

Berlin Office:
W., Potsdamer
Strasse 10/11.
Telephone:
VI 1079.

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Dresden Office:
A., Struve
Strasse 5, I.
Telephone:
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ENGLAND AND THE CZAR.

Now that the visit of King Edward to the Czar is over and the critical voices have perforce grown silent, a new problem faces the conscientious public in England. It is becoming a debateable point of the first importance whether or not it would be fitting that the Czar shall pay a visit to England. Not all those who supported the Reval meeting in the interests of international peace can find it in their hearts to acquiesce in giving the Czar a public welcome in England; in other words, the condition of internal affairs in Russia, while it does not prevent them from desiring to secure an advantage for their own country, certainly prevents them from desiring Russia to reap her share of benefits. Assuming, for the sake of argument, that England entered on the Convention with the ultimate idea of securing her safety in the Middle East and that Russia entered upon it with the ultimate idea of securing her credit in Europe, the two nations are so closely bound to aid one another in achieving their respective tasks as to render an interchange of Royal visits a fitting complement to diplomatic negotiations. Can any reasonable distinction, therefore, be drawn between the visit of King Edward to Reval and the visit (supposing it to be consummated) of the Czar to London? And, if one has acquiesced in the visit of King Edward in the interests of peace, is one justified in objecting to the visit of the Czar in the interests of humanity? In a word, once you have agreed to have amicable relations between the two nations, where are you justified in drawing the line? Let us further assume that the Czar embodies in his personal policy the most repulsive features of the Russian autocratic system; does it therefore follow from the visit to England, more than from the Convention and more than from the Reval meeting, that this system will receive a tacit sanction and that injustice, blood-shed and tyranny will continue to defile the Russian throne?

All these points, and much more besides are raised in the interesting letter from Mr. G. M. Trevelyan printed in last Tuesday's *Times*. As the nephew of Lord Macaulay and the panegyrist of Garibaldi, no less than as the champion of Cromwell, Mr. Trevelyan has emphatically the right to speak on behalf of struggling constitutions and personal liberty; but he unfortunately reproves without advising. He declares himself satisfied with the improvement in Anglo-Russian relations and he states his adherence to the policy of Lord Lansdowne and Sir Edward Grey; only he deprecates carrying the friendship with Russia "beyond the point of moderation" and he asks Englishmen to refrain from welcoming the Czar because their welcome would not in any sense cause the persons imprisoned for their political tendencies to be released or forward the growth of constitutionalism. Mr. Trevelyan sets out to describe the Russian system of government, as he puts it, "not by adjectives but by statistics," and certainly leads thoughtful people into some perplexity by his disturbing calculations. Nevertheless, with all respect to Mr. Trevelyan's zeal for justice and the correctness of his computations, we think him guilty of misconceiving the facts at his disposal by putting them into their present connexion. Mr. Trevelyan considers the Czar a tyrant, and, for ten thousand reasons, he may be right; at the same time he considers it essential for England and Russia to be on good terms. What bearing has the Czar's personal disposition in politics on international relations? Not to receive the Czar in London, or to receive him icily, would be to strike a blow at the good feeling which the Reval meeting has created in Russia; to receive him as the representative of the Russian nation, not as the representative of the bureaucracy, is the natural course. It is not the personality of an Ambassador but the character of his nation that is of vital importance in diplomacy; and so long as it is possible to believe that the Russian nation wishes to aid England in assisting her to maintain peace, there is every reason to pursue any plan of action likely to draw the respective Governments closer to one another. Mr. Trevelyan shrinks from specious excuses, from panegyrics of the Czar, from over-estimating the force of public opinion in Russia. Mr. Trevelyan may rest assured that all

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peace-loving men shrink from these things as much as he does. He is, however, haunted by the spectre of a re-habilitated autocracy waging war on the world, as it did before the Japanese War, and by the fear that all the moderate party are in Siberia. This is to argue that the Revolutionary party will drop down powerless as soon as the British people cheers the Emperor Nicholas in London. But the fact is that the relations between the two States do not, and cannot, imply any interference with the home politics of either. Russia is badly governed, but Russia is not Macedonia; it is so big and so powerful that no nation can dictate terms to its Minister of the Interior; it is still so formidable that no nation can afford to ignore its friendship. Nothing could be more preposterous than to raise the names of King "Bomba" or to recall the policy of Canning in the Near East. We are not yet living in a political millennium which would allow a high-minded people to snub a powerful Empire because the latter does not follow the methods of justice. If the Czar goes to England it will be not to ask approval for his home policy, but to clinch the understanding arrived at in the Convention, and to complete the significance—the international significance, neither more nor less—of the Reval meeting.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, June 25.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Sir Edward Grey, read to the House some despatches from the British Chargé d'Affaires in Teheran with reference to the recent disturbances. Sir Edward Grey added that on the 23rd instant the British and Russian representatives had sent their dragomans to the Shah, to remind him of the assurances given by him last December, and to suggest to him that he should issue a proclamation notifying that it was not his wish to abrogate the Constitution. They had also urged upon him to take measures to maintain order and to protect the Europeans. The Shah had in reply given the fullest assurances as desired, and had ordered special protection for the telegraph lines and for the Imperial bank of Persia. The British and the Russian Governments had instructed their representatives to warn Zill es Sultan that he must not intrigue against the Throne, and to inform the Shah that no hostile action against the Constitution would find support from their Governments.

