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THE KING'S VISIT TO IRELAND.

T. M. the King and Queen and H. R. H. Princess Victoria left London on Monday *en route* for North Wales and Ireland. Thence they will return *via* South Wales. In the course of their trip Their Majesties will lay the foundation stone of the new College at the North Wales University in Bangor, visit the International Exhibition in Dublin and open the new Docks at Cardiff.

On arrival at Holyhead an address was read to His Majesty on behalf of the County Council. King Edward in his reply said that the welfare of the country could only be endangered by a disturbance of peace. The peace which fortunately prevailed in Europe and the high position occupied by England among the nations would, he hoped, be ever maintained. As far as in him lay he would always devote himself to further the cause of peace and good will.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Runciman in answer to a question relating to the safety of Caid Maclean said that the English Government was exercising pressure on the Moroccan Government with regard to the necessity of making the greatest exertions to obtain the release of Maclean. They had, moreover, warned the Moroccan Government to avoid taking any steps which might endanger the personal safety of Maclean.

COAL STRIKE IN SCOTLAND.

Some 500 to 600 miners of the Celty coal mines, the largest in Scotland, have stopped work. It was expected that at least 1,100 men would be idle yesterday. The struggle seems likely to extend to all the Fifeshire coal fields.

MUTINY IN AN IRISH GAOL.

A serious mutiny has broken out among the prisoners in the gaol at Maryborough, Queens County.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE U. S. AND JAPAN.

According to a report from Tokio the Japanese Admiral Sakamoto has declared to a reporter of the opposition journal *Hotshi Shimbun* that if hostilities should break out between Japan and America the result would be in doubt owing to the lack of a suitable base of operations. Such bases as existed at present were too far apart from each other for practical purposes, even those which were most contiguous.

The Admiral is said to have stated further that even if the Washington Government should decide on war it was doubtful whether Americans serving in the fleet were patriotic enough to fight. American officers made brilliant figures at balls and social functions, but they were quite inefficient at manoeuvres as they would be in serious fighting. It would be expecting too much to demand ardent patriotism from the American fleet in a war against Japan.

[The latter part of the worthy Admiral's statement seems so extraordinary that it must be repeated with all reserve. That an officer should insult the officers of the U. S. Navy is quite incredible, and we do not believe for a moment that he has been correctly reported. Ed.]

THE MAGDALENA BAY REPORT.

The State Department has issued an official announcement that when American war ships go to Magdalena Bay every six months for gunnery trials a hulk will be anchored there filled with coal by a contractor. Mexico has consented to this: The matter has nothing to do with any acquisition of territory.

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR TO GO TO GAOL.

Mr. Schmitz, Mayor of San Francisco, has been found guilty of blackmail, and has been sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment.

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NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE CHAMBER AND THE MUTINY IN THE ARMY.

During Monday's sitting of the Chamber M. Raiborti (Radical Republican) protested against the mutineers of the 17th Infantry Regiment being allowed to remain with the colours after the departure of their comrades.

M. Clémenceau replied that the Law touching such matters permitted favour being shown to the soldiers in question, which could not be shown to mutineers.

M. Raiborti ascribed the slackness of discipline to the fact that men who had transgressed against the common law remained in the army.

General Picquart stated that the soldiers of 1903 would be discharged on their return to their garrisons, but the men necessary to preserve order in the South would remain with the colours. These soldiers would not be unfairly treated since the law demanded of them an actual two years' service.

M. Jaurès complained that the Government was asking the Chamber to rescind its decision without having national or military interests as their excuse.

After M. Clémenceau had energetically protested against the discharge of the mutineers of the 17th Regiment, and after he had been violently attacked by M. Jaurès, the proposal of M. Lafferre (Radical) the repeal of Article 3, which excepts the mutineers for the discharge, was rejected.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

Before the time allowed for bringing in new proposals expired, a great many such were introduced.

THE MOROCCAN CRISIS.

