

JULY 17, 1912.

**STREET TRAGEDY
IN
NEW YORK.**

GAMBLER SHOT.

ALLEGED POLICE CRIME.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.

The climax in the latest police scandal in New York was reached at an early hour this morning, when an informer against the "blue coats" was dramatically shot and killed while standing in front of his hotel. Herman Rosenthal, a notorious gambler, revived the question of the crookedness of New York's police recently, and created much excitement when he published in one of the big newspapers here an affidavit swearing that he had taken out a 6 per cent. mortgage for £300 on his household effects with certain police lieutenant of this city on the understanding that he (Rosenthal) could invest the sum in a gambling den, and so long as he paid the interest on the mortgage regularly, in addition to a "small consideration," would receive police protection, and his place would not be raided.

Apparently something went wrong, because so soon had Rosenthal fitted up the rooms with all the gambling paraphernalia, such as roulette wheels, faro, &c., than the police descended, cleared out the place, and arrested Rosenthal. The gambler then retaliated by confessing his alleged relations with the police lieutenant, and the matter is now in the hands of District Attorney Whitman, who declares that a thorough investigation into the alleged police "graft" will be made.

FEAR OF THE POLICE.

Since Rosenthal began to talk about the police methods he has declared that he was afraid the police would "get him" before he had chance to give more information to the Public Prosecutor. His fears were apparently well-founded, and this morning he met his fate. The murderers, of whom there are at least four, drove up to the Hotel Metropole here in a taxi-cab just as Rosenthal came out of the revolving doors of that hotel.

According to several eye-witnesses of the tragedy Rosenthal saw the occupants of the taxi-cab as soon as they saw him, turned quickly on their heels, and started to retreat into the hotel. At a moment the four men sprang out of the taxi-cab, and, levelling revolvers, began shooting. The first volley missed, but the second sent 70 bullets into the gambler's brain, and he died instantly. According to the same witness, who will be searchingly examined by Mr. Whitman, one of the men who shot the gambler was policeman, a fact of which he is sure because he plainly saw the uniform."

Other witnesses made a note of the taxi-cab's number, and it is hoped that the murderers will be run to earth shortly.

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**DEATH OF
M. HUBERT LATHAM.**

FAMOUS AVIATOR.

KILLED BY A BUFFALO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Tuesday Night.

A short despatch from Dakar this afternoon, confirmed by the Ministry of Colonies, brought the news that Hubert Latham, the celebrated aviator, had met with an accidental death in the course of a shooting expedition in the Upper Congo, or Uganda. No other details could at first be obtained, and such as it was the brief message caused a sensation in aviation circles.

Hubert Latham dies at the age of 32. He came of an English family on his father's side, and through his mother he was related to the German Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg. He was a man of considerable means, and, like M. Santos Dumont, spent his money and his leisure freely in the attempt to solve the difficult problem of the conquest of the air. We realise even better now, in view of the long list of fatal accidents, the risks that the pioneers of aviation ran in soaring to prodigious heights with machines only half complete and often of a rudimentary description.

It was soon after the sensational experiments at Le Mans of Wilbur Wright, in 1908, that Hubert Latham came to the fore as one of the champions of the Antoinette aeroplane, and his first flight was in March, 1909.

Early in June Latham suddenly announced that he was going to fly across the Channel. The mere idea seemed preposterous, but it was hailed, nevertheless, with enthusiasm, as a bold scheme, even if impracticable, and the Government graciously offered Latham two torpedo boats, and the port of Calais any number of tugs, to convoy him across on his perilous journey. Latham accepted these offers, but was not very keen on them. He trusted chiefly to his beautiful Antoinette monoplane, which was then a wonder of mechanical workmanship.

THE CHANNEL FLIGHT.

For weeks Latham made leisurely preparations at Sangatte, and finally, on the morning of July 19, 1909, he made his first attempt and flew seven miles out to sea, where he dropped gracefully and floated on the waves like a bird that had been wounded in its flight and was waiting to be rescued. The flight had lasted just twelve minutes. There was enormous excitement, both on the French and the English coasts, when for half an hour no news was received of him. Finally the message came that the torpedo boat Harpon had picked him up safely, and that Latham had been found quietly smoking his cigarette.

While he was preparing for a second attempt M. Blériot, who had been attracted also by the scheme, made a bold dash across the Channel on July 25, 1909, and thus took the glory of the first crossing from him. But to Latham, nevertheless, belonged the credit of having made the first attempt. A week later he renewed his effort, and all but succeeded in crossing the Channel, landing within a mile or so of the coast, near Dover. He had his revenge on Blériot in the following month at Rheims, when he carried away a number of

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

250TH ANNIVERSARY.

SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER.

