no single party wins an overall majority in the election of a Prime Minister, it is quite possible for the least popular parties to get together to form a Government. There is no set period of time between one election and the next, although the law states that no more than five years can pass before a new election is called. This gives the party in power some leeway in choosing a time and date they feel is most advantageous to their party.

The rest of the empire is different, and no territory beyond the British Isles has representatives in the British Parliament. These are divided into 'dominions' and 'colonies.' The former are autonomous territories such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa among others. Colonies are under the British Colonial Office (a cabinet post) and have far less local authority to regulate their lands. These are regions like Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Egypt, Gibraltar, and the British Caribbean holdings.

Before World War I, things for the British Empire looked very pleasant. Great Britain was the world's largest creditor nation, and though they were beginning to slip in manufacturing items such as steel by the turn of the century, London was still the world's center of finance and British investment was truly worldwide. Unfortunately, most Britains knew it and other countries found British superiority exasperating at best and insulting at worst. See the **VOX POPULI** section for British opinions in some detail.

## SCIENCE AS ENLIGHTENMENT

It is an oft repeated truism that Europeans in general saw Science as their single greatest blessing to the world. Indeed, they saw it as their God-given mission to remake the entire world in 'their' image, and like Kipling noted with the 'White Mans Burden' that it was their responsibility to bring the benefits of civilization to the benighted part of the Earth.

- They thought that mankind had progressed in enlightenment, in humanity, in science and reason to a point where the old cultures might be peacefully absorbed into the new (is Euro-American) civilization.
- They believed that with European science that the planet might ultimately evolve a civilization of perpetual progress and peace.
- The ideas of science were on the march, and there was an almost religious faith in the proposition that human knowledge is the same as human wisdom; and Europe was engaged in an frantic pace of self-instruction.
- The golden rays of enlightenment were only just rising, and its light was bringing marvels and miracles aplenty. Never before had an age believed with such absolute certainty that all prior epochs were truly 'Dark Ages.'

The evidence of this was all around the Euro-Americans of the day. Trains ran, while only two generations earlier it had taken the soldiers of Napoleon the same time to march from Paris to Rome as it had the legions of Julius Caesar to march over the Rubicon. The tracks of iron that crisscrossed Western Europe were the spectacular symbols of new wealth that encompassed steel, textiles, chemicals; and the progress that accompanied them.

With the above in mind, it is easy to see how Victorians accept the concept of science improving mankind in all ways. SuperMankind would thus be initially seen as the ultimate expression of this march of progress, and nowhere more than in Great Britain. The residents of the United Kingdom, much as Americans today, see themselves as the champions of science and progress, so it would be only natural that SuperMankind would evolve first on their island shores. The United States, viewed as 'Our American Cousins', would also be seen as the natural birthplace of a new enlightened era; with British guidance of course. Even SuperMankind who appear to use magick or claim superstitious origins could be accepted in the idea of progress. Spiritualism, psychic phenomena and even occultism was interpreted by many as just another aspect of science. After all, in the eighteenth century steam power and electricity would be considered magical by the uneducated. Naturally, what appears magic today must be science as well; their secrets simply haven't been detailed yet. Once the educated of the modern world delve sufficiently into its phenomena, then it too will be revealed as another branch of science, so Victorians believed.

This acceptance of science and novelty was unique in European history, and makes the mid-late nineteenth century uniquely acceptable of persons with amazing abilities, at least among the educated urban classes. Rural life, even in nominally civilized Britain, is another story.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

INCLUDES EXCERPTS FROM *COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY* BY JACQUES W. REDWAY

The United Kingdom, or Great Britain and Ireland, are commonly known as the British Isles. The British Empire consists of the United Kingdom (England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales) and its colonial possessions; it includes also a large

number of islands occupied as coaling stations and for strategic purposes. All told, the empire embraces about one-seventh of the land area of the world and about one-fourth its population.

The wonderful power and great commercial development is due not only to conditions of geographic environment but also to the intelligence of a people who have adjusted themselves to those conditions. The insular position of the United Kingdom has given it natural protection, and for more than eight hundred years there has been no successful invasion by a foreign power. Its commercial position is both natural and artificial. It has utilized the markets to the east and south, and has founded great countries which it supplies with manufactured products.

The position of the kingdom with respect to climate is fortunate. The movement of the Gulf Stream on the American coast carries a large volume of water into the latitude of the prevailing westerly winds, and these in turn carry warm water to every part of the coast of the islands. As a result, the harbors of the latter are never obstructed by ice; those of the Labrador coast, situated in the same latitude, are blocked nearly half the year.

The high latitude of the islands is an advantage so far as the production of food-stuffs is concerned. The summer days in the latitude of Liverpool are very nearly eighteen hours in length, and this fact together with the mild winters, adds very largely to the food-producing power of the islands.

The highlands afford considerable grazing. Great care is taken in improving the stock, both of cattle and sheep. In the north the cattle are bred mainly as meat producers; in the south for dairy products. Durham, Alderney, and Jersey stock are exported to both Americas for breeding purposes. The sheep of the highlands produce the heavy, coarse wool of which the well known "cheviot" and "frieze" textiles are made. Elsewhere they are bred for mutton, of which the "South Down" variety is an example.

The lowland regions yield grain abundantly where cultivated. The average yield per acre is about double that of the United States, and is surpassed by that of Denmark only. Both Ireland and England are famous for fine dairy products. These are becoming the chief resource of the former country, which is practically without the coal necessary for extensive manufacture. The fishing-grounds form an important food resource.

The cultivated lands do not supply the food needed for consumption. The grain-crop lasts scarcely three months; the meat-crop but little longer. Bread-stuffs from the United States and India, and meats from the United States, Australia, and New Zealand make up the balance. The annual import of food-stuffs amounts to more than fifty dollars per capita.

The utilization of British coal and iron ore brought about an economic revolution that was intensified by the invention of the steam-engine and the power-loom. This brought about what is known to history as the Industrial Revolution, an event that continues today. These quickly brought the country into the foremost rank as a manufacturing centre. Moreover, they also demanded the foreign markets that have made the country a maritime power as well – for a trading country must also have the ships with which to carry its merchandise to its markets.

## **6 VICTORIOUS!**

Coal occurs in various fields that extend from the River Clyde to the River Severn. The annual output of these mines at the close of the nineteenth century was about two hundred and twenty-five million tons. In the past century the inroads upon the visible supply were so great that the output in the near future will be considerably lessened. Not far from one-sixth of the output is sold to consumers in the Russian Empire and the Mediterranean countries, but a growing sentiment to forbid any sale of coal to foreign buyers is taking shape.

Iron ores are fairly abundant, but the hematite required for the best Bessemer steel is limited to the region about Manchester and Birmingham. The manufacture of Bessemer steel is gradually moving to the vicinity of South Wales, at the ports of which foreign pig-iron can be most cheaply landed. In west-central England the several coal-fields form a single centre of manufacture, where are located some of the largest woollen and cotton mills in Europe. It also includes the plants for the manufacture of machinery, cutlery, and pottery.

The import trade of Great Britain consists mainly of food-stuffs and raw materials. Of the latter, cotton is by far the most important. Most of it comes from the United States, but the Nile delta, Brazil, the Dekkan of India, the Iran plateau, and the Piura Valley of Peru send portions, each region having fibre of specific qualities designed for specific uses.

In the past British forests provided the hulls and masts of the Royal Navy. Unfortunately but little available standing timber remains, and lumber must, therefore, be imported. The pine is purchased mainly in Sweden, Norway, Canada, and the United States. A considerable amount of wood-pulp is imported from Canada for paper.

The export trade of Great Britain consists almost wholly of the articles manufactured with British coal as the power. These are made from the raw materials purchased abroad, and the stamp of the British craftsman is a guarantee of excellence and honesty. Of the total export trade, amounting yearly to about one billion, two hundred million (1900) dollars, nearly one-third consists of cotton, woollen, linen, and jute textiles; one-fifth consists of iron and steel manufactured stuffs made from British ores. About one-third goes to the colonies of the mother-country, with whom she keeps in close touch; Germany, the United States, and the South American states are the chief foreign buyers.

For the handling and carriage of these goods there is an admirable system of railways reaching from every part of the interior to the numerous ports. The rolling stock and the locomotives are not nearly so heavy as those used in the United States; the railway beds and track equipment, on the whole, are probably the best in the world. Freight rates are considerably higher than on the corresponding classes of merchandise in the United States. The public highways are most excellent, but the means of street traffic in the cities are very poor.

The harbor facilities at the various British ports are of the best. The docks and basins are usually arranged so that while the import goods are being landed the export stuffs are made ready to be loaded. The facilities for the rapid transfer of freights have been improved by the reconstruction of the various river estuaries so as to make them ship-channels. The estuaries of

the Clyde, Tyne, and Mersey have been thus improved, while Manchester has been made a seaport by an artificial canal.

The British merchant marine is the largest in the world, and about ninety percent of the vessels are steamships.

London is the capital of both the United Kingdom and the British Empire. The city is also one of the first commercial and financial centres of the world. The Thames has not a sufficient depth of water for the largest liners, and these dock usually about twenty miles below the city. The colonial commerce at London is very heavy, especially the India traffic, and it is mainly for this trade that the British acquired the control of the Suez Canal.

Liverpool is one of the most important ports of Europe, and receives most of the American traffic. The White Star and Cunard Lines have their terminals at this port.

Southampton is also a port which receives a large share of American traffic. The American and several foreign steamship lines discharge at that place. Hull and Shields have a considerable part of the European traffic. Glasgow is one of the foremost centres of steel ship-building. Cardiff and Swansea are ports connected with the coal and iron trade. Queenstown is a calling point for transatlantic liners.

Manchester is both a cotton port and a great market for the cotton textiles made in the nearby towns of the Lancashire coal-field. Leeds and Bradford and the towns about them are the chief centres of woollen manufacture. Birmingham is the centre of the steel manufactures. Sheffield has a world-wide reputation for cutlery. In and near the Staffordshire district are the potteries that have made the names of Worcester, Coalport, Doulton, Copeland, and Jackfield famous. Belfast is noted for its linen textiles, and also for some of the largest steamships afloat that have been built in its yards.

Portsmouth is the official port of the Royal Navy's Channel Fleet, and as such sees considerable military traffic between the city and the nearby Isle of Wight. Many merchant ships are either chartered by the navy for supply or coaling duties, and not a few merchant ships are in fact auxiliary cruisers of the fleet. As such, the city is a major port for commercial and marine activity of all types.

## **CROWN LAW**

The British nation prides itself on having one of the first official police forces in Europe, though the 'Trained Bands' of the late sixteenth centuries are arguable as to their effectiveness as enforcers of the law. Still, like most English boasts there is an element of truth to the claim, which is why the London police forces are both unusually skilled and also considerably antique in their methods of keeping crime at bay.

## **LONDON'S POLICE FORCES, ALL 3 OF THEM**

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT**

The Criminal Investigation Department is the British equivalent to the American FBI, but was founded decades before its US



cousin. The CID were originally called the Detective Department and founded in 1842, but were later reformed into a more professional force in 1878. Commonly referred to as “Scotland Yard”, the name came from their first office, the old Scottish embassy at 4 Whitehall Place. They report directly to the Home Secretary and so are excellent at ferreting out criminals as well as those deemed politically undesirable by the powers that be.

The CID was originally formed to provide a more professional detective service to the Met and the City of London police. However, as the decades have passed those latter groups have developed a small group of detective-inspectors themselves. This has resulted in an increase of tension between the forces as they bicker over jurisdiction and professionalism. Still, Scotland yard reports to the Home Office (the British version of the US Secretary of the Interior) so they have a more direct connection to the government than the Met or CoLP. Thus the bureaucratic battles tend to go the way of the CID, which of course only makes the problem worse.

The New Scotland Yard building wasn't just for the investigation of crimes. The CID also included the Public Carriage Office, sort of the Victorian Department of Motor Vehicles but for carriages of both cabbies and private vehicles. It also included a central records office for a variety of municipal records. The notorious

Scotland Yard Museum of Criminal Relics, also known as the 'Black Museum' can also be found here. This wing was a museum of Scotland Yard's biggest crimes and memorabilia of the victims and criminals. The building even hosted a laboratory where criminal forensics first got its modest start, though fingerprinting was still considered a strange novelty with no crimefighting use.

### **METROPOLITAN POLICE OF LONDON**

The Metropolitan Police of London was founded in 1829 to deal with what we today would refer to as 'urban sprawl.' Though the official city of London was set apart since the 17th century, rapid expansion required policing of a larger and larger area. Rather than expand the writ of the City of London Police, the Metropolitan Police, called 'The Met', was formed. A further curious note is that neither the Met nor the City of London police have jurisdiction in the other's area of responsibility. Thus all too often a criminal could be fleeing the Met's constables and cross over into the City of London, and unless there happened to be any City constables at hand they were safe from further pursuit. In an age without radios or automobiles, the obvious problem with this is readily apparent.

Unlike other police forces throughout the United Kingdom, the Met is headed by a Police Commissioner instead of a Chief Constable, the British equivalent to the American chief of Police. It had originally been intended to have two Commissioners to ensure no single person would have excessive authority, but the dual nature was dropped after 1855 after a realization that all too often the two officials spent more time arguing with each other than fighting crime.

Curiously, the constables of the Met were attacked by ordinary citizens on their first patrols. Uniformed police were, to

the Londoner of the 1830s, too close to a military force and therefore a threat to British liberty. Yet they persevered and now the blue helmeted 'Bobby' is ubiquitous to the London street scene to the present day.

The Met was originally comprised as follows.

- 2 Commissioners (prior to 1855, 1 thereafter)
- 8 Superintendents
- 20 Inspector/Detectives
- 88 Sergeants
- 895 Constables on Patrol

The Met's jurisdiction was originally a seven mile radius from King's Cross, with the exception of the aforementioned City of London Police district. There were 17 local divisions (based on a single police station) comprising the London area. For organizational uniformity, each district was given a letter of the alphabet and was distributed as follows.

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>TERRITORY</b>
	A	Westminster
	B	Chelsea
	C	Mayfair & Soho
	D	Marylebone
	E	Holborn
	F	Kensington
	G	King's Cross
	H	Stepney
	J	Bethnal Green (formed 1886)
	K	Westham
	L	Lambeth
	M	Southwark
	N	Islington
	P	Peckham
	R	Greenwich
	S	Hampstead
	T	Hammersmith
	V	Wandsworth
	W	Clapham (formed 1865)
	X	Willesden (formed 1865)
	Y	Tottenham (formed 1865)

Readers will note that with the exceptions of Soho and Bethnel Green, most of the crime-ridden East End of London is not within the Met's territory but was instead in the City of London Police's domain. The Jack the Ripper killings, though, jumped the border between the two police forces for the second and third murders, so again the inconvenience of this system becomes apparent.

### **THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE**

When the Metropolitan force was created by the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829, there was considerable friction about its

threat to liberty. Perhaps to alleviate this, or just to recognize the centuries old Day and Night Watches of Londontown, is a matter of debate. Regardless of rationale, ten years later the Day and Night Watches of London were incorporated as the City of London Police (CoLP) was officially inaugurated to patrol the original Londontown.

The main station of the CoLP had been first headquartered in the old Corporation's Guildhall, but in 1842 it was moved to Old Jewry lane, where it historically remained until the 21st century.

On first blush, the constables of the Met and the CoLP look remarkably similar, with blue serge uniforms and blue helmets in the same design as the white helmets of the British Army. Blue was chosen in order to allay fears of military rule as red was the accustomed color of the soldiery. The helmets (adopted in 1865) are identical, though the City police helmets bear a crest (city coat of arms) instead of the white metal boss worn on the Metropolitan Police helmets. The city arms also adorns the front of the City of London Police headquarters; a city shield enamelled in red and white and emblazoned with the City motto *Domine Dirige Nos* (Lord Guide Us) in gold on a black scroll above the words 'City of London Police.

### LONDON SLANG FOR POLICE

**BILL:** This may be a nineteenth-century reference, when the cipher of William IV was embossed on police truncheons ('Billy Club'), although the police themselves make another dozen or so suggestions for the term's origins.

**BLUE BOTTLES:** Possibly a reference to the uniform, together with a piece of cockney rhyming slang, bottle being short for 'bottle and glass,' meaning arse.

**BOBBY OR PEELER:** No longer widely used, but derived from the common diminutive of the name of the founder of the Force, Sir Robert Peel.

**BOYS IN BLUE:** An obvious reference to the blue uniform worn by most officers.

**COP:** Possibly an acronym for 'Constable on Patrol', but it has also been suggested that it refers to the metal bands on nineteenth-century truncheons.

**FLATFOOT:** Now rarely used, but a reference to the fact that a beat bobby would traditionally have spent all day pounding the streets.

**ROZZERS:** The nickname the City of London Police have for the men of the Met because the former used to have a 6-ft height restriction compared to just 5 ft 10 in. for the ordinary Old Bill.

### THE CRIMINAL ORDERS

Despite London's airs of being the most civilized and progressive place on Earth, the criminal underworld was quite sophisticated and all too often avoided serious police crackdowns. This was partially due to the warren-like alleyways and winding streets of the infamous East End of London and also the class system of the British society. Crime and the criminal elements, while regrettable, were considered part of life and so long as they kept to "their" part of the city the middle class and wealthier tolerated their excesses. Police in the East End were considered by many of the time the equal of the British colonial troops in the far-flung frontiers of the empire, keeping the peace rather than trying to civilize the natives.

As such, the squalor of Cheapside, Whitechapel, Bethnel Green, Spittlefields, Limehouse and their environs made the East End a place of appalling crime and vice. That is not to say no crime ever occurred in the West End, only that police were more vigilant in arrests and raids when the 'better sort' of people were victims of crime. Of course, many crimes require the 'better sort', as it's not very useful to burglarize a poor person's hovel when the glittering mansions of Mayfair and Belgravia beckon to the aspiring second story man! Yet crimes in this region were usually the less violent sort such as burglary, high-stakes gambling, and elegant brothels in lieu of the assaults, murders, and muggings commie in the east.

The criminal element wasn't in truth as monolithic a threat as writers of the time would suggest. With no sort of social safety net, many East Enders felt they had to resort to crime or starve. This produced a sort of camaraderie among East End residents, and woe to the wealthy outsider (a 'Toff' as the slang went) who decided to go slumming in the eastern parts of the metropolis. Even East Enders who disapprove of crime wouldn't mind seeing such a bloke get rolled in an alleyway and robbed blind. Murder's still beyond the pale, but a good robbery and a bit of roughing up is just what the fellow deserved, in the minds of most of the area. This camaraderie then developed into a uniquely Cockney (accent of the poorer parts of town) slang. A few of the more common terms are given below.

**ADVENTURESS:** Derogatory term for female SuperMankind.

**BARKER:** A firearm, usually a pistol.

**BLOWER:** Informer or spy

**BLUDGER:** A criminal enforcer. Usually wields a bludgeon.

**BROADSMAN:** A con man, usually at cards.

**BULLYTIME:** Being interrogated by heroes, usually involving some physical discomfort.

**CRACKSMAN:** A safe-cracker.

**CROW:** A look-out, usually as sentry for other crimes.

**CUP OF MAX:** Glass of gin.

**CURFEW:** Warning that SuperMankind are in the area, avoid notice.

**DIPPER:** A pickpocket

**DOLLYMOP:** A prostitute of the amateur type; not a regular.

**DUCK HUNTING:** Taking a potshot at an unsuspecting SuperMankind.

**DUFFER:** A fence for stolen goods.

**FLASH HOUSE:** The central headquarters of a gang or mob.

**GROPUS:** Pocket, usually where the wallet is.

**HARLEQUIN:** A female Joker.

**JOKER:** Mundane who dresses up as SuperMankind for fun.

**LADYBIRD:** A prostitute, one of the regulars and considered of a slightly higher class than the Dollymop.

**LURKER:** A beggar or other criminal taking on the disguise of a beggar; usually acting as a Crow.

**MACER:** A double-dealer, untrustworthy.

**MOBSMAN:** A swindler working on behalf of a gang.

**MUG HUNTER:** A mugger or alley robber.

**NAPTIME:** Arrested by SuperMankind while engaging in crime.

**NOBLER:** A criminal who enforces a ganglord's will. Rougher than a Bludger and of higher standing.

**PALMERS:** Shoplifters and ‘Smash and Grab’ criminals.

**PUNISHER:** A superior form of Nobbler.

**SMASHER:** A counterfeiter or one who transacts with counterfeit money.

**SMATTER HAULING:** Income garnered through theft of handkerchieves.

**SNOOZER:** A burglar who robs hotel guests while they sleep.

**TOFFER:** A superior Ladybird.

**TOOLER:** A superior type of Dipper. “Tooled the reader” is the act of lifting a wallet.

**VOKER ROMENY:** Thieves Cant. “To voker Romeny” is to speak the slang of thieves and criminals.

Another aspect of Victorian London crime was that of the assaulting of police officers. Rather than the serious crime it is today, most East End residents felt it was virtually a constitutional right to occasionally punch a bobby or take a club to a peeler. They were arrested to be sure, but most were released after a few days. As only members of Scotland Yard were allowed to carry firearms, such assaults on the average constable were on more equal terms than the same event in the 21st century. As noted earlier, the constable would only be armed with a truncheon (‘Billy Club’) so fights were certainly survivable; at least as much as anything else in the crime-ridden part of East London. Conversely, any criminals caught using firearms in the act of crime or assault (police or otherwise) would find themselves treated very harshly when sent to the courts. This was also an era where the idea of police brutality was unknown. To be sure, any constable who assaulted a member of the middle class or aristocracy better have excellent reasons for the incident or they would find themselves arrested. As with most things in Victorian Britain, class mattered more than anything else.

## CRIME AND THE SUPERMANKIND

The idea of the East End being equivalent to barbaric frontiers will be a major factor in how the authorities react to the crimefighting SuperMankind. While their intent is laudable, vigilantes simply cause the natives to be restless; or so the police will view the situation. If they want to serve civilization (so think the police) then why don’t these costumed fellow and ladies go fight the Zulu or the Afghans? All they do here in Britain is cause unrest among the lower orders.

This view, while shared to a greater or lesser extent by the aristocracy, will not be shared by the middle classes. These godly men and women would embrace the idea of champions of justice doing their part to save the lives and souls of the fallen among the criminals and their victims. In the same manner as the Salvation Army (another group formed by middle class activities at this time) they will see the use of supernatural powers as a worthwhile investment in the betterment of all citizens.

Despite the small size of the middle class (as compared to the aristocracy or the poor), their opinions carry weight disproportionate to their numbers. Middle class men vote more regularly than any other group – women won’t get the vote until the 1920s in our time – and their view of propriety and sober work epitomized what we consider today as the Victorian era. Thus heroes with these forces on their side will be in a position to ignore the more belligerent behaviors of the police or titled set, but even so SuperMankind should be careful. Any intimation

of ungodly behavior or ideas in conflict with the ‘proper’ (to a Victorian) view of society can lead to charges of anarchism and result in the loss of this vital good will.