The news, which reached Fez on July 4th, of the capture of Maclean caused great sensation there; the Maghzen promised to take all requisite steps but requested that no warlike demonstrations might be made by land or sea, since such demonstrations would only make Maclean's situation worse.

The French Chargé d'Affaires in conjunction with the English Legation has already taken steps to negotiate with the tribe with which Raisuli is at present.

Raisuli, however, from fear that his interests may be endangered, is said to have sought another refuge and consequently negotiations are more difficult.

THE UNREST IN CHINA.

The Governor of Anhui, Nyanhwei, has succumbed to his wounds. He was shot by the Director of Police of Nanking and some students at the moment he was about to enter a school. Of several shots which were fired at him, three caused mortal wounds. The Director of Police was seized and beheaded on the spot.

LONDON LETTERS.

(From our correspondent.)

OLYMPIAN BUSINESS.

London, July 6.

It may not be generally understood in our busy days, which leave most of us so little time to think, that the English word "business" has a most curious history. In the course of centuries it has undergone many changes both in spelling and signification, changes so numerous, in fact, that Dr. Murray devotes more than a whole closely printed page to this word in his great Oxford Dictionary of the English language.

Glancing through his amazing columns of large and small print one cannot help noticing that "business" has meant one thing at one period, and another subsequently. Its chameleon-like quick-change mobility is verily astonishing. In fact, I do not know of any other word in the language to equal it in that respect.

But the most extraordinary thing about it is that "business" has long since lost its meaning of the state of being busy. So, a person may be very busy, and yet have no business! Nor does this imply a *contradictio in terminis*.

The versatility of the more modern meanings of "business" explains in greater part the popularity of the word. It is such a beautiful word, it can be used in so many different ways, some more pleasant than others, to be sure, but all to the point. Is it not thoroughly businesslike to send a naughty and useless person about his or her business? Can the injunction be formulated plainer, terser, than in: "go about your business"? When we mean "business", we say it in such forcible language as: "We will do your business for you," or: "We will make it *our* business to settle *yours*!" Impossible to be more explicit. Every English-speaking person grasps that fully, instantaneously. And when we mournfully exclaim that our "business" is over, we can do so with the complete consciousness that nobody will misunderstand us.

The most hateful side of "business" is that we, in modern England, are apt to turn everything into it, even pleasure, and the "business of pleasure" is the saddest "business" of all, much sadder, much more saddening at any rate, than the "business of religion" for instance, that "business", to which the poet Parnell referred in his *Hermit* when he sang that his recluse made

"Prayer all his business".

Was that the sort of "business" which Pope meant, when he wrote that some men to "business" take, others to pleasure? Or had he in his mind the "business" of one of Dryden's "heroes":

"Of seeing arms to make a short essay,

"Then hasten to be drunk, the business of the day"?

Your readers must excuse my short excursion "on business". I was almost unwittingly forced into it, when visiting the Business Exhibition at Olympia which been promoted by the Organiser Publishing and Exhibition Company (Limited) under distinguished and powerful patronage, and will remain open for a full week longer. Its aims and its scope have been fairly explained, a few days ago by Mr. E. D. Robbins, chairman of the Organiser Exhibition Company, who, speaking at the inaugural luncheon, said: When it was proposed by one or two business men that we should hold an exhibition which would include various labour-saving devices, office equipment, business systems, advertising methods, and all the various aids for the betterment of commerce, I am afraid those gentlemen did not fully realise the important aspect which the project would assume. Most of us know that business exhibitions have for many years been a feature peculiar to the United States, and we have it on the authority of many of our Transatlantic friends that they have done much that has helped to the perfect organisation and the advanced methods of business promotion for which the Americans are famous. The American business man, however, is an old friend and an old competitor. We copy a great many of his methods, and, although some of us do not fully realise it, they copy a great deal from us. We realise, too, that their ways and the conditions of trade in this country are vastly different from those which obtain here, and, perhaps, the 3,000 miles which separate us make us a little less jealous of their internal organisation than we are of those countries which are nearer home, and which can more readily invade our markets.