Yesterday witnessed the formal celebration of the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Society, and as was fitting on so auspicious an occasion, the great centres of science reached from the very ends of the earth to join in congratulations to the mother of all scientific bodies. In a day when the onward march of discovery in the varied fields of human thought and achievement is irresistible by reason of there being no desire on the part of any one to resist, it is but natural that so great an occasion should command the sympathetic interest of an entire world that has benefited, in inconceivable measure, by the all-conquering progress of science. And so the messages of good will delivered yesterday were universal and heart-felt. They were the open expression of the thankfulness of untold millions to a body that is rightly regarded as the centre from which incalculable benefits to mankind freely radiate.

Though there had been an evening reception of delegates on Monday, the formal ceremonies did not begin till yesterday. The days of conflict between science and theology have long passed away, and the celebrations began with a commemorative service in Westminster Abbey. Many and distinguished were those who attended. Some of them had long since discarded the cherished beliefs preached by an ancient Church; others had opposed accepted truths with the strongest weapons of informed critical analysis, yet there was common ground in the brief service of thankfulness for victories achieved, upon which they could meet, and thus it was that the service was invested with a deeper meaning than that attaching to many others. The Church was reconciling conflicting elements. What finer proof of its conquering power? What better instance of its noble mission?

The special Collects written for the occasion breathed the spirit of the moment. "O Almighty and everlasting God, Who by Thy most Holy Spirit hast made known unto men, in ever-increasing measure, the riches and wonders of Thy creative wisdom, grant unto us the blessing of humble and thankful hearts that we may praise Thy holy name for all those in every age and clime, who have added to the sum of earthly knowledge by their discoveries in natural science." How different from the days when the very existence of natural science as a real force was doubted, and when belief in it was regarded as heresy! Two branches of human thought, seriously in conflict a while ago, testifying openly to a common respect for each other in that sacred edifice! Nay, progress had proceeded further still. "We pray Thee," ran other words, "to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon these Thy servants, the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society; direct their consultations, and prosper their undertakings to the glory of Thy name and the good of Thy people." Here, indeed had science legitimate cause for pride.

THE DEAN'S ADDRESS.

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Although Rosenthal's death will mean the loss of much valuable detail to Mr. Whitman's case the curious coincidence of his murder at this time has so aroused public indignation that the accusations against the New York police will now be believed, whereas formerly they have been scoffed at as the mutterings of a bad loser. It was thought until the present scandal that this city was practically free from gambling dens owing to the many sensational police raids made upon them, but now the old scepticism is revived.

IMMUNITY.

Rosenthal's story anyone could verify. The following is a list of the various gambling establishments:

To open a gambling house (roulette, faro, &c.), £100.

To operate a gambling house, per month, £60.

To open a horse-racing or pool-room (afternoon only), £100.

To operate a pool-room, per month, £60.

To operate a dice game, £10 to £50 per month, according to play.

To operate a poker "club," £10 to £20 per month, according to play.

Police Commissioner Waldo has written to Mr. Whitman declaring that New York City is never in its history been freer from gamblers or their establishments, and offering every aid of the police department to rid the city of undesirable elements.

The most disconcerting feature is the popular belief that the real murderers will be allowed to evade arrest. Rosenthal's death has already strengthened the widespread conviction that the police of New York, like the police of other American cities where the force is controlled by politicians and exploited as the spoils of office, can be bought by evildoers willing to pay the price. If this charge is not true, the public argue, why do so many American police-officers retire wealthy? One police inspector, when questioned, admitted that he had received "graft," but, he added, honest "graft," and the distinction between honest "graft" and dishonest "graft" has now become historic. Until recent years, when the reform wave commenced rolling, police-officers here charged with "graft" virtually defended themselves in the words of the popular song, "Everybody's doing it," and the inquiry regarding Rosenthal's death is expected to show whether "graft" as an institution still retains its popularity.

CHAUFFEUR ARRESTED.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.

Shortly after the murder the police arrested in a garage the chauffeur of a big touring car answering to the description of that from which the murderers fled. The engine of the car was ill hot and the chauffeur showed signs of nervous strain. He denied all knowledge of the crime, but was detained on a charge of murder. Two witnesses have also been taken into custody.

The theory of the police is that Rosenthal was killed by other gamblers, who feared the effect which the revelations he was about to make would have upon their business. The police say that they have learned that frequenters of certain resorts have known for some time that the "squealer" was about to be silenced. The district attorney, on the other hand, states that Rosenthal yesterday expressed the opinion that the police would "get him."—*Editor.*

SOUTH AFRICAN MAILS.

POINTS OF AGREEMENT.

nevertheless, belonged the credit of having made the first attempt. A week later he renewed his effort, and all but succeeded in crossing the Channel, landing within a mile or so of the coast, near Dover. He had his revenge on Blériot in the following month at Rheims, when he carried away a number of prizes and won, among others, that of the greatest altitude flight, which at that time was just over 500ft. His next exploits were at the Johannisthal meeting, near Berlin, where he made a daring flight in a storm. One day Latham answered the invitation of the Marquis de Polignac to a shooting party by flying to his estate in the Champagne country, and returned in the evening carrying away his bag of game.

