

THE QUEEN AND HER SHIPS.

NEWS OF THE MOTHERLAND SELECTED FROM THE INCOMING MAILS.

Lord Brassey on British Friendly Societies - The English Public Health Service - Army and Navy Notes - The Position of Recruiting.

The Queen and her Ships.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg and the Marquis of Lorne, went round the warships lying in Cowes Roads on Friday evening 19th ult. in the Alberta.

A brilliant spectacle was witnessed on the lawn after dinner, when the King's Royal Rifles, from Parkhurst, went through the tattoo by torchlight, four military bands being massed and giving the time to the troops.

Presentation to Princess May.

Recently at the White Lodge, Richmond Park, the Princess May received a presentation by the Countess of Aberdeen on behalf of the members and Associates of the Onward and Upward Association and other friends, who desired to give tangible expression of their deep sympathy with her sorrow.

The gift was a very beautiful and finely-worked gold box of French workmanship, belonging at one time to one of the French kings of the last century. In the lid of the box was set an exquisite miniature of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, painted by Mr. Edward Taylor.

Lord Brassey on Friendly Societies.

Lord Brassey, at a gathering of Odd-fellows at Battle, recently, spoke of the improvement in the position of the friendly societies, and said it had in no case been more conspicuous than in the Manchester Unity. He claimed that this was due to the reforms introduced in organization, by which the assets were carefully valued, the contributions raised to the mark of safety, and a knowledge of sound actuarial principles diffused by annual conferences.

More than 5,000,000 of the flower of our laboring population were members of friendly societies and trade unions. The accumulated funds exceeded £23,000,000. This good work should go forward.

30 years the ratio of pauperism to population had been reduced from 3.7 to 2.8 per cent. The friendly societies did admirable work, and deserved the best encouragement and support of all concerned in the well-being of England.

The English Public Health Service. Dr. Richard Sisley, M. R. C. P., in a paper read by him at the Congress of Hygiene in Dublin, said that the President of the Local Government Board had never yet been a man who had any special knowledge of matters concerning public health, and that the post was given merely for political services.

The New Cruiser Charybdis.

The Admiralty have approved of estimates amounting to £136,000 for the construction of the hull of the new second class cruiser Charybdis, and the work has been commenced at Sherness. The labor vote absorbs a sum of £80,000, the remaining £56,000 being for materials.

The Admiralty have directed the Charybdis to be pressed forward, so as to insure her completion during the financial year ending March, 1894. She is one of six cruisers designed by Mr. W. H. White, C.B., Director of Naval Construction, as an improvement on the cruisers of the Apollo type, and is to have a length of 320 ft., a breadth of 49 ft. in., and a displacement of 4,320 tons.

The Position of Recruiting.

The following report has just been published:

Table with columns: Recruits joined, During first seven months, 1891, During first seven months, 1892. Rows: Cavalry, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Foot Guards, Infantry, Colonial Corps, Other Corps.

This return shows an increase of 4,008 recruits over the same period in 1891.

Inspector-General Feilding thinks it may fairly be assumed that the special enlistments under standards for this year are not so large in proportion as in 1891.

Army and Navy Notes.

Some interesting and instructive naval and military operations took place on Aug. 29, at the western defences of the Isle of Wight, when an attempt was made by a supposed enemy to force the Spithead. The attacking force consisted of five torpedo boats and a covering squadron, composed of the Rattlesnake, Speedwell, and four gunboats of the flat-iron type.

The decision of the War Office to send the 1st Battalion South Wales Borderers from Aldershot to Egypt in December to replace the 1st Devonshire, which is to be sent to India, leaves the strength of the British forces in Egypt the same as it has been for some years—three infantry battalions (the others being the 1st Dorsetshire and 1st South Staffordshire), a squadron of the 1st Dragoon Guards, a battery of garrison artillery, a company of engineers, and small bodies of mounted infantry and departmental corps, all under Major-Gen. Walker.

There are, however, 73 British Army officers attached to the Khedive's forces, commanded by Brigadier-Gen. Kitchener.

New Postal Orders.

The following notice was recently issued to the public:

"On the 1st September next a new form of postal order will be brought into use in place of the present form of order, which will cease to be issued on the 31st of August. The words 'Not negotiable' will be over-printed on the new form, in order to indicate that it is to be used only for the purpose of making a direct remittance.

"A new regulation has also been made under which the holder of a postal order may defer payment for any period not exceeding ten days from the date of issue by writing across the face of the order the words 'Payable after — days.' In such case, however, the name of a money order office at which the order shall be paid must be inserted in the body. This regulation is printed on the face of the new order, and comes into operation on the 1st of September. On and from that date, therefore, an order bearing the words referred to will not be paid until the period specified has expired.

The Development of the Telephone.

