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Struve Str. 5, I.
Dresden A.
Telephone:
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The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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POLITICAL IMMORALITY.

(From an English correspondent.)

There is no more perfect endowment in man, said Plutarch, than political virtue. The old Greek philosopher, with his customary acumen, thus voiced a great truth, a truth that is being emphasised by the extraordinary events which in the last few days have dealt a heavy blow to international harmony. In this materialistic age it is the fashion to scoff at the introduction of morality into the complex system governing the political life of great nations; it is argued that, willy-nilly, each nation must play exclusively for its own hand, seizing every opportunity to further its own interests regardless either of the righteousness or the wickedness of the course followed. The race, we are repeatedly told, is to the swift, and the devil invariably overwhelms the hindmost. Coupled with this cynical creed is a strong tendency to mask ulterior motives by a wealth of unctuous rhetoric, in the manner of the Hibernian conspirator-politician with "one hand stuck out behind the back, to signal 'strike again'; the other on his dress shirt-front to show his heart is clane." Thus, an age remarkable for the abundance of utterances by prominent politicians advocating higher morality in international relations is also distinguished by several acts which deserve no other name than barefaced piracy. Not all the gifted eloquence of the venerable Emperor Franz Josef, visible in his proclamation to the peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina, can disguise the rank faithlessness of Austria-Hungary's action, the cool disregard of even rudimentary political honesty. It may be that in Bulgaria's case to know all is to pardon all; for over thirty years the Principality has been incessantly striving to reach the commendable goal of national greatness, to the furtherance of which end complete independence was absolutely essential. The methods it has made use of to attain this independence are open to very strong question, but complete probity was, perhaps, too much to expect of the Government of a Balkan Principality. Concerning the policy adopted by Austria, however, no words in condemnation of it can be too strong. With Machiavellian craft the Viennese cabal watched the development of the Near Eastern situation as a cat watches a mouse, and sprang at the very moment when every moral consideration pointed towards postponement.

During the trying time that the Macedonian problem was engaging the close attention of all Christendom, when that hapless territory was being ravaged with fire and sword and converted into a very hell on earth, no nation was more forward than Austria in expressing its concern at the deplorable state of affairs, and it was naturally assumed that she, in common with other Powers, was even prepared to make some small sacrifices in order to restore peace in Macedonia. By an almost miraculous circumstance, the apparently insoluble problem was eliminated in the space of a couple of days, thanks to the patriotic efforts of the Young Turkish party, who struck at the root of the plant while others were concerning themselves with the foliage. In a word, Turkey degenerate became Turkey regenerate, asking nothing save a period of undisturbed quiet in which to work out her own complete salvation. By every ethical law, therefore, this should have been granted to her. But, on the contrary, since the inauguration of the constitutional régime Turkey has been harried to an extent which was never attained during her many years of misgovernment. It would almost appear that the Austrian statesmen entered into an unholy compact with Prince Ferdinand to openly attack Turkey as soon as her hands were tied. The political revival of the Ottoman Empire was seemingly of no account to Austria so long as she could seize a material advantage at the expense of her neighbour. It did not matter in the least to the Hofburg junta whether Turkey was again plunged into the depths of administrative degradation if Austrian aims were served thereby. Nor, apparently, was the peace of Europe of greater account, for it is quite evident that the diplomats at Vienna were aware of the possible, even probable, dangers attending their course of action. The march of events has paid a tribute to the perspicacity of those two great German statesmen, Bismarck and Von Gerlach, both of whom repeatedly described Austria as the most cynical, self-seeking Power in Europe. We do not think the London Times errs when it characterises Austria's

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action as base. The aged monarch himself cannot hope to escape the opprobrium now being vented on his country by all honest men, and it is the saddest of all coincidences that this should happen within a few weeks of the universal celebrations which commemorated his sixtieth year of reign. Austria today stands at the international bar of judgment, proved of having transgressed ethical dictates. Let us hope the nations will be consistent enough to pass judgment on her with the severity called for by the circumstances.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

MR. CHURCHILL ON THE BALKAN CRISIS.

London, October 9.

