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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW.

The International Law Conference which has been meeting at Bremen wound up its proceedings on Saturday, at the invitation of the North German Lloyd, with an excursion by special train to Bremerhaven and an inspection of the liner Kronprinzessin Cecilie, followed by a dinner in the ship's salon. Herr Plate, the President of the supervisory Board, bade the guests welcome and thanked them for the friendly feelings to Bremen which they had evinced during the Conference.

Dr. Franck, of Antwerp, the General Secretary of the Comité maritime international, in responding, said the North German Lloyd had done much to establish good relations between the peoples. He then spoke in feeling terms of the late Director General Wiegand who, he said had been a most sympathetic supporter of the idea of international maritime law; and concluded by calling for cheers for Bremen and the North German Lloyd.

Mr. Suketado Ito having expressed his gratitude for the friendly reception that had been accorded to him in Bremen as the representative of the Far East, Mr. Tomalin, Secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce, said he interpreted the feelings of the merchants of Great Britain who were all animated with friendly sentiments towards Germany. If a few English newspapers affirmed the contrary they should not be credited. England's feelings for Germany were cordial, and no one thought of petty jealousies.

Director Heineken, immediately following Mr. Tomalin, said the North German Lloyd could not accept the thanks that had been offered them: on the contrary they, as shipowners, owed their thanks to the International Maritime Law Conference for devoting their abilities and knowledge to questions of great importance the settlement of which was a matter of supreme interest to shipowners, in order that they might know where they were and not be differently treated in different countries. The words of the last speaker had, he said, been heard by the Germans present with great satisfaction. He was himself convinced that the fact was as well known in England as in Germany that the two peoples were mutually dependent. Peaceful competition could never be injurious; it brought nations nearer to one another. Referring to the efforts that were being made everywhere to conclude international treaties, Herr Heineken expressed his conviction that international treaties on maritime law would also have the effect of bringing the parties to them together, and his wish that further progress might be made in the path they had entered upon. The Director concluded by proposing the final toast, "The nations here represented," which was duly honoured.

THE HUDSON-FULTON CELEBRATIONS.

New York and the banks of the Hudson are decked in festive garb. A powerful squadron of warships is lying at anchor in the river, consisting of 54 American, 5 British, 4 German, 3 French, 3 Austro-Hungarian, 2 Italian, one Argentine, one Dutch, one Mexican, and one Cuban vessel. The weather on Saturday was magnificent when torpedo-boats towed the "Halve Maen," the ship wheron Hudson explored the Hudson river 300 years ago, and the "Clermont," Fulton's steam-boat which made its first trip 100 years ago, from the lower harbour past the fleet. Each vessel saluted these models as they passed. They were then presented to the City.

The "Halve Maen," which was presented by Holland, collided with the "Clermont," causing slight damage to both vessels.

A naval parade followed in which besides the warships 100 merchantmen took part. Over two million people were present on the occasion.

In the evening all the craft of the river, and New York City itself were illuminated, the picture thus presented being a magnificent and brilliant one.

DEATH OF THE DANISH PRIMATE.

Copenhagen, September 25.

The death is announced, at the age of 77, of Bishop Roerdam, the primate of the Danish National Church.

Extensive choice of

hand made
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Table-
Bed-
Ladies' and Gentlemen's

LINEN

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(au petit Bazar)

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DR. COOK AND PEARY.

While Dr. Cook is being feasted and dined in New York and generally made much of, Commander Peary remains in seclusion. The fight between the two camps, however, continues, and the world at large is still at a loss to decide which of the two is labouring under a delusion, whether both of them or neither has been at the Pole.

It is natural that scientists should refrain from expressing an authoritative opinion as to the merit of either explorer, until their reports have been officially presented and examined: but now and then the newspapers—who are to be blamed for a good deal of the untimely criticisms—report utterances of men whose opinions are worth considering. Among these we mention particularly Professor Penck, of Berlin, one of the well-known American exchange Professors, who in a paper read before the Conference of German Naturalists and Doctors now sitting at Salzburg, on the discovery of the North-Pole, stated that he could not side with either Peary or Cook, as a scientific proof of the discovery of the North Pole could only be given by ascertaining the depths of the sea at the North Pole, and by the correctness of this measurement being certified by subsequent visitors to the Pole. In a like manner the geo-physical observations would have to be investigated, and verified by other explorers before they could be accepted as proof positive. The learned Professor pooch-pooches the testimony of Esquimaux, and very rightly in our opinion. He said their statements could no more be accepted as proof, than could the testimony of the attendants in the laboratory of scientific explorers be used as conclusive evidence of a scientific discovery.

