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The Daily Record

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AIRSHIP POSSIBILITIES. Some months ago we published comprehensive accounts of the aerial transit system shortly to be inaugurated between certain cities in the eastern United States, by means of which passengers and freight will conveyed between large centres more expeditiously than is possible with the out of date railroad train. Mr. Baldwin, the originator of the scheme, confidently expects to have the system in full swing within a few months, and the Four Hundred are eagerly awaiting their first opportunity to journey from New York to Newport by the aroplane de luxe. Meanwhile the Old World is apparently to go one better. Reports from Berlia announce that no fewer than three regular lines of airships will be in full operation in the near future. The German Aerostation Company, founded last September by three groups of financiers and sportsmen in Berlin, Frankfort, and Cassel, respectively, has now ordered seven airships of the Zeppelin model to establish regular traffic between twenty-seven German towns. The first line, we read, will cover Friedrichshafen, Nuremberg, Leipzig, Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen, Cologne, Coblenz, Mainz, Frankfort, Mannheim, and Strasburg, terminating at Friedrichshafen. The second line embraces Friedrichshafen to Munich, Nuremberg, Plauen, Dresden, Berlin, Magdeburg, Hanover, Cassel, Frankfort, Mainz, Metz, Strasburg, Stuttgart, and thence to Friedrichshafen. The third line takes the following route: Friedrichshafen, Würzburg, Gotha, Braun-schweig, Hamburg, Kiel, Flensburg, Frederica, and Copenhagen. In each of the towns named special stations at which the airships may land in any weather will be established, the company having taken out patents for special applicances for anchoring airships. The principal terminus of the airship lines will be established at Friedrichshafen, because the Aerostation Company proposes to meet the desire expressed by the German War Office to create a chain of æro stations between Count Zeppelin's headquarters and Berlin. Press accounts of this interesting scheme hint that hopes are entertained of a Government subvention to be granted to the company, on condition that the stations will be placed at the disposal of the fleet of ærial warships which the War Office will soon possess. The German Aerial Navy League has also been planning the establishment of a chain of æro stations, as now proposed by the company above mentioned. The chairman of the committee of the League, Herr von Nieber, having carefully investigated the company's project, has ex-pressed the warmest approval of it. The airships will carry ten passengers each, in addition to the crew. The fares will necessarily be somewhat high, but the promoters of the scheme are sanguine that many passengers who now travel by train de luxe will in future prefer airships.

It is a curious commentary on the efforts of the international peace party that what bids fair to be one of the greatest scientific developments of the twentieth century is primarily due to military enterprise. In this country, in particular, the airship and the eroplane are in process of exploitation chiefly by military authorities or their subsidised assistants. There are many who firmly believe in the potentiality of the airship as an implement of warfare, and it follows that each new development in the efficiency of the ærial war cruiser will benefit in manner the appliances destined for more prosaic purposes. Scientists are at one in agreeing that

Madonna and Child

Oil painting, epoch 1560 to 1580.

An elderly English lady living at 12, II. rechts, Fürsten Strasse, wishes to dispose of this valuable picture and a number of rare articles, privately, at very reduced prices.

They may be seen on Tuesdays and Fridays, be tween 4 and 5.30, or by appointment at other times. A photograph of the picture and a list of the articles are to be seen at the office of the DAILY RECORD.

immense strides are daily being made in the region of aviation. Almost every civilised country is engaged in the construction of dirigible balloons, æroplanes, or other apparati for circumventing the unsubstantial ether. It is true that disasters to such craft have been numerous within the past year, and that great difficulties are still to be overcome; but the enthusiasts are undismayed, and each fresh setback stimulates them to renewed endeavour. Count Zeppelin did not for long allow the memory of the Echterdingen catastrophe to oppress him. The works at Friedrichshafen are busily engaged in building and equipping new dirigibles which, it is predicted, will far surpass in strength and general efficiency their ill-fated predecessor. Mr. Wilbur Wright, of whom we have heard but little of late, is understood to be perfecting a new design of æroplane from which he expects great things. Every day we read of ascents being made from this or that district by æronauts who spend their time and money seeking for the perfect flying machine. It is in the very nature of things that solid results must eventually accrue from all this individual activity, and the visions conjured up for our amusement by imaginative writers such as Jules Verne and H. G. Wells may well become actualities in the course of a generation or so.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

London, December 21. Parliament is prorogued until the 16th ol February

London, December 21. A Royal Commission has been appointed to enquire into partly accepted and partly proposed schemes for fully securing the representative character of bodies elected by the people.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

London, December 21.

The speech from the Throne proroguing Parliament expresses the gratification afforded to the King by the visits of President Fallières and the King and Queen of Sweden. His Majesty's relations with foreign countries continue to be of a friendly character. Various agreements have been concluded during the past year with foreign Governments, which, by the removal of causes of disagreement, further the cause of peace; among these

is the convention securing the territorial status quo of the countries bordering on the North Sea. Certain events have happened recently which aim at disturbing the settlement of the Balkan States effected by the Treaty of Berlin; but there is reason to hope that, through wise and conciliatory negotiation, a peaceful solution will be reached with the consent of the Powers signatory to that treaty. There is also reason to hope that the Conference of the principal naval Powers at present meeting in London will arrive at a common agreement by which rules will be formulated regulating the various questions connected with maritime warfare and which will be generally approved. "I deeply regret," runs one paragraph of the Speech, "that the internal tranquillity of a part of India has been disturbed by a conspiracy of evil-disposed people against the lives of my officers and against the continuance of British rule. These proceedings, which have rendered exceptional legislation necessary, have, on the other hand, called forth demonstrations of loyalty in all parts of India. My Government has therefore felt justified in following up measures by which the share of the Indian population in the administration of the country will be enlarged. My fleet has been maintained in a high state of efficiency, and constant progress will be made as heretofore in the reorganisation of my military forces." Regret is expressed that, owing to differences of opinion on the Licensing and Education Bills no agreement could be reached on those questions, although time and labour had been devoted to them.

SPEECH BY MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

London, December 21. Mr. Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a speech delivered at Liverpool today on the rejection of Liberal measures by the House of Lords, said that Lord Lansdowne had arrogated to himself a power which had not been claimed since the days of Charles I. The need of the country rendered it an imperative necessity that the conflict with the House of Lords should be brought to a decisive issue. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then entered at length into a defence of the free trade system and said that, instead of taxing the bread of the poor, the Liberals would raise taxes without laying burdens on industry. They wished to do something to bring the country into the power of the people. The resources of the country had been frozen up by the old feudal system; he longed for the spring when the thaw would come, and the people enter into their inheritance.

BOMB OUTRAGE IN INDIA.

Calcutta, December 22. Two bombs were yesterday hurled at a train near this city. Among the passengers was Mr. Hume, a State prosecuting attorney, whose life had been attempted on a previous occasion. Nobody was injured.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

TWO NOTABLE SPEECHES.

Mr. Taft, in a speech at the Ohio Society banquet at the Waldorf Astoria hotel, New York, has declared that he is strongly in favour of a revision of the tariff, and intimated that, unless such a revision was honestly made in accordance with the promises of the Republican platform, it would be better that there should be no revision at all. This is

(Continued on page 2.)