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MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LATE PRINCE OF LEININGEN.—This estimable prince, whose death was announced on Saturday, the 15th instant was the only son of his Serene Highness Emich Charles, of Leiningen, by his marriage with the Princess Victoria Marie-Louise of Saxe-Coburg (now her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent), and consequently stood in the position of half-brother to her Majesty. The deceased was born in September, 1804, and succeeded his father in July, 1814, being then only in his 11th year. On the 12th of September, 1823, he was declared "of age." He then entered the military service of the King of Bavaria, in which army he held the rank of lieutenant-general and colonel-in-chief of the 5th regiment of cavalry. The prince married in February, 1829, Marie (*nee* Countess of Klettelberg), by whom he leaves issue—Prince Ernest, born 1830, and Prince Edward, born 1833. The deceased prince is succeeded by Prince Ernest, who is a lieutenant in the British navy, and distinguished himself during the recent naval operations in the Black Sea, obtaining his lieutenancy in April last year, and in May last he was appointed second-lieutenant to her Majesty's steam-frigate Magicienne. In addition to her Majesty and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Court of Brussels and several of the German Courts will be placed in mourning by the demise of his serene highness, which has resulted from an attack of apoplexy.

THE STEAM-SHIP GREAT BRITAIN.—This famous vessel is undergoing further alterations of an important character. She has had a new stempost forged at the Mersey foundry, which is said to be the most ponderous piece of wrought iron ever put together for any purpose; she is to be fitted with a new double-bladed screw, of fine pitch, to be attached to a lifting apara us; will have a new figure head—lion and unicorn life-size; her masts have been moved forward, and alterations have been made in her rig to enable her to carry one-fourth more canvass than heretofore; and a full poop has been built on deck. In consequence of altering the position of her masts she will have one instead of two funnels, and that will be oval in shape. She will be able to carry nearly 600 passengers, about 2000 tons of cargo, 1000 tons of coal, besides stores and water for a voyage to Australia. Her advertised day of sailing is the 15th of February next.

Mr. E. M. Ward has returned to Paris with a portfolio of sketches for the great picture of Victoria at the tomb of Napoleon—commissioned by the Queen. The Emperor and Empress, we understand, are to give the Artist sittings in December.

By an act passed last session the municipal boundary of Edinburgh has been extended to the limits of the Parliamentary burgh, thus enlarging the area of the city by nearly three times, and giving the town-council a population of nearly 200,000 instead of 60,000 to represent.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—We understand that an expedition will be prepared forthwith, to proceed in search of further traces of Sir John Franklin's party, *via* Behring's Straits. The command will, it is said, be conferred upon George H. Richards, who has rendered such good services in previous Arctic searches, and who, upon many accounts, is viewed as the most fitting officer to command the expedition.

THE PAVEMENT OF LONDON.—The pavement of London is one of the greatest marvels of our time. It covers nearly 3,000 acres, two thirds whereof consists of what may be call'ed mosaic work done in plain style, and the other third of smooth flagging. Such a series of works far transcends in quantity, as it excels in quality, the Appian Way, which was the wonder of ancient Rome, and which would cut but a poor figure as contrasted with one of our commonest streets. The ancient consular way was but fifteen feet wide in the main, and was filled in with blocks of all shapes and sizes, joined together and planed only on the surface; the length of its devious course, from north to south of Italy, was under 300 miles. The paved streets of London number over 5,000, and exceed 2,000 miles in length!

ORDINATION OF A FOREIGN MISSIONARY.—The Presbytery of Pictou, met in Prince Street Church, Pictou, for the ordination of Mr. John Wm. Mathewson, preacher of the gospel, as a missionary to the South Seas. The services of the day were commenced by the Rev. James Weston, who preached from Rom. i. 15, "So as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." The Rev. George Patterson then narrated the steps, and put to Mr Mathewson the questions of the formula, when the Rev. George Walker in solemn and impressive supplication led the devotions of the Presbytery, as Mr. Mathewson was by prayer and by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery solemnly set apart as a missionary to the heathen.

EGYPTIAN CORN.—We were shown, this morning two heads of Egyptian corn, the patriarchal staff of life, which was cut by Mr. E. Whitney, from a field belonging to Mr. John Firth at Newtown, L. I. The stalk has the appearance of Indian or broom corn, and the heads, drooping gracefully downward by their own weight, are not unlike the tops of broom corn. Highly farinaceous qualities are discovered, however, in the grain, which is very prolific, a single head furnishing sufficient to sow many acres. The seed from which this corn was propagated was found in the hand of a mummy brought from Egypt to London. Samples of the English crop were sent to Mr Firth and he planted a quarter of an acre which produced a thousand fold. Mr. Whitney will be pleased to show this singular product to any persons interested and will retain it for a while at his Daguerreotype rooms. The corn is planted in the spring and is now just coming to maturity on Long Island. Some of our members will perhaps, like to try a small crop next year.—*Rochester Democrat.*