



No. 107.

MEN OF THE DAY No. 13.

"If everywhere as successful as in love, a great destiny awaits him."

MEN OF THE DAY. No. 13.

THE MARQUIS OF LORN.

THE MARQUIS OF LORN has been fortunate enough to be born into a high position. The eldest son of a Duke, and descended from almost a Royal ancestry, he might have succumbed to the temptations and snares which so often prove a stumbling-block to the scions of noble houses. But he has safely ridden through the storm; and popular when at Eton with boys, and at Cambridge with men, he gained there the reputation of one who, though not distinguished by any marked superiority in scholastic attainments, had more in him than the superficial observer would imagine. This opinion was shortly afterwards confirmed, for a readable and well-written book of travels emanated from his pen, and which, if entirely original, was very creditable for a first essay. However, there was an *arrière pensée* left in the critic's mind that the author's next attempt at literary fame would be more successful.

Unfortunately, since that time, the youthful Marquis has rested on his laurels; and, with the exception of a few after-dinner speeches, duly reported in the public journals, the world at large has remained in a state of oblivion as to his existence. But the announcement which has lately burst like a clap of thunder upon our ears, that the wise and well-beloved lady who rules our Empire has sanctioned his engagement to her own and England's daughter, has caused the name of the Marquis of Lorn to ring from shore to shore. For the marriage of a subject with a Princess of the Blood Royal is an almost obsolete occurrence, and many little innovations will have to be introduced in courtly etiquette to meet the exigencies of the situation. But exceptional as may be the position in which the noble bridegroom will find himself, we feel convinced that he will prove worthy of the high honour conferred on him, and of the precious treasure entrusted to his care.

The son of him who was the first to practically acknowledge that trade does not sully a ducal escutcheon, and of one of the profoundest reasoners of the day, will not be likely to become giddy at looking down from the elevation to which he has been so suddenly raised. And whatever may be his special talents or his aspirations as a public man, if everywhere as successful as in love, a great destiny awaits him.