Unlike in the United States, the lone gunman outlaw figure so admired in cowboy dime novels does not fit into British society. Rather than admired, the figure that fights against established authority is considered a radical figure at best and a moral threat at worst. The fate of Oscar Wilde in the last decade of the century is a perfect example of what happens when a celebrity pushes the boundaries of acceptable behavior too far.

## LEGAL PROCEDURE

The mode of operation for legal courts in Britain are similar to the typical American legal courts, but with a few notable differences.

After an individual is arrested, the suspect is taken before the courts. If the crime was a misdemeanor it usually was resolved at the judges’ bench and did not rise to the level of a jury trial, being instead held in one of the many police courts located across London. Felonies required a court of assize. Courts of assize were periodic courts where the justices traveled throughout England to specific towns, setting up court there and summoning juries to listen to cases. The judge still determined the sentence however, unlike most United States courts. One court of assize was regularly held in each of the various counties of England and Wales. For more rural areas there were special Quarter Sessions, which were courts of limited criminal and civil jurisdiction. As the name implies, these were held every quarter of the year to regulate issues outside the cities and towns. For London locations, the usual place for trials is Central Criminal Courts in the Old Bailey, north of St. Paul’s Cathedral. The nickname of ‘The Old Bailey’ was for Newgate Jail, where offenders would be kept prior to trial and sentencing.

Where in the United States a lawyer is used to support a defendant in court, Great Britain had a slightly different system. “Lawyers” are split between Solicitors and Barristers. Barristers are the superior sort and have the exclusive right to argue cases before a judge; usually in an 18th century white wig and robes. Solicitors are a sort of junior lawyer, capable of dealing with civil contracts and legal research, but cannot rise to the level of Barrister without additional education and appropriate funds. The prosecution is usually brought in the person of the Crown Prosecutor, though usually it is performed by a deputy and not that notable in person unless major scandal or high crimes are involved. A defense lawyer isn’t guaranteed, so many poor persons find themselves literally at the mercy of the court. Appeals are few and most sentencing is performed within a week; including transfer to prisons or (rarely by the last quarter of the century) removal to a penal colony.

For SuperMankind sentenced to prison, the only location in Britain for SuperMankind villains who are incarcerated is Dartmoor Prison. This gray granite fortress-like compound fits in well with the gray moors of its landscape outside Dartmouth. One wing is set aside for supernatural criminals, and the wing has one side of cells for male prisoners and the facing cells for female criminals. The rest of the prison holds mortal criminals; though usually the more hardened sort. Details on the Dartmoor facility can be found in the PHANTASMAGORIA supplement.

# LONDON: QUEEN OF CITIES

**L**ondon is the greatest seat of trade and commerce in the world. Its commercial greatness is evidenced by its greatness of population. Its inhabitants number over 6,000,000. The houses in which this vast population lives, would, if placed end to end, make a continuous street that would stretch across all Europe and Asia. The prices of all commodities all the world over are based upon what they will fetch in London. Whole nations and provinces and districts get their subsistence from industries that have for their end the supplying of some of London's enormous demand. Denmark, for example, owes its entire prosperity of recent years to its profitable manufacture of butter for the London market. Brittany and Normandy, in France, are almost wholly occupied in supplying the London market with poultry and eggs.

– *Up-do-date Business*, Seymour Eaton

## THE COMMERCIAL CENTER OF THE WORLD

INCLUDES EXCERPTS FROM *THE FASCINATION OF LONDON* SERIES BY SIR WALTER BESANT AND *UP-TO-DATE BUSINESS* BY SEYMOUR EATON

In the last quarter of this nineteenth century, London's population is one fifth the entire population of England and Wales, and it is increasing at the rate of about 20 per cent per decade. Three hundred people are added to the number every day in the year, a rate of 110,000 inhabitants in the course of the year. It is now one half greater than the total population of all Ireland. London's Scotch population is almost as numerous as that of Edinburgh, while its Irish population is quite as numerous as that of Dublin. Every civilised country is represented among its people, and every civilised tongue is spoken among them. A sea of brick and mortar, even now fifteen miles long and ten miles broad, it is growing at the rate of a new house every hour of its existence. Its streets are already 28,000 miles in length, and these are spreading out so rapidly that every year many whole villages and townships are enmeshed by them. Every day 1,000,000 people enter London by railway, and at least 500,000 people have occupations in it in the daytime who reside beyond its limits at night. Fifty thousand people have occupations in it in the night-time who reside beyond its limits during the day. It is the largest importing centre in Great Britain, and the largest in the world, and its exports are exceeded only by Liverpool, and not always by Liverpool.

If today New York City is considered the center of world finance and culture, then in the late nineteenth century that place of honor would be held by London. Capital of the British Empire, the world leader in finance (Britain was the world's largest creditor nation), and styles; London was considered by many to be truly the center of the world. The population of the city at the turn of the century was approximately six and a half million, with immigrants uncountable in the shantytowns of the East End.

Greater London was divided into 28 metropolitan boroughs, each with its own mayor and council, as well as the 'Old London'; the original city environs dating from the sixteenth century. This region was governed by the Lord Mayor of London, and

had its own police force separate from the Metropolitan Police (See **CROWN LAW** for details). Added to this were several small townships that were absorbed by London as it expanded such as St. John's Wood and Paddington, and you have a city as complex as it was populous.

For ease of reference, the reader should consider London as divided into four main areas; West end, East end, NorthWest and South over the Thames (pronounced Tymes) river. The West end was the middle and upper class regions such as Paddington, St. John's Wood, and Kensington. Northern sections of town such as Holborne, Highgate, and Hampstead were residential districts with the small townhouses that make London so recognizable. The south side of town, over the river (called 'Surrey') was the industrial and poorer housing of the city; but not so poor as the East end. Speaking of the East end, this is the area known to readers of Penny Dreadfuls and Jack the Ripper's exploits; Whitechapel, Spittlefields, Cheapside, and Limehouse among others. A sample of some of these districts is given below.

**BELGRAVIA:** While Mayfair may be the most fashionable part of London, it is not the only district to be noticed; we have also its rival – Belgravia – lying south of Hyde Park Corner, which is equally included in the electoral district of St. George's, Hanover Square. This electoral district takes in the three most fashionable churches in the Metropolis, including the mother church, St. Paul's, Wilton Place, and St. Peter's, Eaton Square, besides many others, whose marriage registers cannot compete either in quantity or quality of names with these three. It is also the location of many national embassies from various foreign rulers, be they presidents or kings.

**MAYFAIR:** Mayfair is at the present time the most fashionable part of London, so much so that the name has come to be a synonym for wealth or pride of birth. Yet it was not always so, as he who runs may read, for the derivation is simple enough, and differs from most cases in that the obvious meaning is the right one. In James II's reign permission was given for a fair to be held on the north side of Piccadilly, to begin on the first day of May, and to last for fifteen days in May. It was immensely popular, and was frequented by "all the nobility of the town," wherein, perhaps, we see the germs of the Mayfair we know. It must be remembered that Grosvenor and Berkeley Squares, with their diverging streets, were not then begun, and that all this land now covered by a network of houses lay in fields on the very outskirts of London of the time. Though the fair was suppressed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, its history lives on in the name of London's wealthiest district.

**PICCADILLY:** Piccadilly begins at the end of Bond Street, and forms its boundary as far as Hyde Park Corner. The origin of the name is obscure; the street is first so called in Gerard's "Herbal," 1633, but as early as 1623 (and up to 1685) a gaming-house named Piccadilly Hall stood near Coventry Street. The name was originally given to the part extending from the Haymarket to Sackville Street. From that point to Brick Street was styled Portugal Row, from Catharine of Braganza, wife of Charles II. The stone bridge over Tyburn gave its name to the

short distance between Brick Street and Down Street; west of that was Hyde Park Road. As the houses were built the name Piccadilly spread westwards, until, soon after 1770, the whole street was so called. From the Park to Berkeley Street was also popularly known as Hyde Park Corner, now confined to the actual vicinity of the Park. Today the area contains many large private houses, and in recent years has been further changed by the erection of numerous handsome club-houses. In 1844 it was widened between Bolton Street and Park Lane by taking in a strip of the Green Park with a row of trees near the entrance to Constitution Hill.

The following are a few of the principal buildings:

At the corner of Albemarle Street the Albemarle Hotel. Hatchett's restaurant, formerly called the New White Horse Cellar. After the resuscitation of stage-coaching in 1886, Hatchett's was a favourite starting-place, but is now little patronized. The new White Horse Cellar was named after the White Horse Cellar (No. 55) on the south side, so called from the crest of the House of Hanover, which existed in 1720, and was widely renowned as a coaching centre. It is now closed.

Adjoining Hatchett's is the Hotel Avondale, named after the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. The house was opened as a dining club, the "Cercle de Luxe," in 1892, after the failure of which it was reopened as an hotel in 1895.

No. 75 is the site of the Three Kings' Inn, where stood up to 1864 two pillars taken from Clarendon House.

At the corner of Berkeley Street is the Berkeley Hotel and Restaurant, formerly the St. James's Hotel, which stands on the site of the Gloucester coffee-house.

Opposite, at the corner of the Green Park, is Walsingham House, an enormous block built by Lord Walsingham in 1887, and on which he is said to have spent £300,000.

**Soho:** Soho is a parish now tenanted to a very large extent by foreigners, chiefly French and Italians. Shaftesbury Avenue, running diagonally through the parish, is of very recent origin.

Soho has been derived from the watchword of Monmouth at Sedgemoor, because the Duke had a house in Soho, then King's Square. It is much more likely that the reverse is the case, and the Duke took the watchword from the locality in which he lived, for the word Soho occurs in the rate-books long before the Battle of Sedgemoor was fought. In 1634 So-howe appears in State papers; and various other spellings are extant, as Soe-hoe, So-hoe. This district was at one time a favorite hunting-ground, and Halliwell-Phillipps in the "*Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words*" suggests that the name has arisen from a favorite hunting cry, "So-ho!"

**St. John's Wood:** Beginning our ramble at St. John's Wood Station in the heart of the borough, we find ourselves near the well-known Lord's Cricket Ground. Thomas Lord first made a cricket-ground in what is now Dorset Square, and in 1814 it was succeeded by the present one, which is the headquarters of the Marylebone Cricket Club, the club that gives laws to the cricketing world. Lord's is played here, and has been increased

many times since its inauguration; most recently by a piece of ground, about two acres, which was formerly part of the site of the Clergy Orphanage. The extension of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, now known as the Great Central Railway, has completely altered the face of the area.

There are wide roads and well-built terraces, and an air of prosperity that speaks well for the neighbourhood. A Home for Incurable Children, founded in 1873, is near the Maida Vale end of St. John's Wood Road, and in Hamilton Terrace is St. Mark's Church, in modern Gothic style; a Presbyterian church and several chapels are also to be found in this neighbourhood. On this path we find St. John's Wood Chapel, which is in the classical style, designed by Hardwicke in 1814. The chapel stands well at the junction of four important roads; its Ionic portico is dignified and suitable to the position. This part of Marylebone, to the north of Regent's Park, has a High Street of its own – a wide street with comparatively low buildings. The shops which line either side of the road, though small, are clean and bright. St. John's Wood Terrace is a very wide thoroughfare. In it stands St. John's Wood Church, chiefly distinguished by a very heavy portico.

## THE FASCINATION OF LONDON

EXCERPTS FROM THE FASCINATION OF LONDON SERIES BY SIR WALTER BESANT

This work is explained as a survey of London, a record of the greatest of all cities, that should preserve her history, her historical and literary associations, her mighty buildings, past and present, a book that should comprise all that Londoners love, all that they ought to know of their heritage from the past—a work to educate foreigners in the splendour of our fair London.

**ADMIRALTY HOUSE:** Opposite Scotland Yard is the Admiralty, built round a courtyard, and hidden by a stone screen surmounted by sea-horses. The screen was the work of the brothers Adam, and was put up to hide a building which even the taste of George III.'s reign declared to be insufferable. Admiralty House is the center of the Royal Navy, and it is a curiosity that the world's largest navy could be directed from such a relatively small building.

The house had been built for the Admiralty in 1726, and replaced old Wallingford House, so called from its first owner, Viscount Wallingford, who built it in the reign of James I. George Villiers, the well-known Duke of Buckingham, bought the house, and used it until his death, and in 1680 became Government property. In one of the large rooms the body of Nelson lay in state before his national funeral.

**ALBERT HALL:** The Albert Hall was opened by Queen Victoria in 1871, and, like the other buildings already mentioned, is closely associated with the earlier half of her reign. The idea was due to Prince Albert, who wished to have a large hall for musical and oratorical performances. It is in the form of a gigantic ellipse covered by a dome, and the external walls are decorated by a frieze. The effect is hardly commendable, and the whole has been compared to a huge bandbox. However, it answers the purpose for which it was designed, having good acoustic properties, and its concerts, especially the cheap ones

on Sunday afternoons, are always well attended. The organ is worked by steam, and is one of the largest in the world, having close on 9,000 pipes. The hall stands on the site of Gore House, in its time a rendezvous for all the men and women of intellect and brilliancy in England. It was occupied by Wilberforce from 1808 to 1821. He came to it after his illness at Clapham, which had made him feel the necessity of moving nearer to London, that he might discharge his Parliamentary duties more easily. His Bill for the Abolition of Slavery had become law shortly before, and he was at the time a popular idol. His house was thronged with visitors, among whom were his associates, Clarkson, Zachary Macaulay, and Romilly. What charmed him most in his new residence was the garden "full of lilacs, laburnum, nightingales, and swallows."

**BRITISH MUSEUM:** The history of the British museum, as with most things, began as a royal bequest. George III presented some antiquities, which necessitated the opening of a new department; to these were added the Hamilton and Townley antiquities by purchase, and in 1816 the Elgin Marbles were taken in temporarily. On the death of George III, George IV presented his splendid library, known as the King's Library, to the Museum, not from any motive of generosity, but because he did not in the least appreciate it. Grenville, in his Journal (1823), says: "The King had even a design of selling the library collected by the late King, but this he was obliged to abandon, for the Ministers and the Royal Family must have interposed to oppose so scandalous a transaction. It was therefore presented to the British Museum."

It then became necessary to pull down Montague House and build a Museum worthy of the treasures to be enshrined. Sir Robert Smirke was the architect, and the present massive edifice is from his designs. The buildings cost more than £800,000. As this is no guide-book, no attempt is made to classify the departments of the Museum or to indicate its embarrassment of riches.

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE:** Buckingham Palace, which falls partly within St. George's district and partly within St. Margaret's, Westminster, is one of the most well-known structures of the city. The streets north of Victoria Street, which lead into Buckingham Palace Road from the east, are narrow and unimportant. Here is Palace Street (1767), until 1881 called Charlotte Street, after Queen Charlotte, the first royal occupant of the Palace. In it is St. Peter's Church, a plain building with seats for 200, which existed as Charlotte Chapel in 1770. Its most famous incumbent was Dr. Dodd, who was executed for forgery in 1777. Subsequently it was held by Dr. Dillon, who was suspended in 1840. It was then a proprietary chapel, but is now a chapel of ease to St. Peter's, Eaton Square; also St. Peter and St. Edward's Catholic Chapel.

In Palace Place (until 1881 Little Charlotte Street) is St. Peter's Chapel School, established in 1830. On Constitution Hill three attempts were made on the life of Queen Victoria. The chief object of interest in the park is Buckingham Palace, which is not altogether in St. Martin's; in fact, the greater part, including most of the grounds, is in the adjacent parish of St. George's, Hanover Square. The palace is a dreary building, without any pretence of architectural merit, but it attracts attention as the London home of the English Sovereign.

It stands on the site of Arlington House, so called from its connection with Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington (the Earl whose initial supplied one of the a's in the word "Cabal"). John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, bought the house and rebuilt it in 1703, naming it after himself, and including in the grounds part of the land belonging to Tart Hall, which stood at the head of St. James's Street. Buckingham House was bought from Sir Charles Sheffield, son of the above-mentioned Duke, by the Crown in 1762. In 1775 it was granted to Queen Charlotte as a place of residence in lieu of Somerset House, and at this period it was known as Queen's House.

George IV employed Nash to renovate the building, and the restoration was so complete as to amount to an entire rebuilding, in the style considered then fashionable; the result is the present dreary building with stuccoed frontage. The interior is handsome enough, and, like that of many a London house of less importance, is considerably more cheerful than the exterior. The chief staircase is of white marble, and the rooms are richly decorated. The state apartments include drawing-rooms, saloons, and the throne-room, which is sixty-four feet in length. The picture-gallery contains a collection of pictures made by George IV, chiefly of the Dutch school; it includes works of Rembrandt, Rubens, Vandyck, Dürer, Cuyp, Ruysdael, Vandervelde, and others.

The grounds are about forty acres in extent, and contain a large piece of ornamental water, on the shore of which is a pavilion, or summer-house, with frescoes by Eastlake, Maclise, Landseer, Dyce, and others, illustrating Milton's "Comus." The channel of the Tyburn, now a sewer, passes under the palace. The Marble Arch, at the north-east corner of Hyde Park, was first designed to face the palace, where it stood until 1850.

The palace is partly on the site of the well-known Mulberry Gardens, a place of entertainment in the seventeenth century. The Royal Mews, the entrance to which is in Buckingham Palace Road, contains a large riding-school, a room for the state harness, stabling for the state and other horses, and houses for forty carriages. Here also are kept the old and new state coaches, the former of which was built in 1762 of English oak, with paintings by Cipriani, and cost £7,660.

**GOVERNMENT OFFICES:** Beyond the now vacant space on the north are the great group of Government offices, the Home and Colonial Offices facing Parliament Street, and behind them the India and the Foreign Offices. Above Downing Street there are others, the Privy Council Office and the Treasury.

Downing Street is called after George Downing, an American Ambassador to the Hague under Cromwell and in Charles II's reign. John Boyle, Earl of Cork and Ossory and the last Earl of Oxford, lived here. Boswell occupied a house in Downing Street in 1763. But the street is chiefly associated with the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury. Sir Robert Walpole accepted this house from George II on condition it should belong to his successors in office for ever.

On the east side, nearly opposite Downing Street, Richmond Terrace stands on the site of the Duke of Richmond's house, burnt down in 1790. Beyond Richmond Terrace is Montagu

House, the town residence of the Duke of Buccleuch; the present building, which is of stone, in the Italian style, dates from the middle of the nineteenth century.

Beyond are Whitehall Gardens, on part of the site of the Privy Gardens, belonging to Whitehall Palace. There is now a row of fine houses overlooking the Embankment and the Gardens. One of these was the residence of Sir Robert Peel, the worthy who was instrumental in the formation of the police forces of London.

Gwydyr House, a sombre brick building with heavy stone facings over the central window and doorway is now occupied by the Charity Commission; it was built by Adam. Adjoining it is a new building with an angle tower and cupola; this belongs to the Royal United Service Institute, and next door to it is the banqueting-hall, now used as the United Service Museum.

**IMPERIAL INSTITUTE:** The buildings that comprise the Imperial Institute have now spread and are spreading over so much ground that it is a matter of difficulty to enumerate them all. The elaborate terra-cotta building facing Exhibition Road is the Royal College of Science, under the control of the Board of Education, for the Museum is quite as much for purposes of technical education as for mere sightseeing. Behind this lie the older parts of the Museum, galleries, etc., which are so much hidden away that it is difficult to get a glimpse of them at all. Across the road, behind the Natural History Museum, are the Southern Galleries, containing various models of machinery actually working; northward of this, more red brick and scaffolding proclaim an extension, which will face the Imperial Institute Road, and parts have even run across the roads in both directions north and westward. The whole is known officially as the Victoria and Albert Museum, but generally goes by the name of the South Kensington Museum. The galleries and library are well worth a visit, and official catalogues can be had at the entrance.

From an architectural point of view, the Imperial Institute is much more satisfactory than either of the above. It is of gray stone, with a high tower called the Queen's Tower, rising to a height of 280 feet; in this is a peal of bells, ten in number, called after members of the royal family, and presented by an Australian lady. The Institute was the national memorial for Queen Victoria's Jubilee of 1887, and was designed to embody the colonial or Imperial idea by the collection of the native products of the various colonies, but it has not been nearly so successful as its fine idea entitled it to be. It was also formed into a club for Fellows on a payment of a small subscription, but was never very warmly supported. It is now partly converted to other uses. The London University occupies the main entrance, great hall, central block, and east wings (except the basement). There are located here the Senate and Council rooms, Vice-Chancellor's rooms, Board-rooms, convocation halls and offices, besides the rooms of the Principal, Registrars, and other University officers. At the Institute are also the physiological theatre and laboratories for special advanced lectures and research. The rest of the building is now the property of the Board of Trade, under whom the real Imperial Institute occupies the west wing and certain other parts of the building.

## 14 VICTORIOUS!

The Horticultural Gardens, which the Imperial Institute superseded, were taken by the Society in 1861, in addition to its then existing gardens at Chiswick. They were laid out in a very artificial and formal style.

**LYCEUM THEATRE:** The Lyceum Theatre was designed by S. Beazley, and opened in 1834. It will be always associated with the names of Sir Henry Irving, Gilbert, Sullivan and Ellen Terry. It stands on the site of the English Opera-House, burnt down in 1830, which during many years was the home of a quaint convivial gathering, called the Beefsteak Society, founded by Rich and Lambert in 1735. The members dined together off beefsteaks at five o'clock on Saturdays from November until the end of June. The gridiron was their emblem.

**MADAME TUSSAUD'S:** In the Marylebone Road, close to the underground station, stands Madame Tussaud's famous waxwork exhibition, the delight of children and visitors from the country. The waxworks were begun in Paris in 1780, and brought to London in 1802 to the place where the Lyceum Theatre now stands, and afterwards were removed to Hanover Square rooms. The frequent display of historical scenes and persons of import are to be applauded, but the meaner dioramas of the French Revolution and infamous murders are to the disapproved.

**MILBANK PRISON:** Jeremy Bentham, who advocated new methods in the treatment of prisoners, gained a contract from the Government for the erection and management of the new Millbank prison. He, however, greatly exceeded the terms of his contract, and finally withdrew, and supervisors were appointed. The prison is a six-rayed building with a chapel in the centre. Each ray is pentagonal in shape, and has three towers on its exterior angles. The whole is surrounded by an octagonal wall overlooking a moat. At the closing of the prison in Tothill Fields it became the sole Metropolitan prison for females, just as it was the sole reformatory for promising criminals, the first receptacle for military prisoners, the great depot for convicts en route for the antipodes. In 1843 it was called a penitentiary instead of a prison.

