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# The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## A DEPOSED SULTAN.

### THE FUTURE OF ABDUL AZIZ.

TANGIER, Monday.—Rumours circulating among the natives here, but not yet confirmed, state that Mulai Kebir has arrived at Taza and met with an enthusiastic welcome; that Abdul Aziz has been proclaimed Sultan at Taza, and that Mulai Kebir is to be his Chief Caliph. Mulai Hafid is said to be greatly disturbed at the news, and has recalled to Fez the army of Beni Mter.

A mile or so outside the town of Tangier, in an unpretentious building not very much larger than an ordinary English farmhouse, surrounded by bare hills that sweep down to the blue waters of the Mediterranean, lives Abdul Aziz, the ex-Sultan of Morocco. Six months ago he was Lord of all the Moors from Tangier to Tamogrut, from Ujda to Degh. Today he is a private citizen, scarcely noticed when he drives abroad. And yet he is by far the most important man in the kingdom. Abdul Aziz is a young man of little more than 32 years of age. Of great intelligence, athletic instincts, and extraordinary powers of attraction, Morocco never possessed a more enlightened ruler. Unfortunately this was his great crime in the eyes of his subjects: he was in advance of his age by several generations; he was a mechanic; he read books of all nations; sport and games he indulged in freely; he recognised the backwardness of his people, the undeveloped state of his country. In short, he admired Europeans and all their ways, and did his best to inculcate similar ideas and methods into the daily life of his own people. He failed, and he was deposed. But unless another ruler, equally intelligent, takes his place, Morocco will go the way of all Eastern nations, and be eventually absorbed by some European power.

When Abdul Aziz was defeated in battle by his brother the present Sultan—whom, it may be stated, he had not seen for many years, he agreed to accept a pension and retire from the scene of royalty. With three wives, and some half-dozen servants, he took up his abode on the outskirts of Tangier, where he now is. Like all Orientals, he is a fatalist: what has happened is for the best; Allah willed it, and that is sufficient. Perhaps some day the wheel of fortune may turn. If it does Abdul Aziz will certainly not shrink from assuming the reins of Government. Indeed, as things are going at present, with the unpopularity of his brother increasing daily, it is quit: "on the cards" that he may be reinstated on the throne of Morocco. But however that may be, nothing will induce him to change his ideas of Government, for at heart Abdul Aziz is a European, he is not a Moor. Progress and reform he realises are the salvation of his country, without which it must be swallowed up by the forces of civilisation which are closing in on all sides. His present existence is quiet in the extreme. Now and then he takes a drive in the neighbourhood. At first he was to be seen in an open carriage, but his appearance attracted so much attention that he now prefers a closed conveyance. Not two miles away from his house lives his late Foreign Minister, since fallen, like himself. Always great friends, and in complete accord as to methods of Government, they are inseparable as exiles. Scarce a week passes that they do not dine together, scarce a day that they do not meet, either to converse or play lawn tennis, which is the favourite amusement of both, and at which the ex-Sultan is a remarkably good player.

Another sport in which Abdul Aziz indulges very often is pig-sticking. An excellent rider and absolutely fearless, he can account for many a boar to his own spear, and this in a hunt where all those who take part are Europeans. Until recently he was frequently to be seen in the company of Englishmen, for whom he has always entertained the greatest admiration. Fearing, however, lest this partiality should lay him open to censure at the hands of his brother, he now wisely confines himself to Moorish friends, only seeing Europeans on rare occasions. Now and then he accepts an invitation to dine at one or other of the foreign legations at Tangier, principally the English and French, but such occasions are not frequent. One remarkable characteristic possessed by the ex-Sultan is that he never forgets a face, nor the smallest incident connected with a person of his acquaintance. Within the last

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few months, reports a London contemporary, Abdul Aziz has been building a small palace a mile or so from his present residence, where he confesses himself as happy to end his days; within the last few months, also, the tide of popular opinion has been rapidly turning again in his favour. In a great measure this is due to the growing unpopularity of the ruling Sultan, whose little finger is now discovered to be thicker than his brother's loins. It may quite well be, therefore, that another year may see Abdul Aziz on the throne again. Should this happen, and the finances of the country are directed along the right channel, official peculation checked, and a trustworthy military force established, then European intervention in Morocco will be delayed, perhaps indefinitely, for Abdul Aziz, with an army at his back, will be in a position to mould Morocco to his will. There is no other man in the country who can do so, no Sultan before him who has combined the Thought of the East with the Action of the West.

