

RANDOLPH S. CHURCHILL

Winston S. Churchill

VOLUME I · Youth · 1874 - 1900

ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS
AND MAPS



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY BOSTON

The Riverside Press Cambridge

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Fourth Printing R

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Also by Randolph S. Churchill

THE STORY OF THE CORONATION

THEY SERVE THE QUEEN

FIFTEEN FAMOUS ENGLISH HOMES

CHURCHILL, HIS LIFE IN PHOTOGRAPHS
(with Helmut Gernsheim)

WHAT I SAID ABOUT THE PRESS

THE RISE AND FALL OF SIR ANTHONY EDEN

LORD DERBY: "KING OF LANCASHIRE"

THE FIGHT FOR THE TORY LEADERSHIP

TWENTY-ONE YEARS



SECOND LIEUTENANT WINSTON S. CHURCHILL
4TH HUSSARS, 1895

Theme of Volume I

How an under-esteemed boy of genius
of noble character and daring spirit
seized and created a hundred opportunities
to rise in the world
and add glory
by his own merit and audacity
to a name already famous



Theme of the Work

He shall be his own biographer

—*Lockhart*





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BLANDFORD Albertha Frances Anne (Bertha), Marchioness of (1847–1932); sixth daughter of 1st Duke of Abercorn and Louisa Jane, daughter of 6th Duke of Bedford. She had seven brothers, and was one of seven sisters, all of whom married into the peerage. She married in 1869 George Charles, Marquess of Blandford (qv below) eldest son of 7th Duke of Marlborough (qv). This marriage was dissolved in 1883; the decree nisi was awarded five months before her husband succeeded to the dukedom, but was not made absolute until four months after. However, she preferred to retain the style of Marchioness of Blandford, though by 1896 she was one of five ladies then living who were or had been entitled to the style of Duchess of Marlborough. The others were Jane, widow of 6th Duke; Fanny, widow of 7th Duke; Lily, widow of 8th Duke; and Consuelo, wife of 9th Duke.

BLANDFORD George Charles, Marquess of (1844–92); eldest son of 7th Duke of Marlborough (qv) whom he succeeded 1883 and brother of Lord Randolph Churchill (qv). Married (1) 1869, Albertha (qv above), daughter of 1st Duke of Abercorn; (2) 1888 at the Tabernacle Baptist Church, New York, Lilian Warren (Duchess Lily), widow of Louis Hammersley and daughter of Cicero Price, Commodore US Navy. Succeeded as 8th Duke in 1883.

BLOOD Bindon (1842–1940); son of W. B. Blood, of County Clare, and a descendant of the celebrated Colonel Thomas Blood, who attempted to steal the Crown Jewels from the Tower of London in 1671. As Major-General commanding Malakand Field Force 1897 he afforded WSC opportunities for active service. KCB 1896, GCB 1909. Retired as General 1907.

BRABAZON John Palmer (1843–1922); son of Major H. Brabazon of County Mayo and Eleanor Ambrosia, daughter of Sir W. H. Palmer, 3rd Bart. Served in Grenadier Guards and 10th Hussars; appointed to command 4th Hussars 1893. Later commanded 2nd Cavalry Brigade in South Africa. Major-General and KCB 1911.

BRETEUIL Henri Charles Joseph le Tonnelie, Marquis de (1848–1916); son of Alexandre Charles Joseph de Breteuil and Charlotte

Fould, daughter of Napoleon III's finance minister, Achille Fould. Served with distinction in Franco-Prussian War. Member of Chamber of Deputies 1877-92, sat as a conservative and monarchist, and was noted as an authoritative speaker on finance matters and foreign affairs. Close friend of Lord and Lady Randolph's.

CASSEL Ernest Joseph (1852-1921); born at Cologne, youngest son of Jacob Cassel, a small banker. In 1869 came to England, where he amassed a vast fortune: he became an intimate friend of the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, and of Lord Randolph Churchill. Knighted 1899.