**NEW SCOTLAND YARD:** Further on is the huge building of the Police Commissioners, known as New Scotland Yard, built in 1890 from designs of Norman Shaw, R.A. It is the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Force, and the architecture is singularly well in keeping with its object. The building is of red brick, with the tower floors cased in granite. It is in the form of a square, built round an inner courtyard, and has an immense bastion at each exterior angle. Besides the offices of the police force, the Lost Property Office, the Public Carriage Office, and the Criminal Investigation Department are here. The building communicates directly by telephone with the Horse Guards, Houses of Parliament, British Museum, and other public places, and has telegraphic communication with the twenty-two head-offices of the Metropolitan Police district.

**PARLIAMENT:** The present Houses of Parliament, built after the fire from Sir Charles Barry's designs, have been the cause of much of that criticism which is applied to the work of some people by others who certainly could not do so well themselves. The material used is magnesian limestone, which, unfortunately, has not worn well; and the erection took seventeen years

(1840-57). On Saturday afternoons the door under the Victoria Tower, south end, is open, and anyone may walk through the principal rooms. This is well worth doing, though what is to be seen is mostly modern. What will chiefly astonish strangers is the smallness of the House of Commons. The House of Lords suffers little in comparison as one might imagine. The Clock Tower, 316 feet high, containing Big Ben, and standing at the north end of the present Houses of Parliament, is a notable object, and a landmark for miles around. Ben was called after Sir Benjamin Hall, who was First Commissioner of Works at the time he was brought into being.

**ROYAL SOCIETY:** The University of London, now in Burlington Gardens, temporarily occupied the building, and the societies occupying Somerset House were offered quarters in Burlington House. In 1866 the mansion was leased to the Royal Academy, and fundamental changes began. On the east side of Burlington House are the Geographical and Chemical Societies, and on the west the Linnæan. In the courtyard, the Royal Society is in the east wing, and the Royal Astronomical and the Society of Antiquaries in the western. St. James's Hall is well known for its popular concerts, which bring first-rate music within the reach of all. In St. James's Hall the first public dinner was held on June 2, 1858, and was given under the presidency of Mr. R. Stephenson, M.P., to Sir F. P. Smith in recognition of his services in introducing the screw propeller in our steam fleet. Charles Dickens gave his second series of readings here in 1861.

**SERPENTINE, HYDE PARK:** "Caroline the Illustrious" employed William Kent to do away with William's formal flower-beds, and she added much ground to the Gardens, taking for the purpose 100 acres from Hyde Park, and dividing the two parks by the Serpentine River, formed from the pools in the bed of the Westbourne. There were eleven pools altogether, but in later days, when the Westbourne stream had become a mere sewer, in which form it still flows underground and empties itself into the Thames near Chelsea Bridge, the Chelsea waterworks supplied the running water. The elaborate terrace, with its fountains at the north end, is a favourite place with children to wade, sail the water on small boats for rent, or gaze at the swans, protected by royal decree from molestation.

**SOMERSET HOUSE (STOCK MARKET):** The great palace called Somerset House was at first built by the Protector Somerset, brother of Jane Seymour. A register of the marriages, baptisms and burials which have taken place at Somerset House has been published by Sir Philips. Here Henrietta appeared in a masque; here died Inigo Jones; here Oliver Cromwell's body lay in state; after the Restoration Henrietta returned here for a time; Catherine of Braganza succeeded; here the body of Monk, Duke of Albemarle, lay in state; and here, after Catherine left England, the place became like the Savoy, the favoured residence of the poorer nobility. The old building was destroyed in 1775.

In the new Somerset House, erected 1776-1786 – architect, Sir William Chambers – were for many years held the meetings of the Royal Society; the Society of Antiquaries; the Royal Academy of Arts; the Astronomical, Geological and Geographical Societies. A great deal of public business is carried on at Somerset House. The east wing is occupied by King's College, founded in 1828.

Opposite to Somerset House a stream came down from the higher ground; it was crossed by the Strand Bridge. The waters flowed through the palace into the river.

**ST. JAMES'S PALACE:** St. James's Palace is divided into many sets of apartments and suites of rooms, and in this way resembles more the ancient than the modern idea of a palace. On its site once stood a hospital for fourteen leprous women, which was founded, as Stow quaintly says, "long before the time of any man's memory." In 1450 the custody of the hospital was granted perpetually to Eton College by Henry VI. In 1531 Henry VIII obtained some of the neighbouring land from the Abbey of Westminster, and in the following year he took the hospital also, and proceeded to build for himself a palace, which is supposed to have been planned by Holbein, under the direction of Cromwell, Earl of Essex. The "Pretender" was born in one of the palace apartments, and many historians have commented on the fact that this chamber was conveniently near a small back-staircase, up which a new-born infant could have been smuggled. During the reign of King William the palace was fitted up as a residence for Prince George of Denmark and Princess Anne. When the Princess ascended the throne, the palace became the regular residence of the Court, which it continued to be until the accession of Queen Victoria, who preferred Buckingham Palace.

The only parts remaining of King Henry's building are the gatehouse, some turrets, a mantelpiece in the presence chamber, which bears the initials H. and A. (Henry and Anne Boleyn) with a true lovers' knot, the Chapel Royal (which has, of course, been renovated), and the tapestry-room.

On the west of the gatehouse a series of apartments were being prepared for the Duke of Clarence at the time of his death, and were afterwards assigned to the present Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Lord Chamberlain's offices and residence, and also the official residence of the Keeper of the Privy Purse, are among the official chambers in the palace. There are minor offices also, those of the Clerk of the Works, and the Gentlemen of the Wine Cellar; there are state apartments and the quarters of the Gentlemen at Arms and the Yeomen of the Guard. There are several courts in the palace, namely, the Ambassadors' Court, Engine Court, Friary Court, and Colour Court. There have been various chapels connected with the palace, but the only two of importance are the Chapel Royal and German Chapel, which still remain.

The Chapel Royal is supposed to be on the site of the chapel of the ancient hospital, and various Norman remains dug up in the course of repairs favour this supposition. The roof is beautifully decorated in panels by Holbein in 1540. Prince George and Princess Anne; Frederick, Prince of Wales; George IV; Queen Victoria and Prince Albert; and the Empress Frederick of Germany, were all married in this Chapel.

The German Chapel was founded in 1700 by Princess Anne; service was held in it once on Sundays up to the present reign, but has now been discontinued.



Just opposite to the palace is Marlborough House, the residence of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The house was built in 1709 at the public expense, as a national compliment to the Duke of Marlborough. Sir Christopher Wren was the architect. After the death of the third Duke it was sublet to Leopold, subsequently King of the Belgians. Queen Adelaide lived in it after the death of King William IV. The building was afterwards used as a gallery for the pictures known as the Vernon Collection. But in 1850 it was settled on King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, when he should attain his eighteenth year, which he did nine years later. The interior is decorated with beautiful mural paintings executed by La Guerre.

**St. James Park:** The whole of St. James's Park is now included in the City of Westminster, but only the south-east part is in the parish of St. Margaret's, which we are now considering.

The spot now known as St. James's Park was once a dismal marshy field. In 1531 Henry VIII obtained some of the land from the Abbey of Westminster, and in the following year he proceeded to erect what is now St. James's Palace, on the site of a former leper hospital. The park, however, seems to have remained in a desolate condition until the reign of James I, who took a great interest in it, and established a menagerie here which he often visited. The popularity of the park continued throughout the Stuart period.

Rosamund's Pond, an oblong pool, lay at the south-west end of the canal. Of the origin of this name there is no record, though Rosamund's land is mentioned as early as 1531. A new Mall was laid out soon after the Restoration, and preserved with great care. Powdered cockleshells were sprinkled over the earth to keep it firm. As the game of pall-mall went out of fashion the Mall became a promenade, and was the resort of the Court. A pheasant-walk was also formed where Marlborough House now stands. There are two ancient views of the park extant, in one of which the heads of Cromwell, Ireton and Bradshaw stuck upon poles at the end of Westminster Hall.

The origin of the name of Birdcage Walk has been disputed. It has been derived from "bocage," meaning avenue; another account says it was from the bird-cages of the King's aviary, which were hung in the trees. This seems more probable.

For many reigns St. James's Park continued to be a fashionable place of resort. In 1770 Rosamund's Pond was filled up, and the moat round Duck Island was filled in. In 1779 a gentleman was killed in a duel in the park.

In 1827-29 the park was finally laid out and the canal converted into a piece of ornamental water under the superintendence of Nash. In 1857 the lake was cleared out to a uniform depth of four feet and the present bridge erected, and the park became something like what we see at the present time. The vicinity of Marlborough House and Buckingham Palace still give it a certain distinction, but it cannot be called in any sense fashionable, as it was in the later Stuart times.

**St. Mary's Hospital:** In Cambridge Place is St. Mary's Hospital and Medical School. The suggestion of a hospital was discussed in 1840, but the foundation was not laid until

1843 by the late Prince Consort. The building was designed to hold 380 beds, but though it has been added to from time to time it still contains less than this, a supply totally inadequate to the demand for accommodation. The first wing was opened in 1857, and contained 150 beds. In 1865 the present Queen laid the foundation-stone of a further wing, and in 1892 the stone of the Clarence memorial wing. By 1886 all the building land acquired by the hospital had been used, and it was found necessary to purchase other land. In 1887 negotiations were made by which the Grand Junction Canal Company agreed to sell their interest in the required land. After five years' labour and the expenditure of £48,000, the desired result was achieved, and the Clarence wing was commenced. The hospital now faces Praed Street as well as Cambridge Place, the intervening houses having been pulled down. It is a great square red-brick building with stone facings. Behind the hospital are All Saints' Schools, and to the west of them the Great Western Railway Terminus.

**St. Paul's:** St. Paul's Church, the foundation-stone of which was laid July, 1882, by the late Duke of Albany. The square pinnacled tower rises to a considerable height. The original structure was much more ancient. Bowack says: "The limits of this chapel was divided from Fulham before the year 1622, as appears in a benefaction to the poor of Fulham."

The chapel of ease to the parish of Fulham was founded in 1628, and opened in 1631. The whole cost was about £2,000, of which Sir Nicholas Crispe gave £700. This church was the last consecrated by Archbishop Laud. The old monumental tablets have been carefully preserved, and hang on the walls of the present building. The most important object in the church is a bronze bust of Charles I on a pedestal 8 or 9 feet high, of black and white marble. Beneath the bust is the inscription:

*"This effigies was erected by special appointment of Sir Nicholas Crispe, knight and Baronet, as a grateful commemoration of that glorious Martyr King Charles I. of blessed Memory."*

Below, on a pedestal of black marble, is an urn containing the heart of the loyal subject, and on the pedestal beneath is written:

*"Within this Urne is entombed the heart of Sir Nicholas Crispe, knight and Baronet, a Loyall sharer in yhe sufferings of his Late and Present Majesty. Hee first settled the Trade of Gould from Guyny, and there built the Castle of Cormantine. Died 25 Feb. 1665 aged 67 years."*

The only other monuments worthy of notice in the church are those of Edmund, Lord Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave and Baron of Butterwick, who died 1646; one of the Impey monuments, which hangs over the north door, which contains no less than nine names, and another on the wall close by, to the memory of Sir Elijah Impey and his wife, who are both buried in the family vault beneath the church. These are plain white marble slabs surmounted by coats of arms. In the baptistery at the west end stands a beautiful font cut from a block of white veined marble.

In the churchyard rows of the old tombstones, which were displaced when the new church was built, stand against the walls of the adjacent school. Adjoining the churchyard on the south there once stood Lucy House, for many generations the

home of the Lucys, descendants of the justice who prosecuted Shakespeare for deer-stealing.

In the churchyard stand the schools, formerly the Latymer and Charity Schools, now merely St. Paul's National Schools.

**THE TEMPLE:** In the year 1878, a monument with the City Dragon, colloquially known as the Griffin, was put up on the site of the Bar. The stones of the ancient building were preserved, and have been rebuilt in the park of Sir H. Meux at Cheshunt. One of the decorations of the later gateway consisted of iron spikes on which the heads of traitors were displayed, notably those of the men incriminated in the rebellions of the eighteenth century. When a high wind arose, these heads were sometimes blown down into the street below, a sight better to be imagined than described. From this circumstance Temple Bar was sometimes called the Golgotha of London.

**WESTMINSTER HALL:** It would be difficult – nay, impossible – to tell in detail all the strange historic scenes enacted in Westminster Hall in the limited space at disposal, and as they are all concerned rather with the nation than with Westminster, mere mention of the principal ones will be enough.

The whole of the ground now occupied by the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Hall and New Palace Yard was formerly covered with the walls, gates, tower, state chambers, private chambers, offices, stables, gardens, and outhouses, of the King's House, Westminster. Until sixty years ago (1834) when fire finally destroyed them, still stood on this spot many of the buildings, altered and re-roofed, repaired, and with changed windows and new decorations, of Edward the Confessor, and perhaps of Kanute. Still under these modern houses the ground is covered with the old cellars, vaults and crypts, which it was found safer and cheaper to fill with cement than to break up and carry away.

It is at present impossible to present a plan of the King's House such as it was when Edward the Confessor occupied it; we can, however, draw an incomplete plan of the place later on, say in the fourteenth century. The palace was walled, but not moated; it had two principal gates, one opening to the north, and another on the river. The circuit of the wall only included twelve acres and a half, and into this compass had to be crowded in Plantagenet times the King's and Queen's state and private apartments, and accommodation for an immense army of followers, and also for all the craftsmen and artificers required by the Court. The total number of persons thus housed in the fourteenth century is reckoned at 20,000. Alas, all prior constructions were lost in the immolation's of 1834 and new structures were begun.

The crypt of St. Stephen's Chapel (not shown to visitors) is one of the few parts remaining which dates from before the fire. The chapel is said to have been first built by the King whose name it bore, but was rebuilt by Edward I and greatly altered by successors. The oldest part of the ancient palace remaining is Westminster Hall, built by William Rufus as a part of a projected new palace. He held his Court here in 1099 after Hastings. George IV refaced the wooden exterior of the hall with stone.

In the eighteenth century the Courts of Justice (Chancery and King's Bench) were held here.

**WHITEHALL PALACE:** Parliament Street and King Street have now been merged in one, and together have become a part of Whitehall, so that the very names will soon be forgotten. Yet King Street was once the direct land route to the Abbey and Palace from the north, and its narrow span was perforce wide enough for all the pageantry of funerals, coronations, and other State shows that passed it.

It must be remembered that there was then no Parliament Street, and the palace buildings occupied all the ground from Old Scotland Yard to Downing Street, from St. James's Park to the river. King Henry VIII added very much to the land belonging to the palace, also to the buildings. He was fond of sport, and his additions show his tastes in this direction; he built a tennis-court, a tilt-yard, – on the site of the Horse Guards – a bowling-green.

The palace does not seem to have been very homogeneous; it contained three courts, including Old Scotland Yard, in which was the Guard House. The King and Queen occupied the first court, where was what remained of old York House; here also was the great Hall, the Presence Chamber, and the Banqueting House. In the second court was the way to the Audience and Council Chambers, the Chapel, the offices of the Palace, and the Watergate. Henry VIII died in this palace, and all the noble names of his and the succeeding reigns seem to haunt the site of the now vanished building. Here came Sir Thomas More, Erasmus and Thomas Cromwell; Holbein occupied a set of apartments, and received a salary of 200 florins for painting and decorating the rooms. Here are the ghosts of Cranmer, Katharine of Aragon, Jane Seymour, Latimer and Ridley; later we see a courtier gathering – Cecil, Essex, Leicester, Raleigh, Drake, Walsingham, Philip Sydney. So true it is, the King doth make the Court.

Whitehall was also the home of the short-lived masque, a form of entertainment extremely costly.

In 1691 a fire broke out, and all the buildings between the stone gallery and the river were burned down, and six years later another fire finished nearly all that the first had left. The fragment the fire has left us still stands; it was to be the banqueting-hall, but no Royal banquets were held there; it was used as a Chapel Royal for many years, and is now the home of the United Service Museum.

The building has one association never to be forgotten. On that black day when England shamed herself before the nations by spilling the blood of her King Charles I, the scaffold was erected before this building, though the exact site is unknown. It is believed that the window second from the north end is that in front of which it stood, and that the King stepped forth from a window in a small outbuilding on the north side.

The Horse Guards is almost directly opposite the Banqueting House, and stands on the site of an old house for the Gentlemen Pensioners who formed the guard when there was not a standing army in England. This itself superseded the tilt-yard built by King Henry VIII, though the actual yard was the wide space at the back of the building, which still witnesses the trooping of the colours and other ceremonies on state occasions.

# EMPIRE AND FRONTIERS

INCLUDES EXCERPTS FROM *TEN ENGLISHMEN OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY* BY JAMES RICHARD JOY AND *UP-TO-DATE BUSINESS* BY SEYMOUR EATON

**T**he growth of the British Empire into the colossus of the era emerged as if Athena from Zeus's brow at a singular moment in history; the year 1815. This year, which saw the final defeat of Napoleon's imperial aims, added Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Malta, and a few less important islands, to the growing colonial empire of Great Britain.

The perfection of the steam locomotive and the inception and marvelous development of the system of steam railway transportation marked the second quarter of the century and did much to make Britain's empire worth its cost. The railroad has affected so deeply the economic and social life of the nation, and has contributed in a thousand indirect ways to the expansion and consolidation of the empire. It has been said that in 1825 the traveler from London to Rome went no faster than the courier of the Caesars, eighteen hundred years before. Thanks to George Stephenson's inventive genius of the locomotive, the traveler of today consumes scarcely more time between London and Peking as did that ancient journey of the classical world.

By the latter half of the nineteenth century, Great Britain had become a different sort of country; truly a world power. Conception had changed from an obsession over the European balance of power, to that of England as an imperial world-power, interested in European politics, but still more interested in the maintenance and development of her vast colonial and Indian empire. This is the notion which friends and enemies now using the word in different senses call 'imperialism.'

Though British soldiers only fought once on the continent of Europe after Waterloo, and that was the Crimean War against Russian tyranny. But in Asia and Africa the Queen's troops had found almost continual employment along the frontiers of the now vastly extended empire. In 1857 Persia had to be chastised for edging toward India by way of the Afghan possessions. Russia had been at the Shah's elbow. In 1856, and repeatedly until 1860, the British fleets were battering open the ports of China and extorting trade concessions. But the most memorable war in the imperial history of these years was within the borders of the empire, though in a distant land. This was the Sepoy Rebellion or Indian mutiny of 1857.

## THE GREAT SEPOY MUTINY

The British possessions in India had been more than doubled in extent since the opening of the century. In 1833 the trade monopoly of the East India Company had been broken, but its civil and military servants continued to administer the government. Their ability was displayed especially in the rapidity with which they were extending British authority over the native states when the outbreak came. A conspiracy was laid among the Sepoys, the native soldiers in the regiments of "John Company" as the great corporation was called in Asia. To their

private grievances was added the false report that the company intended to force them into Christianity by serving out to them cartridges which would defile them, neat's tallow for the Hindoo venerator of the sacred cow, and hog's lard for the Mohammedan hater of swine! In May, 1857, the mutiny burst into flame. The Sepoys slaughtered their officers and many other Europeans, and restored the heir of the ancient race of kings to the throne of his fathers at Delhi. Here and there, at Cawnpore and Lucknow, a few British troops defended themselves and the refugees against the hordes of bloodthirsty rebels. The "Massacre of Cawnpore" and "the Relief of Lucknow," phrases which have passed into history, suggest the fate of the two beleaguered garrisons. The rebellion was overcome in a twelve-month, thanks to British and loyal Indian troops. Close upon its suppression came the death of the East India Company, abolished by act of Parliament in 1858. Since that year the crown has ruled the Indian realm through a Secretary of State for India, residing in London, and a Viceroy holding court at Calcutta.

The march of empire continued for Great Britain, though by the latter nineteenth century it was due less to a desire to expand than to keeping territories out of the hands of rivals. The Second Afghan War (1878-80), and the Zulu War (1878-79), and the Boer War, which brought little glory to Britain, were the direct result of the nation's desire to extend the empire and strengthen its frontiers.

The century begins to close upon another England than that which was struggling against Napoleon at its dawn. Instead of the "right little tight little island," a compact and self-contained nation, it is now the head of an empire comparable in extent and population with no other since the Rome of Augustus. Canada, Federal Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa form a Greater Britain, while the subject lands and islands dot the globe. The problem which confronts the English at the end of the century is not whether they can hold their own against a foreign power as in the days of Waterloo, but whether all these British commonwealths can be made to work together in some sort of federal union, or whether the present ties are to dissolve or snap asunder and girdle the globe with independent states like the American republic, where each may be free to develop under its peculiar conditions the genius of liberty.

— *Ten Englishmen of the Nineteenth Century*, James Richard Joy

## INDIA: THE BRITISH RAJ

To the student of civilisation India is one of the most interesting countries in the world. It has always been one of the most fertile and populous regions of the globe. For centuries it was thought to be one of the richest. In consequence it has, time and time again, been the scene of invasion, conquest, and spoliation. But its riches never consisted so much in natural treasure as in the savings of an industrious and frugal people. Since the year 1600 European nations have had much to do with India, especially England, France, Portugal, and Holland. During the last 140 years, however, England has been the dominant power there. Whatever may be said as to the motive of England's interference

in India's affairs in the first place, it can only be said that the present influence of England in India is immensely beneficial to the country. India's prosperity on the whole is now comparable with that of any civilised nation on the globe. And a people that once, because of repeated conquest and spoliation, had lost all sense of honour and self-respect, are now, under the benign influence of peace, law, order, and security, rapidly becoming honourable, self-reliant, and enterprising, and ambitious to possess all the rights and privileges of modern civilisation.

India is a much larger and more populous country than most people think it to be. In shape it is somewhat like a huge kite, each of whose diameters is over 2000 miles long, or more than the distance across the Atlantic from Ireland to Newfoundland. Its territory is about 1,700,000 square miles. Of this area, over 1,000,000 square miles, a territory considerably greater than the territory of all the states of Europe (including the British Isles) except Russia, is directly under British control. The remainder is indirectly under British control. The population is 308,000,000, of which 236,000,000 are directly under British control and 72,000,000 indirectly so. This population is made up of people who speak seventy-eight different languages, of which twenty languages are spoken by not less than 1,000,000 persons each. The sub-continent of India owes much of its fertility to the fact that its soil is constantly being replenished by alluvium brought down from its high mountains by its immense rivers. The valleys of the Indus (1800 miles long), the Ganges (1600 miles long), and the Brahmapootra (1500 miles long) include an area of 1,125,000 square miles, a part of which, the Indus-Ganges plain, consists of a great stretch of alluvial soil whose fertility is as rich as that of any portion of the globe. One hundred and eighty millions of people live in this plain. So finely pulverised is its soil that for a distance of almost 2000 miles not even a pebble can be found in it. And so fertile is it that there are some agricultural districts in the plain where the population exceeds 900 to the square mile. In that part of the plain which the Ganges waters, 60,000,000 of people find support on the soil by agriculture, at a density of over 700 persons to the square mile, which is 140 persons more to the square mile than the density of Belgium, the most thickly populated country in Europe.

