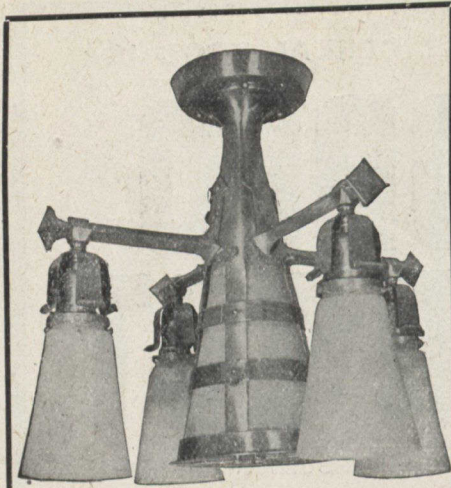




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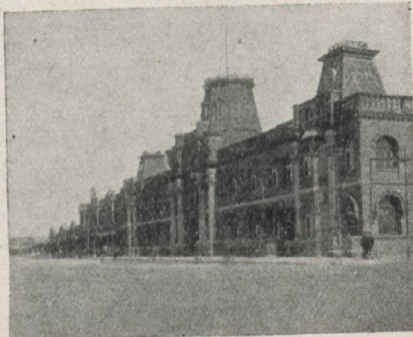
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the Germans know more about the works of William Shakespeare than do the countrymen of the great dramatist. Nay, they are more familiar with them than was Lord Bacon himself or that ingenious creature, Mr. Ignatius Donnelly. Hence, they are sensitive on the subject of Shakespearean production and they found the extreme gorgeousness of the Tree settings not at all to their taste. Shakespeare is smothered beneath all this gold and glitter, said the voice of the Berlin critics. Perhaps they would like Mr. Ben Greet. Let him take to Germany his Shakespeare unadorned which has bored America almost to tears!

King Edward and the Queen have returned to England from the south, just at the close of the "colonial entertaining." King Edward's friendly meeting with the young King of Spain is another instance of the gentle diplomacy which makes the sovereign's little holiday trips of advantage to the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. King Edward is the real apostle of peace, while Mr. Stead is merely a sandwich man to advertise his own spectacular attractions. The Prince and Princess of Wales proved admirable hosts to the colonial visitors on the occasion of the Marlborough House party. They also spent a strenuous week in Glasgow, when the new wing of Glasgow University was opened and the second city of the Empire gave a hearty welcome to the king's son. The freedom of the city and the honorary degree of LL.D. were bestowed on the guests. They also laid the memorial stone of the reconstructed Royal Infirmary and opened the new Clyde Bank Dock. Lord Kelvin conferred the LL.D. honours on their Royal Highnesses. The Prince of Wales is said to be the most "degreed" man in the kingdom although he never went to 'Varsity. He probably enjoyed taking his eldest son down to Osborne more than the academic festivities.



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Prince Fushimi, the cousin of the Mikado, is making an official visit to Great Britain. While in London he resided at York House, St. James' Palace. While in Scotland, he was the guest of the Duke of Montrose. Much curiosity has been created by the recent action of the Lord Chamberlain in withdrawing the license for performances of the Gilbert-Sullivan opera, "The Mikado," a revival of which has been well patronised at the Savoy Theatre. The reason given is that the opera is considered offensive to the Japanese Court. In Parliament, Sir Edward Grey stated that the Lord Chamberlain in withdrawing the license acted on his own responsibility solely. The affair has excited sympathy for Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, to whom the prohibition means great financial loss. The opera is to be suppressed, not only during Prince Fushimi's visit but "afterwards," and the suppression applies not only to London but to the "provinces" as well. The opera was performed at Sheffield last month, but the Lord Chamberlain interfered directly to stop a performance of "The Mikado" at Middlesbrough. Perhaps the noble official knows what he is about, although the Japanese Court seems "to have nothing to do with the case." In the meantime, all the old airs are once more whistled in the streets, and "He's going to marry, Yum-Yum" is as common as daffodils and primroses.

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