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English and American newspapers.
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A STATION-MASTER'S FATE.

At the railway station Haren, near Ems, on Tuesday the station-master slipped and fell in front of an incoming train, was run over and killed.

GREAT STRIKE IN SICILY.

On the owners of the Sicilian sulphur mines declaring their inability, in consequence of the prevailing crisis in the market, to continue paying the present rate of wages, the whole of the 40,000 men employed in the mines struck work. Disturbances are feared.

OUTBREAK OF TYPHUS.

Numerous cases of typhus have occurred in Magdeburg. In a provision store, where a member of the family had been taken ill of the fever, the whole stock of provisions was destroyed by the police.

A BOLD THIEF.

At Salzburg on Tuesday a police official named Löschler arrested a youth on a charge of stealing 150 kronen and took the money from him. On the way to the lock-up the prisoner struck Löschler on the head with a stone, fracturing his skull, regained possession of the money and escaped. As yet he has not been re-captured.

CHANNEL SWIMS.

RECORD EFFORT BY HOLBEIN.

A *Globe* correspondent sent the following account of the repeated endeavour to swim the channel, from Dover on Monday last.

After a magnificent effort, in which he had covered over twenty miles in 7 1/4 hours, and was in a very fine position for successfully accomplishing his cross-channel swim, Montagu Holbein was compelled to leave the water at 12.15 a. m. today, owing to severe illness.

Holbein started from Cape Grisnez under most favourable conditions at five o'clock yesterday afternoon, and was given a good send off by many French people who had gathered on the cliffs, as well as by the large party on the accompanying vessels, the London tug "Premier" and the motor-boat "Napier Major". From the start Holbein swam with a speed that surprised many of his friends, and he was making an average of two miles an hour direct on his course. He was swimming quite a half-mile an hour faster each hour than on the occasion of his great effort when, after 22 1/2 hours, he so nearly achieved his object, failing within a half-mile of the shore.

He still sticks to the back stroke, but has adopted a striking variation which gives him this additional speed; the arms are brought up the chest and in the long semi-circular movement above the head and back to the sides, and instead of kicking at the same time, the powerful kick with its propeller-like action follows as the arms touch the sides. This stroke he continued with mechanical precision, hour after hour, making progress that delighted everyone. The tide was running fiercely around Cape Grisnez, and its effect was felt for a mile or two out, but after that it was not very strong, and the amount of eastward drift on the four hours of the flood tide was not more than five miles.

About a quarter to seven the South Foreland light came up, and within a few minutes the Grisnez and Calais lights were flashing out over the Channel. The night was clear and starlight, with an easterly breeze that just broke the sea, but not sufficiently to bother Holbein, who never minds a little sea. The temperature of the water just under the French shore was 64, but in the open channel it was two degrees less, and as the night wore on there was a further drop to 60. Some difficulty was found in steering the swimmer in the darkness, as he did not like the flash of the acetylene searchlight in his eyes; but eventually, on Holbein's suggestion, a very good method was adopted. The "Napier Major" kept a course on the port quarter of the tug, and the searchlight was flashed on to the motor boat, which Holbein, plugging away on his back, could always keep in sight and ahead of. By eight o'clock the long stretches of sea front lights at Dover and Folkestone were clearly discernible. Bearings taken at nine showed Holbein to be seven miles direct on his course, and he was still swimming wonderfully well.

To be Let or Sold.
Good Furniture

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Young English woman requires situation as Nursery governess in German family. Can speak French. Good Testimonials. Address D. 55 Office of this paper.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

Today closed.

Tomorrow, Friday, at 7 p.m.

Tannhäuser.

OPERA HOUSE.

Saturday: Die Schönen von Fogaras. 7.30 p.m.

Sunday, September 8th: Die Schönen von Fogaras. 7.30 p.m.

Monday, September 9th: Aïda. 7.30 p.m.

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23 Waisenhaus Strasse 23

opposite Victoria Salon.

Special Linen House for Americans.

ROYAL THEATRE.

NEUSTADT.

Closed till September 14.

Sunday, September 15: Iphigenie auf Tauris.

Monday, September 16: Geographie und Liebe.

