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## GENERAL NEWS.

### NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

#### THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, July 27.

In the course of today's sitting, Mr. J. A. Pease, replying on behalf of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to a question concerning the sinking of the British steamer "Knight Commander" by the Russians during the war with Japan, referred to Sir Edward Grey's statement on the 2nd of June last that the Russian Government had declined the proposal of the British Government that the matter should be referred to a Court of arbitration. The British Government had expressed its regret at that decision, and in an official communication had set forth the reasons why it was unable to accept the principles on which the Russian Government based its rejection of the British proposal.

Late in the evening the vote for the Foreign Office came on for discussion, the chief point being the situation in Macedonia. In reply to the remarks of several speakers on the Anglo-Russian convention, Sir Edward Grey said it was expressly stipulated that the convention should only apply to those parts of the world in which both the contracting parties were interested; it was not to affect any other foreign interests. With regard to the introduction of reforms, the British Government had from the beginning shown that it was their intention to act in concert with the other Powers concerned. At this moment the whole situation had been altered so that it was not possible for him to go into the details of the Macedonian question.

The chief cause of the difficulties in Macedonia had been the weakness of the Turkish Government, against which the other European Powers had from time to time protested. It was extraordinary that the protest of the Turkish army and the Mussulman population had not led to disorder but in a certain degree had produced security and quiet. It was also striking that, at the moment when the European Governments were making proposals for the suppression of the brigand bands, those bands should have disappeared. England welcomed the change in the situation, and he himself hoped that the Balkan States, as well as the other European Powers, would do their parts towards the continuance of the improvement. England's objects in Macedonia had never been political; her sympathies in the East were on the side of those who desired to introduce more freedom, more security, and more impartiality into the Government of their countries. He could only say that England would continue her efforts as vigilantly and earnestly as heretofore to secure good government in Macedonia and the other parts of Turkey. It was impossible for him at the present moment to speak of the way in which that end was to be attained. England welcomed the Constitution which had been given to Turkey, and the movement it had called forth among the Turkish people. England must continue to promote the further development of Macedonia, but for the present observe a sympathetic waiting attitude.

In a few remarks on general foreign policy Sir Edward Grey deprecated assertions that the aim of British policy was to isolate Germany. The history of the past 20 years proved that the attitude of England had not been opposed to the attainment of good relations. (Hear, Hear.) Formerly there had been constant friction between England and France, or between England and Russia. That state of things had been altered by the agreements with those Powers. It had been remarked that German policy did not depend on the creation of enmity between other Powers. He said emphatically that British policy did not aim at giving to the friendship with one Power a character hostile to any other Power, but England must be free to avow her friendships. It was not the object of those friendships to isolate any Power. England neither looked askance at the relations of Germany with her allies, nor did she regard those relations as directed against herself; just as little was it the intention of the agreement between England and France or of that between England and Russia to isolate Germany with respect to another Power.

At the conclusion of Sir Edward Grey's speech, which had been frequently interrupted by cheers, the vote for the Foreign Office was passed.

### ITALIAN ATHLETE'S GENEROSITY.

London, July 27.

Signor Dorando, the Italian athlete who is regarded as the moral winner of the great Marathon race and was accorded an enthusiastic ovation by the vast crowds in the Stadium on Friday afternoon, has issued an announcement to the effect that as the English people are desirous of seeing him he has entered into an engagement to appear at one of the largest music-halls in London. He emphatically declares, however, that he will not keep one penny of the salary offered him, as he intends to distribute this between the Charing Cross Hospital and the Italian Hospital in London.

### THE PEACE CONGRESS.

London, July 27.

Twenty-four members of the Peace Congress which is now holding its meetings in London were received today by the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace. His Majesty, in acknowledging an address in which he was referred to as the promoter of peace, bade the delegates welcome and said that nothing gave him more sincere satisfaction than the recognition that his efforts for the maintenance of peace among the nations had not been fruitless, and the consciousness of the generous appreciation which his endeavours had met with in England and abroad. Rulers could set themselves no higher aim than the promotion of a good understanding and cordial friendship among the nations. That was the surest and most direct means by which humanity could realize its highest ideal. That he might reach that end was his constant endeavour and prayer. He hoped that a blessing would rest on the work of the Peace Congress.

### M. FALLIERES AND THE CZAR.

Reval, July 27.