Yet all is not perfect in this land. It suffers periodically from excess of drought. As a consequence artificial irrigation has to be resorted to, or much of this fertile country would oftentimes be a desert. In British India alone 28,000 miles of irrigation canals are under the control of the government, 14,000 of which have been constructed by the present (British) government – works of vast dimensions and the highest engineering skill. Were it not for these irrigation canals, 2,000,000 acres in Scinde (today's Pakistan) would be a perpetual desert, for Scinde is almost wholly rainless. On the other hand, in a great part of India the rainfall is excessive. Some districts indeed are the wettest on the globe. In Assam, for example (which is also one of the hottest places in India), the rainfall is 600 inches yearly, and it has been 650. As a consequence rivers in India often overflow their banks. Therefore to protect the country on the lower river reaches from floods the British government has built over 1500 miles of embankments.

At one time India was famed for its wealth in precious minerals and precious stones. Poets of antiquity often celebrated its golden resources. But its wealth in this respect was always fabulous rather than real. India is in reality poor in minerals. It has a good deal of iron – iron of the choicest quality. It has also a good deal of coal, but its coal is poor, owing to its superabundance of ash. It has also a little copper and tin. It has gold-mines that are worked. Diamonds, too, are found in southern India, and numerous so. The celebrated Kohinur of the British Crown Jewels (280 carats) was an Indian product. But neither diamond-hunting nor gold-mining is any longer a profitable industry in India. The principal mineral industry of India is salt-mining, pursued in the Punjab, where there are solid cliffs of pure salt. Owing to the fact that the people of India are mostly vegetarians (250,000,000 of Hindoos would rather die than eat flesh), salt is a necessary article of diet and a universal commodity.

The real wealth of India lies in the luxuriance and economic value of its vegetation. As a consequence the principal industry is agriculture. Only one tenth of the people live in towns. Two thirds of the adult males in the country are engaged wholly in tilling the soil. Every sort of agricultural product known to commerce is raised in India; for from the high levels on the mountain sides to the low levels on the coasts the vegetation of the whole world is produced within its borders. Even in wheat India competes in the world's markets with countries like Russia and Argentina. In 1892 the exportation of wheat was \$25,000,000. The district known as the Central Provinces of India has become one of the most important wheat areas in the world. But the principal agricultural product of India is rice. British India alone has 70,000,000 acres of rice under cultivation, and an annual exportation of \$60,000,000. In all the coast regions rice is grown universally, and also in the lower parts of the river plains, especially in the Ganges valley. It is the staple food of the people everywhere except on the higher levels. On the higher levels millet and maize (corn) are the staple foods. The next important agricultural product of India is cotton, of which \$47,000,000 worth in the raw state is exported annually, besides what is used at home. The American civil war was the great cause of the starting of the cotton-growing industry in India.

The next important agricultural product is tea, in which India now leads the world. England uses twice as much India tea as China tea, the reason being that India teas are produced with all the economic care of a high-class English or American manufactured product. The value of the tea export of India is about \$27,000,000. Other chief agricultural products are opium (which is a government monopoly), oil seeds, hides, and skins, indigo (in which India excels the world, the value of the export being \$14,000,000), coffee (the best grown anywhere – except perhaps that of Arabia and Java – though the bean is sometimes injured in transit), cinchona or Peruvian bark (which since it has been raised in India, has greatly reduced the price of quinine), raw silk, raw sugar, tobacco, and spices. Spices are produced abundantly in India, but their quality is not equal to East Indian spices. Also the cotton, rice, sugar, and tobacco of India, though produced plentifully, are inferior in quality to

those of the United States. Nor are the wheat and corn of India so good as the wheat and corn of the United States and Canada.

Though India is now chiefly an agricultural country her people from time immemorial have been adepts in manufacturing. The domestic textile manufactures and the domestic metal manufactures of India were for ages among the most beautiful and ingenious in the world. These domestic manufactures are principally pursued in small villages, of which there are over half a million in India. But under the influences of modern civilisation introduced by British rule, the domestic industries of the country are now giving way to factory industries. These have already become well established, and are rapidly increasing in number and importance. The Indian people, with their natural aptitude for weaving, make the best of textile operatives, and India bids fair soon to become a formidable rival of Western nations in textile manufactures. Bombay has become one of the greatest cotton centres in the world, a sort of Liverpool and Manchester combined. It has practically shut the doors of India to English manufactured cottons of the cheaper grades. Bombay manufactured cotton is even sent to England in immense quantities, but the principal export is to China. The total export of Indian manufactured cotton is \$23,000,000. But, notwithstanding these developments, India still remains a tremendous market for the manufactured goods of England, especially in cottons and hardware and machinery. The value of the annual cotton importation from England is \$100,000,000, equal to the total of England's exportation of goods of every sort to the United States. The value of the annual hardware and machinery importation from England is \$35,000,000.

Of the internal trade of India no statistics are available, but with the rapid advances in modern conveniences for doing business which the country is adopting, the internal trade is also enormously increasing. Already 20,290 miles of railway are built and opened, and 13,000 miles of canals and canalised river navigation. Railways are rapidly being constructed in every part of the country. Over 31,000 miles of metalled roads for highways and 106,000 of unmetalled roads are now maintained by the government as public works. There are 38,000 miles of telegraph routes. The greatness of India is only just beginning.

### **CITIES AND TOWNS**

Calcutta (862,000) is the capital of the empire of India and the second city in the British Empire. Although situated on an arm of the delta of the Ganges, eighty miles inland, Calcutta is an immense seaport, but its sea-going privileges can be maintained only by great engineering works, because of the silt which the Ganges is constantly bringing down and depositing in its seaward channels. Calcutta enjoys almost a monopoly of the whole trade of the Ganges and Brahmapootra valleys, and until the building of the Suez Canal it had almost a monopoly of the outward trade of the whole Hindustan peninsula.

Bombay (822,000), the second city of the Indian Empire, owes its eminence to three things: (1) the opening of the Suez Canal, which has made it the port of India nearest England; (2) the starting of the cotton-growing industry in India, owing to the American civil war (the cotton-growing district of India is

adjacent to Bombay); and (3) the development of the railway system of India, which is making Bombay rather than Calcutta the natural ocean outlet for the trade of the country.

Madras (453,000), the third city of India, is also the third seaport. But it has no natural harbour, and its shore is surf-beaten and for months together exposed to the full fury of the northeast monsoons. An artificial harbour, however, has recently been built.

Besides the cities above mentioned there is one (Hyderabad) with a population of over 400,000; there are two (Lucknow and Benares) with a population of over 150,000 each, and eleven more with a population of over 100,000 each.

### **GREAT BRITAIN IN AFRICA**

Great Britain's African holdings, however, in the partitioned continent comprises its best portions. Much of Africa is barely inhabitable, excluding the shore of the Mediterranean, the best part of Africa, considered from the view points of colonisation and commerce, is what is now known as "British South Africa." This is an immense area – an area of almost 1,000,000 square miles. It comprises (1) that whole southern portion of the continent known as Cape Colony, and (2) that portion of the great central plateau of the continent which extends from Cape Colony northward to Lakes Nyassa and Tanganyika – all except the two Boer republics, the Orange Free State and the South African Republic. British East Africa (800,000 square miles) includes the territory of Uganda, north of Lake Victoria, a territory which from the character of its native population and its possibilities of trade has been called the "pearl of Africa." British West Africa (500,000 square miles) includes the basin of the lower Niger, the most densely peopled area in all Africa, the seat of the great Fula-Hausa empire of Sokoto-Gandu, the wealthiest and greatest trading nation in the continent. Furthermore, in the northeast, Great Britain exercises "protectorate control" over Egypt – a control that is likely to be instrumental in reclaiming for Egypt, and thus for civilisation and commerce under British authority, the whole of Egypt's ancient possessions along the Nile as far at least as Uganda. The total area of the British possessions in Africa, exclusive of the two Boer republics and Egypt, is over 2,300,000 square miles.

"South Africa" is practically "British South Africa." The German portion is either largely barren or else inaccessible. The Portuguese portion is only a narrow strip along the east coast, much of which is too unhealthy for habitation other than by natives. The two Boer republics are rapidly filling up with British people, are being developed by British capital, and must in time become confederated with the states that environ them. One of them, too, is already under British suzerainty. British South Africa, however, is as yet only a name. It has no real existence except in hope. The aspiration of statesmen in southern Africa is that all the territories of southern Africa under British control shall form one confederation, and that in this confederation the Orange Free State and the South African Republic shall join. The territories entering into this confederation would therefore be as follows: The self-governing colonies of Cape Colony and Natal, the crown colony of Basutoland, the protectorates of

Bechuanaland and Zululand, the territory now administered by the British South Africa Company, popularly known as "Rhodesia" (today's Zimbabwe), and the British Central Africa protectorate, with in addition the two Boer republics previously mentioned. The length of this proposed South African dominion would be 1800 miles. Its width would be from 600 to 800 miles.

Of South Africa as above defined Cape Colony and Natal are at present the most important portions. Their climate is in some respects the finest in the world. Their soil is of remarkable richness. The number of distinct species of indigenous plants found upon it is greater than for any other equal area on the globe. The same remark was once true of the animals found in South Africa, which again is testimony to the great fertility of the soil. But a serious drawback is the insufficiency and uncertainty of the rain supply. Irrigation, however, is practised, and wherever irrigation is possible the land may be made to blossom like the rose. Agriculture, however, is only indifferently pursued, despite this fertility. Pasturing is the principal occupation of the people in rural districts. There are 17,000,000 sheep in Cape Colony, and 6,000,000 goats. Natal, which is warmer, has 500,000 sheep. Another principal occupation is ostrich-farming. The ostrich, once wild in South Africa, is now bred domestically. Cape Colony has 230,000 ostriches. Ostrich feathers fetch from \$150 to \$300 a pound. The raising of cattle is another principal occupation, and draught cattle are much used for transport purposes. Cape Colony has 2,000,000 cattle; Natal, 1,000,000. The principal food crops are wheat and maize, but little is raised for export. Many magnificent timber woods are found, but the trees are stunted and little timber is exported.

All the world over South Africa is famous for its diamond mines and its gold-mines. The diamonds are found principally in Griqualand, north of the Orange River, now a part of Cape Colony, but they are also found in the Orange Free State. The diamond areas are very circumscribed, the diamond-bearing "pipes" being supposed to be craters of extinct volcanoes. The principal "pipes" are at Kimberley (28,718), in Griqualand. These constitute the richest diamond-fields in the world. It is estimated that over \$350,000,000 worth of diamonds have been taken out of Kimberley since their first discovery there in 1867. The largest South African diamond yet found was worth \$300,000, but many other large ones have been found. The annual diamond export now is about \$20,000,000. The production and export are strictly limited, so that prices may not depreciate.

Next in interest to the diamond-fields are the gold-mines. These so far have been found principally in the South African Republic, or "Transvaal" as it is popularly called, in the "rand," or "reef," near the far-famed town of Johannesburg (102,078). Since gold was first discovered in the rand (1871) \$250,000,000 worth has been taken out. The annual output now is nearly \$50,000,000, but it is estimated that before the rand can be exhausted \$2,250,000,000 worth of gold must be taken out. Other mineral products of South Africa are coal in Natal, mined at Newcastle, and copper in the northwest of Cape Colony, shipped at Port Nolloth.

British South Africa, like all of Africa, is wanting in seaports. In fact, it has but few. However, it has one, Walfish Bay, which territorially does not belong to it, inasmuch as it is in the middle of the coast of German Southwest Africa – the only port in that coast. The principal port in British South Africa is Cape Town (83,718), which is also the capital and principal place. The next principal ports are, for Cape Colony, Port Elizabeth (23,266) and East London, and for Natal, Durban. Lorenzo Marquez, on Delagoa Bay, and Beira, at the mouth of the Pungwe, both in Portuguese East Africa, are natural ports for northern British South Africa, and are used as such, railways being constructed from them into the interior. Railroad-making, indeed, is now the all-important matter in South Africa. Lines are already built from Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, and Lorenzo Marquez to the diamond-fields of Kimberley and the gold-mines of Johannesburg. Already a telegraph line extending from Salisbury northward has reached the west shore of Lake Nyassa, and soon it is expected to reach the south end of Lake Tanganyika. It is proposed that the railroad from Bulawayo shall follow this same route, and it is the dream (or shall we say the hope?) of the empire-builders of South Africa that this railway shall before many years be a line from Capetown to Cairo in Egypt, a transcontinental rail for Africa.

## **AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA**

The term Australasia, as now generally used, comprises Australia (including Tasmania) and New Zealand, and a number of small neighbouring islands. So used it practically denotes a British possession; for such islands as are comprised by the term and yet do not belong to Great Britain are comparatively unimportant. But when we speak of Australasia, we are generally thinking of Australia, for Australia is so large and important that it seems to overshadow the other parts of Australasia. But in respect to politics or commerce Australia is not one country; it is divided into several self-governing colonies. These are, in order of importance, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, and West Australia. But a movement is now being made to unite all these colonies, and Tasmania as well, into one "Australian Confederation," just as the several provinces of Canada, which were once independent colonies, have been united into one "Dominion of Canada." This confederation scheme, however, has not yet been accomplished. New Zealand, because of its distance (1200 miles) from Australia, has so far shown no desire to enter into this confederation.

Australia is a continent not only in name but in fact. Its area, including Tasmania, is almost 3,000,000 square miles, which is about the area of the United States exclusive of Alaska, and only about one fourth less than the area of the continent of Europe. Fully two fifths of this area lie within the torrid zone, and of the rest, even in Victoria, the part farthest from the equator, the climate is so warm that it corresponds with that of Spain, southern France, and Italy. But over so vast a territory great differences of climate must occur, and consequently of lifestyles also. Yet there are several characteristics which appertain to the whole continent. The chief of these are (1) the great dryness of the atmosphere – not merely its lack of rain, but its absolute freedom from moisture; (2) the remarkable inequality, or want of

regularity, in the rainfall. Occasionally the rainfall is excessive, but a more frequent and serious cause of trouble is excessive drought. The continent on every side has a low coast region, where the rainfall is heavier and the temperature generally hotter than in the corresponding table-land interior to it. But the vast table-land of the interior has comparatively little rain, and indeed in some parts of it, especially in the centre and west, the rainfall is so slight that the country is practically a desert.

But even when all the desert areas of Australia are excluded from calculation there still remains in the interior plateau, toward the east and south, an immense area of country of great fertility and productiveness. The Murray River alone drains an area of 500,000 square miles, one sixth of the whole continent, a great part of which is of exceeding richness. In these fertile parts irrigation by artesian wells has been tried, and always with great success. And it is thought that almost the whole continent can be regained for agriculture, or at least for sheep-pasturing, by similar means; for even in the arid and so-called desert parts of the interior, there is very little soil that is not really fertile, for all of it is covered with thick brushwood. Moisture alone is needed to make it bear crops abundantly. And this dryness of the atmosphere which prevails throughout the whole continent is not without its compensations.

Australia has many peculiarities. It has only one large river, and even that in summer becomes a series of isolated pools. It has no high mountain range, its principal mountains being only a series of ramparts marking off the lower coast lands from the interior plateau. Again, its native quadrupeds are entirely different from those of other continents, being almost all, whether little or big, "marsupials," or "pouch-bearers," like the kangaroo. Its birds are mostly songless. Its flowers, for the most part, have no scent. Its trees are leaved vertically and cast no shade. When Europeans first came to the country they found no native animal that could be put to any use, nor any native fruit, vegetable, or grain that could be utilised for food. Still, all European domestic animals thrive abundantly in the country, and so do all European fruits, grasses, grains, and vegetables.

Australia is undoubtedly on the eve of a period of great development. Its resources are known to be immense. Its climate has been found most favourable to human health, and the objectionable feature of the climate, the smallness and irregularity of the rainfall, has been studied and become understood and found remediable. Once the confederation that is now in process of formation takes place, there is no doubt that Australia will enter upon a new and prosperous commercial era. Owing to the fact that its chief opportunities for wealth lie in the development of its natural resources, it is probable that for some time to come almost all the manufactured goods Australia needs will have to be imported. Already its importation amounts to \$275,000,000, of which, of course, Great Britain supplies the principal share. This importation is principally clothing and materials for clothing, but it also comprises hardware and machinery, and in fact everything required by a highly civilised and money-spending people, except breadstuffs and provisions. There is one other Australian resource that is capable of almost indefinite development. This is its timber. The eucalyptus or

gum-tree prevails almost universally in Australia, and some of its commonest varieties, being both strong and indestructible by insects, are of almost unequalled value for ship-building, railway ties, and dock and harbour construction. That the Australians are fully alive to the importance of developing their foreign trade is seen in the efforts they have made to provide facilities for bringing their products to ocean ports. There are 11,980 miles of railway, almost every mile of which has been built by the governments. This is one mile of railway for every 300 inhabitants, as against one mile for every 400 inhabitants in the United States. These railways run wholly to and from the seaboard. There are no manufacturing towns to be catered to. Australian trade consists wholly in exchanging home-raised natural products for imported manufactures. Equally remarkable with the railroad enterprise of the Australians is their enterprise in telegraphic construction and the establishment of cable communications. For example, a telegraph line 2000 miles long, running across the continent from Adelaide to Port Darwin, has been built by the province of South Australia so as to connect with a cable from Port Darwin to Java, Singapore, etc....., and thus with Europe and America. For at least 1500 miles this telegraph line runs through one of the most desolate and inaccessible regions in the world.

#### **COLONIES OF AUSTRALIA**

**VICTORIA:** Victoria, the smallest of the Australian colonies, had until recently the largest population (June, 1897, 1,177,304) and also the largest trade. In both respects, however, it is at present surpassed by New South Wales. Victoria has owed its past pre-eminence to its gold production. Gold was discovered in the colony in 1851, and for years the output of the precious mineral was not less than \$50,000,000 per annum. The present output of gold in Victoria, however, is only \$10,000,000 per annum. Richer, however, than the gold-mines of Victoria is the fertility of its soil. A large part of the soil is exceedingly fertile – with irrigation one of the finest fruit-bearing soils in the world. The arboreal vegetation of the country is magnificent. Trees thirty feet in diameter rise to the height of 200 feet without a single lateral branch, and then 100 feet to 200 feet higher still. The principal agricultural export is wool – \$25,000,000 worth per annum. But a considerable portion of this comes from New South Wales. The sheep kept number 15,000,000, the cattle 2,000,000. But the colony still remains principally a mining community. Five ninths of the population live in towns. Yet there are few towns, and two fifths of the whole population live in Melbourne – a city almost exactly as large as Boston.

Melbourne (451,110; with suburbs, 500,000), the capital city of Victoria and the chief city in Australia, is also one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Its parliament buildings, town hall, post-office, treasury, mint, law courts, public libraries, picture galleries, theatres, churches, and clubs are all edifices of architectural magnificence and beauty, while its boulevards, parks and gardens are equally splendid. At one time money flowed freely and great commercial recklessness prevailed. But though Melbourne has sustained several severe depressions

its present condition is prosperous and its future is assured. It is, however, a pleasure-loving city, and it is as much on this account as on account of its great beauty that it is called "the Paris of the southern hemisphere."

Other important places in Victoria are Ballarat (40,000) and Sandhurst (37,000), both mining towns, and Geelong (25,000) locally noted for its manufacture of "tweeds."

**NEW SOUTH WALES:** New South Wales (population 1,311,440) is the oldest colony of Australia and the parent of both Victoria and Queensland. Of all the colonies, it has, perhaps, the greatest range of productions. On the low coast lands its soil is of extraordinary fertility, and even in the dry interior, when irrigation is employed, the fertility is still extraordinary. As yet, however, but one acre out of every two hundred is under cultivation, the chief agricultural occupation being pasturing. Over 50,000,000 sheep are kept, principally the merino. Grass grows everywhere, and even the summits of the mountains are covered. Drought, however, is a terrible drawback, and sometimes tremendous losses occur. In 1877 over 8,000,000 sheep perished, and in 1884 over 12,000,000. The total wool production is very large, averaging \$50,000,000 a year. The export of hides, skins, leather, and chilled meat, principally mutton, amounts to \$10,000,000 annually. Chilled mutton and beef are sent direct to London, though the passage takes five or six weeks by steamer and twelve to sixteen weeks by sailing-vessel.

Scarcely less important than its agricultural products are the mineral products of New South Wales. Its coal-mines are the finest on the continent, and \$4,500,000 worth of coal is exported annually, besides what is consumed locally. Its gold production, though not very large, is general throughout the whole colony. Its silver-mines in Silverton and Broken Hill are among the most famous in the world, and its tin-bearing lands comprise over 5,500,000 acres. The foregoing comprise the staple products – the production of industries already well established.

Sydney (including suburbs 410,000) is the capital and by far the largest city. Sydney, like Melbourne, is a beautiful city, but its beauty is natural rather than artificial, and it is well entitled to its name, "Queen of the South." It is situated on Port Jackson, one of the finest and most beautiful harbours on the globe. Sydney is the headquarters of all the various lines of steamships – British, American, French, Italian, etc. – that trade with Australia, and is indeed one of the great seaports of the world.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA:** South Australia (358,224 in 1897) occupies the whole central part of the continent from north to south. But as only a very small portion of this vast area is settled – the southeast corner – it may be described as in characteristics resembling Victoria. Its principal industry is wheat-growing. South Australia is indeed the great granary of the continent, and is destined to be one of the great granaries of the world. Like the other divisions of Australia, South Australia, when once drought has been overcome by irrigation, is destined to become a great fruit country, its warm, moistureless climate being peculiarly well suited to the ripening of fruits. The principal city and chief

port is Adelaide (with suburbs 144,352). Like other Australian ports, Adelaide possesses excellent steamboat shipping facilities. In the north, on the Timor Sea, is Port Darwin, likely to be an important trade centre.

**QUEENSLAND:** The most interesting of all the Australian colonies is Queensland (population 472,179), for it is a tropical country with a climate so salubrious that people can live in it and be comfortable and healthy. The heat, instead of being enervating, is stimulating and bracing. A great portion of its soil is of unsurpassed fertility. The only drawback is the unequal distribution throughout the year of the rainfall. But wherever irrigation wells are sunk the climate becomes highly suitable for sheep-raising, and also for the growing of many kinds of fruit. There are already 15,000,000 sheep and 5,000,000 cattle in the colony, and wool is exported to the amount of \$15,000,000 annually. Other agricultural exports are frozen beef and mutton, and hides and skins. Wool is the chief export. The second export in importance is gold, which reaches \$10,000,000 per annum. Tin is also exported, and coal, though little worked, is abundant. Brisbane (100,913) is the capital and chief city and port.

