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# The Daily Record

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## GENERAL NEWS.

### NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

#### THE ROYAL VISIT TO GERMANY.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales left London yesterday for Germany.

#### THE LATE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE. TRIBUTES IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer, paid a warm tribute to the late Duke of Devonshire in the House of Commons on Tuesday, acknowledging the lofty character of the deceased nobleman and the loss to England of one of her greatest statesmen. Mr. Balfour joined with the Chancellor in eulogising the late Duke.

Similar tributes of respect were paid in the House of Lords by the Marquis of Ripon, the Lord Privy Seal, also by the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord Rosebery. Subsequently the House adjourned as a mark of respect and mourning.

#### THE PRIME MINISTER'S HEALTH.

A bulletin issued in London early yesterday morning stated that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman passed a good night with invigorating sleep, but that he was very weak. The general condition of the patient gives rise to serious anxiety.

#### THE MISSING NAVAL CAPTAIN FOUND.

The Times reports from St. Thomas (W. I.) that the cruiser "Scylla" discovered its missing commander, Captain McLachlan, on Friday afternoon, some thirty knots to the westward, and returned to St. Thomas in the evening. The small boat when found was water-logged, and the commander himself in a very exhausted condition.

#### THE PORTENTS OF SPRING.

It is pleasant to read in an English paper that wild strawberries and violets are in bloom at Headley, Hampshire, and that at Ascot a thrush's nest containing four eggs has been found. Paragraphs such as these, however, are apt to produce the pangs of *Heimweh* in even the most hardened breast, and to awaken an echo of the Indian exile's plaint: "Give me but one day in England, for it's Spring in England now."

#### FIRE AT DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The stage of Drury Lane Theatre was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The prompt action of the employés in letting down the fire-proof curtain saved the rest of the theatre from destruction.

### NEWS FROM AMERICA.

#### THE ATLANTIC FLEET'S HOMEWARD VOYAGE.

A Washington despatch announces that China's invitation to the Atlantic Fleet has been accepted. At the same time, the Cabinet decided that no further invitations could be entertained.

#### THE EXPLOSION IN CHILL.

Official advices from Santiago de Chili state that the explosion in the powder-factory at Batuco resulted in the complete destruction of the establishment. Four lives were lost, and 13 people sustained injuries. The neighbouring villages received only slight damage.

#### GOULD BEATS LATHAM AT TENNIS.

A telegram from New York states that in an exhibition game of tennis against Peter Latham, Mr. Jay Gould defeated the British professional champion by three games to one. The ease with which the young American disposed of Latham created great surprise, and is looked upon as a bad augury for the chances of Mr. Eustace Miles, the British amateur champion, who is now in America for the purpose of attempting to recover the championship honours which he lost to Mr. Gould last year.

#### THE GERMAN-ITALIAN ENTENTE.

In a leading article on the German-Italian amities at Venice, the Roman journal *Tribuna* remarks, apropos of the Triple Alliance, that the German Emperor is a true ally and friend of Italy,

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and a monarch for whom Italians have affection and admiration.

King Victor Emmanuel, accompanied by Foreign Minister Tittoni, and his suite, left Rome at 7 o'clock on Tuesday evening for Venice. His Majesty intended to remain at Venice until today, returning to Rome this evening.

Later advices state that the Emperor and Empress of Germany, Prince August Wilhelm and Princess Victoria Louise, accompanied by their suite, arrived at Venice yesterday morning at 11.30 o'clock, and were met at the station by the King of Italy and high officials. The meeting between the monarchs was of a most affectionate nature, the heartiest embraces being exchanged.

In spite of the inclement weather, Venice has assumed a gala aspect, and from every balcony and window hang the German and Italian colours. The Press is unanimous in expressing its satisfaction at the meeting of the monarchs and in welcoming the Emperor as an honoured guest. It is, moreover, agreed that this meeting will do much towards drawing the two nations together in the mutual effort to maintain the peace of Europe.

