

AFTER SEASON QUIET, REIGNS IN GOOD OLD LONDON TOWN

Letters Tell How Nelson Fell Under the Thrall of His Circe

Some Remarkable Documents Are To Be Sold at Christie's—They Are from Victor of Trafalgar Bay to His Wife and from Her to Him and Some Bear on Lady Hamilton.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, July 4. AN intensely interesting contribution to the romance of Nelson's life, a collection of 222 autograph letters to his wife, Lady Nelson, which prove conclusively that there was a marriage of love and continued so for six years, until Nelson fell under the spell of Emma, Lady Hamilton in 1788, is to be offered at Christie's auction rooms on July 14.

The letters at Lady Nelson's death passed to her cousin, Mrs. Franklyn, who was present at her death. From Mrs. Franklyn they descended to her son, the late Alexander Allen Webbe, who changed his name from Franklyn to Webbe, his mother's maiden name, and they are of great value in forming a true estimate of the life and character of Admiral Lord Nelson, who is remembered more by his infatuation for Lady Hamilton.

With the exception of a few which appeared in literature in 1838 the letters have never been published; so that these letters, now coming into the saleroom owing to the death of Mrs. Webbe, are necessary to correct all existing "Lives" of Nelson.

That Nelson married for love has been doubted by his biographers, but these letters, written week by week, often under very trying conditions, prove the contrary. With the letters are to be sold Nelson's journals of the sieges of Bastia and Calvi, his account of the battle of St. Vincent, letters to and from his father, and other documents; but in the human interest of the letters to his wife and their contribution to his history lie the prime interest of the collection.

It is true the letters prior to his marriage do not betray the transports of a first love, for Nelson at the age of twenty-six was old and stern in female society, but they show that head and heart went together.

In the first letter he wrote to his future wife, dated from the Boreas, August 19, 1785, he said:

"I trust that my affection is not only founded upon the principle of reason, but also upon the basis of mutual attachment. Indeed, my charming Fanny, did I possess a million my greatest pride and pleasure would be to share it with you, and as I am to live in a cottage with you I should esteem it superior to living in a palace with any other I have yet met with. . . . The more I weigh you in my mind the more reason I find to admire both your head and heart."

Off Antigua, at Christmas time, he writes hopefully:—
"I can tell you a piece of news, which is that the Prince William Henry, afterward William IV, is fully determined and has made me promise him that he shall be at my wedding, and says he will give you to me."
On March 11, 1787, they were married, and the Prince, then captain of the Pegasus, kept his promise and gave the bride away.

Several years of quiet and happy life followed for the couple. Then, in September, 1783, in a letter to Lady Nelson, from Naples, first mention is made of Emma, Lady Hamilton, who is described as "wonderfully kind and good to Joseph" (his stepson) and "a young woman of amicable manner and who does honor to the station to which she is raised."

But it was not till after the battle of the Nile that he really came under the thrall of his Circe.

Everybody knows about the honors heaped on Nelson and the hysterical enthusiasm at Naples, when he arrived after his victory, shown by the Queen of the two Sicilies and Lady Hamilton. This is the guarded manner in which Nelson narrated his reception to his wife:—
"The poor wretched Vanguard arriv'd here on the 22d. I must endeavour to convey to you something of what passed, but it was so affectg. to those only who are united in bonds of friendship, what must it be to my dearest Wife, my friend, my everything which is most dear to me in this world. Sir Wm. and Lady Hamilton came out to sea, attended by numerous boats, with all emblems, &c. . . . alongside my honor'd friends came, the scene in the boat appeared terribly affecting, in fact her ladyship and exclaiming 'Oh, God, is it possible,' fell into my arm more dead than alive, tears however soon set matters to rights. . . . I hope one day to have the pleasure of introducing you to Lady Hamilton. She is one of the very best women in the world, how few could have made the turn she has, she is an honour to her sex, and a proof that even reputation may be regain'd, but I own it requires a great soul."

Thereafter every letter brings home to the wife more and more the growing infatuation for "dear Lady Hamilton," until she writes, "I am sick of hearing of 'dear Lady Hamilton,' and am resolved that you shall give up either her or me."

Then the end.

It has generally been understood that Lady Nelson never made an effort to regain her husband's affections. How wrong history is is revealed by her letters, especially three, in January, July and December, 1801, attempting a reconciliation.

The last was sent back to her with the envelope briefly marked, "Opened in mistake by Lord N., but not read."

