**THE ROYAL VISIT**

**The Train Journey Down.**

**Reception En Route.**

**ARRIVAL AT NEWCASTLE**

**ENTHUSIASTIC AND ELABORATE RECEPTION.**

**(By Telegraph)**

**(From Our Special Reporter on the Royal Train)**

**NEWCASTLE, May 25**.

After leaving the Queensland border the train conveying the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York and their suite sped southward at a high rate of speed to make up for lost time. Mr. Charles Oliver, the Chief Railway Commissioner, and Mr. J. Harper, Traffic Manager of the New South Wales railways, who met the Royal party at Jennings, did all that was possible for the comfort of the travellers. The train was the same as had previously been used to carry the party to Queensland. An excellent supper was served in the train immediately after leaving Jennings, after which everyone settled down comfortably for the night. At 8.30 this morning breakfast was placed on the table, all the arrangements being fully equal to anything possible in a first-class hotel. The train continued its journey without interruption. At most of the stations a few people had assembled to give cheers to the Royal visitors, but the demonstrations were not nearly so enthusiastic as on the Queensland side of the border, and this fact was commented upon by the British pressmen on the train.

Punctually at noon the train drew up at Honeysuckle Point, a station on the outskirts of Newcastle, where the Duke and Duchess were welcomed by the Mayor and aldermen of Newcastle. The Mayoress (Mrs. Ellison), on behalf of the women of Newcastle, presented the Duchess with a handsome bouquet in a solid gold holder studded with opals. Lord Hopetoun (the Governor-General), Sir Frederick Darley (Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales), and Mr. John See (the Premier), were also there to welcome their Royal Highnesses. Headed by the Mayor, the Duke and Duchess and suite proceeded along the platform and crossed over the head of the bridge, which was gaily decorated, to a specially-erected dais. Two companies of the 4th Regiment, under Captain Paton, formed a guard of honour, and as soon as his Royal Highness appeared the regimental band struck up “God Save the King.” The occupants of the stand at the rear of the dais cheered loudly, and the Duke raised his hat in recognition. At the rear of the guard of honour were 1730 school children, who sang the National Anthem. A procession was then formed, the Newcastle half-squadron of Lancers under Lieutenant J. Harris, being the escort to the Duke and Duchess and Lord Wenlock, who rode in Mr. Joseph Wood’s carriage. The other members of the suite came next, and after them followed the Mayor and Mayoress and the town clerk. The appearance of the procession in Hunter-street West was the signal for great bursts of cheering. Near the Post and Telegraph Office upwards of 4000 school children occupied a vacant block of land, and sang “Rule Britannia” as the procession passed, the Duke raising his hat and the Duchess bowing graciously. From this out the most enthusiasm was manifested, crowds lining each side of the main street, though the packed state of the balconies along the line of route to some extent relieved the congested thoroughfares. Newcastle Station was reached at 12.30 p.m., the Irish Rifles and the Naval Brigade forming a guard of honour, and the City Band playing the National Anthem. The station premises were beautifully decorated, the large portico over the footway in Scott-street being one mass of foliage and bunting.

Before leaving the Duke and Duchess intimated to the Mayor that they were highly delighted with the cordiality of their reception.

*The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864 - 1933) 27 May 1901, p. 5