

**LIFE OF HER
MAJESTY
QUEEN VICTORIA**

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Life of Her Majesty Queen Victoria by Millicent Garrett Fawcett

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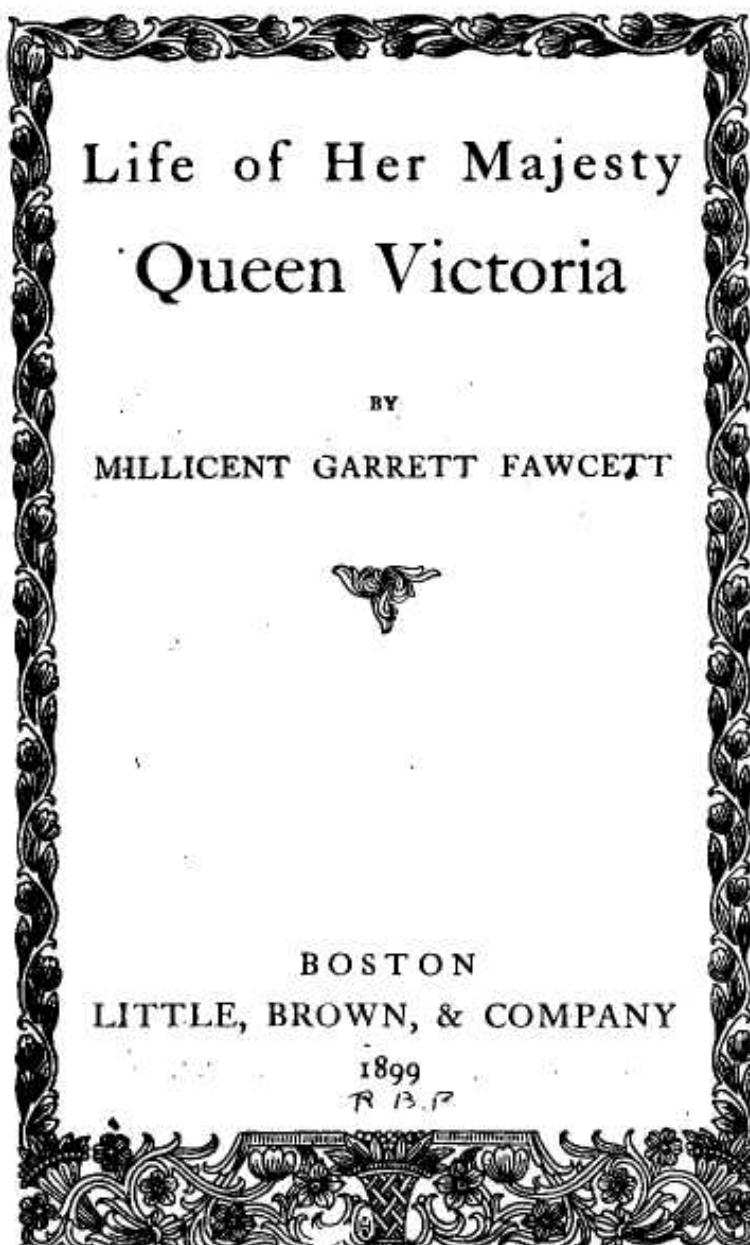
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MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT

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HER MAJESTY, QUEEN VICTORIA.

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Life of Her Majesty
Queen Victoria

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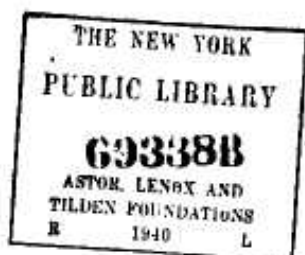
MILlicENT GARRETT FAWCETT



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PREFACE.

It would have been impossible, within the limits of this little book, to narrate, even in barest outline, all the events of the Queen's long life and reign. In attempting to deal with so large a subject in so short a space, I have therefore thought it best to dwell on what may be considered the formative influences on the Queen's character in her early life, and in later years to refer only to political and personal events, in so far as they illustrate her character and her conception of her political functions. Even with this limitation, I am fully aware how far short I have come of being able to produce a worthy record of a noble life. I will only add that I began this little book with a feeling towards Her Majesty of sincere veneration and gratitude, and that this feeling has been deepened by studying more closely than I had done before the ideal place of the Crown in the English Constitution, as a power above party, and the important part the Queen has taken now for nearly sixty years in making this ideal a reality. It is not too much to say that, by her sagacity and persistent devotion to duty, she has created modern constitutionalism, and more than any other single person has made England and the English monarchy what they now are.

A list of the books referred to will be found after the chronological table. Among them it is almost unneces-

sary to say that I am especially indebted to "The Early Years of the Prince Consort," by General Grey, and to "The Life of the Prince Consort," by Sir Theodore Martin. I also desire to express my respectful thanks to H. R. H. Princess Christian, for help very graciously and kindly given in the selection of a portrait for this little volume.

MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

April, 1895.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE QUEEN'S IMMEDIATE PREDECESSORS . . .	9
II. CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION	28
III. ACCESSION TO THE THRONE	41
IV. LOVE AND POLITICS	56
V. ROCKS AHEAD	71
VI. THE PRINCE	79
VII. THE QUEEN AND PEEL	94
VIII. STOCKMAR	104
IX. THE NURSERY	119
X. HOME LIFE.—OSBORNE AND BALMORAL . .	132
XI. FORTY-THREE TO FORTY-EIGHT	144
XII. PALMERSTON	156
XIII. PEACE AND WAR	173
XIV. A NATION OF SHOPKEEPERS	192
XV. THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH . .	201
XVI. DOMESTIC LIFE AFTER 1861	215
XVII. THE WARP AND WOOF OF HOME AND POLITICS	227
XVIII. THE QUEEN AND THE EMPIRE	244
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CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF EVENTS	257
BOOKS OF REFERENCE	261
INDEX	263