CHAMBERLAIN Joseph (1836-1914); eldest son of Joseph Chamberlain, a boot and shoe manufacturer, and Caroline, daughter of Harry Harben, a provision merchant. Made a substantial fortune as screw manufacturer in Birmingham; three times Mayor of Birmingham 1873-5, MP 1876-1914. President of the Board of Trade under Gladstone 1880-5, and President of Local Government Board 1886, when he left the Liberal party on the issue of Home Rule and allied himself with Tories as Liberal Unionist. Secretary of State for Colonies 1895-1903, when he left the Tory government to campaign for imperial preference. Three times married; one son (Austen) became Chancellor of the Exchequer and Foreign Secretary, the other (Neville) Chancellor of the Exchequer and Prime Minister.

CHURCHILL John Strange Spencer- ("Jack") (1880-1947); younger brother of WSC. Born in Dublin 4 February 1880; educated at Harrow; served in the South African War where he was wounded and mentioned in despatches, and in First World War at Gallipoli. By profession a stockbroker. He married in 1908 Lady Gwendeline Bertie (1885-1941), daughter of 7th Earl of Abingdon.

CHURCHILL Lady Randolph Spencer- ("Jennie") (1854-1921); mother of WSC and Jack Churchill. She was born on 10 January 1854 in Brooklyn, New York, second daughter of Leonard Jerome (qv), and married (1) Lord Randolph Churchill (qv below); (2) on 28 July 1900 Captain George Cornwallis-West, whom she divorced 1913; (3) 1919 Montagu Porch.

CHURCHILL Lord Randolph Henry Spencer- (1849–95); father of WSC and Jack Churchill (qv). Born in London 13 February 1849, third but second surviving son of 7th Duke of Marlborough. Educated Eton and Merton College, Oxford. He married 15 April 1874 Jennie Jerome. MP for Woodstock 1874–85, and for South Paddington 1885–95. Secretary of State for India 1885–6; Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the House of Commons July–December 1886. He died in London 24 January 1895.

COCKRAN William Bourke (1854–1923); American lawyer and politician. Born in County Sligo, he went to America in 1871. Democratic Member of Congress for New York 1891–5, 1904–9, 1920–3.

CROMER Evelyn Baring, 1st Earl of (1841–1917); sixth son of Henry Baring MP, a member of the family of merchant bankers, and Cecilia, daughter of Admiral William Windham. British Agent and Consul-General in Egypt 1883–1907. Baron 1892, Viscount 1899, Earl 1901.

CURZON George Nathaniel (1859–1925); eldest son of Reverend Alfred Curzon, 4th Baron Scarsdale, and Blanche, daughter of Joseph Senhouse of Netherhall. Viceroy of India 1899–1905. Earlier, Tory MP for Southport 1886–98; Under-Secretary of State for India 1891–2; Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs 1895–8. Later Lord Privy Seal 1915–16; Lord President of the Council 1916–19; Foreign Secretary 1919–24. Married (1) 1895 Mary, daughter of Levi Leiter of Washington, D.C., who died in 1906; (2) 1917 Grace, daughter of J. Monroe Hinds of the United States and widow of Alfred Duggan of Buenos Aires. Created Baron Curzon of Kedleston (Irish Peerage) 1898; Earl Curzon of Kedleston, Viscount Scarsdale and Baron Ravensdale 1911; Marquess Curzon and KG 1921.

DISRAELI Benjamin (1804–81); son of Isaac D'Israeli, author and literary critic. Twice Prime Minister, 1868, 1874–80; Tory MP for Buckinghamshire 1847–76. Wrote more than a dozen novels, the last, *Endymion*, published in 1880. Created Earl of Beaconsfield 1876; KG 1878.

ELGIN Victor Alexander, 9th Earl of and 13th Earl of Kincardine (1849–1917); eldest son of 8th Earl, Viceroy of India 1862–3, and of Lady Mary Louisa, eldest surviving daughter of 1st Earl of Durham. He himself was Viceroy of India 1894–8 while WSC was serving there, and later Secretary of State for the Colonies when WSC became Under-Secretary in 1905. His grandfather, 7th Earl, salvaged in 1801 the marble frieze of the Parthenon (now known as the “Elgin Marbles”) later acquired by the British Museum where it can still be seen to great advantage.