The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Winston Churchill, delivered a speech yesterday, in the course of which he touched upon the present crisis in the Near East and said that England must remain completely tranquil in the matter. This crisis, he said, has once more proved how indispensable was a powerful Navy for the defence of the British Isles, and such a Navy must be of a strength sufficient to prevent the slightest possibility of a war.

PENNY POSTAGE WITH AMERICA.

London, October 8.

Lord Granard, Master of the Horse, who assists the Postmaster-General, landed at Plymouth yesterday from New York. He said America was enthusiastic over penny postage, but personally he thought the advantage would be greater to English than to American business people. The American travelling public were anxious for the Cunard Company to adopt the Channel route, and sooner or later they would be compelled to do so to fill the ships.

THE "GLADIATOR" DOCKED.

London, October 8.

The "Gladiator" was safely dry-docked yesterday morning in the deep dock at Portsmouth. Advantage was taken of the top of the spring tide, and the operation was carried out speedily, successfully, and without mishap of any kind. Much satisfaction was expressed by all naval officers and salvage officials concerned.

During the night and early morning the ship was pumped as dry as possible, and got high out of the water. Then the salvage steamers cast off and three of the steel "camels" as well, only two being

left on the starboard or injured side. Tackle from each mast was carried to bollards ashore to safeguard the ship from toppling over to starboard, and the measures taken proved effective in every way. The vessel was hauled into dock, the gate was closed, and steps were at once taken to get her upright and remedy the starboard list before shoring her up and pumping the dock dry.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

MR. ROOSEVELT AS ARBITRATOR.

New York, October 8.

The *World* this morning, on the authority of its Washington correspondent, states there is reason to believe that Mr. Roosevelt, "when the psychological moment arrives," will suggest arbitration, with a view to averting a conflict in the Balkans.

It is hinted that the President, despite his political preoccupations, may offer himself as arbitrator.

KRUPP VERSUS THE U. S. GOVERNMENT.

Washington, October 9.

The Court of Appeal of the District of Columbia has given judgment in the case of the firm of Krupp versus the United States Government, in which the great German firm charged the Government with having made unlawful use of several of its patents in connection with the construction of field guns and other artillery. The Court announces that the firm of Krupp may enter suit against the U. S. Government for infringement of the patent act, and in the meantime may apply for an injunction to prevent the Government making further use of Krupp patent processes for the construction of ordnance.

Hitherto it has been considered inadmissible in America to take proceedings against the Government for violation of patent rights, and therefore the action of the German firm creates a noteworthy precedent.

TAXICAB DRIVERS ON STRIKE.

New York, October 8.

A disturbance took place today in connection with the strike of motor cab-drivers. A non-Unionist chauffeur was stoned by the strikers and lookers-on, and the police had to interfere for his protection.

THIRTEEN KILLED IN EXPLOSION.

New York, October 8.

An explosion occurred today in a grain elevator at Richford, Vermont, killing thirteen people, including two women. No cause for the disaster has yet been discovered.

THE NATIONAL DEFENCE OF FRANCE.

Paris, October 8.

The Premier, M. Clémenceau, delivered a speech today in the Département of Var, in which he stated that the military administration of France had as its sole aim the vigilant defence of the country in times of stress and difficulty. Circumstances were liable to arise at an hour's notice which conclusively demonstrated the instability of international treaties as bulwarks against unexpected aggression. Peoples and governments are on occasion induced to forsake the path of rectitude in order to follow one of egotism, which all too frequently leads them dangerously near the brink of sanguinary war. France, aided by her allies and friends, will in the present crisis exert all her strength in an effort to amicably unite the many conflicting interests, and extends her strong sympathy to a people which is battling so valiantly for the preservation of its free institutions.

THE CRISIS IN THE NEAR EAST.

THANKS TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Constantinople, October 8.

The attitude of Great Britain, as expressed in *Reuter's* statement, was published on fly sheets by the Turkish Press, and spread with great rapidity. The news provoked an outburst of popular feeling and gratitude towards Great Britain, and processions of several thousand people marched with flags from the different quarters of Stamboul through the city, and at present are in front of the town residence of the British Embassy, cheering vociferously for Great Britain, and expressing their thanks.

(Continued on page 2.)