COLONIAL EX-PREMIER'S DEATH.

St. John's, Newfoundland, June 24.

Sir William Whiteway, ex-Premier of Newfoundland, died here this morning in his 82nd year.

Sir William was the youngest son of the late Mr. Thomas Whiteway, of Buckey, Devonshire, and married in 1862 Mary, daughter of the Rev. J. Lightbourne, and secondly Catherine Anne, daughter of Mr. W. H. Davis. He was called to the Newfoundland Bar in 1852, and was Speaker of the House of Assembly from 1865 to 1869, Solicitor-General 1873-1878, Premier and Attorney-General 1878-1885, and from 1889 to 1897.

PAN-ANGLICAN THANK-OFFERING.

The amount of the Pan-Anglican Congress thank-offering is £333,208. This amount includes the following sums: England and Wales, £257,122; Scotland, £5,599; Ireland, £4,939; the Army, £394;

English Colonial dioceses, £63,695; American dioceses, £1,455.

CANADIAN CATTLE EMBARGO.

The news of the renewal of the agitation in Great Britain for the removal of the embargo on Canadian cattle, reports the *Standard* from Ottawa, is not attracting much attention, pending some authoritative announcement showing that the British Government are beginning to change their views in favour of reversing their present policy. Canada is still as anxious as ever to secure the removal of the embargo; but she has no intention of repeating a request which has been several times refused already by the British Government. A formal statement made in the Dominion Parliament recently contained a declaration by Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, that it was both futile and undignified to send another deputation from Canada to urge the British Government to change their apparently settled policy. Canada is taking the dignified action of waiting for some invitation from the British Government to re-open negotiations, the last reply of the latter having been couched in final terms.

CAPITAL IN NEW ZEALAND.

Reuter reports from Wellington (N.Z.), that, speaking at Napier, Mr. Millar, Minister of Labour, contradicted the statements that Labour legislation was driving capital from the country. In support of his argument, he showed that in 1901 the sum of £8,500,000 was invested in land, buildings, and machinery connected with manufactures, while in 1906 the amount was £12,500,000.

Interviewed by a representative of the *Auckland Herald* at Kawhia with regard to the business of the coming session, Sir J. G. Ward, the Premier, hoped that some legislation of very great importance would be placed in the Statute-book. The Conciliation and Arbitration Acts amendments were necessarily important, but he was unable to give the details before submitting them to Parliament. The proposed legislation would, however, be in the direction of ensuring the maintenance of the system of carrying on industrial work by a peaceful process, instead of one of complication and trouble.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN INDIA.

Bombay, June 26.

A serious accident has occurred on the Bombay-Baroda line. An express train ran into a goods train near Baroda, and many of the passenger coaches caught fire. There were many lives lost, but the number cannot be ascertained until the bodies have been got out of the ruins.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

FATAL EXPLOSION.

Chicago, June 25.

An explosion took place today in a chemist's store on the ground-floor of a house the upper storeys of which were occupied as a lodging house. A fire ensued with fatal results, five people being killed and 20 injured.

MME. ANNA GOULD'S MARRIAGE.

The bans of marriage of the Prince de Sagan and Mme. Anna Gould were published lately at the Mairie of the Seventh Arrondissement of Paris.

Mme. Anna Gould was formerly the wife of Count Boni de Castellane, from whom she obtained a divorce. Count Boni de Castellane and the Prince de Sagan are cousins.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, June 26.

The *St. Petersburg Tel. Agency* publishes a detailed account of the occurrences in Persia. It describes in the main the events already known, and attributes the chief blame of the revolution to Prince Zill es Sultan, who wished to seize the Throne. With regard to the attitude of the Russian and British Governments, the account runs: "The Russian Minister, after a conference with the British Chargé d'Affaires, conveyed to the Shah the wish of the moderate parties for a settlement of the trouble. The Shah demanded a

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