EVEREST Elizabeth Ann (1833–95); born in Kent. Children’s nurse, first with Rev Thompson Phillips of Carlisle, then with Lord Randolph Churchill 1875–93. Nicknamed by Winston and Jack “Woom” or “Woomany”.

FINCASTLE Alexander Edward, Viscount (1871–1962); eldest son of 7th Earl of Dunmore. Major 16th Lancers; served with Sudan Field Force 1896; ADC to Viceroy of India 1895–7; served with Malakand Field Force and ADC to Sir Bindon Blood 1897 (VC, despatches three times). Published *A Frontier Campaign* 1898. In Boer War he raised and commanded Fincastle’s Horse (despatches); and in World War I (DSO, despatches four times) was wounded twice. Succeeded as 8th Earl of Dunmore 1907.

FREWEN Clara (1850–1935); eldest daughter of Leonard Jerome (qv). She married Moreton Frewen (qv); they had two sons, and a daughter, Clare, who married Wilfred Sheridan, a descendant of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, eighteenth-century playwright and politician. Clare Sheridan achieved fame as a sculptress and as a traveller in North Africa.

FREWEN Moreton (1853–1924); son of Thomas Frewen MP, of Northiam, Sussex, and Helen Louisa, daughter of Frederick Homan of County Kildare. Married 1881 Clara (qv above), eldest daughter of Leonard Jerome. A knowledgeable if unlucky student of economic affairs, he was the author of a number of works on bi-metallism. MP for North-East Cork, 1910–11.

GLADSTONE William Ewart (1809–98); fourth son of Sir John Gladstone, 1st Bart, and Anne, daughter of Andrew Robertson, Provost of Dingwall. Three times Chancellor of the Exchequer and four times Prime Minister 1868–74, 1880–5, 1886, 1892–4. Liberal MP for Newark, Oxford University, South Lancashire, Greenwich (1868–80) and Midlothian (1880–95). Author of numerous works on religious and philosophical topics.

GUEST — see WIMBORNE.

HALDANE (James) Aylmer Lowthorpe (1862–1950); eldest son of Daniel Rutherford Haldane and Charlotte, daughter of James Lowthorpe of Welton Hall, Yorks. Joined Gordon Highlanders 1882; served in India and South Africa with WSC. He was in command of the Chieveley armoured train when he and WSC were captured and imprisoned in Pretoria. KCB 1918; retired as General 1925.

HAMILTON Ian Standish Monteith (1853–1947); born in Corfu, the son of Col Christian Hamilton and Corinna, daughter of 3rd Viscount Gort; he married 1887 Jean, daughter of Sir John Muir, 1st Bart, and Lady Muir. Commanded 3rd Brigade, Tirah Campaign, 1897–8. Served in South Africa, 1899–1901, where he took part in the defence of Ladysmith, and later commanded one of the mobile columns described by WSC in *Ian Hamilton's March*. At the battle of Majuba Hill 1881 received a wound in his wrist which afflicted his left arm for the rest of his life. Commanded Mediterranean Expeditionary Force 1915, which attempted to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula. KCB 1900; General 1905.

JAMES Henry (1828–1911); lawyer and politician, befriended Lord and Lady Randolph and later WSC. Liberal MP for Taunton 1869–85, for Bury 1885–6. Twice Attorney-General under Gladstone 1873–4, 1880–5. With Chamberlain and Hartington left Liberal party and became Liberal Unionist (MP for Bury 1886–95). Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster 1895–1902. Knighted 1873; created Baron James of Hereford 1895.

JEROME Clara (1825–95); wife of Leonard Jerome (qv below) whom she married in 1849 and mother of Clara (Frewen), Jennie (Spencer-Churchill) and Leonie (Leslie) qv. Youngest daughter of Ambrose

Hall, a member of New York State Assembly, and Clarissa daughter of David Willcox whose father and grandfather had been blacksmiths in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Lived for many years in Paris with her three daughters. After they were married she settled in England and died at Tunbridge Wells.