**WEST AUSTRALIA:** West Australia (population 162,394), the largest of all the Australian colonies, has only been recently settled, and its constitution as a self-governing colony dates only from 1890. A large part of its area has never been explored, and a large part is known to be scrub desert. But there is scarcely any part of it, even of its "scrub" areas, but that will support sheep when once artesian wells have been sunk, and large portions of the colony, especially along the coasts, are as fertile as need be. And the climate, though very dry, is exceedingly healthful.

Perth (43,000) is the capital. Albany is the principal port.

## HONG KONG

Hong Kong (245,000) is a small island belonging to Great Britain situated in the mouth of the Canton River, seventy-five miles from the Chinese city of Canton. Its population is made up principally of Chinese, who have been attracted there by its trade privileges. The British population is only 13,000, even including the garrison of 2800. Almost the whole population reside in the capital, Victoria, for the island itself is a barren rock. Forty-four per cent of the total foreign trade of China passes through Hong Kong. Its harbour is one of the finest in the world. It has magnificent docks. Its port is entirely free, and there is even no custom-house. It is calculated that the foreign trade transacted by its merchants amounts to \$100,000,000 a year, exclusive of what passes through its port without breaking bulk. The whole of the vast export trade of China in silk and tea is largely handled by Hong Kong firms. Other commodities of which Hong Kong is the chief trade centre for China are opium, flour, salt, earthenware, oil, cotton, and cotton goods and woollen goods, which it imports from other countries and exports to China; and sugar, rice, amber, sandal-wood, ivory, and betel, which it imports from China and exports to other countries. Its trade is not confined to Great Britain, but includes France, Germany, the United States, and all other trading nations. But of course Great Britain has the greatest share.



## CANADA

The dominion of Canada comprises all that portion of the continent of North America north of the United States – except Alaska and Newfoundland and the coast of Labrador. (Newfoundland and the Labrador coast is a colony in direct relationship to Great Britain.) Canada is entirely self-governing and self-maintaining, and its connection with Great Britain is almost wholly a matter of loyalty and affection. It consists (1) of seven Provinces: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, and British Columbia, which, in their self-governing powers and their relation to the general government, correspond very closely to the states of the American union; (2) of four Territories – Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Athabasca, which correspond somewhat to the western territories such as Arizona or the Indian Territory; (3) of four other Territories – Ungava, Franklin, Mackenzie, and Yukon, which are administered by the general government; and (4) the District of Keewatin, which is under the jurisdiction of the lieutenant-governor of Manitoba. The capital of the whole dominion is Ottawa. Each province has its own capital.

The area of Canada is immense. It figures up to 3,456,383 square miles, which is almost 500,000 square miles more than the total area of the United States exclusive of Alaska, and not far short of being equal to the area of all Europe. But almost 150,000 square miles of this area are taken up by lakes and rivers; and a much greater portion than this, under present conditions of civilisation, is wholly uninhabitable, being either too cold or too barren. Yet when all the necessary allowances have been made there still remains in Canada an immense area with soil fertile enough and climate favourable enough for all the purposes of a highly civilised population. Over 900,000 square miles are already occupied, and of the occupied area fully one half has been “improved.” The older provinces are, acre for acre, as suitable for agricultural pursuits as the adjoining States of the Union. Manitoba, the “Prairie Province,” is almost one vast wheat field, with a productivity for wheat unequalled anywhere except in the Red River valley of Minnesota and Dakota. The Manitoba grain harvest foots up to 50,000,000 bushels. British Columbia is a land of almost infinite possibilities, not only because of its mineral and timber resources, but also because of its capabilities for agriculture and fruit-growing. The Territories are so vast an area that no general description of them is possible, but it may be said that the great wheat valley of the Saskatchewan, the sheltered grazing country of Alberta, and the great wheat plains of the Peace River valley in Athabasca, are regions adapted in soil and climate to sustain a hardy and vigorous people.

The population of Canada is comparatively small. It is estimated at 5,250,000. Over 1,000,000 people of Canadian birth reside in the United States, and the number of Americans residing in Canada is only 80,000. Out of the 2,425,000 persons who came to Canada as immigrants in a period of forty years, no fewer than 1,310,000, or fifty four per cent., came over into the United States. It is stated that this exodus has ceased, and that if any great movement of population now exists it is toward Canada.

Canada, like all new countries, depends for her prosperity upon the development and exportation of her natural products.

## 24 VICTORIOUS!

These are of four great classes: (1), the products of her forests; (2), the products of her mines; (3), the products of her fisheries; (4), her agricultural products. Canada’s forest resources, when both extent and quality are considered, are the finest in the world. The forest area uncut was in 1891 nearly 1,250,000 square miles, or more than one third of the area of the whole country. The annual value of the timber and lumber produced is about \$82,500,000. The annual value of the timber and lumber exported is about \$32,000,000. Two thirds of this goes to Great Britain, and over \$9,000,000 in lumber and logs goes to the United States. Quebec and Ontario have unlimited supplies of spruce for wood-pulp manufacture, the annual output of which reaches 200,000 tons. The uncut lumber of British Columbia is estimated to be 100,000,000,000 cubic feet.

Canada is just beginning to realise the largeness of her mineral resources. The most talked of gold-mines are those of the Klondike district, the extent of which is still uncertain. Much more definitely known and almost as productive are the gold-mines of British Columbia and the newly discovered gold-fields of the Rainy River district in northern Ontario. More important than the gold-mines of Canada are its coal-fields. These are principally in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. The latter province is destined to be the coal-supplying region for the whole Pacific coast of North America. The yearly output at present is about 1,000,000 tons; the yearly output of Nova Scotia is about 2,000,000 tons, principally produced by American capital. In Alberta there are said to be coal-fields having an area of 65,000 square miles. Iron is found in abundance in both British Columbia and Ontario. Ontario has in its nickel-mines of Sudbury a mineral treasure not found elsewhere in equal abundance in the world. Ontario produces petroleum and salt as well as silver, copper and lead. Canada imports annually from the United States nearly \$10,000,000 worth of coal and coke.

The fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and of the shallow waters bordering on Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have for centuries been the most productive in the world. The Canadian fishing interest in these waters is very great. Cod, mackerel and similar fishes are the principal catch, and the annual “take” is about \$15,000,000. About \$2,500,000 worth of freshwater fish are produced annually from the Canadian lakes. The salmon-fishing of the rivers and great sea-inlets of British Columbia brings about \$4,500,000 annually. About one half of the total product is exported to Great Britain and the United States.

Agriculture, including stock-raising, dairying and fruit-growing, is Canada’s greatest industry. Over 23,000,000 acres are under crop and about 20,000,000 under pasture. Over 3,000,000 acres are under wheat cultivation. Ontario exports more than twice as much cheese as the whole of the United States. Canada exports to Great Britain alone \$15,000,000 worth of dairy products annually. By the cold-storage facilities provided by the government Canadian butter can be sent even from far inland points to Liverpool or London without the slightest deterioration. England buys \$6,000,000 worth of Canadian bacon and hams annually, and Canadian beef is already famous on the London market. American corn for stock-feeding is admitted to Canada free of duty and about \$10,000,000 worth is

imported annually. A great deal of eastern and southern Canada is well adapted to fruit-raising. The Niagara-St. Clair peninsula of Ontario is especially famous for its peaches and grapes.

Canada has made a great effort in the direction of encouraging home manufactures, but her most progressive and most staple industries are those concerned in the conversion of the raw products of the country into articles of common merchandise. Her steam horse-power in proportion to population is the largest in the world. The capital invested in factories as a whole amounts to over \$400,000,000, with an annual output of over \$500,000,000. Her total annual importation is now over \$130,000,000. More than half of this is from the United States. Canada's total annual exportation is about \$160,000,000. Of this over one third goes to the United States. Canada's total trade with the United States is about forty one per cent. of her total trade with all countries, and almost equal to her total trade with Great Britain. Canada's total trade with the United States is exceeded only by that of Great Britain, Germany, and France, and her import trade with the United States is exceeded only by that of Great Britain and Germany.

### **CITIES**

Montreal (250,000) is the commercial metropolis of Canada. It is situated on an island in the St. Lawrence River, and, though 1000 miles from the open ocean, the largest sea-going vessels reach its wharves with ease. It is the headquarters of Canada's two great railways – the Canadian Pacific system, with its 8000 miles of road, and the Grand Trunk system, with its 5000 miles of road. Through passenger-trains run from Montreal to Vancouver on the Pacific coast, a distance of nearly 3000 miles. Montreal is the centre also of the great inland navigation system of Canada.

Toronto (200,000), the capital of the province of Ontario, is the second city of Canada. While Toronto has a great local trade and many important manufactures, it is specially noted as an educational centre.

Quebec (80,000) is the oldest city of Canada and one of the oldest upon the continent.

Halifax (50,000), the eastern terminus of the Canadian railway system, has one of the finest harbours in the world.

Winnipeg (35,000) is destined to be the centre of the great inland trade of Canada.

### **BRITISH WEST INDIES**

The British possessions in the West Indies are commercially the most important of the European possessions in the Caribbean. The Bahamas are low-lying coral islands, producing but little except sponges, fruit, and sisal-hemp. Nassau, the only town of importance, is a winter resort. Fruit, sugar, rum, coffee, and ginger are exported from Kingston, the port of Jamaica. St. Lucia has probably the strongest fortress in the Caribbean Sea.

Barbados produces more sugar than any other British possession in the West Indies. The raw sugar, muscovado, is shipped to

the United States. Bermuda, an outlying island, furnishes the Atlantic states with onions, Easter lilies, and early potatoes. From Trinidad is obtained the asphaltum, or natural tar, that is used for street paving. Brea Lake, the source of the mineral, is leased to a New York company. Sugar and cacao are also exported from Port of Spain. The products of St. Vincent and Dominica are similar to those of the other islands.

British Honduras is a British territory acquired mainly for the mahogany product, which is shipped from Belize, its neighbor in Central America.

### **VOX POPULI – GREAT BRITAIN**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The printing of the below should not be construed as approval or support of said opinions. They were simply prevalent among the British public of the time and can represent both the best and worst of British prejudice. Naturally we in the 21<sup>st</sup> century have moved significantly beyond such views but they were a part of our history.

### **OPINIONS OF A SUBJECT OF THE CROWN**

**VIEW OF SELF:** "It is simply the greatest honor any man can have to be a humble subject of Queen Victoria, within the greatest empire the Earth has ever known! We are the most civilized, advanced, and richest of all the European empires. In fact, it is a misnomer to call us an empire really, since I'm certain not one person within it would wish to be under any other flag. More of an association of free peoples, it is. Well, except for parts of Africa. India too, but you see these folks don't know any better. It's the genius of the Anglo-Saxon to administer the world; it's our destiny and our responsibility. A grave one to be sure, but the Lord gives burdens to those who can bear them, and Britain's empire covers a quarter of the planet! Quite the burden."

**EUROPE AND ITS KINGS:** "If you want an idea of how well Britons have it, then just look across the English Channel or the North Sea. Europe is awash in kings, petty nobles, and constant hostility between peoples. If the French are not trying to revive old Bony's Napoleonic Empire, then its Kaiser Willie trying to show he's the new Frederick the Great. Austrian Hapsburgs holding onto a decrepit throne while Poles, Balts, Bohemians, Magyars, Slavs, and a hundred other nationalities all try to shoot or bomb their way into power. Britain's isolation is splendid indeed!"

**BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES:** "There is only one reason that Britain can avoid the perils of the rest of Europe. Because Britain Rules the Waves! Our navy is the greatest in the world, stronger than the next two rival fleets combined. So long as our bluejackets ride the oceans on the shows of the Royal Navy, our power and prestige is assured. Our trade is only as strong as our ability to protect it is, and with the navy we have our trade is supreme."

**UNITED STATES:** "Our American cousins: they are very hard to pin down. They're of fellow Anglo-Saxon stock, so they share our ability to govern themselves as a free people and share the devotion to hard work and building wealth. Still, they don't

have the natural breaks to public excess that our Queen and House of Lords provide us, so they are frequently dragged by an ignorant mob into silly behavior. Yet theirs is a huge country, with virtually limitless resources. It would behoove Great Britain to stand with our brothers and sisters, estranged at times though they may be. After all, everyone else in the world are foreigners!"

**THE FUTURE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM:** "So long as good queen Victoria rules the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland can only go from strength to strength. When she passes on, well, Bertie will be king I suppose. Edward the VII, I think he'll be. He does have a bit of a reputation, it is true. A few scandals as well, certainly not something to talk about in polite company. The Irish are demanding home rule, but they're always demanding that. Like we English don't govern them correctly or what not. The very notion! So long as the Irish know their place and the French are kept from crossing the Channel all is well with the world."

## PERSONS OF NOTE

Given below is a list of the more notable people in London during the 1880s and 1890s. Some are historical figures, though others are from novels of the period. It is of course up to the Genteel Magistrate to decide if the literary individuals exist or not in her chronicle. The statistics given for each character is merely a guideline, and GMs are encouraged to modify or rewrite them at will to better suit their view of the individual.

**IRENE ADLER:** She is a Neutral mortal rogue whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 15; Armor Class 12. Her prime attributes are Dexterity, Intelligence and Wisdom. Her significant skills are Criminology 1, Disguise 1, Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Firearms 1, and Roguery 2. She has a pistol that does 1d4 damage.

The former opera singer and adventuress Irene Adler needs no introduction to those fond of reading the Sherlock Holmes stories. Her beauty, brilliance, and "soul of steel" brought her the admiration (at least platonically) of the inestimable Great Detective. Born in New Jersey, her life led her to singing opera in Europe, and the attentions of the King of Bohemia, who hired Sherlock Holmes to retrieve a compromising photograph from her. One of the very few people (and the only woman) to have outwitted Sherlock Holmes, she continues her adventures on the European continent with her husband Godfrey Norton as well as the occasional friend.

Irene Adler is frankly envious of the costumed mystery men and women of the new age. A woman of independent tendencies, she views supernatural abilities as just one more way for women to promote their independence and self worth. If something arose where she had the chance to gain such powers herself, she would grab it with both hands.

**ARTHUR BALFOUR:** He is a Good mortal noble whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 16; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are: Dexterity, Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Polite), History/Legend 1 (Great Britain), Profession 2 (Politics), and Wealthy 1.

Arthur James Balfour was Foreign Secretary under the Marquis of Salisbury's cabinet through the latter 1890s. Before that, he was the de facto governor of Ireland and made a reputation for harshness, earning him the nickname "Bloody Balfour". Despite this, he was a moderate conservative who would later serve as Prime Minister in the early 1900s. Personally handsome and gregarious among society, he remained a bachelor throughout his life after the death of his childhood sweetheart.

Balfour is concerned with this unsuspected 'evolution of mankind' and what it means for Britain. He is especially worried about the Irish secessionists recruiting SuperMankind, and what England might do to defend themselves.

**LEWIS CARROLL:** He is a Neutral mortal sage whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 18; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are Intelligence and Wisdom. His significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Fine Arts 1 (Literature), and Profession 2 (Mathematics).

Lewis Carrol was the pen name of a mathematical logistician named Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. He used the pen name so as to separate the author of the *Alice in Wonderland* novels from his teaching career at Oxford. He was also a religious man, serving as an Anglican deacon in his local church, for which he also wished to keep his name private, as at the time novels were considered a bit scandalous.

This mathematical genius finds the very idea of SuperMankind fascinating. He alleges that they are frauds, and if he just had enough time around one he could prove it. This is an excessive claim, for in his heart he is afraid that they might very well be genuine, and all that might say about religion as well. He is outraged about the criminal gang called "The Looking Glass", as he believes they have stolen his creations and turned them to crass ends. If they are ever brought to justice, rest assured that he will be serving them papers for violation of his copyrights.

**SIR JAMES DEWAR:** He is a Neutral mortal contraptionist whose vital statistics are: Level 4; Hit Points 19; Armor Class 10. His prime attributes are Intelligence and Wisdom. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Linguist 2 (French and German), Melee 1, and Science 2 (Chemistry, Thermodynamics). His supernatural power is Invention 4.

Sir James is a Scottish native who graduated from the university of Edinburgh with honors and is currently (since the 1870s) engaged in research at the Imperial Institute in London. His researches involve liquefying gases, most notably oxygen and hydrogen for study and scientific uses. As part of these researches, he has developed bottles and tanks to hold various gases under high pressure, thus assisting a wide range of industrial processes.

Initially Sir James had no opinion on SuperMankind one-way or the other. This changed when Dr. R. J. Hunter contacted him with a problem that required Sir James' unique skills. Together the two scientists developed a system of multiple tanks connected to a variety of air pumps that would be used at Dartmoor prison to incarcerate the villainess Lady Miasma. After this event, and a continuing correspondence with Dr. Hunter, Sir James has

looked forward to other technical problems that SuperMankind provides to the science of the day.

**ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE:** He is a Good mortal commoner whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 21; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are Strength, Constitution, and Wisdom. His significant skills are Criminology 1, Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Fine Arts 1 (Writing), History/Legend 1 (Great Britain), and Martial Arts 1.

Arthur Conan Doyle has a long and varied career, both as a soldier and journalist throughout the British Empire. Doyle was born in Scotland and eventually graduated with a medical degree in 1891 from Edinburgh. He later abandoned medicine to concentrate on a literary career, first as a journalist and later as a novelist. Despite a square, hulking form Doyle is actually a friendly and gregarious type.

As a writer he finds SuperMankind fascinating, and is already working on a novel about their exploits. Notorious for his affection for women, he finds the idea of women engaged in such activities as crimefighting and monster hunting both repellant and attractive at once; he has yet to settle on which feeling will be prevalent in his writings.

**EDWARD ALBERT, PRINCE OF WALES:** He is a Neutral mortal noble whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 19; Armor Class 10. His prime attributes are Constitution and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Polite), History/Legend 2 (Great Britain), and Wealthy 4.

The future Edward VII, known as 'Bertie' to his friends, is a friendly well meaning chap that had the bad luck to be born the Crown Prince of England. Constantly pushed to better himself by his parents, and always coming up short, Bertie grew resentful and decided to live in the opposite manner of his parents; a life of parties and entertainment. After his father Albert died of a fever contracted when he journeyed to deal with one of Bertie's improprieties, his mother Victoria has repeatedly refused to give him any chance to learn the art of reigning.

Since he can't be allowed to do any of the traditional activities of a crown prince, Bertie has spent his time traveling the world and engaging in all sorts of things his mother frowns upon. Gambling, drinking, associating with commoners; Bertie has done it all. Despite being married to Alexandra of Denmark, noted by many as one of the most beautiful women of the day, he is a notorious rake who is willing to use his title and authority to spend time with any woman who takes his fancy, single or married.

Despite his reputation, Bertie is a progressive fellow. His Marlborough club set includes commoners of wealth and even minorities; enlightened for the time. He certainly wouldn't mind adding some SuperMankind to his club set, especially if they were some of the dazzlingly attractive ladies in tight costumes!

**GILBERT AND SULLIVAN:** They are Neutral mortals whose vital statistics are: Level 2, Hit Points 3 (Gilbert) / 5 (Sullivan), Armor Class 10. Their prime attributes are Intelligence and Charisma. Their significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Fine Arts 1, Profession 1 (Music), Thespian 1, and Wealthy 1.

William Gilbert (1836-1911) and Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) were the most popular playwrights and directors of the Victorian age. Creators of the British 'Operetta', they wrote and directed several plays that are recognized even today. Amongst these are *The Mikado*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Gondoliers*. The Savoy Theatre in London was built specifically to house their unique brand of theatrical entertainment.

Like many artistic associations today, they quarreled and the duo broke up in 1889. Each tried working with others on operettas, but none captured the public's attention like their past masterpieces. They reunited for the *Grand Duke* (1896) but critics decried it as lacking the magic of the past works.

Both men only consider the new phenomenon of SuperMankind in the context of their musical plays. If they could get one of these fellows or ladies to star in an operetta, they could save money on sets and effects! They might even be direct enough to hire agents to stalk characters in order to pester them into auditioning for their employers.

**WILLIAM GLADSTONE:** He is a Good mortal commoner whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 8; Armor Class 10. His prime attributes are Intelligence and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), History/Legend 1 (Europe), Profession 1 (Politician), and Thespian 2.

William E. Gladstone was the leader of the Liberal party for much of its existence in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and was alternatively lauded and derided for his policies. A staunch progressive, he believed in assisting the poor, equality in economic life and morality in international relations. Despite being loathed by conservatives in Britain, the public admired him enough to allow him four terms as Prime Minister. His last ministry fell when he tried to promote Home Rule for Ireland; basically allowing the isle autonomy within the British Empire. This move split his own party, with the disaffected Liberals forming the Unionist Party and voting with the Tories against Gladstone's policy. Though he never held leadership after this, he was nonetheless a major figure in British politics until his death in 1898.

Mr. Gladstone is enthusiastic about the concept of SuperMankind, so long as they use their abilities for the common good. He supports the Queen's Knights speeches in Parliament, and while a bit unsure about their reporting directly to the crown, so long as Victoria reigns he is willing to overlook that lack of government oversight.

**JONATHAN HARKER:** He is a Good mortal fighter whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 21; Armor Class 13. His prime attributes are Dexterity, Intelligence, and Wisdom. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Firearms 2, Melee 2, Profession 1 (Solicitor), and Roguery 1.

Jonathan Harker's life was a normal story of British success. He was born in 1870, went to Harrow for boarding school, and later studied at Cambridge for his solicitor's license. He went into practice, and looked forward to a nice middle-class English life. Then he received a commission from a certain European noble named Count Dracula. The Transylvanian wanted Harker to

purchase properties for him in London and come to visit Castle Dracula in order to sign papers and advise the Count on English manners and morays. Only after arriving did Harker learn the terrible truth of Dracula's vampirism, and his plans to hunt the streets of London with impunity.

Fortunately, Harker's fiancée Mina Murray and friends Doctor Seward, Lord Goldamring, Quincy Morris, and Abraham van Helsing were able to put paid to Dracula's plans. Realizing now the supernatural threats to England and the world, Jonathan and his wife now dedicate themselves to stopping occult threats before they can threaten Queen and Country.

Jonathan Harker is in a unique position in that he's seen supernatural powers first hand. Therefore, he needs no convincing of the powers of the SuperMankind. In fact, some costumed heroes might encounter Harker and his fiancée if evidence of vampirism is afoot. As Mina is a rather independent and capable woman, he will have little of the normal chauvinisms that afflict Victorian society when it comes to women in costumes with powers. So long as they battle evil in all its forms, Jonathan and Mina Harker will be allies and comrades in the fight.