SUCCESS AT MANŒUVRES.

These exploits seemed wonderful at that time, and Latham next astonished the Army officers by his flights during the manoeuvres in Picardie. He next flew at Blackpool, at Heliopolis, at Nice, at Rouen, and at Havre, and was the first to rise to a height of more than 3,000ft. The story went that he felt that he was consumptive and that his days were numbered, and for this reason he was reckless in his flights; but the truth may be that he was bold because he had confidence in his skill and the perfect knowledge of his machine. After his brilliant services at the Army manoeuvres he was decorated with the Legion of Honour.

Another despatch just received as I write states that Latham was killed by a buffalo. He had been very fond of big game shooting before he took up aviation, and after his flying exploits he returned to this sport.

The Ministry of Colonies stated this evening that it had received a cable from M. Merlin, Governor-General of French Equatorial Africa, confirming the news of Latham's death. The despatch says that Latham had gone to the Congo to shoot big game, and was killed on June 7 by a wild buffalo. The relatives of Latham have been informed by order of M. Lebrun, Minister of the Colonies.

LATHAM'S FINEST FLIGHT.

By One Who Saw It.

Undoubtedly the finest flight ever executed by Hubert Latham, and probably a feat of aviation that has never been excelled, was his famous battle with a forty-mile gale at Blackpool on Oct. 22, 1909. That was in the early days of aviation, when the vast body of experience which now exists for the help and guidance of air pilots had not been collected, and when "records" were made which look mean beside those of the present day. The giants of those days were Henry Farman, Blériot, Paulhan, Rougier, and Hubert Latham, and Latham was probably the coolest hand of the lot. He gave one the impression, as a friend remarked to me at that time, of having taken to aviation because he was bored to death by all other forms of excitement. He had had no sort of luck at Blackpool, just as he had no luck with his Channel flight. But, nevertheless, he provided the thrill of the meeting on that famous Friday.

The Blackpool meeting had not been favoured by the weather, and the day of Latham's daring flight was perhaps the worst of the week. But it appeared that overnight Latham had promised Countess Torby, who was attending the meeting with the Grand Duke Michael, that she should witness a flight on the morrow. I cannot say if the story is true, because Latham was the most reticent of men, and never cared to confirm or deny all the gossip that was circulated about him. Anyhow, he had apparently made up his mind to fly, and nothing would dissuade him from the attempt.

The conditions were as bad as they could be, and quite early in the morning it was announced that there would be no flying. Then the wind moderated slightly, and we were informed that flying was possible. I believe that the committee were actually discussing the withdrawal of the "possible" signal when Latham's Antoinette was wheeled out of its shed. It was drawn towards the starting line by a cart-horse, and behind it walked Latham; with his customary tired step, leaning heavily on his walking-stick, wearing his inseparable waterproof, and smoking the inevitable cigarette.

consultations, and prosper their undertakings to the glory of Thy name and the good of Thy people." Here, indeed had science legitimate cause for pride.

THE DEAN'S ADDRESS.

The Dean of Westminster gave eloquent expression to the dominant sentiment aroused in those present. There was a time, he said, when the holding of such a service as that day's in Westminster Abbey would have received but a faint echo from religious bodies. Times had changed. He spoke in the name of the whole world of contemporary Christian thought when he expressed gratitude for the encouragement of human thought which had resulted from the patient research in the field of natural science by the members of the Royal Society during the past 250 years. The work of the society had tended to elevate and purify thought, it was untrammelled by party politics, its studies overleapt the barriers of race and language, and made for the peace of the world and for the well-being of every class. He supposed he would not be wrong in assuming that great as had been the effect of the work of the Royal Society upon the progress of mankind, they still had travelled but a little way. What might not be expected from the discoveries of natural science during the next 250 years? He blessed the work of the society for the good it had accomplished in the maintenance of just and charitable opinion among all classes of the community. "What reason may not commend it will condemn," and it was through the influence of the men of the Royal Society in the field of natural science that they believed reason, as the noblest gift of God to man, would assert its beneficent and unswerving sway.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

In the afternoon there was the formal reception of delegates by the president in the Great Library of the Royal Society at Burlington House. They came to deliver their addresses of congratulation and greeting. It would have been difficult to find time to read them all, and they were therefore formally handed to Sir Archibald Geikie. The finely-proportioned room presented a striking appearance, for it contained men of high achievement in the numerous fields of human knowledge. They had earned world-wide reputations, and were worthy representatives of the great seats of learning by which they had been deputed to attend. They hailed from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Egypt, Japan, Mexico, and the United States. The British Dominions beyond the seas were represented by delegates from Australia, Canada, India, and South Africa, whilst the British Isles sent its most honoured figures in the world of science.