JEROME Leonard Walter (1817–91); husband of Clara Jerome (qv), fifth son of Isaac Jerome of Pompey, New York, and Aurora, daughter of Reuben Murray of Connecticut. First a lawyer and small-town newspaper proprietor, he came to New York in 1855 and became a successful stockbroker and financier, and for a period principal proprietor of the *New York Times*. American Consul in Trieste 1851–2. A keen yachtsman, founder of the American Jockey Club and a patron of the opera.

JEUNE Mary Susan Elizabeth, Lady (1845–1931); daughter of Keith Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth and Hannah, eldest daughter of James Hope-Vere of Craigie Hall. Married (1) 1871 John, second son of 2nd Baron Stanley of Alderley (d. 1878); and (2) 1881 Sir Francis Jeune 1st Bart, later 1st and last Baron St Helier, President of the Probate Divorce and Admiralty Division of the High Court. Celebrated London hostess who befriended WSC.

KINSKY Count Charles (1858–1919); son of Ferdinand, seventh Prince Kinsky, and Marie, Princess Liechtenstein. Friend and admirer of Lady Randolph. Served in Austro-Hungarian diplomatic service, first in London and later at Brussels and Paris. A great sportsman and rider to hounds, he rode his own horse Zoedone to victory in the Grand National of 1883. Married 17 January 1895 Elisabeth, Countess Wolff Metternich, and succeeded as Prince 1904.

KITCHENER Horatio Herbert (1850–1916); second son of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Horatio Kitchener of Cossington, Leicestershire and his first wife Anne Frances, daughter of the Rev John Chevallier, vicar of Aspell, Suffolk, who kept a lunatic asylum there and became a noted agriculturist. Commissioned in the Royal Engineers, he was Sirdar of the Egyptian Army 1892–9, planning and executing the campaign that ended in the Battle of Omdurman 1898 and led to the reconquest of the Sudan. Chief of Staff to Lord Roberts (qv) in South Africa, 1899–1900; Commander-in-Chief 1900–2; Com-

mander-in-Chief India 1902–9; British Agent and Consul-General, Egypt 1911–14; Secretary of State for War 1914–15. Drowned in HMS *Hampshire* on way to Russia. KCMG 1894, KCB 1896, Baron 1898, Viscount and OM 1902, Earl (Kitchener of Khartoum) 1914, KG 1915.

KNOLLYS Francis (1837–1924); second son of General Sir William Knollys, and Elizabeth, sister of Sir Edward St Aubyn 1st Bart. Private Secretary to the Prince of Wales from 1870, continued to serve in that capacity on the Prince's accession as Edward VII in 1901, and to King George V until 1913. KCMG 1886. Baron 1902 and Viscount 1911.

LANSDOWNE Henry Charles Keith, 5th Marquess of (1845–1927); elder son of Henry, 4th Marquess of Lansdowne and Emily Jane Mercer, Baroness Nairne in her own right. Under-Secretary for War 1872–4; Under-Secretary for India 1880; Governor-General of Canada 1883–8; Viceroy of India 1888–94; Secretary of State for War 1895–1900; Foreign Secretary 1900–5. Married 1869 Maud Evelyn Hamilton, daughter of 1st Duke of Abercorn and sister of Albertha, Marchioness of Blandford (qv).

LESLIE Leonie Blanche (1859–1943); youngest daughter of Leonard and Clara Jerome (qqv), favourite aunt of WSC. Educated in France, she married 1884 John, only son of Sir John Leslie, 1st Bart, of Glaslough, County Monaghan. Their son, John Randolph Shane (born 1885), was a godson of Lord Randolph.

MARJORIBANKS Edward (1849–1909); eldest son of Dudley, 1st Baron Tweedmouth, whom he succeeded 1894. Married 1873 Lady Fanny Spencer-Churchill, third daughter of 7th Duke of Marlborough. Liberal MP for Berwick 1880–94, Chief Whip 1892–4; Lord Privy Seal and Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster 1894–5, First Lord of the Admiralty 1905–8, Lord President of the Council 1908. His son Dudley (1874–1935) was at Harrow with Winston, joined Royal Horse Guards 1895; married 1901 Muriel, eldest daughter of W. St John Brodrick, at that time Secretary of State for War.