

GOSSIP OF LONDON

The Preparations for the Celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Londoners Delighted at the Prospect of War With the Transvaal.

London, April 17.—The Prince of Wales returned from the Riviera and spent Thursday morning overlooking the arrangements for the celebration of the Queen's diamond jubilee. He went to Sandringham on Thursday afternoon, and it is reported that he was disgusted at finding the whole of the route in the hands of syndicates of speculators, and the Queen's jubilee practically put up for auction. There are indications that the speculators will overreach themselves and there will be a decided slump in prices before the day of the procession, and the big syndicates will lose heavily.

The Daily Chronicle expresses itself as being very despondent regarding the whole show. It says the arrangements are unworthy the occasion, asserts there is a risk of unattractive Americans eager to distinguish themselves by paying fabulous prices, and we think the whole celebration savors of a carnival of millionaires and a triumph of funksters rather than a proper tribute. Continuing, the Chronicle says that in the procession all representation of republican countries will be excluded, and it will consist of cadets of royal houses of Europe, soldiers and sailors and colonial premiers, instead of being representative of English life, and the progress of English institutions. The statement that upon the occasion of her jubilee the Queen will add to her title those of Queen of Canada, Australia, East and West Africa, Rhodesia, and India, has aroused considerable ridicule in the Liberal press, particularly the suggestion that Her Majesty will assume the title of Queen of Rhodesia. The drift towards war with the Transvaal is heartily welcomed by most classes, and even the Liberals and the west and east enders are alike anxious for an outbreak of hostilities in South Africa. The statements made by Sir Alfred Milner, with the power of the Lord of the Admiralty Goshen on Saturday last, when he referred to Great Britain being determined to back its high commissioner in South Africa, Sir Alfred Milner, with the power of the British empire, etc., have been received with delight, and the angriest comments in music halls against the Boers meet with the heartiest reception. All the Boers are hostile to President Kruger, Germany and Holland, Jerome K. Jerome's To-Day frankly voices one side of this feeling.

It says, "By all means let us fight and win the Transvaal. We are going to fight for the gold mines and territory, if they cannot be got without fighting. Every nation has to play the pirate at times, and let us play boldly when we do, and trust Mr. Chamberlain to do that. He is a man of the world, and he knows that flags of truce are kept out of the soldier's baggage. Thrice the Boers have seen the flag of England hoisted on a stick, and always while it is time to prove we have colored flags."

It is stated that Lord Wolsey's doctors have informed him that he must retire from the onerous duties of commander-in-chief, and he will probably be appointed commander of the British troops in Gibraltar, where the climate is suitable. Speculation is rife as to his successor. Lord Roberts, commander of the force in Ireland, would be the most popular selection, but Sir Redvers Bullard, adjutant-general, is Lord Wolsey's choice.

Interest in the coming Cabot celebration was aroused on Wednesday, when Sir Clements Markham, president of the Royal Geographical Society, read an account of Cabot's voyages to the North American continent in 1497. He also described the tablet which was erected at Halifax in Cabot's memory. Prince Monaco has written the French line steamships offering a reward for the recovery of the identity of the captain of a vessel who is said to have discovered the distress signals of the French steamer St. Nazaire, which recently foundered in a gale off Cape Hatteras. The prince adds that he is striving to effect a national agreement to punish similar crimes.

There were great crowds in Westminster Abbey on Thursday last to witness the distribution of the Queen's maundy money. Before the recipients were called of the church they began trafficking in the sale of the silver coins, constituting the bounty, which are especially coveted as souvenirs of the Queen's diamond jubilee. The number of the recipients of the bounty correspond with the years of Her Majesty's age. The persons selected, among other things, received purses containing as many pence as the Queen is years old, and this money is given in silver pennies—two pence, three pence and four pence, all specially coined for the occasion. In addition there were gold coins representing allowances for clothing and provisions.

Dorothea Baird (Mrs. Irving, Jr.) has been safely delivered of a daughter.

ONTARIO MINING LAWS.

Some of the Important Provisions of the New Mining Act.

The new mining act introduced by the commissioner of crown lands of Ontario makes a number of changes of more or less importance. The most notable of these is perhaps the clause which makes provision against "blanket" claims. It reads as follows:

"No application shall be entertained in any one calendar year from any person for more than 320 acres, nor from any firm, partnership, syndicate or incorporated company for more than 640 acres, within a radius of 25 miles in any one district or county of the province, and such areas may be composed of separate locations of not less than 40 acres each; and in the event of an application lapsing or becoming abandoned, the applicant thereof may apply for other mining land in the same district or county in place thereof, but so as not to exceed the limit herein provided; but where a locality or territory is shown to be rich in ores or minerals, the commissioner of crown lands may still further limit applications to one or more locations of 40 acres at his discretion."

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A Halibut Poacher Complains About the Cruelty of Canadians.

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—Following is the resolution passed at the last regular meeting of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council: "Whereas it has been repeatedly shown that Chinese and Japanese immigration to this province is detrimental to its best interest and an evil to the cause of the laboring classes, and whereas, the members of the provincial legislature have, by their recent action in the legislature on the Alien Labor bill, placed themselves on record as being in sympathy with the importation of Chinese and Japanese labor to this province to take the place of white labor, therefore, be it resolved, that the Victoria Trades and Labor Council strongly condemn the action taken by the government in their support of the introduction of the anti-Chinese and anti-Japanese clauses in the Alien Labor bill, which was recently before the legislature, and showing that they are not the true friends of the working men. Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Messrs. Hon. J. H. Turner, premier; Hon. C. E. Pouley, Hon. J. M. Baker, Hon. G. B. Martin, Hon. D. M. Ebers, and to Messrs. R. P. Ritchie, John Irving and John Bruen, M.P.P.s."

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BOTTLED WIND

Gulline Metal Stitched Air Collars.

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