"This is the painful, heartbroken epistle:—
"No 16 SOMERSET STREET, Dec. 18, 1801."
"MY DEAR HUSBAND:—It is some time since I have written to you. The silence you have imposed is more than my affection will allow me, and in this instance I hope you will forgive me in not obeying you. One thing I omitted in My letter of July, which I now have to offer for your accommodation—a comfortable, warm House. Do, My Dear Husband, let us live together. I can never be happy till such an event takes place. I assure you again I have but one wish in the world, to please you. Let everything be buried in oblivion. It will pass away like a dream. I can now only entreat you to believe I am most sincerely and affectionately your wife,
"FRANCES H. NELSON."

There are already six of these guns installed at different spots in Scotland and one has been sent to America. Once this gun is started it will continue to feed and fire itself—at proper intervals until its fuel is exhausted—for several weeks.

To leave it in continual action in all weathers was obviously an extremely wasteful and undesirable proceeding. It was here that "wireless" stepped in. The matter was taken up by the Marconi Company at the suggestion of Messrs. Stevens.

The research department set to work and in a comparatively short time had patented and prepared for demonstration an apparatus which fulfilled all requirements. A month or so later a trial was arranged under proper working conditions of the first model.

The apparatus, combined with the acetylene gun, was put out on an exposed pier, the transmitting plant was left in the hands of men who had never had anything

to do with "wireless" apparatus before, and the trial was continued until the authorities were so tired of the monotony of the unvarying success that they agreed to terminate it after a period of six weeks.

The "wireless" apparatus is able to turn "on" and "off" the gas valve of the acetylene gun, and thus it is only fired when there is actually fog.

Two sets are now working on the Clyde—one at Rosneath Reach and the other at Fort Matilda. Others are to be installed. The invention has also an important bearing on the safety of railway trains.

The installation of a "receiving" set on every train, with its corresponding "transmitter" at the various signal boxes, would enable any signalman to control the trains on his section in such a way that he could remedy any mistake—whether made by himself and perceived too late or made by the driver and observed by the signalman, and thus prevent the terrible results which too often follow the slightest derangement in the intricate machinery of train organization.

A Dirty Job.
"Just look at the wonderful color of the sea!" exclaimed a tourist on his first Mediterranean cruise. "See how blue it is!"
"That's not strange," growled a traveller who had lately run the gamut of Neapolitan pensions and was therefore disillusioned. "No wonder it's blue. You'd be blue yourself if you had to wash the shores of Italy!"

The thirty-six divisions each are composed of three two-battalion regiments and a rifle battalion. To each Army Corps is attached a two battalion rifle regiment. The one exception is the Adriatic Army Corps, two divisions of which are composed of three three-battalion regiments and a rifle battalion, while the rifle regiment attached numbers three battalions.

It is difficult to form any idea of the total war effective of these 285 battalions. The peace effective of those which have passed through Constantinople on their way to their new quarters in Asia Minor varies from 300 to 400 bayonets. Those stationed at Constantinople average 400. Enver Pasha has proposed new legislation whereby service will be reduced from three to two years and all exemptions abolished, even for the sole supports of their families, who are to receive an allowance from the State. The fact that the government annually obtains a revenue of more than \$1,500,000 from the military exemption tax renders it unlikely that military exemptions will be immediately abolished, whatever may be urged in favor of such a measure.