A few names will suffice to show the representative character of the gathering. Dr. C. B. Heberden, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, represented his University; Lord Rayleigh, the Chancellor of Cambridge, filled the same duty for his. Others present were Dr. Wilmot Parker Herringham, Vice-Chancellor of the London University; Sir Oliver Hodge, Principal of the Birmingham University; Sir Alfred Hopkinson, Vice-Chancellor of the Manchester University; Sir Thomas Barlow, President of the Royal College of Physicians; Sir Rickman J. Godlee, President of the Royal College of Surgeons; Sir H. E. Roscoe, Chairman of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine; and the presidents of almost every other well-known scientific body in the kingdom.

WELCOMING THE DELEGATES.

In welcoming those present, Sir Archibald Geikie said:

On behalf of the Royal Society, I desire to express our warm appreciation of the sympathetic response which has been made by so many universities, academies, and learned institutions in all parts of the world, and by so many distinguished men of science, to our invitation to celebrate with us on this occasion the 250th birthday of the society. No more striking proof than is presented by this

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SOUTH AFRICAN MAILS.

POINTS OF AGREEMENT.

Reuter's Agency learns that the great majority of the outstanding questions between the Union Government and the Union Castle Steamship Company, in connection with the South African mail service, have now been definitely settled to the satisfaction of both parties. Among these are the question of all freights from South Africa to England, inclusive not only of the mealie trade, but also of other important South African products. The rate of speed of the ships for the future mail service has been determined upon as well as the duration of the contract, and the new arrangements will provide for an interval of three or four days between the arrival and departure of the South African mails.

The terms of the new contract of the shipping company with the Union Government, together with the arrangements with the Imperial Government, have been agreed upon in the main, and since last Saturday the heads of the British departments concerned have congratulated the Union Government on the speedy solution of what at one time looked very like a long-drawn-out and difficult problem.

"WORLD'S PEACEMAKER."

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.

The Senate to-day passed, without discussion, a resolution proposed by Mr. Tillman directing the Committee on Naval Affairs to determine how far shipbuilders and armourers can go to build the best battleship or cruiser the world has ever seen or will see.

Mr. Tillman suggested that if any such vessel were built she should be called the Terror, and should be made the peacemaker of the world.—*Reuter.*

care to confirm or deny all the gossip that was circulated about him. Anyhow, he had apparently made up his mind to fly, and nothing would dissuade him from the attempt.

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FLYING AGAINST THE WIND.

The wind at the time was blowing anything from 35 to 40 miles an hour. Latham made a bad start, just rising from the ground and coming down heavily. The aeroplane was hauled back to the starting line, and after a brief delay he got off again. He was in trouble almost immediately. The course was an unequal quadrilateral. Latham passed the line of spectators' stands and got to the first mark-tower, round which he had to turn into a furious cross-wind. His machine rocked and quivered. The thrilling experience had begun.

To many of us it was our first sight of a man in a puny aircraft battling against the forces of Nature. Latham forced his way down the long side of the course, and then turned the second mark-tower right into the teeth of the gale. It was a stern fight that began here. Latham was now on the shortest side of the quadrilateral, with the wind dead against him. He had to fight his way inch by inch. At times he seemed to be at a standstill, but after a desperate tussle he turned the third corner and getting the wind behind him shot forward like an arrow. He was carried far outside the course, but came in again and started to turn the fourth corner.

By now the tension of the people in the stands had almost reached breaking-point. Every eye was fixed on the tiny figure high in the gloomy air. Hands were clasped in horror and fear, and useless cries were uttered urging Latham to come down. At last he turned and came along the stands again and passed the starting-line. He looked as though he was going to attempt a second round, but just before reaching the first tower he came down as lightly as a bird. There was a moment of dead silence, then a great sigh—almost a sob—of relief, and at last a mighty outburst of cheering, accompanied by the fluttering of handkerchiefs and the waving of hats and sticks. The flight had lasted ten minutes; it had seemed an eternity.

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Two hundred and fifty years seem in some respects no long span of time in the course of human history, but the 250 years across which we look back to-day have been in the history of science a period of momentous importance, crowded with incident, and full of marvellous achievement. When in the earlier decades of the seventeenth century Francis Bacon was so cogently insisting on the necessity of studying

P. J. G.

Nature by the careful observation of facts and the testing of conclusions by experiment, he made but slight practical impression in England. The seed which he sowed had not sprung into life until after he had passed away. About the middle of the century, however, the spirit of eager curiosity and inquiry with regard to the world wherein we live, which spread all over civilised countries, reached England also. Nature was still, as it had been from the earliest days of mankind, a vast unknown region, full on every hand of mystery and wonder. Even the most everyday phenomena presented to thoughtful minds problems for which no satisfactory solution had been found. The earnest desire to seek an explanation of some of these familiar phenomena at last induced a remarkable group of men in this country to organise themselves systematically for the prosecution of that experimental philosophy which Bacon had so longed to see pursued. It was a time of political turmoil and civil war in England when these studious men, retiring from the social strife, sought refuge in the investigation of Nature. They met weekly in London, where they discussed many diverse questions in physical and biological science, devising and carrying into execution numerous experiments by which they tried to ascertain the nature and connection of some of the fundamental processes in the economy of this world. When the civil commotions drove them from their meeting-place in London, some of the more active and enthusiastic among their number sought the shelter of Oxford, where, under the hospitable roof of Wadham College, they were able to continue their inquiries.

