



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1878.

*Whitehall, December 27, 1878.*

THE following Letter from The Queen has this day been received by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department:—

*Osborne, December 26, 1878.*

THE Queen is anxious to take the earliest opportunity of expressing publicly Her heartfelt thanks for the universal and most touching sympathy shown to Her by all classes of Her loyal and faithful subjects on the present occasion when it has pleased God to call away from this world Her dearly-beloved Daughter, The Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse.

Overwhelmed with grief at the loss of a dear Child, who was a bright example of loving tenderness, courageous devotion, and self-sacrifice to duty, it is most soothing to The Queen's feelings to see how entirely Her grief is shared by Her people. The Queen's deeply-afflicted Son-in-law, the Grand Duke of Hesse, is also anxious to make known his sincere gratitude for the kind feelings expressed towards himself and his dear Children in their terrible bereavement, and his gratification at the appreciation shown by the people of England of the noble and endearing qualities of her whom all now mourn.

Seventeen years ago, at this very time, when a similar bereavement crushed The Queen's happiness, and this beloved and lamented Daughter was Her great comfort and support, the Nation evinced the same touching sympathy, as well as when, in December, 1871, The Prince of Wales was at the point of death.

Such an exhibition of true and tender feeling will ever remain engraven on The Queen's heart, and is the more to be valued at this moment of great distress in the Country, which no one more deeply deplores than The Queen herself.