**JACK THE RIPPER:** He is an Evil mortal whose vital statistics, prime attributes, and skills are unknown.

The killer known by this name is familiar to most people even of today. His name invokes dark fog-shrouded streets, the grime and despair of London's East End, and the uncomfortable fact that he was never apprehended. Through 1888 his murderous exploits were front page news of London newspapers and the talk of Europe and America; perhaps the first news 'sensation' of its kind.

Despite H. H. Holmes of Chicago having killed more women than the Ripper, only the latter figure holds the mystique of shadowy evil, as unlike the Devil of Chicago the Ripper was never captured. Allegations of police cover-ups were rife, that the killer was the Crown Prince, The Duke of Clarence, a Freemason, a Jew; most everyone of the time had their own theory of who the Ripper was and why he had never been caught. Eyewitnesses gave conflicting reports of his appearance, victims were found in different stages of enervation, and the sudden cessation of the killings only added to the mystery. Who was he? Why did he target prostitutes of Whitechapel? Why did he taunt the police with notes reprinted in grisly detail in the newspapers? Were such notes even from him? More questions than answers are connected to this nightmare of the alleys of the metropolis.

"SuperMankind? Don't matter, I'll have each of 'em under me knife, especially the ladies!"

**LORD KELVIN:** He is a Neutral mortal sage whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 12; Armor Class 10. His prime attributes are Intelligence and Wisdom. His significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Science 3 (Electricity, Magnetism, Thermodynamics), and Wealthy 1. His supernatural power is Invention 4.

Lord Kelvin, also known as William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin of Largs, was a mathematician, physicist and one of the greatest scientists of the Victorian age. His studies were varied, but tended to emphasize physical sciences such as physics and thermodynamics. A native of Ireland, his studies were at Cambridge and the University of Glasgow. He graduated from Glasgow, and taught there for most of his life.

In 1848 Lord Kelvin theorized an absolute scale to measure temperature, creating the scale that today bears his name (Kelvin scale). His researches bore fruit in the newly discovered field of electrics, and he was advisor in the laying of the first trans-Atlantic telegraph in 1858 and again in 1866. The second event resulted in a knighthood from Queen Victoria. His interests and inventions were varied, but mostly emphasized electricity and temperatures; and on occasion magnetics.

Lord Kelvin, almost unique among his peers, feels no outrage at the thought of women contraptionists; even if they wear pants and goggles. To him, science is its own reward, and he has little patience for idiots; mortal or SuperMankind alike. In fact, if he was able to speak on scientific topics with a contraptionist (regardless of gender or garb) he would be thrilled and could spend many hours picking his companions' brain on his topics of interest.

**RUDYARD KIPLING:** He is a Good mortal fighter whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 19; Armor Class 12. His prime attributes are Intelligence, Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Fine Arts 1 (Writing), and Firearms 2.

Rudyard Kipling is known today mostly for his pro-British and pro-imperialist stories and poems. His stories of frontier life in the empire were aided greatly by his time in India as a journalist in the 1880s. Though a staunch imperialist, he wrote of British obligation to aid the more 'benighted' peoples to aspire to civilization. At least, civilization as approved by Britain. This supposed obligation he reiterated in his poem 'White Man's Burden', a call to Americans after the Spanish-American War to take over the Philippines. Though scarcely known today, his fantasy and science fiction writings were on a par with H. G. Wells' views on the future.

As the superior Europeans (in his mind) had an obligation to aid the less fortunate, so he too views SuperMankind as facing an obligation to use their supernatural powers to uplift society. Unlike many of his peers, he feels no discomfort at the heroes frequently wearing masks and costumes to perform their duties. He has seen far stranger in the Indian Raj, and if it helps them do their duty, then why not!

**LORD KITCHENER:** He is a Neutral mortal fighter whose vital statistics are: Level 4; Hit Points 26; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are Constitution, Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Firearms 1, Linguist 1 (French) Melee 1, and Profession 1 (Military Science).

Herbert Kitchener was a military man from a military family, joining the prestigious army corps of engineers in 1871 and later

-serving in the British-led Egyptian army of the 1880s. He found himself commander in chief of the Anglo-Egyptian army in 1891 when he was given the assignment of relieving General 'Chinese' Gordon at Khartoum. Though he was too late to save Gordon, his subsequent victories against the Mahdists in the Sudan and his crushing victory over the jihadists at the Battle of Omdurman secured British control of East Africa for the next 60 years.

Not only a soldier, Kitchener was also known for his diplomatic skills. His ability to work with Britain's Egyptian allies and to defuse a possible Anglo-French war over Fashoda gave him the respect of many in Parliament and the affection of the British public. He is considered the very model of the Victorian major general.

Lord Kitchener is rather myopic when it comes to the powers and ramifications of the SuperMankind. He can only see their value on the battlefield, and that he sees with great enthusiasm. They need to drop all that costumed silliness, of course; and wear a proper uniform. A British army uniform, or the Navy he supposes, if their abilities are nautical in theme. Otherwise they are a waste of talent and a loss to the empire.

**INSPECTOR LESTRADE:** He is a Good mortal Policeman whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 14; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are Constitution and Dexterity. His significant skills are: Criminology 1, Etiquette 1 (Polite), and Firearms 1.

Inspector Giles Lestrade of the CID (Scotland Yard) is best known throughout London as the yard's interlocutor with the Great Detective himself: Sherlock Holmes. Unfortunately he is portrayed in Doctor Watson's stories in a somewhat less than flattering light. To his credit, Sherlock Holmes did describe him as 'the best of a bad lot', a sort of backhanded compliment, but a compliment to be sure. At his best he is a tenacious investigator, refusing to rest until he has solved a crime and has his (wo)man. At his worst, he follows the obvious line of reasoning and misses vital clues that provide the true path to the criminal; something Holmes relishes pointing out to Lestrade whenever possible. Still Holmes called on him first whenever a police presence was required. A rare honor indeed!

Like his methods of resolving crimes, Lestrade views SuperMankind in the most immediate and obvious manner. To wit, they are strange and wear odd outfits. Criminals wear masks and occasionally odd outfits. Therefore, most SuperMankind should be treated as criminals unless evidence is shown otherwise to change the inspector's mind; which takes a lot of changing, to be sure. Unless vouched for by Sherlock Holmes, Doctor Watson, or a high government official, Lestrade will treat heroes as annoying interlopers and heroines as silly girls whom he will patronize, pat on the head, and told to go knit something. Such an attitude may end up in injury for the inspector in the future.

**DADABHAI NAOROJI:** He is a Neutral mortal commoner whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 11; Armor Class 11. His prime attributes are Intelligence and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), History/Legend 1 (India), Linguist 2 (English and French [Hindi native]), Profession 1 (Politics), and Thespian 1.

The Victorian age in England is considered to be an Era full of old white men running the government. Thus it may be of interest that the first Indian elected to parliament was in 1892. Dadabhai Naoroji was a Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in Bombay and later of Gujarati at University College London. Encouraged by friends to engage in politics, he ran for the House of Commons and was elected in the Liberal interest for Finsbury Central at the 1892 General Election. Despite a pervasive lack of multiculturalism in Victorian England, Naoroji is a respected member of government and fulfills his duties with diligence for both his constituents and for his country of birth.

Dadabhai Naoroji is both a man of logic, and a Hindi steeped in the rich culture of India. The idea of individuals with powers and abilities far beyond those of mortal ken is not a concept that upsets him; unlike his more stolid colleagues in Parliament. Still, he is concerned that some sort of oversight of these beings is necessary for public welfare. His promotion of such an organization made him the leader in the government's creation of SCEPTRE, and his support continues their funding to ensure their existence for some time to come.

**A. J. RAFFLES:** He is a Neutral mortal rogue whose vital statistics are: Level 4; Hit Points 21; Armor Class 14. His prime attributes are Wisdom and Dexterity. His significant skills are Disguise 1, Etiquette 1 (Polite), Firearms 1, and Roguery 3.

The public persona of A. J. Raffles is that of a carefree, rich idiot about town; no different from hundreds of other young men that spend their time looking for entertainment in the metropolis. He loves cricket, garden parties, and the Queen of the greatest empire on Earth. He's handsome, athletic, and a gentleman in every sense of the word.

He's also a cat burglar ('Second Story Man' in the jargon), unequaled in London. Raffles, along with his sidekick and lookout Bunny Manders, use their connections and fun partier reputations to get invited to rich soirees and at the right time break into jewelry boxes and safes, only to then return to the festivities as if nothing untowards has happened. He has had a run-in with Sherlock Holmes, but even though the great detective successfully solved the case, Raffles escaped the law and has been seen again at social gatherings; his bit of notoriety ironically making him even more desirable as a party guest.

Raffles thinks all the supposed powers and abilities of these costumed 'prancers' are a bunch of drivel. He knows true skill and capabilities, and the things these people are attributed to do are simply impossible. No doubt he will continue to hold this opinion right up to the time he encounters one of the heroes face to face. Once he does, Raffles will have real competition, at last!

**INSPECTOR THOMAS REED:** He is a Good mortal Policeman whose vital statistics are: Level 3; Hit Points 22; Armor Class 12. His prime attributes are Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are Criminology 2, Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), and Firearms 1.

Thomas Reed is a police inspector with the Met in London, and is known to be the officer most directly responsible for the

pursuit of Jack the Ripper during his murder spree in 1889. Despite his rigorous study and practice of police criminology, he was never able to bring down Saucy Jack; a failure that eats at him constantly. He is the iconic British officer with the stiff upper lip, and has no sense of humor when it comes to enforcing the law.

Reed has no patience with the thespian antics of the SuperMankind; hero or villain. If these – people – want to help the city, then they should join the Met or Scotland Yard (or even the City Police) and use their powers that way. Costumes and headlines are there to stroke egos in Reed's opinions, and he has no time for such childishness.

**QUEEN VICTORIA:** She is a Good mortal noble whose vital statistics are: Level 4; Hit Points 13; Armor Class 10. Her prime attributes are Wisdom and Charisma. Her significant skills are: Etiquette 2 (Polite), Linguist 2 (English & French [German native]), Thespian 2 (being regal), and Wealthy 6.

Alexandrina Victoria was almost literally born to the throne. With her uncle William IV dying without children, she found herself crowned in 1837 at the tender age of 18. At first, under a domineering mother, she came into her own and has reigned for decades. Her beloved husband Prince-Consort Albert died in the 1860s due to a fever he caught while traveling to see Bertie, and Victoria has never quite forgiven her son for this. She has become a symbol of the age and is considered to have saved the monarchy from extinction, as her grandfather George III and uncles George IV and William IV were notorious for madness, vices, and idiocy. Determined to overcome the connection of vice with her family, Victoria has made her name a byword for propriety and morality throughout her reign.

She appears distant and regal at first meeting, but she eventually unwinds with favorites. One of her vices is an obsession with the American card game of poker. She plays frequently with her intimates, and as she abhors the idea of handling dirty money requires buckets of freshly minted shillings to be available for friends to pay up their losses. Whether she is an excellent player or her subjects are letting her win is a matter of debate.

Victoria is torn in regards to the emergence of SuperMankind. Despite being a woman who rules the world's only superpower of the nineteenth century, she is very conservative and isn't even sure she would support a woman's right to vote. Perhaps aristocratic women, but certainly not common women! The costumes and powers disturb her, and even though she moved quickly to invest the Queen's Knights, it was an act more to ensure that the group of heroes and heroines would stay under crown control and not run wild. So far, this has worked. Her Majesty is not amused at other countries obtaining SuperMankind, even if the majority still tends to be among the English Speaking peoples. That, and The Dancer on occasion beats her at poker.

**DAISY, COUNTESS OF WARWICK:** She is a Good mortal noble whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 8; Armor Class 10. Her prime attributes are Wisdom and Charisma. Her significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Fine Arts 1, History/Legend 1

(England), Linguist 2 (French, German), and Thespian 1.

Countess Warwick, known as 'Daisy' to her friends, has the reputation of being "the prettiest married woman in London." Despite her aristocratic heritage and beauty (Charisma 18), she is known for her consideration for the poor and downtrodden of society. At times she has even flirted with Socialism, to the dismay and scandal of the aristocratic set of Britain. Both she and her husband Lord Charles Beresford are members of the Prince of Wales' 'Marlborough Club' set, and like many pretty ladies of the nobility she has been a paramour of Prince Bertie. Her husband resents this, but feels powerless to do anything about it because of Bertie's station.

Daisy's personal views of the situation are unknown, but she has used her connection to the prince to try to bring Bertie's attention to the plight of his poorer subjects. Only time will tell if this will have any effect on Bertie's playboy ways.

Like many, Daisy finds SuperMankind fascinating and much more interesting than many of the other titled figures that populate her social scene. She is desperate to become acquainted with some of them, and admires their attempts to use their supernatural abilities to aid those in need; a viewpoint that she wishes more of England's nobility had.

**H. G. WELLS:** He is a Good mortal commoner whose vital statistics are: Level 1; Hit Points 9; Armor Class 12. His prime attributes are Intelligence, Wisdom, and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Profession 1 (Journalist), and Science 1. His supernatural power is Invention 2.

Born the son of a maidservant, Wells was introduced to books at an early age and read voraciously. Quickly exhausting the library of his mother's employer, he worked to enter school and graduated from the University of London and became a tutor. When this career paled, he began to turn his imaginative mind to novels, especially those called Scientific Romances. He expects a fulfilling writing career in the 1890s, and has even begun to engage in scientific research on his own.

He is a freethinker, progressive in his social opinions, and a promoter of the idea of 'Free Love.' Unlike today, this concept was more the idea that women should be as free to choose partners as much as men.

Wells is dazzled by SuperMankind, and believes he might've predicted their coming in one of his manuscripts, called *Food of the Gods*. He is certain they are the next step in human evolution, and should be embraced not feared.

**WENG CHIANG:** He is an Evil mortal sage whose vital statistics are: Level 5; Hit Points 35; Armor Class 14. His prime attributes are Intelligence, Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are: Criminology 2, Disguise 2, Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Firearms 1, Melee 1, Roguery 1, Science 3 (Chemistry, Steam Engineering, Electrics), Thespian 2, and Wealthy 2.

Before coming to London, Doctor Yen How was lauded for his research in East Asia, and he believed his intellect would

serve him in good stead in Great Britain as well. However, he was shocked and disappointed to find that his half-Japanese and half-Chinese background made him the butt of jokes and several of his colleagues at the Imperial Institute refused to take his finding seriously. Frustrated with this state of affairs, his life went from bad to worse when a young lady he'd become enamored of named Ada Seward rejected him by showing a racism to one of those 'Yellow Peril' boys.

His anger seethed, and he decided that if he would be treated as a criminal in this, the alleged greatest city in the world, then he'd use his intellect to show them just how perilous he could be! He quickly took over Limehouse (the Chinese section of London) and built a criminal empire to rival the syndicate of Moriarty. For a year or so each gang kept to their own areas, but now the genius has taken to calling himself Weng Chiang (after the Chinese god) and is determined that the criminal underworld of London will only have one master: him!

Yen How has no trouble believing in the supernatural abilities of SuperMankind, as his own research has pointed to such possibilities for years. He has yet to determine a reliable way to cause such powers to manifest in a normal human however. He is looking for a few subjects to experiment on to remedy this omission. Perhaps a local hero or heroine will go missing in Limehouse? A pity, but such things happen in the big city, of course.

**OSCAR WILDE:** He is a Good mortal bard whose vital statistics are: Level 2; Hit Points 12; Armor Class 10. His prime attributes are Wisdom and Charisma. His significant skills are Etiquette 1 (Polite), Fine Arts 2 (Writing), and Thespian 1.

Oscar Wilde emerged in the last quarter of the nineteenth century as a literary critic, author, and wit. He was also known for irreverent morays, a lack of concern about other people's views of his lifestyle, and overall a maverick in London society. His best known works are the plays *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895).

Throughout the 1880s, he was beloved despite his foibles by the public and the artistic elite, especially the literary and social circles of London. Yes, life was good to Oscar.

Unfortunately all came tumbling down when he tried to sue the Marquis of Queensbury for libel. His past came back to haunt him, and he was rendered penniless and imprisoned for two years. Still, his literary gifts are admired despite the scandal and unpleasantness that emerged during Wilde's trial and conviction.

Oscar Wilde, being notorious for his own wild dress, long hair, and irreverent view towards propriety, is simply delighted at the emergence of the SuperMankind. Rumor has it that while in prison he was covertly working with Gilbert and Sullivan on a new play, or perhaps operetta, based on the costumed heroes and heroines of Britain. A satire of course, but whether this possible work is true or not – and if he can avoid further lawsuits – it remains to the future as to whether or not it will salvage Wilde's career.

## THE SUPERMANKIND OF BRITAIN

### CAPTAIN NEMO

**PROPER NAME:** Prince Dakkar of India

**STRENGTH:** 12 (+0)

**DEXTERITY:** 18 (+3)

**CONSTITUTION:** 10 (+0)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 25 (+7)

**WISDOM:** 9 (+0)

**CHARISMA:** 17 (+2)

**INIT:** +0

**ACTIONS:** 1 per round

**AC:** 10, +3 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** None

**HIT POINTS:** 36

**LEVEL:** 8

**ALIGNMENT:** Neutral

**VICTORY POINTS:** 0

**SKILLS:** Etiquette 1 (Polite), Firearms 1, Linguist 5 (English, French, German, Greek, Latin [Hindu native]), Melee 1, Prime 2 (Intelligence, Charisma), Profession 1 (Nautical Arts), Science 2 (Engineering, Oceanography), Survival 1 (Ocean), Thespian 2 (Organ, Storytelling), Wealth 2 (Sunken treasures)

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** Attribute 2 (+10 bonus), Invention 5, Mesmerism 1

**PACKAGES:** None

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Dependent Mundane (Crew of Nautilus), Enemy 2 (Great Britain), Looking for a Broom Closet, Phobia (Code of Honor), Phobia (Hates British), Secret Identity (Prince Dakkar)

**EQUIPMENT:** Nautilus Submersible (See **HUNTER & HUNTER CATALOGUE**)

Little is known about Nemo's early life or formative years; seemingly he appeared out of nowhere to attack the British at sea in his submersible ship Nautilus. Only a few are aware that he was of Hindi royalty. Prince Dakkar was to be the inheritor of one of the small territories that were in vassalage to the British Raj of India. As with many scions of Hindi nobility, he was sent to England for his education, at which he excelled both in Britain and traveling across Europe to learn all he could. For the prince planned on his accession to drive the British from first his own realm, then from all of India. Prince Dakkar was one of the leaders of the Indian mutiny of the late 1850s, but he had overestimated his people's willingness to unify as one against the hated English. The mutiny was brutally suppressed, and a disillusioned Prince Dakkar left his homeland. Using his family's fortune, he built the world's first working submersible ship, which he christened the Nautilus. He disowned his old name and rank, calling himself Captain Nemo (Nemo is Latin for "No One"). With this ship, home as well as vessel and weapon, he would strike back in vengeance against perfidious Albion and all their works.

**APPEARANCE:** Captain Nemo is a handsome Indian man in his late 40s. He has a dark complexion, and straight dark hair



only just beginning to be touched with silver at the temples. He wears a captain's naval uniform but with no insignia noting nation or awards.

## DOCTOR NIKOLA

**PROPER NAME:** Unknown

**STRENGTH:** 21 (+4)

**DEXTERITY:** 19 (+3)

**CONSTITUTION:** 23 (+5)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 27 (+6)

**WISDOM:** 10 (+0)

**CHARISMA:** 19 (+3)

**INIT:** +5

**ACTIONS:** 2 per round

**ARMOR CLASS:** 15, +3 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** +6 Mystic, +3 Temporal

**HIT POINTS:** 66

**LEVEL:** 6

**ALIGNMENT:** Evil

**SKILLS:** Acrobatics 1, Criminology 1, Etiquette 2 (Crass, Polite), Firearms 1, Linguist 6 (English, French, German, Russian, Chinese, Japanese [Indonesian native]), Martial Arts 1, Melee 1, Occult 2, Prime 6 (Strength, Dexterity, Constitution, Intelligence, Wisdom, Charisma), Science 3 (Biology, Chemistry, Mendelian Genetics), Target 1, Thespian 1, Wealthy 2

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** Invention 8 (biological or chemical only)

### PACKAGES:

- **HOMO MAGNUS 6 (THEME):** Attribute 3 (+15 bonus), Invulnerability 3 (+6 Mystic, +3 Temporal), Lightning Speed 3, Mesmerism 3

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Enemy 2 (SCEPTRE), Inhuman (No conscience or empathy), Looking for a Broom Closet, Notorious, Sidekick (Black cat [as lion in Victorious rulebook, but with Genius-level Intelligence])

Little is known about the origins of Doctor Nikola, only that he hailed from the Dutch East Indies (known today as Indonesia) and despite this origin has made a place for himself in European society. Despite this, he is driven to experiment on subjects both living and dead, to learn the secret of future evolution, and how to control it.

His scientific knowledge is considerable, especially biology and what we would call today genetic engineering. Put simply, the good Doctor Nikola is a vivisectionist, using chemicals and surgery to create disturbing variation of both man and animal.

Descriptions of his laboratory are disturbing.

*"To begin with, round the walls were arranged, at regular intervals, more than a dozen enormous bottles, each of which contained what looked, to me, only too much like human specimens pickled in some light-coloured fluid resembling spirits of wine. Between these gigantic but more than horrible receptacles were numberless smaller ones holding other and even more dreadful remains; while on pedestals and*

*stands, bolt upright and reclining, were skeletons of men, monkeys, and quite a hundred sorts of animals. The intervening spaces were filled with skulls, bones, and the apparatus for every kind of murder known to the fertile brain of man. There were European rifles, revolvers, bayonets, and swords; Italian stiletos, Turkish scimitars, Greek knives, Central African spears and poisoned arrows, Zulu knobkerries, Afghan yataghans, Malay kris, Sumatra blowpipes, Chinese dirks, New Guinea head-catching implements, Australian spears and boomerangs, Polynesian stone hatchets, and numerous other weapons the names of which I cannot now remember. Mixed up with them were implements for every sort of wizardry known to the superstitious; from old-fashioned English love charms to African Obi sticks, from spiritualistic planchettes to the most horrible of Fijian death potions.*

*In the centre of the wall, opposite to where we stood, was a large fireplace of the fashion usually met with in old English manor-houses, and on either side of it a figure that nearly turned me sick with horror. That on the right hand was apparently a native of Northern India, if one might judge by his dress and complexion. He sat on the floor in a constrained attitude, accounted for by the fact that his head, which was at least three times too big for his body, was so heavy as to require an iron tripod with a ring or collar in the top of it to keep it from overbalancing him and bringing him to the floor. To add to the horror of this awful head, it was quite bald; the skin was drawn tensely over the bones, and upon this great veins stood out as large as macaroni stems.*

*On the other side of the hearth was a creature half-ape and half-man – the like of which I remember once to have seen in a museum of monstrosities in Sydney, where, if my memory serves me, he was described upon the catalogue as a Burmese monkey-boy. He was chained to the wall in somewhat the same fashion as we had been, and was chattering and scratching for all the world like a monkey in a Zoo."*

– *A Bid for Fortune; Or, Dr. Nikola's Vendetta*, Guy Boothby

His other abilities are mentioned above in statistics, and he is quite proud of the personal accomplishment his own form reveals. His sidekick is a large black cat with its own strange abilities, as noted prior.