ORIGIN OF THE SOCIETY.

The restoration of the Monarchy in the early summer of the year 1660, which led to the re-establishment of settled order in the country, allowed the resumption of the scientific meetings in the autumn of that year. With the brighter prospects of peace before them, the philosophers assembled once more in the picturesque Gresham College, in the City of London, and for the better accomplishment of their aims they determined to form themselves into a definite society with a regular organisation and a common fund from which the cost of experiments could be defrayed. Had they restricted the membership of their proposed society to men of science properly so-called their number would hardly have exceeded two score. But with commendable foresight they took advantage of the prevalent spirit of curiosity regarding the secrets of Nature, and gathered round them a company of three times their own number, comprising prominent representatives of the Church, of law, of medicine, of politics, and of the public services. Their adherents included also men of letters, and it is specially noteworthy that among these were the foremost poets in the England of that day—John Dryden, Edmund Waller, John Denham, Abraham Cowley, William Hammond, and Thomas Stanley.

The career of the Royal Society is fully recorded in its various publications. Its "Philosophical Transactions" and "Proceedings," and likewise the separate works which it has issued form a chronicle from which the successive stages in the progress of modern science can be followed. The enumeration of only a few of the names which appear in these volumes shows that the society has counted among its Fellows some of the great leaders in all branches of natural knowledge. Starting its career with a notable group of physicists and mathematicians, among whom were Robert Boyle and John Wilkins, it ere long welcomed Isaac Newton into its ranks, published his immortal "Principia," and annually elected him as its president for nearly a quarter of a century. The physical sciences have all along been strongly represented here. It seems but yesterday that James Clerk Maxwell's voice was heard in these rooms, and that Stokes and Kelvin sat in the presidential chair. That the succession of leaders is still well maintained, the presence here today of Lord Rayleigh, Sir William Crookes, Sir Joseph Thomson, Sir Joseph Larmor, and many others amply proves. Nor have the biological sciences been less prominent in the work of the society. From the

Dr. F. Exner, Academy of Vienna; Professor E. Picard, University of Paris; Baron Gerard de Geer, University of Stockholm; Count Morner, Academy of Science, Stockholm; Dr. O. Backlund, Academy of Science, St. Petersburg; M. Hauriot, Professor Marchese E. Paterno di Sessa, Rome; Dr. A. Kneiser, University of Breslau; Dr. F. Pijper, University of Leyden; M. Charles Adam, University of Nancy; Mr. R. A. Falconer, President University of Toronto; Dr. T. Studer, University of Berne; Dr. E. Sievers, University of Leipzig; Professor R. Fujisawa, University of Tokio; Dr. R. S. Woodward, President Carnegie Institute of Washington; Dr. W. Voigt, Rector University of Göttingen; Dr. A. Hague, National Academy, Washington; Professor C. Winkler, Rector University of Amsterdam; Professor A. Donner, Rector University of Finland; Dr. I. Fröhlich, Rector University of Buda Pesth; Professor E. Warming, Royal Society of Copenhagen; Professor W. B. Clark, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

The Lord Chief Justice, the Master of the Rolls Lord Justice Moulton, Sir Samuel Evans, Sir J. H. A. Macdonald (Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland), Sir J. Stirling, Lord Middleton, Lord George Hamilton, Sir A.oble, Sir William Anson, M.P., Sir T. Vezey Strong, Sir Charles Parsons, Sir John Murray, Sir J. Wolfe Barry, Raj. Rana Bhawani Singh of Jhalawar Sir A. B. Kempe, Sir J. Larmor, Sir T. Barlow, Sir J. R. Bradford, Sir W. T. Thistalton-Dyer, Mr. F. W. Dyson, the Astronomer Royal, Sir Ronald Ross, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Sir W. H. M. Christie, Jr. A. W. Ward (president British Academy), Lord Sudeley, Lord Tennyson, Lord Reay, Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir Philip Watts, Sir D. Gill, Sir Laurence Gomme, Sir F. Macmillan, Sir A. Hopkinson, Sir J. Crichton-Browne, Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., Sir W. H. White, Sir W. Ramsay (president British Association), Sir J. Dewar, Sir W. Osler, Sir T. Lauder Brunton, Sir D. Macalister, Sir H. Reischel, Sir D. Prain, Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, Sir W. McEwen, Sir W. B. Leisnman, and Sir J. A. Ewing.