The French squadron passed Cape Dagerort this morning and was there met by a Russian torpedo flotilla, which accompanied it to Reval roadstead. The French fleet was greeted with a salute of 21 guns by the Russian battleships and cruisers, the salute being answered. The squadron then anchored, and a steam launch immediately left the Imperial yacht "Standart" bearing M. Dikoff, Minister of Marine, who greeted M. Fallières in the name of the Czar. The President then embarked with his suite in the launch and was conveyed to the "Standart." He was met at the accommodation ladder by the Czar who shook his hand warmly, and, after reviewing the guard of honour, the two rulers conversed for half an hour. The President's departure from the yacht was signalled by another salute of 21 guns. Shortly afterwards the Czar, accompanied by his suite and many high officers, paid a return visit to the President.

At the banquet in the evening on board the Imperial yacht the Czar, in drinking to the health of the President and to the renown and prosperity of France, thanked M. Fallières for his visit, which, said his Majesty, was regarded by the whole of Russia as a new proof of the sincere and unalterable friendship that bound Russia and France together. The visit would have the effect of knitting the bonds of that friendship more closely, and of showing afresh the good-will of both countries in vying with each other for the maintenance and establishment of the peace of the world.

President Fallières replied that he was happy to be there, able to strengthen with the Czar Nicholas the feelings of true and lasting friendship which united the two peoples. The alliance so happily concluded for the protection of their mutual interests had been consecrated by time; it was in Europe a guarantee for the balance of power, and would continue for the highest welfare of France and Russia. He was also convinced that the visit would confirm the fixed desire for peace in both countries. He drank to the health of the Czar, the Czarina, and the Imperial family, and to the greatness and happiness of Russia, the friend and ally of France.

### NEWS FROM FRANCE.

#### M. CLEMENCEAU'S DAUGHTER IN DANGER.

Paris, July 27.

The daughter of M. Clémenceau, the Prime Minister, is lying seriously ill with typhoid fever. Her condition is, in fact, regarded as hopeless.

### COUNT ZEPPELIN'S AIRSHIP.

Friedrichshafen, July 27.

The repairs to Count Zeppelin's airship are now nearly concluded, and the refilling of the gas reservoirs has commenced.

### THE SITUATION IN TURKEY.

Constantinople, July 27.

The amnesty granted by the Sultan is everywhere published and carried out in favour only of the "young Turks." Uncertainty exists with regard to other political prisoners, exiles, and refugees. From Saloniki and other Ionian towns it is reported that public safety is not at present endangered.

According to another telegram of the same date, great excitement prevailed in Stamboul on Monday, while in Pera and Galatz all was quiet. In Stamboul processions were formed and meetings held, and deputations were sent to the Porte. The publication of the general amnesty and the removal of the Minister of Marine did something to allay the excitement, but it now seems that the removal of the Yildiz "camarilla" is demanded.

A third and later telegram states that an Irade was issued on Monday evening, directing that the elections are to take place forthwith according to law for Constantinople and the suburbs; and this is said to have had a somewhat tranquillising effect. The streets of Stamboul, especially in the neighbourhood of the Porte, were crowded with thousands of people, who loudly cheered the Grand Vizier on his return from the Porte. The political prisoners had not yet been liberated, as other prisoners wished to be set free at the same time. Demonstrations were being made against the moderate newspapers.

### QUOD HOC SIBI VULT?

The Sunday number of the *New York Herald* (Paris Edition), relative to the points made by different nationalities at the Olympic Games, says: Scoring on a basis of five for a win, three for a second and one for a third, the United States made 114½ points. Great Britain comes second with 63 1-3 points, and Sweden is third with 12½ points. The others in order are: Canada 11, South Africa and Greece 8, Norway 5, Germany 4, Italy 3, Hungary 2 1-3, and Australasia 1.

The Sunday number of the *Daily Mail* (Paris edition), relative to the same subject, says: The final results of the Olympic Games are as follows:—

	Points
United Kingdom	38
United States	22
Sweden	7
France	4
Hungary	3
Germany	2
Norway	2
Canada	2
Italy	2
Belgium	1
South Africa	1
Finland	1

It is only necessary to add that time-honoured journalistic phrase,—comment is superfluous.

### YOUNG, BUT NOW OLD, WARRIORS.

The death at Meienheim, in Alsace, of a Strasburg printer, who at the time of the war between France and Germany was one of the youngest of the volunteers, and saw much active service, recalls the fact, says a Paris contemporary, that the youngest volunteer in those stormy times had also the honour of being an Alsatian. He is still in the flesh, and is known at Labroque, where he lives as "The Sapper." He wanted two months of sixteen when he donned the colours. During the short struggle the volunteers who were minors were very numerous, 4,600 of them being still alive, and of these 100 belonged to the annexed provinces.

### WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Light airs from E. to NE., prevalent bright warm weather, with tendency to thunder-storms.

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