

**THE VIA DOLOROSA.**

The arrangements were perfectly planned for the sad days following King George's death, as King Edward, Queen Mary, and the other Royal mourners passed along their Via Dolorosa, which, beginning at Sandringham, ended at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

There was stately ceremonial, with lovely pageantry and symbolical rites fitly expressing the homage of the subjects of a Monarch upon whose Kingdoms, Dominions and Empire the sun never sets, to whose burial with all circumstance and honour came Kings, Rulers, Statesmen, high officials and prominent persons from many lands.

And always there was before us the remembrance that those whose exalted positions made them the chief participants in these ceremonies were mourning not only their King but a dearly loved husband and father. So far as might be, the arrangements in this relation were of the utmost simplicity.

At Sandringham House on the afternoon of January 22nd, the household servants of all grades were admitted to the death chamber of their late King and master. Regal and peaceful he lay—the coffin made of oak, grown on the estate, and fashioned by Sandringham craftsmen, draped in white, almost covered with white carnations. At its head stood Sister Catherine Black, King George's resident nurse since his grave illness seven years ago.

Later, preceded by his piper, at the head of the men of the King's Sandringham Company of the 5th Territorial Battalion of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, King George's coffin was borne on a handbier to the beautiful little village church, followed through rain and sleet by the sorrowful Queen; the Duke of Kent and the Earl of Harewood on either side of her, and behind her the Princess Royal and the Duchess of Kent. After a short service, and the departure of the Royal mourners, villagers filed

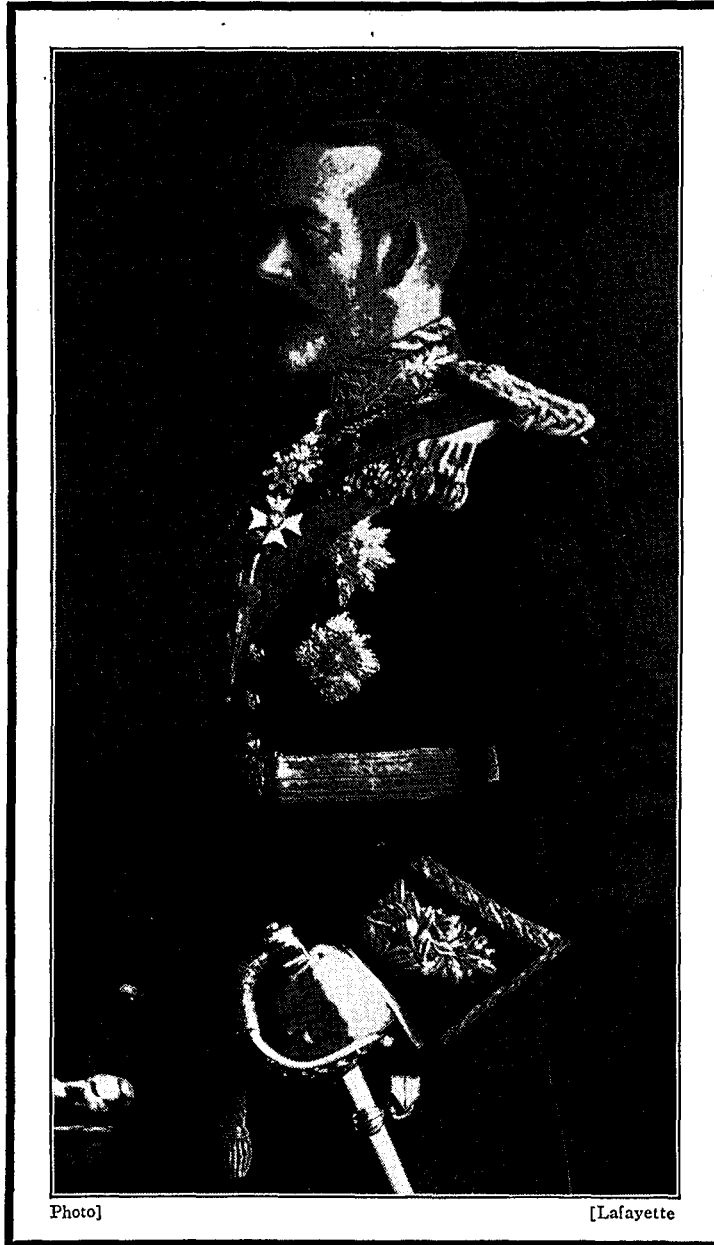
slowly past the bier where King George lay in semi-state, and foresters and game-keepers on the Sandringham estate kept vigil. Later in the evening the King and his three brothers visited the church.

The journey through London on the following day was profoundly moving in its simplicity. The King, his brothers, and members of the late King's household followed, on foot, the gun carriage bearing the coffin covered with the Royal Standard, with the Imperial Crown resting on a purple cushion, and beside it the Queen's flowers, roses and lilies.

So the procession passed through masses of the dead King's sorrowing subjects, from King's Cross to Westminster Hall where, in the presence of the King, Queen Mary, and the other Royal mourners a short service was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. There with splendid dignity the Lying-in-State began.

As the world knows hundreds of thousands of King George's subjects, eager to pay their tribute of respect, passed through Westminster Hall during the ensuing four days, and each day Queen Mary or other members of the Royal family visited the Hall. Most moving to the few who recognised them, was the action of King Edward and his brothers who at midnight on January 27th, at the changing of the Guard, wearing appropriate uniform, themselves kept guard at the catafalque for the next term of duty.

On Tuesday, January 28th with the magnificence and honour befitting his Royal estate, King George V was borne through his capital to his burial at Windsor in the place of Kings. At last, in St. George's Chapel, came the poignant moment when, as the words of committal were pronounced, King Edward sprinkled earth on His Father's coffin and Queen Mary, enduring to the end, stood at the head of the Royal mourners, tragic and resolute. To Her Majesty, the hearts of the nurses of the Empire go out in respectful sympathy.



Photo]

[Lafayette

**HIS MAJESTY THE LATE KING GEORGE V.**

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