The PRESIDENT, in giving the toast of "The King," said the members of the Royal Society owed their corporate existence to the enlightened enthusiasm of a King of England, and they looked back on a long line of monarchs who had been their patrons, and who had continually shown their interest in the society's welfare and in the progress of science by placing in their hands year by year two valuable medals to enable them to mark their sense of the contributions to physical and biological science. His Majesty the King had maintained that Royal tradition. Nineteen years ago, when Duke of York, he consented to become a Fellow of their society, and on ascending the Throne he followed the precedent of the Royal House by assuming the title of patron. His Majesty had been pleased to continue to interest himself in their success, and particularly in regard to the celebration of the 250th anniversary. His Majesty had invited the council and the delegates to visit him at Windsor on Thursday. (Cheers.)

A NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

Mr. ASQUITH, in proposing the toast of "The Royal Society," said: The 250th anniversary of the Royal Society is appropriately commemorated in this Guildhall, for "The Royal Society of London for the Improving of Natural Knowledge," to give it its original title, though it is eminently a national institution, has at the same time peculiarly close associations with the City of London. (Cheers.) In the first charter, which, I think, was signed 250 years ago yesterday, permission was given to the society "to assemble in a college or other public place or hall within the City of London or in any other convenient place within ten miles of the same."

Sir, when the Universities were engrossed in the din of civil war, to the neglect, as a contemporary writer says, of academical studies, science and philosophy took refuge in the comparative peace and tranquillity which the streets of the City of London could then afford. (Laughter.) The troubled reign of Charles I. gathered to London, I again quote contemporary words, "divers worthy persons, inquisitive into natural philosophy and other parts of human

which is comprised in the original project of this foundation; and the Royal Society, which honoured them and was honoured by them, is remembered when we remember them one and all.

It has grown with the growth of England. It has advanced with the advance of science. It stands now, after 250 years, firmly established in the confidence of the nation and the respect of the world, still faithful, still fruitful, in the cause of human progress and human enlightenment. (Cheers.)

KING CHARLES'S "GIFT."

The President, in response, said the society had had, from its commencement, close relations with the Government, although they were never financial relations. At first they were very poor, and tried hard to get money, and among King Charles's benefits, or, at least, his wishes to benefit the society, were the efforts he made to increase its income. Those efforts, he was sorry to confess, were entirely unsuccessful. (Laughter.) They won from the King in the end Chelsea College, but two years after he gave it them he reclaimed it for £1,300, and he believed that was all the money they received from him. But he had an interest in making the most of the society, and he devised a plan whereby it should undertake to examine all applications for patents for philosophical and mechanical inventions. But there was no record of any payment for the services rendered. Fifty years later Queen Anne made a similar regulation, but again they had no record of any money being paid. Since those days the relation of the Government and the society had taken a closer form. The society administered a number of permanent grants, and there were a number of committees and commissions which did not bulk very largely in the public eye, but which cost the society a great deal of labour and time, especially those connected with tropical diseases.

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London, some of the more active and among their number sought the shelter of Oxford, where, under the hospitable roof of Wadham College, they were able to continue their inquiries.

ORIGIN OF THE SOCIETY.

The restoration of the Monarchy in the early summer of the year 1660, which led to the re-establishment of settled order in the country, allowed the resumption of the scientific meetings in the autumn of that year. With the brighter prospects of peace before them, the philosophers assembled once more in the picturesque Gresham College, in the City of London, and for the better accomplishment of their aims they determined to form themselves into a definite society with a regular organisation and a common fund from which the cost of experiments could be defrayed. Had they restricted the membership of their proposed society to men of science properly so-called their number would hardly have exceeded two score. But with commendable foresight they took advantage of the prevalent spirit of curiosity regarding the secrets of Nature, and gathered round them a company of three times their own number, comprising prominent representatives of the Church, of law, of medicine, of politics, and of the public services. Their adherents included also men of letters, and it is specially noteworthy that among these were the foremost poets in the England of that day—John Dryden, Edmund Waller, John Denham, Abraham Cowley, William Hammond, and Thomas Stanley.

The career of the Royal Society is fully recorded in its various publications. Its "Philosophical Transactions" and "Proceedings," and likewise the separate works which it has issued form a chronicle from which the successive stages in the progress of modern science can be followed. The enumeration of only a few of the names which appear in these volumes shows that the society has counted among its Fellows some of the great leaders in all branches of natural knowledge. Starting its career with a notable group of physicists and mathematicians, among whom were Robert Boyle and John Wilkins, it ere long welcomed Isaac Newton into its ranks, published his immortal "Principia," and annually elected him as its president for nearly a quarter of a century. The physical sciences have all along been strongly represented here. It seems but yesterday that James Clerk Maxwell's voice was heard in these rooms, and that Stokes and Kelvin sat in the presidential chair. That the succession of leaders is still well maintained, the presence here to-day of Lord Rayleigh, Sir William Crookes, Sir Joseph Thomson, Sir Joseph Larmor, and many others amply proves. Nor have the biological sciences been less prominent in the work of the society. From the early days of John Ray down to those of Charles Darwin, Hooker, Huxley, and Lister, every branch of biology has been illustrated and advanced by our Fellows.