His research is everything to him. As such, he doesn't let little things like legality or morality get in his way. Nikola makes an excellent major villain for heroes to battle, as his brilliance and lack of scruples makes him a dangerous opponent. Woe to any hero or heroine who finds themselves in his clutches; they might discover just how detailed his experiments can be.

**APPEARANCE:** Nikola is a surprisingly fit man for a scientist, begging the question of whether or not he's used his experiments on himself.

*"In stature he was slightly above the ordinary, his shoulders were broad, his limbs perfectly shaped and plainly muscular, but very slim. His head, which was magnificently set upon his shoulders, was adorned with a profusion of glossy black hair; his face was destitute of beard or moustache, and was of oval shape and handsome molding; while his skin was of a dark olive hue, a color which harmonized well with his piercing black eyes and pearly teeth. His hands and*

feet were small, and the greatest dandy must have admitted that he was irreproachably dressed, with a neatness that bordered on the puritanical. In age he might have been anything from eight-and-twenty to forty.”

– *A Bid for Fortune*; Or, *Dr. Nikola's Vendetta*, Guy Boothby

## THE GHOST FINDER

**PROPER NAME:** Thomas Anthony Carnacki

**STRENGTH:** 12 (+0)

**DEXTERITY:** 16 (+2)

**CONSTITUTION:** 12 (+0)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 18 (+3)

**WISDOM:** 14 (+1)

**CHARISMA:** 14 (+1)

**INIT:** +0

**ACTIONS:** 1 per round

**AC:** 10, +2 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** +10 Mystic

**HIT POINTS:** 34

**LEVEL:** 6

**ALIGNMENT:** Good

**VICTORY POINTS:** 2

**SKILLS:** Etiquette 1 (Polite), Melee 1, Occult 1, Prime 3 (Dexterity, Intelligence, Wisdom), Science 1

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** See Packages

### PACKAGES:

- *Electric Pentacle 2 (Gadget):* Armor 2 (+10 Mystic, no bonus to AC [-1]), Psycho-Kinesis 1 (versus Magick only)
- *Magic 3:* Blast 1 (1D6), Entrap 2 (Strength), Keen Senses 1 (Detect Magic), Potence 1 (Blast, +1D6)

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Dependent Mundane (Accompanying friend), Enemy (Jack the Ripper), Looking for a Broom Closet, Watched (Golden Dawn), Weakness (Each effect in Magic Package usable once per day)

Thomas Carnacki is known to the Occult community as the “Ghost Finder” because of his interest in spiritualism. Despite this, he is a practical scientist who first enters into investigations by presuming fakery. This tends to be the case in over half the circumstances, but he has encountered enough strange phenomena that he is willing to believe in hauntings once any scientific explanation has been eliminated. He is usually hired to investigate these hauntings, usually by owners of old manor houses or other country property that they are unable to effectively use because of strange phantoms or wraiths scaring off servants or tenants.

His investigation equipment involves both science and photography, though he has invented the electric pentacle for final protection when ectoplasmic forces become undeniable. It is usually used for his or others protection, though in rare circumstances he has used it to capture ghosts.

**APPEARANCE:** Thomas Carnacki appears as your typical Victorian/Edwardian Englishman; tall, fair haired, and

intellectual. The latter is denoted by a noticeable forehead, revealing intelligence as far as most people are concerned. He has pale blue eyes, and light brown hair, and is clean shaven.

## PROFESSOR CHALLENGER

**PROPER NAME:** George Edward Challenger

**STRENGTH:** 20 (+4)

**DEXTERITY:** 14 (+1)

**CONSTITUTION:** 18 (+3)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 21 (+4)

**WISDOM:** 10 (+0)

**CHARISMA:** 9 (+0)

**INIT:** +0

**ACTIONS:** 1 per round

**AC:** 10, +1 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** +3 Temporal

**HIT POINTS:** 48

**LEVEL:** 6

**ALIGNMENT:** Good

**VICTORY POINTS:** 2

**SKILLS:** Acrobatics 1, Firearms 1, Martial Arts 1, Melee 1, Prime 2 (Strength, Intelligence), Science 4 (Chemistry, Luminiferous Aether, Physics, Zoology), Targeting 1

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** See Packages

### PACKAGES:

- *Physique 2 (Theme):* Attribute 1 (+5 bonus), Invulnerability 1 (+3 Temporal), Keen Senses 1 (+3 vision, +2 hearing), Knack 1 (Investigation checks), Might 2 (1D8)

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Dependent Mundane (Mary Challenger [daughter]), Looking for a Broom Closet, Notorious, Phobia (Overconfident), Weakness (If contradicted, Challenger must make a Wisdom check or launch a physical attack upon the person contradicting him.)

Professor George Edward Challenger is famous (or perhaps notorious) among the scientific community for many reasons: his burly physical form, his brilliance in several sciences, and a consistent belief that dinosaurs still exist on Earth in the remote places unseen by man. He is probably best known for frequently resorting to fists in any debate where he believes his opponent isn't taking Challenger's views seriously. Despite his appearance, he is a brilliant scientist who will let nothing deter him from his goal of scientific inquiry.

**APPEARANCE:** Challenger is a hulking brute of a man, with hairy forearms and square features. He is usually dressed quite nicely, preferring black frock coat and top hat and elegant cane.

## HANGMAN

**PROPER NAME:** David Fitzgerald

**STRENGTH:** 20 (+4)

**DEXTERITY:** 18 (+3)

**CONSTITUTION:** 18 (+3)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 12 (+0)

**WISDOM:** 13 (+1)

**CHARISMA:** 10 (+0)  
**INIT:** +3  
**ACTIONS:** 3 per 2 rounds  
**AC:** 13, +3 (Dodge)  
**DEFENSIVE:** +3 Attributes, +3 Mystic, +3 Temporal  
**HIT POINTS:** 40  
**LEVEL:** 3  
**ALIGNMENT:** Evil  
**SKILLS:** Firearms 1, History/Legend 1 (Tower of London), Melee 1, Prime 3 (Strength, Constitution),  
**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** See Packages

**PACKAGES:**

- *Executioner 6 (Theme):* Attribute 3 (+15 bonus), Invulnerability 3 (+3 Attributes, +3 Mystic, +3 Temporal), Lightning Speed 1, Might 2 (1D8)
- *Lynching Rope 2 (Gadget):* Blast 3 (1D10, affects entrapped victims only [-1]), Entrap 2 (Strength)

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Enemy 2 (SCEPTRE), Looking for a Broom Closet, Notorious (Killer), Phobia (Disdain for women), Secret Identity, Watched (New Model Army)

David Fitzgerald had a brilliant career in front of him. Sure, he only graduated from Harrow and not Eaton like the more blooded fellows did, but he did make an impression on the school; on his fellow students at any rate, as he was a notorious bully. Still, he was considering Oxford or maybe India for his future when his life changed forever. In Piccadilly Circus, his family was traveling in their carriage when disaster struck. Some of those SuperMankind folks were battling, and the villainess Shatter brought down a building to cover her escape from The Dancer. Unfortunately for the Fitzgeralds, that building came down right onto their Landau; killing everyone inside; everyone except David, that is.

He was enraged at the loss of his family, and in his own mind his happy future. Blast that costumed slattern Shatter. She was a killer, plain and simple. Since the Queen's Knights decided that capture was better than killing, well, he'll have to do what those women and weakling men were too afraid to do. First would be Shatter, then the rest of the Dynamiters, and then any criminal that gets in his way. If the so-called heroes try to stop him, maybe putting one or two of them down will make them realize that real justice is in London now!

**APPEARANCE:** Hangman is dressed like the stereotypical executioner, complete with black hood and lynching rope as a belt.

### THE INVISIBLE MAN

**PROPER NAME:** Hawley Griffin  
**STRENGTH:** 14 (+1)  
**DEXTERITY:** 18 (+3)  
**CONSTITUTION:** 15 (+1)  
**INTELLIGENCE:** 20 (+4)  
**WISDOM:** 10 (+0)  
**CHARISMA:** 12 (+0)

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**INIT:** +4  
**ACTIONS:** 3 per 2 rounds  
**AC:** 14, +3 (Dodge), +5 (Invisibility)  
**DEFENSIVE:** +3 Attribute, +3 Mystic  
**HIT POINTS:** 26  
**LEVEL:** 4  
**ALIGNMENT:** Evil  
**SKILLS:** Linguist 1 (German), Prime 3 (Dexterity, Intelligence, Wisdom), Science 2 (Chemistry, Optics)  
**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** See Packages

**PACKAGES:**

- *Optic Refraction 4 (Theme):* Attribute 2 (+10 bonus), Invisibility 3 (all visions and scent, always on), Invulnerability 2 (+3 Attribute, +3 Mystic), Lightning Speed 2

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Enemy (Dr. Kemp), Notorious, Phobia (Arrogant), Phobia (Violent mood swings), Weakness (Double damage from sonic attacks), Weakness (Double damage from thermal attacks)

When the brilliant young chemist Hawley Griffin first began his experiments in optical density, most of his colleagues thought he was mad. Granted, a poor fellow like Griffin (who suffered from albinism) would be sensitive to such perceptions from others, but claiming to have found the secret to invisibility? Poppycock!

His colleague's dismissal of his theories only made Griffin disdain them more. They were just jealous of his intellect that was all. Even his professors were only waiting to steal his ideas, so he'd show them by leaving school and continue his researches from home. Research is expensive however, and Griffin soon ran out of money. So, he stole a large sum from his own father, leaving him to take the blame from Griffin's larceny. Unfortunate, especially when the old sot killed himself in shame, but science takes priority over everyone and everything.

He continued his searching, even occasionally using himself as the test subject when animals weren't available. Finally Griffin's work was crowned with success! His formula, once imbibed, allowed the body to refract light around it; becoming truly invisible! Yet there was a terrible irony to his formula; it wouldn't wear off. Griffin was permanently stuck as an unseen creature, wandering through the streets and ignored by others. This only drove him further into insanity, and he began stealing and killing, all in the "name" of science and reversing his condition.

Though he'd been thought killed by a crazed mob, Griffin was in truth able to substitute a tramp that he forced to drink the formula and then ordered to do crimes to gain the antidote; which Griffin knew he didn't have. So now he is truly a ghost, considered dead by society and still unseen as he continues his outrages, in the name of science and his own crazed ego.

**APPEARANCE:** Hawley Griffin is truly invisible, and thus has no appearance. Any clothes he wears are still visible, though he believes he's on the cusp of creating an invisibility formula to use on his clothes. Only time will tell.

## ENGLISH JACK

**PROPER NAME:** Jack Robinson

**STRENGTH:** 17 (+2)

**DEXTERITY:** 21 (+4)

**CONSTITUTION:** 19 (+3)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 11 (+1)

**WISDOM:** 12 (+1)

**CHARISMA:** 15 (+1)

**INIT:** +4

**ACTIONS:** 2 per round

**AC:** 14, +4 (Dodge), +10 (Force Screen)

**DEFENSIVE:** +6 Temporal

**HIT POINTS:** 38

**LEVEL:** 1

**ALIGNMENT:** Good

**VICTORY POINTS:** 0

**SKILLS:** Acrobatics 1, Etiquette 1 (Polite), Martial Arts 1, Melee 1, Prime 2 (Wisdom, Charisma)

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** Attribute 3 (+10 bonus)

### PACKAGES:

- *Legendary Hero 4 (Theme):* Force Screen 2 (Displacement illusion), Healing 3 (1D10+3, self only), Invulnerability 2 (+6 Temporal), Lightning Speed 2, Might 2 (1D10, only with blade [-1])

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Enemy (Silver Empire), Looking for a Broom Closet, Phobia (Fear of snakes), Prior Engagement 1, Watched (SCEPTRE), Weakness (Double damage from cold attacks)

Jack Robinson is an English ne'er-do-well whose family was afraid he would never amount to anything worthwhile. This was bad enough for him, but the stain on the family honor was unacceptable. So the elder Robinson pulled him from boarding school and took Jack and the rest of the family to India, where his father was certain the family would become wealthy and young Jack would learn to make something of himself. Though fortune was theirs (or at least a good start), Jack was being an ungrateful lazy teenager, cursing the servants and embarrassing his mother and sister. As a final chance to redeem himself, Jack went with the Robinson clan to Kandahar in Afghanistan to trade for rugs.

While traveling on the Kyber Pass between British India and Afghanistan, the family was set upon by Ghazi bandits and captured. They were taken back to the camp, where the Ghazis talk about the tortures they will inflict on the helpless English. This terrible fate, and the Ghazis stomping the British flag into the dirt, causes a change in Jack. Imbued with superhuman strength, he broke his bonds and defeated all the Ghazis in mortal combat. Jack freed his family, and they escaped back to the safety of British India. Yet Jack was changed on that day. He became a model of contrition and politeness, everything an English gentleman could be expected to be. Yet the strange power within him drew him back to Great Britain, where he dons the costume of English Jack to protect Queen and Country against all foes!

**APPEARANCE:** English Jack appears as a young man of medium height, with blonde hair and blue eyes and a thin moustache. He wears a small domino mask made of red material that matches his coat. His coat is an army officer's jacket of red with white riding breeches and black knee-boots. White gloves and a saber at his belt complete the outfit.

## LEFTENANT VICTORY

**PROPER NAME:** Balthazar Victor

**STRENGTH:** 23 (+5)

**DEXTERITY:** 17 (+2)

**CONSTITUTION:** 20 (+4)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 12 (+0)

**WISDOM:** 18 (+3)

**CHARISMA:** 18 (+3)

**INIT:** +0

**ACTIONS:** 1 per round

**AC:** 18, +2 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** +3 Mystical, +6 Temporal

**HIT POINTS:** 40

**LEVEL:** 1

**ALIGNMENT:** Good

**VICTORY POINTS:** 0

**SKILLS:** Acrobatics 1, Criminology 1, Etiquette 1 (Polite), Prime 2 (Constitution, Charisma), Profession 1 (Military Arts)

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** Attribute 2 (+10 bonus)

### PACKAGES:

- *Golden Bands of Gilgamesh 4 (Theme):* Armor 1 (+8AC), Invulnerability 3 (+3 Mystical, +6 Temporal), Might 4 (1D12)

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Enemy (Doctor Golgotha), Phobia (Honorable), Prior Engagement, Secret Identity, Weakness (Double damage from Magick), Weakness (Invulnerability only functions 50% of the time)

Leftenant Balthazar Victor was a British (Canadian) officer serving as military liaison to the Ottoman Empire. As such, he was frequently forced to act as bodyguard and tour guide to the British legation in Baghdad. While the Legate was busy playing at archeology at an ancient Sumerian tomb, Victor found himself briefly trapped by a collapsing ceiling in a part of the tomb. As his comrades tried to dig him out before he suffocated, the young officer quickly discovered that the only thing in the alcove with him were a pair of golden bracers. Driven by an odd compulsion, he put them on and found himself imbued with powers beyond his ken! With the bands imbuing him with mighty thews, it was little effort to push aside the rubble that had trapped him within the chamber. He used the dust and darkness to hide the bands beneath his coat, before his companions could see what he'd found. Later, he decided to use these pagan artifacts for the benefit of Queen and Empire, as Leftenant Victory! His true identity is known to the Queen and a few select officers of the army, but no others. Considering his uniform and patriotic motif, Leftenant Victory is the darling of the more conservative papers such as the Times and the

Telegraph, though some question whether such a 'colonial' can be trusted with such power. Only time will tell!

## THE AMAZING SANDOW

**PROPER NAME:** Friederich Wilhelm Mueller

**STRENGTH:** 28 (+9)

**DEXTERITY:** 15 (+1)

**CONSTITUTION:** 22 (+5)

**INTELLIGENCE:** 13 (+1)

**WISDOM:** 14 (+1)

**CHARISMA:** 16 (+2)

**INIT:** +0

**ACTIONS:** 1 per round

**AC:** 10, +1 (Dodge)

**DEFENSIVE:** +3 Attribute, +6 Knockback, +9 Temporal

**HIT POINTS:** 53

**LEVEL:** 3

**ALIGNMENT:** Good

**VICTORY POINTS:** 1

**SKILLS:** Etiquette 1 (Polite), Linguist 1 (English [German native]), Prime 3 (Strength, Constitution, Charisma), Thespian 1 (Strongman show), Wealthy 1

**SUPERNATURAL POWERS:** See Packages

### PACKAGES:

- *Grecian Ideal* 6 (*Theme*): Attribute 3 (+15 bonus), Invulnerability 6 (+3 Attribute, +6 Knockback, +9 Temporal), Knack 2 (+6 to Strength checks), Might 2 (1D10)

**SHORTCOMINGS:** Dependent Mundane 2 ("Hangerson"), Fame, Odd Appearance (Marble statue), Watched (SCEPTRE), Weakness (Double damage from Psychic attacks) Friederich Wilhelm Mueller was born in Königsberg, Prussia in 1867 to a rural family that was tenants on one of the aristocratic Junker estates. From a young age, he was enamored by the robust musculature that could be seen on ancient Greek and Roman statuary, dreaming to be built the same way. Upon maturity, he went to England and renamed himself Eugen Sandow and began to promote himself as the physical incarnation of that ancient Hellenic musculature. Working incessantly with weights, he developed the art of "body building" which had not been pursued in the nineteenth century Western world. He began to play carnivals and music halls, wearing only a fig leaf and engaged in acts of strength; lifting up to a half ton and flexing for the accolades of both men and (especially) women. He leveraged this into an industry, writing self-help books and promoting the Sandow method of sculpting the human body.

Then the events of his life took a strange course. While he was busy working with weights, a dear friend of his was caught under a collapsing roof. Terrified for his comrade, he tore the pile of roofing off his friend, saving the young man's life. Once the danger was passed, Sandow realized he'd unconsciously lifted several tons of oak and mortared fireplace stone; all in a few moments! Once he grew accustomed to his even greater

strength, and the odd coloration that his body took when performing such superhuman feats, he decided to join the ranks of the SuperMankind!

Unlike most heroes, Eugen Sandow makes no effort to hide who and what he is. He revels in the acclaim and admiration of the public, and will often stop whatever he's doing to show off his mighty thews. Most of London's heroes and heroines view Sandow askance, thinking he's just in it for the newspaper coverage and helping people is only a second thought. This is unfair to Sandow, who does genuinely want to help people. He would just like to be rich while he's doing it!

**APPEARANCE:** Sandow is a muscled young man in his mid 20s with dark brown hair and blue eyes. He is handsome, and can be charming in his polite manners and noble bearing. When he invokes his SuperMankind powers, his entire body becomes marble-white, even down to his hair and eyes; a truly living statue. His only costume is a vine of fig leaves that act as a belt and loincloth, and Greek sandals.

## THE LOOKING GLASS

The criminal gang known as the Looking Glass is an enigma to the various law enforcement branches of Her Majesty's government of Great Britain. The organization seems to be part criminal syndicate, part Bohemian enclave, and part laboratory of industrial masterpieces. The Metropolitan Police see them as just another costumed gang of loonies and not even a major one. Conversely, the Criminal Investigative Division (CID or Scotland Yard) sees them as a threat, but not a major one, and the Home Office (SCEPTRE) sees the Looking Glass as the primary threat to London today. As one can imagine, this makes coordination against the threat difficult. Despite a clear threat, no branch can bring themselves to cooperate enough to bring the Looking Glass down once and for all.

This cabal of villainy were first noticed by the Queen's Knights of London (The only Royally sanctioned team of SuperMankind) when they thwarted the attempt of their Queen of Hearts to kidnap the Prince of Wales from one of his more notorious Sandringham garden parties. Sherlock Holmes and The Dancer followed clues from the Red Queen's hideout but the trail soon went cold.

The next sighting of the Looking Glass was a year later when they came out in force in an attempt to take over the Cows Yachting Regatta and kidnap Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany. Though they did briefly take the All-Highest prisoner, he was soon freed by the Queen's Knights and returned to his yacht. This time, they faced a woman calling herself White Rabbit and armed with various mechanisms and automatons, most notable the Jabberwock and Bandersnatch as noted below. These agents did considerable damage to Osborne House before the creatures were destroyed and White Rabbit translocated away to an undisclosed location.

As far as is known, power in the Looking Glass is a very ephemeral thing. Sometimes it appears as if the Queen of Hearts controls the

troops of the organization, usually with fury and mania. Other times the Red Queen controls the group, with subtlety and guile being her watchwords and the basis of her plans. Yet other times the White Rabbit, powerful but utterly insane, commanding the Looking Glass and giving vent to her madness with schemes of breathtaking audacity. What is known about them is given below, but perhaps Mr. Carroll was correct in those that go beyond the Looking Glass are never quite right in the head!

### KNOWN BY ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Looking Glass's endeavors seem limited to the United Kingdom. Though there are rumors of its claws reaching as far as distant parts of the empire, they have only been directly seen at work in the British Isles.

Regardless of its leader of the moment, their goals are crime, power, and chaos; not always in that order.

White Rabbit is the least rational of the three leaders, with the Red Queen being the most rational and the Queen of Hearts somewhere in the middle. There are pervasive rumors that they are in fact one and the same woman, but appearances seem to be different enough that most officials discount this possibility.

A former member of the Royal Society, a Dr. Frederick Rogers Zurich, was kidnapped by the Looking Glass and builds many of their clockwork machinery. Stories conflict as to whether he remains with them due to being a prisoner or by choice and taking on the moniker of the "Mad Hatter."

### KNOWN BY SCEPTRE

Though the Red Queen and the Queen of Hearts might very well be the same woman, they are certain that White Rabbit is not the same being. That is because White Rabbit is an incorporeal force, taking over the bodies of her victims and using them to foment her crimes. Her initial appearance at the regatta was while controlling the body of Unicorn, whom she'd captured and controlled. The heroine has been freed of White Rabbit's malicious influence, but who knows where this hauntress will pop up next?

Zurich the Mad Hatter is a brilliant but mercenary inventor, and will happily sell his own mother to the right buyer. He works freely with the Looking Glass, but will probably turn on them too as soon as the price is right. If captured by the law, he will of course claim he was a prisoner all long, and see if he can gain more money by working for the crown.

