

GENERAL NEWS.

(From our London correspondent.)

On Monday night that aristocratic couple the Prince Robert de Broglie and his wife the Princess Estelle made their appearance at the Tivoli Music Hall in London. Both were most heartily welcomed and the singing of the Princess was evidently appreciated by a large and representative audience.

Princess Estelle, who is a Californian by birth, was exquisitely attired in a dress of cream chenille with a cream picture hat ornamented with large plumes. She sang "Love me and the world is mine", a delightful aria from "Samson and Delila", "Mon coeur s'ouvre à ta voix" and concluded with "Annie Laurie" rendered in good style with exquisite taste.

The orchestra during this performance was conducted by Prince Robert in a very graceful manner. That this novel departure on the part of semi-royalty was appreciated by the public leaves hope that some amends will be made in England for their sufferings of the past.

Their engagement at the Tivoli will extend over twelve weeks and then the Prince is as yet undecided whether to accept offers to go to Berlin, or to the Casino or Folies-Bergeres in Paris, in spite of his father, Duke Amedée's opposition.

Eventually both Prince and Princess intend to go on the operatic stage for which they are now studying. The Prince himself is the possessor of a nice tenor voice and will later on be heard in duets with his wife.

If the Channel Tunnel Bill is sanctioned by Parliament during the coming session, a subsidiary company will be formed to supply international rolling stock to railway companies, and large exporters in England and all other countries which will use the tunnel.

Lovers of music are eagerly looking forward to the four weeks season of grand opera in German which starts on Monday next in London. Mr. Leopold Reichwein and Mr. Arthur Nikisch have been busily employed during this week in presiding over the rehearsals. King Edward, the Prince of Wales and many members of the English Royal family have already extended their patronage.

Amongst other surprises at the German opera will be the debut in London of the well known violinist Mr. Eugene Ysaye as a conductor. He has arranged to conduct Beethoven's "Fidelio" and this will be his first attempt to conduct grand opera, although Mr. Eugene Ysaye's name as a conductor already shines at Brussels.

In her lecture on Monday before the Geographical Society, Miss Mary Hall said that football was very much played by the African savages. Almost everywhere in Central Africa Miss Hall found the game being played by the natives.

Some sensation was caused by the discovery of a punt drifting on the river at Kingston on Thames, which was found to contain one lady's golfing shoe (nearly new) and two golf balls. The punt is the property of Mr. Eastland and had been removed from its moorings during the night.

Every effort will be made to solve this mystery which at first points to some crime having been committed.

Yesterday I referred to the approaching importance of Southampton which is fast becoming the owner of the greatest dock development ever known. It will soon be the English port of departure for the Cunard Line, and White Star Line in addition to the American Line. Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Union Castle, Hamburg American, and North German Lloyd Lines.

All the improvements in Southampton Docks are really due to their having passed into such enterprising hands as those of the South Western Railway Company which took them over in 1892. I hear that many very remarkable changes will also be made very shortly in the railway accommodation itself which is to be rendered as comfortable as possible with a punctual service of trains.

The visit of Queen Wilhelmina to Belgium escorted by a Dutch squadron, to attend the inauguration of the new harbour and canal works at Bruges, points to the probable alliance between Holland and Belgium. Most likely England and Germany will also send squadrons to salute the Queen of Holland.

Traffic in London is rapidly approaching perfection as no difficulty will soon exist in obtaining easy access to and from all parts of the metropolis, either by train, tube or tram. The first car on the newly electrified tramway from Aldgate to Bloomsbury was run on Monday night, driven through Old-street.

That famous batsman, the Rev. F. H. Gillingham will be married shortly to Miss Gwendolen Shelton, of Hythe, Kent. He first played for Essex when a curate at Leyton.

The engagement is announced of Commander Godfrey Faussett, R. N., to Miss Dudley Ward a daughter of the late Mr. W. Humble, Dudley Ward nephew of the late Earl of Dudley. Commander Faussett, who is in his forty-fourth year, has acted as Equerry to the Prince of Wales since 1901.

At Wood Norton the Duke and Duchess of Orleans have been entertaining the Duc de Luynes who is married to the sister of the Duc d'Uzès and belongs to one of the greatest families in France.

The Dowager Marchioness of Bute and Lady Margaret Crichton-Stuart have been staying in Vienna prior to paying a visit to the Holy Land.

Major the Hon. H. W. Forbes-Trefusis and Lady Mary Forbes-Trefusis sailed for New York on the Cunard liner "Carmania".

It seems that another alteration has been made in the date of the marriage of the Hon. John Coke and Miss Dorothy Lawson. It will take place on Tuesday next instead of Thursday.

Almost immediately on the arrival in London of the King from Chatsworth he visited the Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife. The Princess Royal continues to make slow progress towards recovery.

Lord Rosebery and Lord Dalmeny visited the Mammoth Fun City at Olympia and were exceedingly pleased with the show, which can only be compared to an enormous Fair. Lord Rosebery took special notice of a lion cub, which was placed in his arms to nurse, and said he would like to own a similar one himself.

Established 1835.

Schramm & Echtermeyer
Grocers
10b, Sidonien Strasse 10b
(corner of Prager Strasse).

Breakfast and other Teas.
Coffee, Cocoa, Chocolate.
English and German Biscuits.
Tinned Meat, Fish and Vegetables.
Preserved Fruit, Marmalade and Jams
English Pickles and Sauces.
Wines, Liqueurs, &c.