FOREIGN ASSOCIATIONS.

As science knows no restriction of country or language, the Royal Society has from its earliest beginning cultivated friendly relations with fellow-workers in research all over the world. The first list of original members includes the honoured name of the physicist and astronomer, Huygens, some of whose gifts to us we still possess, and from that time till now the society has been proud to inscribe on the roll of its foreign members the names of the most illustrious exponents of science in each generation. It has been glad, also, to recognise distinction by the award of its medals far beyond the bounds of the British Dominions. At the same time, the academies and universities of other lands have ever shown a generous recognition of the labours of the Fellows of the Royal Society, honouring them by electing them into their membership, or by conferring upon them academic degrees. This confraternity of the commonwealth of science reaches to-day the climax of its manifestation in our experience, when we receive delegates from so many countries, who by their presence here express the sympathy and goodwill of the various institutions which they represent. To these institutions, venerable and youthful, a formal expression of our grateful appreciation will in due course be transmitted. In the meantime, I will conclude these opening remarks by again thanking you for your presence here to-day, and bidding you a cordial welcome to the halls of the Royal Society.

F. W. Dyson, the Astronomer Royal, Sir Ronald Ross, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Sir W. H. M. Christie, Jr. A. W. Ward (president British Academy), Lord Sudeley, Lord Tennyson, Lord Reay, Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir Philip Watts, Sir D. Gill, Sir Laurence Gomme, Sir F. Macmillan, Sir A. Hopkinson, Sir J. Crichton-Browne, Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., Sir W. H. White, Sir W. Ramsay (president British Association), Sir J. Dewar, Sir W. Osler, Sir T. Lauder Brunton, Sir D. Macalister, Sir H. Reischel, Sir D. Prain, Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, Sir W. McEwen, Sir W. B. Leisnman, and Sir J. A. Ewing.

The PRESIDENT, in giving the toast of "The King," said the members of the Royal Society owed their corporate existence to the enlightened enthusiasm of a King of England, and they looked back on a long line of monarchs who had been their patrons, and who had continually shown their interest in the society's welfare and in the progress of science by placing in their hands year by year two valuable medals to enable them to mark their sense of the contributions to physical and biological science. His Majesty the King had maintained that Royal tradition. Nineteen years ago, when Duke of York, he consented to become a Fellow of their society, and on ascending the Throne he followed the precedent of the Royal House by assuming the title of patron. His Majesty had been pleased to continue to interest himself in their success, and particularly in regard to the celebration of the 250th anniversary. His Majesty had invited the council and the delegates to visit him at Windsor on Thursday. (Cheers.)

A NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

Mr. ASQUITH, in proposing the toast of "The Royal Society," said: The 250th anniversary of the Royal Society is appropriately commemorated in this Guildhall, for "The Royal Society of London for the Improving of Natural Knowledge," to give it its original title, though it is eminently a national institution, has at the same time peculiarly close associations with the City of London. (Cheers.) In the first charter, which, I think, was signed 250 years ago yesterday, permission was given to the society "to assemble in a college or other public place or hall within the City of London or in any other convenient place within ten miles of the same."

Sir, when the Universities were engrossed in the din of civil war, to the neglect, as a contemporary writer says, of academical studies, science and philosophy took refuge in the comparative peace and tranquillity which the streets of the City of London could then afford. (Laughter.) The troubled reign of Charles I. gathered to London, I again quote contemporary words, "divers worthy persons, inquisitive into natural philosophy and other parts of human learning," men whose imagination and enthusiasm had been fired by the new philosophy then recently propounded.

The record of the society begins, I think justly, with a tribute to the influence of Sir Francis Bacon, whose fertile mind not only conceived the advantages of a college co-operating in the investigation of natural philosophy, but also in his "New Atlantis" outlined a practical plan for its foundation. As Mr. Balfour said recently, Bacon's great service to science was that he created an atmosphere in which scientific discovery flourishes. (Hear, hear.) From the publication of the "Novum Organum" we may trace a steady and ever-increasing interest in the experimental sciences, and Bacon's scheme finally found realisation in the incorporation of the Royal Society. Its proud motto, "Nullius in verba," reproduces the true spirit of what is best in Bacon's teaching. But, sir, if the society can trace its spiritual ancestor to Francis Bacon, the actual figure of the pious founder is to be found in a very different quarter.

"FREE AND UNCONFINED."

Strange as it may seem, the Royal Society is to-day the most vital, if not the most characteristic, monument of King Charles II. (Laughter and cheers.) Whether the interest in anatomy displayed, as your records show, by the society in its earliest years was due to the proclivities of its Royal patron I do not know—(laughter)—but certain it is that Charles II. not only founded the society, but he took an active interest in its proceedings and frequently asked for its advice, and, sir, he could not have found a body more representative of the best and the widest culture of his time. (Cheers.)

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In our home Universities the advance had been extraordinary.

"SATISFACTORY AND HOPEFUL."