For the time being, however, Moroccan politics interest him not at all. Beyond receiving an annual pension from his brother—which, odd to relate, has always been punctually paid—Abdul Aziz is content to live in seclusion. He is devoted to his wives and children; has many friends, and is granted his liberty. There was a rumour at one time that his brother had intentions of confining him to prison for the rest of his days, perhaps something worse. But despite his European manners and customs, Abdul Aziz is very popular among his late subjects, who would certainly have favoured the usurper less had methods of violence been resorted to. In this respect a new era would seem to be dawning in the land, for the majority of Moroccan Sultans have all come to an untimely end. But Abdul Aziz has been permitted to live on certain terms, the most important of which was, that he should not attempt to regain the throne. It says much for his honour that he has kept his promise, for if he raised the standard of revolt today, there is little doubt that many thousands of Moors would rise in his favour.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD.

LONDON, Monday.—The continuation of the correspondence between Mr. Asquith and Lord Charles Beresford has now been published. The Prime Minister says in his last letter that he profoundly regrets that an officer of Lord Charles' experience and rank should be responsible for the publication of such accusations against the Admiralty. The Admiral's procedure, continues the Premier, is difficult to reconcile with the best traditions of a great service. Appended to this letter is a note from Mr. McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty, in which he exhaustively examines Lord Charles Beresford's charges. Letters are cited from Lord Charles himself which contradict in detail his latest accusations, and Mr. McKenna emphatically asserts that no part of its duty is so carefully performed by the Admiralty as the promotion of officers. Insinuations such as are put forward by Lord Charles Beresford are, concludes Mr. McKenna, in the highest degree calculated to undermine naval discipline. The Admiral replies that Mr. McKenna's explanations do not in the least degree affect the original charges, which he (Lord Charles) repeats and leaves to the judgment of the nation.

ROME, Monday.—Prince and Princess von Bülow arrived here last evening and were met at the station by the German Ambassador von Jagow; members of the German Art Union, who greeted the prince as an honorary member; Donna Laura Minghetti, Prince and Princess Camporeale, Senator Blaserna, and others. The *Tribuna* publishes an article in which it greets Prince Bülow as a sincere friend to Italy and the illustrious representative of a people who, in the past, have had many common interests with Italy and will most probably have others in the future.

BARMEN (Rhineland), Sunday.—The headmaster of a local national school this afternoon saw one of his 12-year-old pupils smoking on the street, and gave him such a violent box on the ears that the unfortunate lad fell beneath a passing street-car, which mutilated both his legs. The boy succumbed shortly afterwards to his injuries. A large and excited crowd witnessed the incident and subsequently pursued the master, who was roughly handled before the police could rescue him.

PARIS, Sunday.—At a late hour this evening a section of a Montmartre street suddenly caved in, and two passers-by disappeared. One of them was quickly rescued, but the other, a woman, was still entombed at the moment of telegraphing. As many of the adjacent houses are damaged by the collapse, the police have ordered them to be instantly cleared.

LONDON, Sunday.—M. Paulhan, the aviator, flying yesterday over the Brooklands automobile track, made a new height and speed record. Flying at an altitude of 720 feet he covered 34 miles in 58min. 57sec.

LONDON, Sunday.—It is reported from Pekin that, as a result of the Russian Financial Minister's visit to Charbin, Russia has proposed to the Powers that a small international settlement be established outside Charbin. Diplomatic opinion here inclines to a belief that the proposal is unacceptable, since its sanction would imply recognition of a claim made by the Russian railway administration to exercise political power over all inhabitants in the railway zone of Northern Manchuria.—The *Star* reports from Kobe, Japan, that 300 Koreans have attacked a railway station in the vicinity of Seoul. There is no information as to the fate of the Japanese staff.

PARIS, Monday.—The fitting up and installation of instruments at the wireless telegraphic station in the Champ de Mars have now been completed, and trial messages will shortly be sent to New York. The *Figaro* declares that if good results are obtained with these experimental messages, it is possible that on January 1, 1910, President Taft and President Fallières may exchange mutual good wishes for the new year by wireless telegraphy.—The *Gaulois* states that the Duke of Westminster has arrived at Chalon-sur-Marne to take lessons in aviation. On his arrival the Duke at once visited the sheds, where there are aeroplanes of various makes, and listened with great interest to explanations of them. He will probably take his first lesson in a few days.