

ad April 19/41.

QUEEN MARY at STANLEY PARK

TEA WITH LADY MARLING

SATURDAY AFTERNOON'S VISIT

ON Saturday afternoon, Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a two hours' visit to Stanley Park, where she took tea with Beatrice Lady Marling. Her Majesty was accompanied by her private secretary, Major John Wickham, and Lady Cynthia Colville, and on their arrival the Royal party were greeted by Lady Marling and the Lady Kathleen Lindsay—who used to live at Barton End House, Horsley—and Mr. Stanley Marling.

Although the visit was private and quite informal, news of it had filtered abroad in Selsley and the surrounding district, and quite early in the afternoon a number of people had gathered at the lower entrance to the Park from Dudbridge Hill.

When the Royal car, preceded by uniformed motor cyclists, reached the drive gates the Queen graciously acknowledged the

On their return to the Park Grounds, the Queen walked by way of the terrace and admired the beautiful Cotswold views to be seen from this point. She saw, too, the sunken lawn and fountain—which was playing—the huge hot house at the far end of the spacious lawn, and the gardens generally.

Subsequently the party returned to the house where tea was served in the conservatory.

LOCAL POLICE OFFICER HONORED

Afterwards the Queen sent for Police-constable Webber, of King's Stanley, who had been on duty in the grounds, and who previously served for several years in the Life Guards, and was for two years from 1920-22 King's Orderly to His late Majesty King George V at Buckingham Palace.

Her Majesty having shaken hands with the officer, asked him about his service with the Life Guards, and particularly the time spent



This group photograph, taken by permission of Her Majesty, shews Queen Mary with Lady Marling and Mr. S. S. Marling.

"Stroud News" Photograph.

greetings of those who had gathered in the hopes of getting a glimpse of the Royal visitor, and when the car reached a point level with the Home Farm, a number of bonny school girls, who had been knitting while awaiting its arrival, waved gaily, and again the Queen raised her hand in acknowledgment.

Within a few minutes of the arrival of the party at the main entrance, the Queen, who was attired in grey, with a grey toque, accompanied by Lady Marling and followed by Major Wickham, Mr. Stanley Marling, Lady Cynthia Colville and Lady Kathleen Lindsay, left the house and walked along the path, gay with waving daffodils, to All Saints' Church.

Her Majesty evinced considerable interest in the church—a copy of a building found in the little village of Marling in Italy by the late Sir Samuel Marling, the first baronet, and built by him in 1861. The continental style of architecture makes Selsley Church a prominent landmark. It was built from designs made by Mr. G. F. Bodler, A.R.A., and has been improved by succeeding generations of the Marling family.

THE LADY CHAPEL

Inside the church the Queen saw the memorial tablets to various members of the Marling family, including Sir Samuel and Lady Marling, Sir William and Lady Marling, Col. Sir Percival Scrope Marling, V.C., C.B., of the 18th (Queen Mary's Own) Hussars, Sir Charles Murray Marling, and Major W. J. Paley Marling, and also inspected the beautiful Lady Chapel which was given by Lady Marling as a memorial to Sir Percival.

at the Palace, and also inquired about his work in the police force.

Later the Queen inspected Stanley Park House, the older portion of which interested her greatly, and before leaving signed the visitors' book in the hall, "Mary R., April 19th, 1941."

Punctually at 6 p.m. the Royal car drew out of the Selsley entrance to the Park. The daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Steel of The Home Farm and members of the Stanley Park staff watched the Queen enter her car, and outside the gates Her Majesty was greeted by more people who had gathered to see the Royal visitor. Notable amongst these was a chubby little lad wearing a red, white and blue turban, and vigorously waving a Union Jack.

This private visit to Stanley Park enabled the Queen to renew an acquaintance with Lady Marling which began many years ago. It will be remembered that in 1920 the late King and Queen Mary met Sir Percival and Lady Marling at the Royal V.C.s' Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and a photographic memento of this event still hangs in the billiard room of Stanley Park.

More recently Lady Marling was present when Queen Mary welcomed her Regiment, the 18th Hussars, at Shorncliffe, on its return to this country from service in India.

This is not the first visit of the Queen to the Stroud district, because besides having passed through it on several occasions, she inspected, in September, 1938, Nether Lypiatt Manor, known locally as The Haunted House, the residence of Lord Barrington, who is Lady Marling's cousin.