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Prager Strasse 13
 corner of Ferdinand Str.
 Telephone 9688.

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Closed till September 13

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G. A. Klemm, Augustus Strasse.

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See Strasse 10.

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BRITISH AND AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BRITISH LEGATION: Wiener Strasse 38.

Minister Resident: Mansfeldt de Cardonnel Findlay, Esq. C. M. G.

THE BRITISH CONSULATE: Altmärkt 16.

British Consul: H. Palmié, Esq.

THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL: Am-

mon Strasse 2, p.

American Consul General: T. St. John Gaffney, Esq.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Rather strong westerly winds, dull, rainy, cool.

It has been usual on his past Channel attempts for swimmers to take turn in accompanying him during the night portion of the swim, but on this occasion he had no company in the water a any time. He chatted with his friends on board the tug from time to time, and on one occasion mentioned that the sea water had got into his goggles, which were in a mask affixed to his face. The salt water irritated his eyes somewhat. A striking and rather weird effect was given to the swimmer when he passed through patches of phosphorescent water. As he struck out the phosphorus shimmered all over and around his body, so that the swimmer stood out in bold relief from the surrounding dark water, his outline being picked out in an unearthly-looking blue white light. For a considerable distance this occurred, and it was a strange sight to see him apparently suddenly disappear as he cleared one of these patches of phosphorus, when only the "wake" created on the dark sea by his powerful strokes enabled the watchers to catch sight of him again until their eyes got accustomed to the change.

Bearings taken at 10.30 showed Holbein to have covered no less than 11 miles on his direct course. The news seemed almost too good to be true. The position was the finest Holbein has ever been in after so few hours swimming, and no Channel swimmer has done better mileage in the time.

During the next hour, however, he was unfortunately attacked by severe sickness and other stomach trouble. He gamely struggled on, and various remedies were tried, including a little brandy about midnight, but his illness was so severe that the gallant fellow had at a quarter past twelve to sorrowfully admit his inability to continue the swim, and he was got aboard the tug. The final bearings showed him to be 9 1/2 miles off the South Foreland, and his position was such a fine one that there is no reasonable doubt the swim would have been completed in record time but for his unfortunate illness, which was no doubt brought about by swallowing a quantity of sea water.

SATURDAY'S FAILURES.

The three attempts to swim the Channel on Saturday by J. Wolfe, William Stearne, and E. Heaton were all unsuccessful. Stearne found his eyes giving him much trouble, and had to abandon the swim after just over four hours and a half. Wolfe, with a rough broken sea and strong wind, found it impossible to continue when within four miles of Cape Grisnez, having swum and drifted 25 miles in 9 hr. 39 min. Heaton at the end of the tenth hour decided to give up; his position then was two miles on the French side of the Varne Bank and ten miles from the English coast. He had covered about 20 miles.

SEQUEL TO A SILLY WAGER.

In Breslau, during the absence of their employer, a number of young men began making bets with one another. One of them (says the *Chronicle*) made a wager that he would remain longer inside the office safe than any of his companions. The wager was accepted, and one after another squeezed into the safe, remaining there until nearly suffocated for want of fresh air. At last came the turn of the man who had made the wager. The door was snapped to. After a few moments he was heard tapping to be released, but, to the consternation of those outside, it was discovered that the man inside had the safe key in his pocket. He was heard struggling and shrieking. It was suddenly remembered that the employer had another key. He was hastily summoned, and the imprisoned man released. He was found to be insensible, his clothes torn to tatters in the paroxysm of his terror. It is doubtful if he will recover, his brain being seriously affected.

THE VIKINGS' SONGS OF LOVE AND WAR.

The guests of King Haakon were moved to tears, the *Violin Times* says, during a recent entertainment at the palace when the ancient music of the Vikings was played to them by a minstrel. The occasion was a State banquet in honour of the King and Queen of Denmark. Strange forgotten melodies were played on the "langleik", the crude guitar of the Norsemen, by one Halden, who is a direct descendant of King Harald Haarfagre. "His instrument, a rough wooden, box-like thing, with coarse strings, is 300 years old. At his touch it produced the wild melodies of the Vikings' songs of love and war handed down from generation to generation."