#### PRINCE BÜLOW ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

##### SIGNIFICANT SPEECH.

On Tuesday last Prince Bülow delivered a significant speech in the *Reichstag* on foreign affairs, touching first on the Moroccan question. In this connexion the Imperial Chancellor said that the French Government could not reproach the German Government with a pedantic interpretation of the Algeciras Acts, but that Germany expected that France, on her part, would acknowledge and observe in a friendly and pacific manner the said Acts; that Germany, moreover, would see that her economic interests in Morocco were not

disregarded. With reference to the Macedonian question, the Prince said that the cruelties committed in Macedonia, by Christians as well as by Mahomedans, are certainly a blow in the face of European civilisation and present day humanity. "But," continued the Prince, "far more intolerable to me seems the thought that on account of the sanguinary strife in the Villayets a sanguinary war should break out among the Powers. I believe that this view prevails in all the Cabinets and, therefore, it is to be hoped that the European Concert will be maintained, even if on several points of the programme differences of opinion remain to be adjusted." In the further course of his speech, Prince Bülow spoke at length on the question of the letter which the Emperor had addressed to Lord Tweedmouth, and said: "For reasons of discretion, due to both the writer and the addressee of a private letter, I am not in a position to read this letter to you *in extenso*, and I may add that I extremely regret my inability to do so, for this letter could be read by every one of us, by every sincere advocate of good relations between Germany and Great Britain, and be endorsed both as regards form and contents. It was a private letter and it was, at the same time, a political letter—the one does not exclude the other by any means—and a Sovereign's letter does not become an act of the Crown by reason of its touching upon political questions. This does not constitute the first political-private letter of a Sovereign, and our Emperor is not the first Sovereign who has addressed to a foreign minister a communication of political import, but which is not subject to public control.... It is an example of unjustifiable distortion when it is asserted that the Emperor's letter to Lord Tweedmouth was an attempt to influence a minister responsible for the English Naval Budget in favour of Germany, and that it represented an interference in the internal affairs of the British Empire. Our Emperor is the very last to believe that the patriotism of an English minister would allow of his accepting foreign counsels with regard to the nature of the English Naval Budget.... In questions concerning the defence of the home country all peoples decline foreign interference, and have only regard for their own safety and their own interests. It is this right of self-assertion and self-defence which Germany is using when it is building a fleet in order to protect its coasts and its commerce. This purely defensive character of our naval programme and policy cannot, in view of the continued attempts to attribute to us aggressive intentions and plans against England, be too often or too loudly enunciated. We wish to live on terms of tranquillity and peace with England, and, therefore, feel it all the more bitterly when a section of the English Press again talks of the "German Danger"; albeit the English fleet is vastly superior to ours, albeit other countries have stronger fleets than ours and are equally energetic in augmenting the same. And yet it is always Germany and nobody but Germany against whom public opinion in England is excited by ruthless and invidious polemic. It would be in the interests of the pacification of both countries and, consequently, in the interests of universal pacification, were this polemic to cease. Just as we do not deny England the right to maintain the standard of her fleet at that measure which her responsible statesmen consider requisite for the maintenance of her naval supremacy, so we cannot be blamed when we express the wish that our building of warships is not construed into a challenge to England.... It would have been a matter for great regret if the intentions and plans which guided the Emperor in writing this letter had been falsely interpreted in England. I can state with great satisfaction that such attempts at misrepresentation in England have been almost unanimously repulsed. Gentlemen, I think that the distinguished manner in which the English Parliament has treated this question will contribute much towards preventing a disturbance of the friendly relations between Germany and England."

#### THE JOURNALISTS AND THE REICHSTAG.

The matter of the journalists' refusal to report proceedings in the *Reichstag* was settled late on Tuesday evening, when the journalists held a meeting and adopted, by 70 votes against two, the fol-

(Continued on page 2.)