

WOMEN, FASHION AND SOCIETY

The QUEEN

Part 1: 1861 - 1885



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WOMEN, FASHION AND SOCIETY

The Queen
Part 1: 1861 - 1885

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Queen is a landmark in modern journalism. This, the first and most popular upper-class women's periodical to appear during the nineteenth century, both contributed to and survived the transformation of the status of women from the relative calm of the 1860's to the period immediately following the First World War.

This first part covers the first 25 years of the magazine from its foundation by Samuel and Isabella Beeton in 1861 to 1885. Fashion and Society Happenings were always important to The Queen but it featured a great deal more of interest to modern social, political and women's historians. Parliamentary reports, articles on social problems from vagrancy to prostitution, essays on women's work and their roles in the house, in charitable endeavour and other spheres were also regularly featured.

The period 1861 to 1885 was one of great significance both for women and for Britain as a whole. Political Reform was very much on the agenda with Gladstone's Great Reform Bill of 1866, Disraeli's Second Great Reform Bill of 1867 and Gladstone's Third Great Parliamentary Reform Bill of 1884. Whilst women were not central to these bills, they did extend the franchise and raise general questions of voting rights. Irish affairs were also prominent, as were foreign wars between France and Prussia (1870-1871), Russia and Turkey (1877-1878) and between Britain and the Ashantis and Zulus. The Queen was also fascinated by the creation of the "Dominion of Canada" in 1867 and the new representative governments established in Australia.

The Queen is presented in its entirety for this period, together with its contemporary indexes, which appear at the front of each volume. Readers should note that the apparent jump from Volume 5 to Volume 35 is occasioned by a jump in numbering, rather than from missing issues.

William Pidduck
Development and Production Director
Research Publications Ltd

WOMEN, FASHION AND SOCIETY

THE QUEEN PART 1 1861-1885

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