



His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, reviewing the Royal Naval Volunteers, at their Drill Hall, Lambeth, London. The Prince, who held the rank of Vice-Admiral, has been recently promoted to a full Admiralty. The Naval Volunteers of London, are an exceptionally fine body of men. They are drawn mostly from the offices in the city, and since the opening of the Naval Volunteer Movement not long ago, they have admirably shown that the English citizen has in him the making of a sailor.

British Gossip

SOUTH Africa is once more in the foreground. During the last week of February King Edward opened the exhibition of South African products, which is said to be a surprisingly complete affair of its kind. His Majesty was presented with a walking-stick of rhinoceros horn, cut from a single specimen, which was brought down by Mr. Louis Solomon, to whom it was given by the old chief of the Bamangwato Kaffirs. Queen Alexandra was presented with a fan, having handle and sticks of South African gold. Since the new Transvaal Constitution has become an accomplished fact, the political situation in South Africa is once more a matter for alarm or hope.

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The Prince of Monaco has lately been in Glasgow, where he lectured on the Meteorological Exploration of the High Atmosphere, which, together with the study of oceanography, is his chief hobby. While it is from the Casino in Monte Carlo that the Prince draws his ample income, he is said to disapprove of gambling, and is never seen either in the Casino or on the Terrace there.

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The London papers are still talking of the robbery which took place almost a month ago, whereby Mr. Charles Wertheimer, a well-known connoisseur, lost art treasures valued at upwards of two hundred thousand dollars, including Gainsborough's "Nancy Parsons" and Sir Joshua Reynolds' "The Hon. Mrs. Charles Yorke." These valuable pictures will probably take a trip across the Atlantic, only to return ultimately to the land in which they were painted, where they will be enhanced in value by their adventures in the hands of an artistic "Raffles."

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The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland have lent Stafford House for a concert and an exhibition of Keats and Shelley relics, to be held on March 29th. The fund to be benefited is that which is being raised for purchase of the house in Rome in which Keats died. There will be established in the historic old building a library and museum in memory of the two poets.

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The new chief Conservative Whip, Mr. Percival Hughes, is an energetic and brilliant member of that party, whose first actual work was as secretary to Colonel Fred Burnaby, whose trustee he is and whose posthumous novel he edited.

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Mr. Winston Churchill is likely to be a prominent figure at the Colonial Conference next month. It was rumoured that, during the shuffle taking place after Hon. James Bryce's appointment to Washington, Mr. Churchill would be likely to hear the call, "come up higher." However, with the Colonial Conference so near at hand, he preferred, so say his friends, to remain an Under-Secretary. It is to be hoped that his manner to colonials visiting England will be more urbane than was his bearing when he was a guest in the colonies. The majority

of his Canadian hosts regarded him as "one of the least of God's mercies."

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East Africa is said to possess a strong fascination for those Englishmen who have purchased large estates there. Lord Delamere and Lord Hindlip are predicting a prosperous future for the country in agricultural products and in rubber.

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Alien invasions seem to be the fashionable trouble. Lanarkshire, the most populous of Scotland's counties and the principal source of the country's mining industries, is afflicted with a large Polish settlement. There are ten thousand in this county alone, producing a social problem for the local authorities. The Lanark natives describe this foreign settler as a miserable citizen, with little sense of honour and slight regard for cleanliness.

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The King of Siam is to visit London this month. He was in England during the year of the Diamond Jubilee. His Majesty rejoices in the title, King Chulalongkorn, which is a cruel injustice to the newspaper world.

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It is proposed to add the name of Sir William Howard Russell to the list of war correspondents on the memorial tablet in St. Paul's and to erect a bust of him.

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The marriage of Mr. Mark Hambourg, the celebrated pianist, and Miss Dorothy Mackenzie took place this week.

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The University of Cambridge has decreed the abolition of the dignity of Senior Wrangler, while the "Tatler" urges that the title be bestowed on the lady known as the leader of the suffragettes. But she would probably object to be "Senior" anything.

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Australian precious stones are in demand in London and an effort is being made to introduce the Queensland sapphires. If Mr. Kipling's poetry be also truth, the opals and pearls of the Commonwealth of the Pacific ought to find many English admirers.

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Though he is now in his one-hundred-and-seventeenth year, James Loughran, of Derrynoose, Armagh, Ireland, has not, until within the last fortnight, been obliged to consult a doctor. He naturally wonders why anyone should wish to emigrate from such a healthy country as the Land of St. Patrick.

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Edinburgh is to attempt a new way of dealing with the unemployed. The corporation are purchasing a farm fifteen miles from the city which has 235 acres, 70 being unimproved moss land. Refuse from the city is to be deposited on about 100 acres. The aim is to use the whole farm for spade work, and to sell market garden produce.

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The new University College of North Wales is to cost one million dollars for buildings alone. King Edward will lay the foundation stone next summer.

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The New Theology is still holding a prominent place in the public interest. Two Congregational ministers who are believers in its doctrines have been blackballed a second time by the London Board of Congregational Ministers. It is said that Dr. Robertson Nicoll, known to both religious and journalistic circles, who has repudiated Rev. R. J. Campbell's views, is to address the board of Congregational ministers in April.

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Father Bernard Vaughan in his Lenten sermons continues to preach strenuously against the doings of fashionable society and by some irony the papers continue to chronicle a large attendance of the "smart set."

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The poverty of British universities has again been brought to the notice of the public by an appeal issued by the Duke of Devonshire, Chancellor of Cambridge University, declaring that the sum of \$7,500,000 is needed to equip the University properly. The British press comments unfavourably on the indifference of Englishmen of wealth to university needs and supports the appeal of the Duke of Devonshire.

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A letter of great historical interest will be offered for sale in London shortly. It is the order for the massacre of Glencoe issued in 1692, which intensified so bitterly the strife between Campbells and Macdonalds.