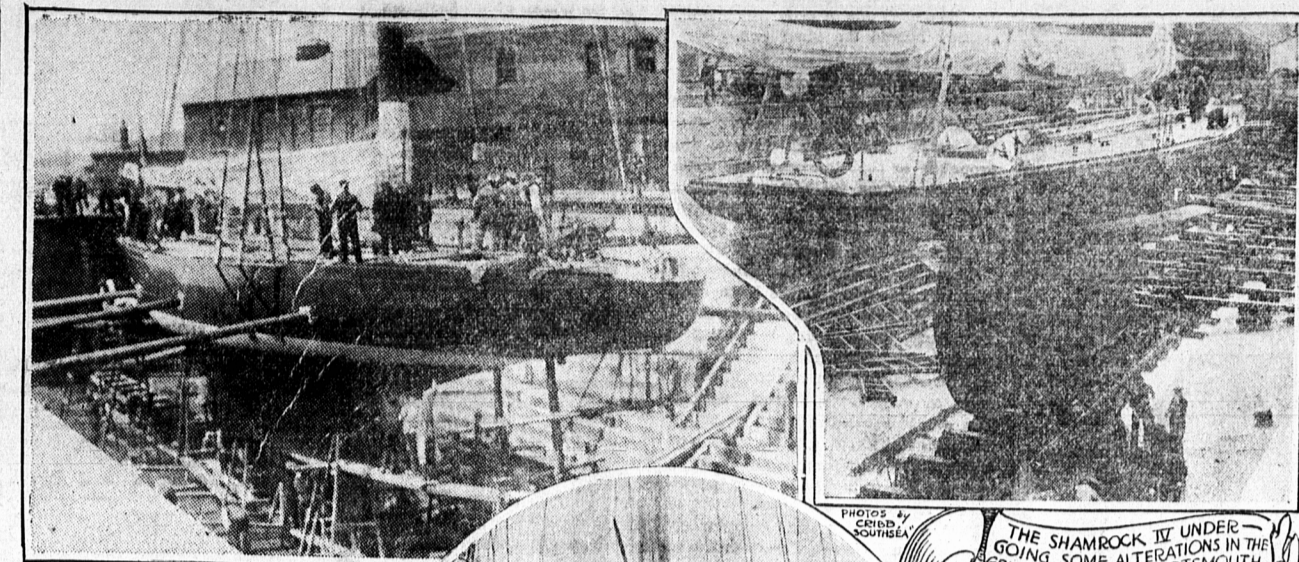
The cavalry is short of horses and will not be able to put more than fifty per cent of its nominal effective in the field for some time to come. Owing to the heavy losses of modern material, most of the artillery regiments stationed in Asia are armed with old B. L. Krupp field guns, and it is doubtful whether the first four Army Corps are entirely supplied with Q. F. pieces.

German models are followed by the Turks. Turkish officers have a high opinion of the fighting qualities of the Austrian and still more of the Russian forces, but Germany, owing to the real or alleged superiority of her Great General Staff, would be "first favorite" here in event of a European war. Little is known of the French army and still less of the British.

Of their recent antagonists Turkish officers rate the Bulgars first, and after them the Serbs, though they consider that the latter will be "weakened rather than strengthened" by the incorporation of Balkanophil Macedonians in what was previously a very homogeneous force. The solidity and determination of the Bulgar and the efficiency of his staff work and general organization have incited a very wholesome respect for his fighting powers among the Turks, who, on the other hand, seem to hold the Greek army in contempt and base their appreciation of the Italian army on its unmanly passive attitude in Cyrenaica and Tripoli.

Difficulty is experienced in obtaining information as to training in the provinces. There is a strong desire for progress among most junior officers and in the General Staff, but recent appointments and dismissals have not allayed the suspicion that political considerations still play a large part in the allotment of the higher commands. It remains to be seen whether the young leaders of the army will have the patience for the plodding "spade work" which reconstruction demands. In the army, as in other departments of State, the Turks, however much they may now rely on foreign advisers, have in the last resort only themselves to thank if they succeed or fail.

SOME STRIKING PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SHAMROCK IV., SHOWING ODD CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHALLENGER



THE SHAMROCK IV UNDER GOING SOME ALTERATIONS IN THE GRAVING DOCK AT PORTSMOUTH

Wireless Used to Warn Ships by Fog Signals

Apparatus Turns On and Off Valve of Acetylene Gun at Will of Operator.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, July 4. Though little has come of the many boomed "inventions" concerning "wireless" torpedoes and "wireless" airships, success has attended the efforts of the Marconi Company in the perfecting of fog signals in isolated beacons which are sounded at intervals of thirty seconds or so whenever the weather conditions render such warnings necessary.

The need of such signals, it is declared in the "Wireless World," was particularly felt by the Clyde Lighthouse Trust, and the automatic gas gun, jointly developed and produced by Messrs. D. & C. Stevenson, of Edinburgh, and Messrs. W. Mayer & Sons, of Glasgow, provided the trust with exactly what was needed—a very powerful and regular fog signal which could be left unattended for months on end.

There are already six of these guns installed at different spots in Scotland and one has been sent to America. Once this gun is started it will continue to feed and fire itself—at proper intervals until its fuel is exhausted—for several weeks.

London Richer by \$100,000,000

Americans Spent This Sum in England During the Season Just Closed.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON is spending money at a record pace in these two weeks, which mark the culmination of the London season, when the social world strives to distribute all the superfluous cash it has in its capacious pockets.

There is a tremendous lot of dinner parties, a succession of balls and a sequence of entertainments, and hostesses who have carefully conserved their resources since May now see the end of the season in sight and are whirling away the last two weeks in a gust of prodigality.

An extraordinary number of dinner parties has been arranged at the principal hotels—the Carlton, the Savoy, the Ritz, the Piccadilly and Claridge's. Never have there been such heavy bookings for small dinners.

