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10 PFENNIGS.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT.

During the present week the Emperor and Empress of Germany are the guests of King Edward and of the British nation, and though the visit is not of a strictly political character it is to be hoped, and even expected, that by this meeting of Sovereigns the series of understandings achieved during the past year will be brought to a memorable conclusion. Germany and England are rivals, it is true, in commerce, in shipping, in armaments, in national rigour and national pride; but rivals are not of necessity enemies, and we look to this meeting and to the stay of the Emperor in the Isle of Wight for the removal of that atmosphere of discomfort and misunderstanding which has of late hung a cloud over the two Countries. We are convinced that in the case of Germany and England there can be no great racial antipathy; there is not, as was the case with France, an antipathy, real or fostered, handed down from generation to generation and from statesman to statesman; there is not, as was the case with Spain, the justification of a critical struggle in the history of both nations. Yet it must be confessed that English feeling towards France and Spain, old rivals and enemies, has for a long time been more frank, more cordial, more warm than towards the German people who are nearer to them in language, race and national character than either France or Spain. For so anomalous a political phenomenon there must be some specific cause, some appreciable motive. Rivalry may certainly breed enmity, but the feeling of rivalry may also be guided into other channels. It is not a new, but it is a profoundly wise dictum, none the less, that there is room for both Germany and England in the world if only Germany and England would set themselves resolutely to understand and appreciate each other's greatness and their own limitations.

What then are the lessons to be learnt? Germany is only just becoming a great State, but the Germans have already for centuries been a great nation—great in their instincts and ideas. They have suffered from every kind of historical handicap; they have lacked unity, leadership, concordance, order; but since mediaeval times they have displayed what is still the hall-mark of their greatness—a grasp of ideas, a power to put idealism into practice. Carlyle and Matthew Arnold taught Englishmen something of the vast intellectual vitality at the root of the German people, and wherever the German language is read or German thought studied the readiest tribute is paid to the pre-eminent standing of German science and culture. But while Germany has thus developed its intellectual supremacy, it has not failed to feel the effect of a vicious political system, both as it expresses itself in the application of the Imperial idea and in the survival of the political aspect of feudalism. Germany has still the task of completing its unification; more than that, it has the task of meeting its socialist populations by some drastic remedy in the social system: these problems are its historical legacies, the fruits of centuries of discussion and petty tyranny. Yet with these great issues at stake Germany is restless and discontented at home; here perhaps more than in any other European country, except France, in her normal mood, patriotism and chauvinism are becoming indistinguishable; Germany, which has graver problems at home than it can contemplate with comfort, has small justification in increasing its armaments beyond the necessities of pure defence, and small claim to colonial expansion. That this is realized in England there can be no question, and we feel that there would be no mischief if such ideas were voiced in the right spirit of impartial criticism. Unfortunately, in a number of regrettable instances, the tone adopted on both sides of the North Sea has been anything but impartial or amicable; the masses of people who have no opportunities of judging political issues have been guided by inflammatory demagogues, and through some strange trick of incongruity, with which history is not unfamiliar, the rancour of the lower classes has tainted the judgment of the upper. Without this, England has had prejudices to overcome on the Continent. Since Canning told Europe that England's policy was the pursuit of her own interests, her professions of disinterestedness, honesty, altruism have been constantly challenged, and the basest hypocrisy of motive has been attributed from many quarters. This feeling, which reached its climax as recently

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as the South African War, has disappeared, or is rapidly disappearing, everywhere except in Germany; and the persistency with which the prejudice continues here must cause pain to good patriots in both countries.

This is not the occasion for recriminations. We can only repeat that causes are not wanting in Germany or in England for so unnatural a phenomenon. In so far as those who influence public opinion will be silenced by the circumstance of the Emperor's visit, we welcome it as a political event of some significance. On the personal side the visit of their Majesties is sure to be successful in the fullest sense. Their Majesties are deservedly popular with the English people, not only on the ground of their close kinship to King Edward but by reason of their own personal distinction. The energy and the many accomplishments of the Emperor are a popular topic of conversation; indeed his vigour and versatile ability are accepted, among thinking Englishmen, as national characteristics no less than as individual traits. The Empress, too, has always been rightly respected as the highest expression of the true German woman, loyal, devoted, simple. There is therefore an ample basis on which to build a better understanding, and we sincerely hope for this result from a visit to which Englishmen have long been looking forward.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

Messages from Portsmouth state that, owing to the fog, the "Hohenzollern" anchored at Cape Selsey Bill during Sunday night.

The destroyer "Teviot", with the Naval Attaché of the German Embassy in London on board, left Portsmouth to try and ascertain the whereabouts of the German flotilla. On account of the dense fog enveloping the Solent, traffic between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth was entirely suspended. Many men on furlough from the Channel Fleet were unable to rejoin their ships.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra, with various members of the Royal Family have left Sandringham for Windsor.

Portsmouth, November 11, 10 a. m.

A dense fog hangs over the Solent and will be likely to delay the arrival of the German squadron. The cruiser "Topaze" has been sent out to endeavour to locate the ships. The "Hohenzollern" and escorting warships will probably not arrive at Spithead until the weather clears.

Later it was ascertained that the Imperial yacht was lying at anchor off the Nab lightship.

The Prince of Wales, together with Lord Roberts, Admiral Lambton and Colonel de Lisle of the 1st Dragoon Regiment,—of which the Kaiser is honorary colonel—also Lord Acton, have arrived at Portsmouth to meet the Kaiser. Communication was later effected with the "Hohenzollern." The arrival is expected at 2.45 p. m. Two guards of honour are mounted at the landing stage, and naval, military and municipal personages are all gathered for the Kaiser's reception.

The Emperor arrived at Portsmouth shortly after noon yesterday and subsequently left for Windsor at 2.30 p. m. accompanied by the Prince of Wales and other high personages.

The streets of London, on account of the preparations for receiving the German Emperor, present a totally unwonted aspect. Work is being pushed forward by night and day. Lamp posts and other erections have in some cases been removed, where they interfered with the scheme of decorations, while gloomy and unsightly buildings are transformed into things of beauty, being covered with floral garlands and flags of all nations, among which the German colours are given place of honour. Along the route which will be followed

The Finest Habana Cigars, English cigarettes and tobacco. L. Wolf, Prager Str. 48.