The Duke of Marlborough, chairman of the New Telephone Company, in a letter to The Times, says: "It is not at all improbable that the demand for the use of the telephone throughout this country will increase to an extent little anticipated, and that in the course of a few years instead of 40,000 subscribers, as there are at present, the number will reach nearer 200,000, owing to the demand which will be created to speak over the Government trunk systems. With regard to Sweden, which is probably the European country which has developed the telephone business more completely than any other, the system of Government trunks and local exchanges has arrived at a wonderful state of development.

From what I have seen of the working of the telephone in that country the facility with which persons in one town converse with those in another is quite remarkable. It is easy, therefore, to see, when this system is properly applied in England by the action which will now be taken by the General Postoffice in laying inter-trunk wires all over the country and by the action of the telephone companies establishing an efficient distribution in all telephone areas, that the development which has taken place in America can be easily equalled by that which must come about in this country in a remarkably short time. England is an ideal country for the development of the telephone. It is inhabited by 30,000,000 people, all living in a small area, and there is no town so distantly situated from another that they cannot be put into telephonic communication."

BRITISH AND FRENCH IN UGANDA.

The French Who Wanted to Fight the British so Badly Seem to Have had More Than They Bargained For.

A letter is to hand from Mgr. Hirth on the Uganda "missions." It was written from Kisiba and addressed to Cardinal Lavigerie. It says:—

"The Catholics, at first having got the better of the heretics, but then crushed by the superior arms of the English fort, have been driven back into the province of Buddu. It was only after they had been driven gradually from all the other provinces, and even from the islands of the Nyanza, that the English and the Protestant Bagandas, dictated their own will.

"The conditions that they imposed show well enough the spirit in which this war of extermination has been carried on. Among these conditions are the following:—The country is divided up into three parts. The Protestants, hitherto always inferior in number to the Catholics, keep one portion, which is equal to four-sevenths of Uganda, including the Nyanza islands. The Baganda Mussulmans have been recalled from Unyoro, and will occupy two sevenths of the country. The Catholics are to have the other seventh. In the three portions thus parcelled out, the Pagan party, made up of all those who wish for no religion, have revolted and already count many adherents. The Protestants are seeking the aid of the fort and the Maxim gun to suppress the Pagans.

"The Catholics alone are expressly forbidden to fight against the Pagans, who are now holding more than half of Buddu, a region officially granted to them, where they are openly persecuting all who are learning the Christian teaching. The Catholics have taken refuge in Buddu, several days' journey from the capital, whence they will not be allowed to go out except by previous permission. The King Mwanga in the eyes of all the country has become

English—that is to say, Protestant—in the opinion of chiefs and people. The Catholics who surrounded him of old are replaced by Protestants. It is thus hoped to win promptly the entire country to error. Every Catholic still remaining in the provinces is persecuted and urged to apostasy. All our missions are outside of Buddu. We are forbidden to enter on any propaganda, even in the vassal regions of Buddu, without permission. Certain measures have been taken, and several severe laws have been promulgated to disarm the Catholics little by little."

The letter then speaks of Mahomedanism as virtually becoming the State religion and of the English officers as encouraging its rites. After comparing himself to Rachel weeping for her children at the view of thousands of catechumens prevented from attaining baptism, and of millions of other negroes doomed to training in heresy, Mgr. Hirth concludes by saying:—"I am too far from Europe to be well acquainted with the opinion of the day, but I venture to beg you to appeal to the Queen of England's sentiments of justice and equity."

The Church Missionary Society have received news from Uganda stating that the King returned to Mengo on March 30 and that the Protestant party was now dominant. The Roman Catholic party were still threatening war.

The Paris Eclair publishes a statement by Pere Morel, Director of the Catholic Missions of Lyons, relating to recent events in Uganda. He acknowledges that the English missionaries were the first to occupy the country, the first British mission having been sent out on November 16, 1876, whereas the first Catholic mission under French direction did not set out until March 25, 1878. Pere Morel adds that in the present conflict the White Fathers are in their right.

French Trade with England.

Statistics just published regarding French trade during the first seven months of the present year show that during that period France imported from Great Britain goods to the value of 242,947,000f., and exported to Great Britain merchandise to the value of 647,224,000f. The imports into France from the United States during the same period amounted to 466,522,000f., and the exports from France to the United to 142,838,000f.

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OF THE

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BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen:

The mission of this Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy Englishmen; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native and Motherland; to elevate the lives of its members in practice of mutual aid and true charity; to care for each other in sickness and adversity and loving a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place.

Great Financial Benefits, viz.: Sick pay, Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 18 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reverence for and adhesion to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on.

Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition—for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in South Africa and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, insured by any other fraternal Society in Canada, and is conducted on the assessment system. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the certificates in class "A." There are no disability claims in class "B." No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges—the officers of which are elected annually.

In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen—asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER, Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office, Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, April 1st, 1892.