It also is estimated that there are more than fifty thousand persons from America in England now, and by the end of the next two weeks they will have spent huge sums in returning the hospitality of their English friends.

The head of an important American banking firm said:—
"According to an estimate carefully prepared from statistics furnished by the expenditures of American tourists in the last six years these persons from America will have spent between \$75,000,000 and \$100,000,000 before they return home."

Red Ray Harmful

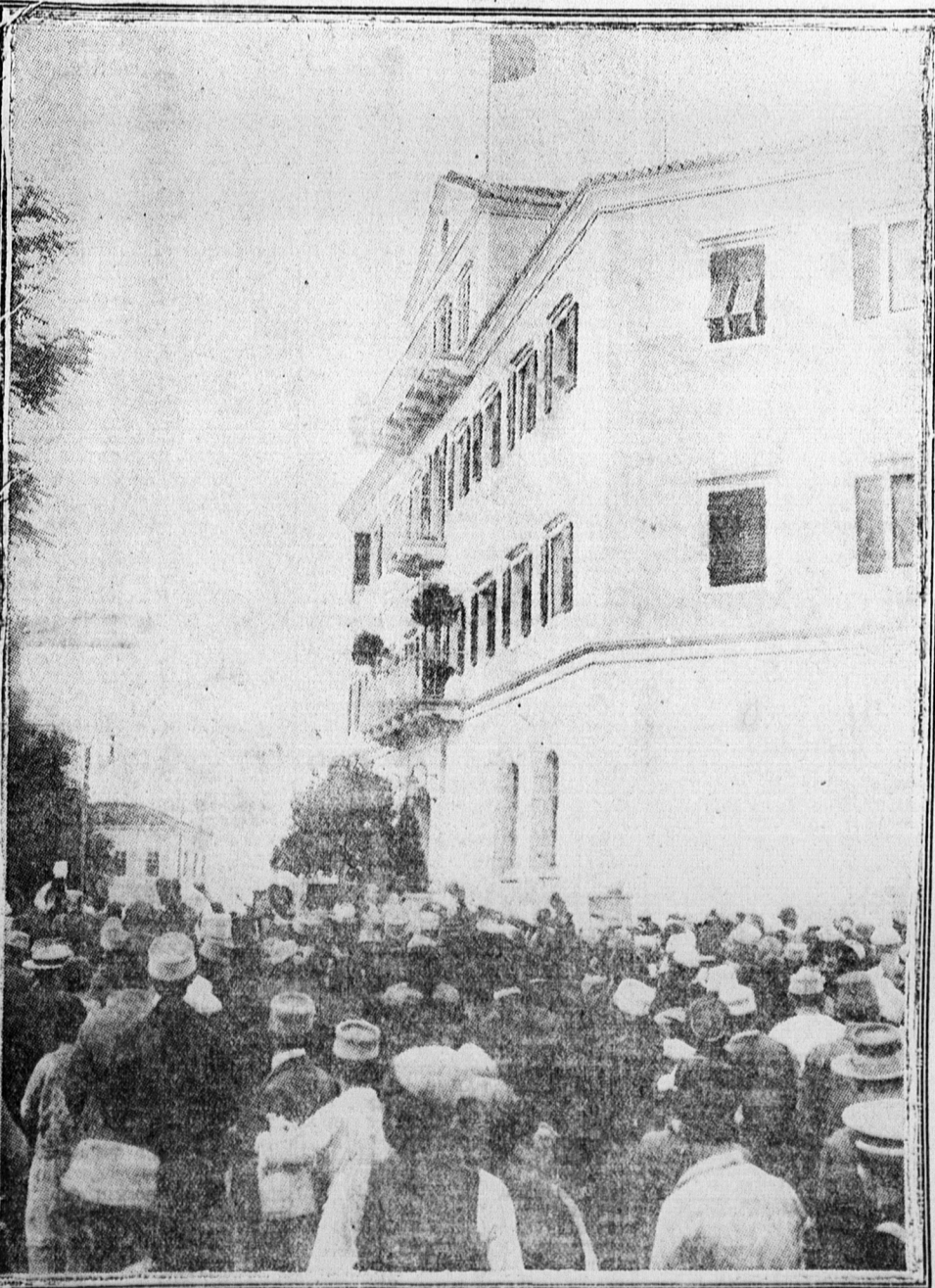
(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, July 4. THE question of harmful radiations and the protection of the eyesight is being investigated by the Illuminating Engineering Societies of England and America, and it is gradually becoming evident, especially from a report recently published by the American Research Committee, that infra-red rays may be harmful as well as the ultra-violet. They may be of even more importance in the case of artificial light, where the glass itself absorbs practically all the harmful ultra-violet radiations in ordinary circumstances.