Not so disparaging to their achievements and the observations supposed to be taken by Dr. Cook and Commander Peary, can be Sir Robert Ball, the famous Astronomer at Cambridge, who has offered to examine Dr. Cook's notes, saying that he did not believe in the possibility of forging drawings of scientific observations. He claims that after a month's investigation he could positively say whether Dr. Cook had reached the Pole or not.

It is very much to be desired, and no doubt will come about that such a scientific examination will soon be made; in the meantime, however, the public will continue to be pelted with slanderous stories from both camps—although, on second thought, it would be more correct for us to say from the Peary camp, because so far the sympathies of the public are with Dr. Cook; sympathies based not on positive knowledge, based not even on the dignified demeanour of the explorer, but rather on the aggressiveness of the Peary messages, which we still hope do not emanate from Commander Peary himself, but rather from his so-called friends.

The latest from that quarter, and perhaps the most atrocious slander of all, is that Commander Peary declares he has 30 charges which he intends to bring against Dr. Cook. Peary says any one of them will convince competent judges of the shallowness of his rival's claim to have reached the Pole.

Commander Peary has left Sydney, and is now en route for Portland, Maine. So there will soon be light thrown on this dark subject, and the public will hail the scientific verdict with a sigh of relief, whoever may be the victor.

MAGNETIC STORM.

A magnetic storm was experienced in London last Saturday, just after noon, and soon afterwards the full deflection of the galvanometers rendered telegraph lines absolutely useless, either for simplex or duplex working. At 12.5 the Post Office sent the following message to all the cable offices in London: "No lines workable."

The direct result of such a visitation is to produce a magnetic current from the earth, and it is suggested by a cable expert that this is due to the Aurora Borealis. All long distance lines are unworkable, but short distance lines have not been so greatly affected.

The force of the storm was such that it was impossible to work any lines without interruption for several hours. The underground lines were more affected than the aerial wires, particularly lines running from east to west, while the lines running north escaped with comparatively little interruption. All cable work to the Continent, South Africa, and America had to be held up.

Interviewed by a *Central News* representative Mr. White, the Deputy Acting Controller of the Telegraph Department at the G.P.O., said that all their wires were seriously affected by the magnetic storm. Particularly affected were the principal towns in the United Kingdom with which the G.P.O. was in direct communication. The Continental wires were also affected. The delay ranged, he added, from an hour and a half to two hours. Asked if the effect of the storm was conspicuously acute in any one district, Mr. White said it was being particularly felt in the principal towns of Ireland and Scotland, and the chief places of industry in England. The effect on the wires was that false currents were given. In fact, sometimes they got a permanent current on the wire, and during that time the operator was unable to work at all. The magnetic storm in no way affected the trunk telephone service.

The phenomenal magnetic storm is stated to be unprecedented in its force in the telegraph service of the country.

A Reuter telegram from New York states that the telegraph and cable service was badly crippled there because of disturbances in the electrical currents of the earth and air. The disturbances were ascribed to the aurora borealis.

The aurora borealis was plainly visible in Stockholm and St. Petersburg on Saturday. Likewise in Wenden, Livadia, where chiefly violet rays were observed.

We also received information by cable from Montevideo to the effect that all over Uruguay a telluric current, running North to South, was observed which caused disturbances in the telegraphic services.

The effects of the magnetic storm were also noticeable in Strassburg, Berlin, and other cities.

THE NEW YORK MAYORALTY.

Tammany is exulting over the now admitted dissensions in the camp of its enemies, says a New York correspondent of *The Globe*. The movement for selecting an independent candidate for Mayor and a full Reform ticket at the coming municipal elections, upon which all sections of anti-Tammany could unite, has collapsed. On Wednesday it looked as though the reform alliance was secure, and there was every prospect of Judge Charles S. Whitman being selected for the mayoral nomination by the fusionist leaders assembled in conference.

Personal rivalries upset everything at the last moment, however, and the Republicans proceeded to select Mr. Otto Bannard for the coveted honour. The local leaders of the party also agreed upon a full Republican ticket, and to all appearance the split cannot be closed up. It is not surprising that Charles F. Murphy and the other Tammany chiefs are today described as "perfectly satisfied with the position." The enemy have played into their hands more completely than they had ventured to hope. If they can now persuade Judge Gaynor to accept their nomination, they stand to win hands down.