### KNOWN ONLY TO THE QUEEN'S KNIGHTS

The Invisible Man, Hawley Griffin, has taken the role of the Cheshire Cat in the Looking Glass. He has been provided with an odd headgear that so long as he wears it, he can control his invisible state. This is not as fine as it sounds, as whoever built the headgear made it look like the head of a cat, with its facial features, ears, and eyes mimicking Griffin's own while he wears it. Hardly a subtle disguise, and not made for public outings. It is, however, always smiling a wide feline grin. At all times.

## FOR THE GENTEEL MAGISTRATE'S EYES ONLY

### BANDERSNATCH

**NO. ENCOUNTERED:** 1

**SIZE:** Large

**HIT DICE:** 10 (D10) [50 hit points]

**MOVE:** 20 ft.

**AC:** 20

**ATTACKS:** 2 claws (2D6)

**SPECIAL:** Armor 3 (+8AC, +5Mystic, +5Temporal), Suppression 1 (Dexterity), Immunity (Psychics)

**SAVES:** Physical

**INT:** None

**ALIGNMENT:** Neutral

**XP:** 1,215+10

**SUPPRESSION (DEXTERITY):** This ability functions identically to the Suppression power in the Victorious rule book, except it can affect all objects within a 20-foot radius of the Bandersnatch without need to concentrate on the effect. All targets in the area of effect must make a Dexterity saving throw or lose 2D6 points of Dexterity for the duration of the combat scene. A successful saving throw renders the character immune from this effect for the rest of the combat scene.

**IMMUNITY (PSYCHICS):** As the Bandersnatch is a mindless automaton, no mind-based powers work on it. This includes most Suppressions, Magick and Psychic powers. The GM is the final arbiter on what powers constitute 'mind based.'

### JABBERWOCK

**NO. ENCOUNTERED:** 1

**SIZE:** Large

**HIT DICE:** 11 (D12) [60 hit points]

**MOVE:** 20 ft., 80 ft. (fly)

**AC:** 20

**ATTACKS:** 2 claws (2D6+2)

**SPECIAL:** Armor 3 (+8 AC, +5 Mystic, +5 Temporal), Poison Gas, Immunity (Psychics)

**SAVES:** Physical

**INT:** None

**ALIGNMENT:** Neutral

**XP:** 1,520+11

**POISON GAS:** Three times a day, the Jabberwock can breathe a cloud of poison gas in a cone that spreads up to 60 feet in front of the creature. Anyone caught in the cloud must make a Constitution saving throw or be stunned for 2d4 rounds; a successful save means the victim is unaffected.

**IMMUNITY (PSYCHICS):** As the Jabberwock is a mindless automaton, no mind-based powers work on it. This includes most Suppressions, Magick and Psychic powers. The GM is the final arbiter on what powers constitute 'mind based.'

These automatons appear as the fictional monsters created by Lewis Carroll in his various Alice in Wonderland novels. Both the Bandersnatch and the Jabberwock are constructs built by the Red Queen. They are made of steel and brass, with a coating of adamantite to armor the gears and joints (thus a high armor class) where possible. They do not communicate, only making scratchy roaring noises that come from a wax cylinder gramophone built

into the heads of each monster. They follow simple orders from those the Red Queen allows to command them, and each takes a custom brass punch card to allow others to command them.

**COMBAT:** Both mechanisms follow simple orders, and are limited to 'scream and leap' as tactics in battle.

## THE NAVIGATORS

The elegantly dressed Englishman sipped at his drink while enjoying the roaring fire in the Vienna Beer garden, its interior buzzing with muffled conversations. Not the worst public house in the Imperial capital, but not the refined locale Godfrey Norton was used to. It serves its purpose though, and he was pleased at the surroundings. He was not the best-dressed gentleman in the room, as this particular establishment served the diplomatic corps of the Austro-Hungarian Empire as well as the wealthier burgers in the city. Neither his clothes, nor his accent stood out in this drinking hall, and thus it served his purpose admirably.

This purpose moved closer to conclusion when the tall and aristocratic man stepped in from the cold. He slammed the door quickly, to avoid bringing the chill in to the patrons of the garden, shook off the light dusting of snow on his greatcoat, and then handed the garment to a waiting lad who hung it carefully on the wall's coat pegs. Ignoring the lad, the blonde man with impressive whiskers smoothed the front of his tailored frock coat, and then idly walked around the room. He seemed to be searching for an empty table, but seeing none closer to the fire, he steeled himself and made introductions to the Englishman near the hearth.

"Pardon me sir," he stated in the clipped tones of High German, each word snapped out as if bullets from a Maxim gun. "I regret any intrusion on your privacy, but I am still feeling the bite of the evening's cold. Would it inconvenience you if I sat with you by the fire?"

Godfrey Norton looked up at his visitor, as if he hadn't noticed the man's entry at all. "What? Oh yes, by all means sit here with me." He replied in a slower German, almost Swabian in its accent; either a middle class bureaucrat from Wilhelmian Germany or a foreigner who paid for second-rate German lessons. Nodding his thanks, the white-blond man sat across the small table, and quickly ordered a stein from the young barmaid who asked for his preference.

After some innocuous conversation about the weather or the latest opera, the two were assured that the other customers had found overhearing them dull and returned to their businesses with their comrades. "Now Mr. Norton," the German replied in perfect if subdued English. "Shall we discuss your proposition?"

A hint of a smile showed under Godfrey Norton's trim moustache. "As you wish Herr Reichenau. I will accept your certitude that we are not being spied upon. That is your expertise, is it not?"

Reichenau didn't smile back at the British gentleman. "Quite. I will state however, that I am not entirely sure of your wishes. This is something that does not often happen to someone in my profession, so please excuse my short temper."

Nodding amiably, Godfrey continued. "As you are no doubt aware, I act as an agent for certain interests that have a desire to keep track of people and events across Europe."

"Such as the Rothschilds? No." He answered his own question, and this drew a very slight and sardonic smile. "No, you've left their employ haven't you? You do business for the Hunters now do you not?"

"Touché." If the Austrian's knowledge surprised Godfrey, he didn't show it. Instead he tipped his wine glass in a brief toast of his companion and sipped appreciatively. "Yes, and in fact it is business of Hunter & Hunter Ltd. that brings me here to Vienna."

"I had wondered." Reichenau returned the smile and the sip, if not the toast. "I dearly love Vienna, but winter is not our best time, unless you enjoy sledding or skiing. That is more for Innsbruck or the Swiss Alps however."

Shrugging, Godfrey agreed. "However, none of those issues are of concern to my employers at the moment."

"No doubt." He gazed idly into the fire, and then turned his steel gray eyes to Godfrey. "I will state now however, that I will accept no commission that compromises either my honor, my Empire, or Kaiser Franz Joseph."

"I cannot help but note you don't include Germany or Wilhelm in that limitation?"

"No, I didn't. Is that where your commission is turned against? I thought Lord Osbourne was an intimate of Wilhelm II?"

The Englishman shook his head. "No, not as much as that. They are good acquaintances though." He leaned forward, and lowered his voice. "No, not against Willie or Germany. In fact, not against any current nation or crowned head of Europe."

Gustav Reichenau noted the use of the word 'current' by the Englishman, but let it pass. He simply raised his eyebrows, as if inviting Godfrey to continue.

"Its really not that intricate, but it is important." He slowly moved his hand to his coat pocket, then put an envelope on the table between them. His movements were slow and deliberate, certain that if he made any sudden move Reichenau would have a knife at his neck or a bullet in his belly. He dropped the envelope and gestured to the Austrian to open and look at the information.

Herr Reichenau did, and as he leafed through the pages and the photographs, pictures whose clarity and detail were of a quality he'd never seen before. "Interesting. So, the target is this Hitler fellow?"

"Yes." Godfrey nodded in agreement. "He was born in a small village near the border of Austria and Bavaria three years ago."

"1889?" Reichenau blinked in surprise, and then raised an elegant white eyebrow. "Then who is the man in this picture? His father, Adolf Hitler Senior?"

"I have it on very good authority that your target will reach manhood looking very much like the man in the picture." Reichenau noted that the British man hadn't really answered his question, but he let it pass. His anger rose at the other point.

Sir," he said in an even colder voice than the streets outside the beer garden, "I am no assassin of children, and if that is what you are requesting I will demand satisfaction this very night." He didn't let his voice raise even one octave, but he could tell by the paling of Norton's face that the threat was understood.

Indeed Mr. Norton shook his head forcefully. "No, Herr Reichenau, you misjudge the mission, my employer, and me. This is no assassination."

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*“Then, pray tell me just what it is then?”*

*Godfrey took another sip of wine, and then plowed forward. “My employer wishes you to monitor the child’s development. You are to make sure his family has enough money to live reasonably but not extravagantly. His father is a minor customs official, so this shouldn’t prove difficult. You will be provided with a line of credit to call upon at need for this project. However, you will monitor who is involved in his life for at least the next 10 years.”*

*“Ten years?” Reichenau didn’t bother to hide his astonishment. “Are you aware, Mister Norton, of how much that will cost? More than the amount on this page, I can assure you.”*

*“Please reread the paper. That isn’t the single fee for your services, but a yearly stipend. That amount will be paid to you each year until 1902. At that time, there may be a new negotiation depending on whether or not my employer feels it is still necessary.”*

*Gustav Reichenau looked back at the picture. An ordinary looking man, more like a bank clerk than someone who would concern the rich and mighty of Great Britain. The picture showed a man with black hair parted messily across his forehead. Sallow cheeks and a toothbrush black moustache rounded out a totally ordinary appearance. A man that you wouldn’t think twice of when passing him on the street; a nobody, with nothing to make him stand out, except for the eyes. Intense, penetrating eyes: the eyes of a fanatic or zealot. A man with eyes like that could be capable of anything.*

*Shrugging, the aristocrat ignored the questions that this most curious mission brought out in his mind. Despite a glowing career in the Austrian army, then the diplomatic corps, and now the Secret Police; Gustav Reichenau had a lifestyle that even his family’s estates and incomes had trouble meeting. This commission however could make his next decade a comfortable one indeed.*

*He returned the papers and photograph to the envelope. “Please inform your, eh, ‘employer’ that the assignment is accepted. I will expect the first year’s payment to be in my accounts by the end of the month. I will however take your master at his word and begin assigning agents to observe these ‘Hitlers’ and obtain a list of associates and any contacts for the future.”*

*With that, he put the envelope into his coat pocket stood, and with a nod to Godfrey turned and retrieved his overcoat. The opening of a door, the howl of winter wind, and the slam of wood left Godfrey Norton sitting alone at the table once again. With an amused chuckle, he realized that Herr Reichenau left him with the tab: still, a small price to pay. A very small price, if Doctor Hunter’s words about what this man would do in the next fifty years was true. A king’s ransom would be a small price to insure that the world never heard of the National Socialists, Krystalnacht, the SS, or Auschwitz.*

*Every penny in the Hunter fortune, a very large fortune as Godfrey Norton was in a position to attest, would be a small price to avoid such horrors upon the civilized world.*

*The English barrister stood, dropped a few coins on the table for the drinks. He too retrieved his coat, an Inverness of course, and disappeared into the frigid evening. There was still much to do, more agents to assemble, futures to change.*

*Tonight’s fireside chat had been a good start.*

## **ABOUT THE NAVIGATORS**

*“Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it, in stereo!”*

– R. J. Hunter

Working quietly in the background of the European and American societies is a unique and secret group of individuals called The Navigators. This elite group, perhaps no more than 50 in number, is coordinated in great secret by Dr. R. J. Hunter. He not only coordinates their activities, but also uses his immense fortune to fund their endeavors. These endeavors are, quite simply, to change the future of the human race. Since Hunter and his companions came from the 21<sup>st</sup> century, or “a” 21<sup>st</sup> century at any rate, they are determined to try to guide society through the inevitable social, economic, and technological changes the next century will impose on history. Though they are aware that their future will now never come to pass, thanks to the Ironclad armor’s cache from the Internet prior to their abduction they have been provided a wealth of information that Hunter believes can allow the world to be guided in ways that will (it is hoped) avoid the worst errors of the next hundred years.

Some of the more notable members of The Navigators would be Sherlock Holmes, Dr. John Watson, Godfrey and Irene Norton, the English aristocrat Lord Peter Almswick, the American rail baron Justin Chamberlain, the scientist Nicola Tesla, the novelist H. G. Wells, and others.

## **NAVIGATING THE NAVIGATORS**

Though the prior section notes the overall beneficial goals of the navigators, a Genteel Magistrate could use them in several roles as allies or enemies of the heroes within the chronicle. Perhaps they have determined that the heroes are interfering with some elaborate events that must happen in a certain manner to get the overall beneficial results that the Navigators are trying to promote. Another method of involving heroes might result in the heroes discovering the plans of the group and deciding that nobody should try to manipulate “their” nation and that Hunter’s schemes are no better than any other world-conquering villain such as Doctor Golgotha or The Machine. They could become associates of the Navigators, perhaps not even realizing who they are assisting, and do their bit for humanity’s future.

Keep in mind that depending on a hero’s background (and Shortcomings) they might consider the world that The Navigators wish to promote isn’t a world they find better. Some figures might see a world of gender equality, racial harmony, and ecological preservation a nightmare world that any Right Thinking™ man should fight with every fiber of his being! After all, one person’s utopia really can be another’s dystopia.



## APPENDIX I: SPIRITUALISTS

Despite the era's deep interest in science and technology, most of the nineteenth century was given over to the various ideas of spiritualism. The idea of ghosts, ectoplasmic beings, and speech from beyond the grave was thought by many to be yet another scientific field waiting to be researched and explained. Most spiritualists of the day were more interested in performance and getting paid for their efforts than actually trying to study the phenomena. The Society for Psychical Research in Britain was founded in the last quarter of the century specifically to research (and debunk) most of this activity.

In the world of Victorious however, spiritual contact can be as realistic or as fake as the Genteel Magistrate permits. It would upset any spiritualist if during their carefully planned séance if an actual spirit did arrive! Perhaps all spiritualists are genuine, and the ideas of fakery were just created to obscure their true powers.

Below are the writings of an investigator of spiritualist activities. This is given in order that the reader will have an idea of the settings of such events in the era as well as the skepticism some people of the day had towards such events. At the end of this article is a Séance Results Table for any GM to use to determine the results of a given séance. It is up to the Genteel Magistrate of course as to whether the events in question are "real" or just part of the medium's performance.

*"So it happened that I had shelved spiritualism for some time, when the article on 'Spirit Faces' came under my notice. I did not care so much about the face part of the matter (at least not the spirit face), but I wanted to test it as a matter of athletics. In one respect the physiognomy did interest me, for I read that the medium was pretty – mediums, according to my experience, being generally very much the reverse – and I found that report had certainly not misrepresented the young lady in this respect. Miss Florence Cook, then, is a trim little lady of sweet sixteen, and dwells beneath the parental roof in an eastern suburb of London. It is quite true she does not accept payment for séances, which I strove to impress upon her was very foolish indeed, for she works almost as hard as Lulu twice in the week. However, she, or rather her parents, take high ground in the matter, which of course is very praiseworthy on their parts, and convenient for their guests if they happen to be impecunious.*

*Now, I do not purpose going through the details of the séance, which was considerably irksome, being protracted by endless psalm singing. What I want to do – with Miss Cook's permission – is to calculate the chances of her being sufficiently athletic to perform the tricks she, without the aid of spirits. Does she not underrate her unaided powers in assigning a supernatural cause for the effects produced?*



Well, then, this lithe little lady is arrayed in the ordinary garb of the nineteenth century with what is technically termed a 'pamier,' and large open sleeves, each of which, I fear, she must have found considerably in the way, as also the sundry lockets and other nick-nacks suspended from her neck. However, there they were. We put her in a cupboard, which had a single Windsor chair in it, and laid a stoutish new cord on her lap. Then came singing, which may or may not have been intended to drown any noise in the cupboard; but, after some delay, she was found tied around the waist, neck, and two wrists, and the ends of the cord fastened to the back of the chair. These knots we sealed, and consigned her to the cupboard again. Shortly after there appeared at an aperture in the upper portion of the cupboard a face which looked utterly unspiritual and precisely like that of the medium, only with some white drapery thrown over the head. The aperture was just the height that would have allowed Miss Cook to stand on the chair and peep out. I do not say she did; I am only calculating the height. The face remained some minutes in a strong light; then descended. We opened the cupboard, and found the little lady tied as before with the seals unbroken. Spiritual, or material, it was clever.

After a pause, the same process was gone through again; only this time stout tape was substituted for rope. The cord cut the girl's wrists; and tape was almost more satisfactory. Again she was bound, and we sealed the knots; and again a face appeared—this time quite black, and not like the medium at all. I noticed that the drapery ran right round the face, and cut it off at a straight line on the lower part. This gave the idea of a mask. I am not saying it was a mask. I am only throwing out a hint that, if the 'spirits' wish to convince people they should let the neck be well seen. I am bound to say it bore a strong light for several minutes; and some people say they saw eyelids. I did not. I do not say they were not there. I know how impossible it is to prove a negative, and only say I did not see them.

What followed possessed no special interest for any but the professed spiritualist, as it was done without any tying; Miss Cook arguing logically enough that, if the previous manifestations were clearly proved to have taken place by other agency than that of the medium herself, mere multiplication of proofs was unnecessary. I had only gone to study the matter from an athletic point of view; and I certainly came away impressed with the idea that, if Miss Florence Cook first got into and then got out of those knots, she was even more nimble and lithesome than she looked, and ought to start an Amateur Ladies' Athletic Society forthwith. As to her making faces at us through the window, I did not care sufficiently about the matter to inquire whether she did or not, because, if she got out of the ropes, it was easy enough to get on the chair and make faces."

– *Mystic London; Or, Phases of Occult Life in the Metropolis*, Charles Maurice Davies

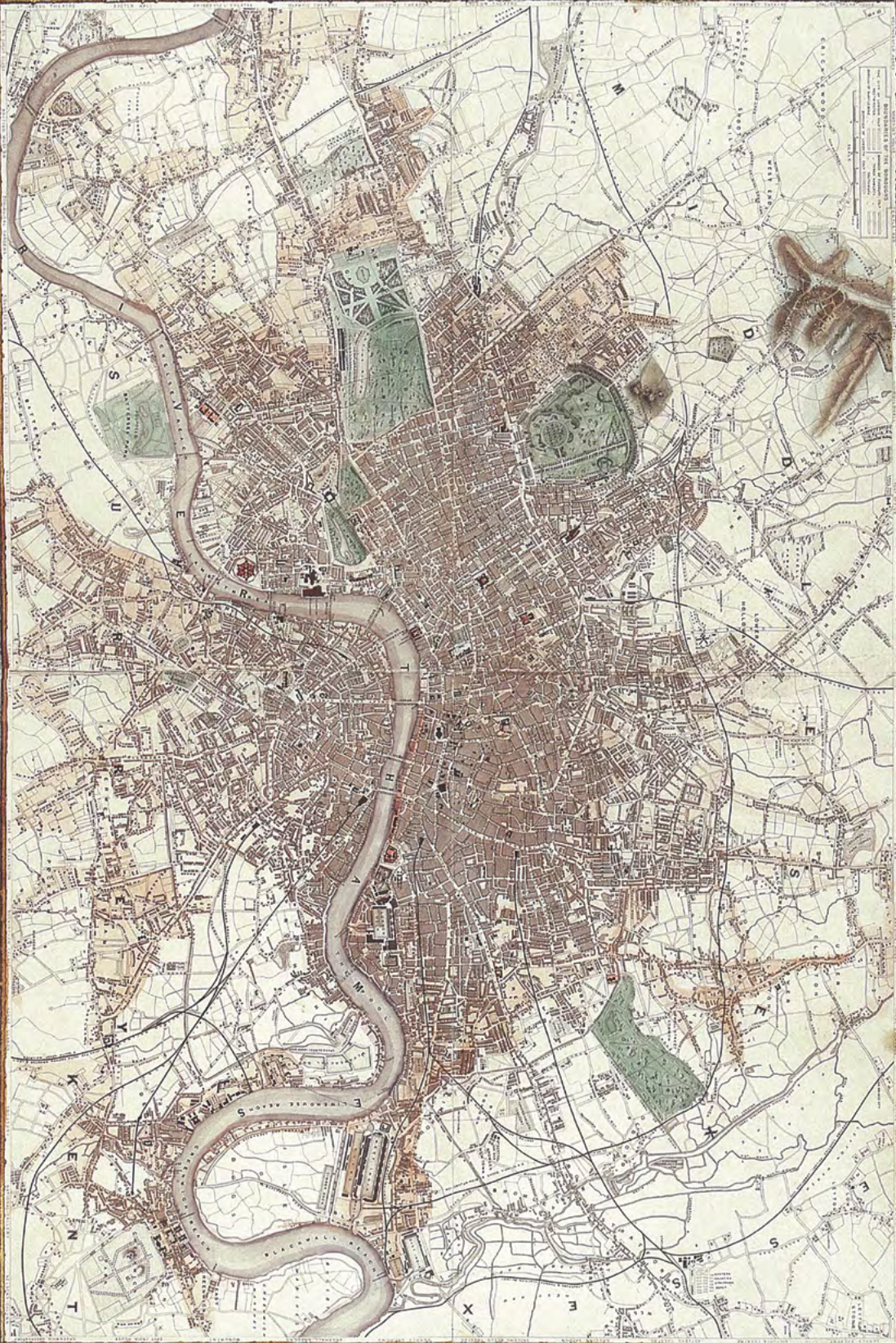
## SEANCE RESULTS TABLE

1D12	RESULT
1–4	Nothing happens.
5	Odd noises, such as rapping on the table, moans, or indiscernible whispers, are heard around the room.
6	A table in the room moves, either levitating up to a foot off the floor then back down, or shifting positions on the floor.
7–8	Random writings appear on the table surface or on the walls. Lights will then be extinguished and messages may only be read after visibility is returned.
9	The medium is possessed and the spirit speaks through them to the table.
10	One of the guests is possessed and the spirit speaks through them to the table. The selected guest will be the one with the lowest non-prime Charisma score (saving throw to avoid).
11	A poltergeist throws items around the room for 1D4 rounds, attacking as a 1HD creature. Persons struck by a thrown object take 1–3 points of damage from the object.
12	A guest is possessed by the spirit and attacks the group. The selected guest will be the one with the lowest non-prime Charisma score (saving throw to avoid). Possession lasts for 1D4 rounds.

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# VICTORIOUS

RULING OVER THE OCEANS AND A QUARTER OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE, THE BRITISH EMPIRE IS UNARGUABLY THE SUPERPOWER OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. YET CRACKS APPEAR IN THE FAÇADE OF ANGLO SAXON SUPERIORITY, AND NEFARIOUS FORCES ARE DETERMINED TO OVERTHROW QUEEN VICTORIA'S REALM. DETAILS ABOUT ON TURN OF THE CENTURY BRITISH SOCIETY, CITIES, AND FIGURES THAT VICTORIOUS HEROES AND HEROINES MIGHT ENCOUNTER FOR GOOD OR ILL.



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