Experiments are being made with light transmitted through very thin sheets of marble, and marble light is shown by the recent investigations of W. Voegte to be practically devoid of infra-red radiation. It has also been found that light so produced is very white, not dazzling, and very agreeable for working conditions.

"Thin plates of marble for screening electric light have been prepared in Hamburg by W. Engel.

ALBANIAN PRINCE BESIEGED IN PALACE



PRINCE WILLIAM OF WIED RECEIVING FRIENDLY CLAN

News of an alarming nature has been received from Albania to the effect that Prince William of Wied, the new ruler, was besieged in his capital by a rebel army and was fighting for his three-months-old throne. Unfortunately Colonel Thomson, the Dutch commander of the gendarmes, was shot through the neck and died of his wounds. Fighting was fierce, and the defenders were driven back to the walls of the city. "Prince William then took command of the troops," says one report, "and the situation, which at one time seemed desperate, began to improve." There is some divergence of opinion as to whether he Prince took an active part or not in the operations.

Above Tree Tops

Does Man's Ownership of Land Extend Only so High and No Higher?

(Special Dispatch.)

PARIS, July 4. DOES a farmer possess not only the land that he cultivates, but all the space above it as well? Mr. Heurtebise, owner of a farm near Villarozy, was of the affirmative opinion, and he sued Messrs. Esnault-Pelterie, Farman and Borel, whose aviation grounds almost surround his property, and he was awarded damages.

In making the award the court held that though in theory a land owner had rights over the atmosphere overhead, this principle in practice only applied as far as the tops of trees and buildings. It was held that above this point the liberty of the air was complete and aerial circulation legally unhampered, but in the present case the defendants had flown too close to the earth and must pay damages.

Several interesting points were involved in the decision. An article of the Civil Code states that property in the soil carries with it property in the air above and the earth beneath. But the decision of the French court appears to assert that these rights only extend to a certain arbitrary height and that above that height the air space, being of its nature free, people have the right to fly over other people's land. It seems to assert further that this right of flying must be used in a proper way, and that if the flying causes prejudice to the occupier of the land the airman is liable.

The German and Swiss codes enunciate the principle that the occupier cannot prevent persons going over his land at a height at which he has no interest in excluding them. Last autumn the Comité Juridique International d'Aviation at the Congress of Frankfurt passed the following articles as intended to be incorporated in the proposed International Code:—
"No one can, on the ground of a right of property, oppose the passage of aircraft under conditions which do not present for him any appreciable inconvenience. Every abuse of the right of passage lays its responsible author open to an action for damages."

Marvels of Science.
Washington Star:—"Some day we'll be telephoning through the air without wires."
"Maybe. But won't it seem queer to have an operator call back to you and say 'The aid is busy now!'"

New Timbers

These Are Needed to Preserve Cover to Historic Old Westminster Hall.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, July 4. THE roof timbers of Westminster Hall have been found to be seriously damaged by the ravages of the larvae of the beetle Xestobium tessellatum. Mr. Frank Baines, one of the principal architects of the Office of Works, recommends a thorough reinforcement with steel. This will cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000. His report was recently entered as a parliamentary paper.

In this report Mr. Baines gives an account of the detailed examination he made of the timbers. He shows that of the five forms of decay found much the most serious is that due to the Xestobium tessellatum beetle, means of attacking which are now being sought by chemists and entomologists.

Mr. Baines makes these recommendations:—To maintain the roof in its integrity by a full scheme of steel reinforcement, designed so as to affect the appearance of the structure as little as possible and to afford adequate support to every one of the members. Should some such scheme not be approved not only will it be impossible to render the roof safe by piecing up the timbers, but it might even be necessary in certain cases to take the whole of some of the trusses down, renewing in their entirety many of the constructional members.

Mr. Baines strongly advocates oak for the renewal of the decayed wood. It is better than chestnut or even teak, he believes.

His scheme of steel reinforcement consists of a complete steel truss which follows the outlines of the principal rafters at the top and the outlines of the great arched rib on the underside, finishing at the bottom by horizontal members at the level of the wallplate. While acknowledging that the difficulties of erection and fixing will be great, Mr. Baines considers that if his proposal is carried out the roof will gain vastly in appearance, since the unsightly modern timber struts and the long tie-rods, bolts, &c., which at present break across the original lines of the trusses, will all be removed and the trusses again appear as they were originally constructed.

A Witch.
Judge:—"I just got a letter from Jack with fifteen mistakes in it!"
"Evidently you hold him spellbound."