Through the recent storms at Llandridno Bay several coins have been washed up and innumerable men and boys are to be seen with lanterns in search of treasure after dark. One man found five-half sovereigns whilst many have picked up silver and copper coins. A George III shilling and a number of fourpenny pieces suggest that an old wreck has been broken up by the storm.

A second operation had to be undergone by the Duchess of Cumberland, as it was found that the first operation was inadequate. It was found that nothing was seriously wrong, but the Duchess' condition was considered grave.

Amongst the Swedish mails for England which were destroyed in a railway accident at Hottersberg was a cheque for £5,000, drawn by the Bank of Honolulu for a London merchant.

An enormous number of flowers were sent for the funeral of "the principal boy" Miss Bessie Featherstone at Bristol on Monday. Those sent by members of the theatrical profession alone occupied two carriages.

The private in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers who took it into his head to dress in his master's clothes and pose as an officer at Stafford has been court-martialled. His name is Morgan and he was arrested and escorted to Wrexham where a charge of disgracing the King's uniform has been preferred against him.

Complete re-organisation in the staff of the Department of the Inspector-General of the Force is likely to take place on the return of the Duke of Connaught from India and the East.

The post formerly occupied by the late Mr. James Carlyle as manager of the *Irish Times* Limited will be filled by Mr. John A. Simington who has been associated with the commercial department of that journal for over a quarter of a century.

An intelligent old lady who was charged with drunkenness at Enfield Police Court on Monday last, attributed her downfall to reading novels at night.

When about to take part in the service on Sunday morning the Rev. T. H. Le Boeuf, Rector of Crowland, Lincolnshire, fell down dead.

The Duke and Duchess of Westminster have this week been entertaining a shooting party at Eaton Hall. The guests include the Duke and Duchess of Roxburgh, Prince and Princess Henry of Pless, Earl and Countess of Essex, General Sir Reginald and Lady Beatrice Pole Carew, Major the Hon. W. Cavendish, Mrs. and Miss Cavendish, Lord Kenzon, Mr. and Mrs. Adcane, Lady Edith Villiers and Sir George and Lady Maude Warrender.

CHURCH SERVICES.

ALL SAINTS' (ENGLISH) CHURCH,
Wiener Strasse.
Friday, January 11th. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.
Saturday, January 12th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.
Sunday, January 13th. *I. Sunday after Epiphany.*
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. 11.0 a.m. Matins, Sermon. 6.0 p.m. Evensong.
Monday, January 14th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.
Tuesday, January 15th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.
Wednesday, January 16th. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.
Thursday, January 17th. 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.0 a.m. Matins.
Friday, January 18th. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.
Saturday, January 19th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.
Chaplain: The Rev. C. A. Moore, M. A., B. C. L.
Hon. assistant Chaplain: The Rev. M. S. Farmer, M. A.

THE AMERICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
Reichsplatz 5, at the head of Reichs Strasse.
Sunday, January 13th. Holy Communion 8.0 a.m.
Sunday School 10.0 a.m. Morning Service and Sermon 11.0 a.m. Afternoon Service and address 5.30 p.m.
Friday, January 18th. Service 10.0 a.m.
The Rev. J. F. Butterworth, M. A., Rector.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Bernhard Strasse 2, at corner of Bismarck Strasse and Winkelmann Strasse.—Services every Sunday at 11.0 a.m. and at 6 p.m. Communion on the first Sunday of the month.—The Rev. J. Davis Bowden, Minister, Bernhard Strasse 2, I.

CURRENT TOPICS IN AMERICA.

(By letter dated December 28th, from our New York correspondent.)

THE REPORT OF THE TARIFF EXPERTS.
American journals are beginning to venture on all sorts of prophecies as to the contents of the report which the American tariff experts, who were sent to Germany, will lay before the States Department. And to these prophecies the journals add various surmises as to the attitude which Congress will adopt towards the report. One Washington journal asserts that short despatches of a more private nature have been received there, according to which the German and American tariff commissioners in Berlin have come to a temporary understanding which may avert a tariff war. Another paper, the *Journal of Commerce*, claims to know from the best source that the American commissioners will recommend Congress in levying duties on imported goods to accept the export price instead of the market value. The export price of the most important class of goods in Germany is to be fixed by the German Chamber of Commerce, with a certain amount of collaboration from the Government. It is claimed that the acceptance of the export price will do away with differences of opinions as to the value of the goods and with other hardships for the German exporters while, on the other hand, in that case the conclusion of a reciprocity treaty would not be so urgent for the doing away with customs differences between Germany and America. The *Journal of Commerce* is of opinion that Germany would regard the acceptance of the export price as an important concession. But all these prophecies must be taken for what they are viz. prophecies. They go to prove, however, that here in America the report of the tariff commissioners is awaited with the greatest expectancy.

The Government with regard to concessions in the domain of customs regulations, has gone as far as its powers allow. Any further alterations of the tariff requires the endorsement of Congress whose protectionist Members reject tariff concessions so obstinately because they fear that the opening up of the whole tariff question would follow the smallest alterations in the customs system. In order to win the consent of the "stand patters" to certain tariff concessions with respect to the German American tariff question, an idea prevails in Washington that a Bill should be introduced, sanctioning the reduction of certain duties without bringing upon the tapis the tariff revision so