If they went through the advances made, even in our own day, nothing could be more satisfactory and more hopeful. It was true that the University of Leyden was founded by William of Orange on an occasion when the city had won a great victory. William said to the people, "Would you rather that I should grant you a complete remission of taxes for an indefinite time, or that I should found a University?" He (Lord Morley) trembled when he thought of Manchester—(laughter)—with the University of which city he was connected. But Leyden nobly said, "Never mind about the taxes and rates, we will have the University." (Cheers.) Universities, after all, though they might not have all the panoply of other great institutions by which the world developed, were the seed-ground and the mainspring of the forces which created and vivified the energies of civilisation. (Hear, hear.) The University, whatever else it meant, was a body that dealt with the whole conspectus of the forces that made for knowledge and all that belonged to knowledge.

When they recollected all that the Universities had done in the way of love of truth, love of knowledge, mental discipline, cultivation of good strong habits of mind, the desire to spread the light in a way that should be useful for the social life of communities and the strength of States, he was bound

BANQUET AT THE GUILDHALL.

THE WORLD'S SCIENTISTS.

It is doubtful whether the Guildhall or any other building in the two hemispheres has ever contained, on any one occasion, so many of the world's greatest men as the ancient home of the City Corporation did last night. The banquet to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Society brought together a company of distinguished savants from almost every civilised country, who assembled to honour an occasion not merely of national but of world-wide importance. If one could have taken stock of the contributions to the world's knowledge which the great men in that brilliant company have made, the total would have been amazing. Here, some of the greatest scientists of the East met their comrades working for the good of humanity in the West. On every hand one saw men decorated with the highest honours Emperors, Kings, and Presidents could bestow for researches in every branch of science, art, and industry; and these distinguished men had come together to celebrate the grand old age of a society which has laboured for the common weal.

It was not the splendid picture of a banquet in the historic home of the City Fathers which impressed one so much as the character of the company. The Guildhall has been the scene of many magnificent entertainments, and the hospitality dispensed in the last twenty years has probably been as lavish as at any period of the existence of the Corporation of the City of London. Last night the beautiful floral decorations made the Royal Society's festival not the least brilliant of a famous list.

A BRILLIANT COMPANY.

Hardly a university or other seat of learning or scientific society of mark in the world was unrepresented. The Government's recognition of the work of the Royal Society was shown by the presence of the Prime Minister, who sat at the right hand of the president, Sir Archibald Geikie, and Viscount Morley, the Lord President of the Council. Five members of the Order of Merit were in the hall—Lord Rayleigh, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, Viscount Morley, Sir William Crookes, Sir J. J. Thomson, and Sir Edward Elgar. Legislators, men who represent the British Dominions beyond the seas, diplomats, soldiers, sailors, great divines, dons, the heads of practically all the learned societies in the United Kingdom, participated in what everyone agreed was an historic celebration, and if one might judge by the conversation one heard, it was a pleasure to all that a representative of the great army of Labour, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., was among the guests.

The speeches were worthy of the occasion, and the congratulations of all the eminent men whose names appeared on the toast list might be summed up by repeating the peroration of Mr. Asquith, who declared that the Royal Society had grown with the growth of England, and had advanced with the advance of science.

It stands now after 250 years firmly established in the confidence of the nation and the respect of the world, still faithful, still fruitful in the cause of human progress and human enlightenment.

Among the company were:

The French, Italian, and Japanese Ambassadors; the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; Cardinal Bourne; the Deans of Westminster and St. Paul's; the Duke of Northumberland; Lord Stratheona; M. G. Lippmann, President of the French Academy of Sciences; Professor Dr. W. Waldeyer, Secretary of the Academy of Berlin; Prince Boris Galitzin, Academy of St. Petersburg; Prince Ahmed Fouad Pacha, President University of Egypt; Dr. A. T. Hadley, President of Yale University; Professor R. Carracido, Royal Academy of Madrid; Dr. W. Peterson, Principal McGill University Montreal;

When one looks over the list of the original fellows, what strikes one is the width and the universality of the interests represented. Science could not then, whatever may be the case now, be charged with being the preserve of specialised studies. With Robert Boyle, John Wilkins, Robert Hooke, scientific men in our somewhat narrow use of the term, there came Christopher Wren, that early prodigy, as he was called, of universal science, astronomer, physicist, physiologist, as well as our greatest architect, perhaps the most versatile Europe has ever seen since Leonardo da Vinci; Cowley and Dryden; Denham and Waller, better known to posterity as poets than philosophers; Evelyn, Aubrey, Petty, and a host of others, whose names recall the spiritual and intellectual wealth of an epoch which we are ignorantly wont too often to decry.

The bulk, however, of the original fellows of the Royal Society appear to have been, in the words of your first historian, Bishop Sprat, "gentlemen free and unconfin'd"—(laughter)—and the society to this day numbers among its fellows those who, like myself, have no claim to take any part, certainly any part but that of spectators, in the knowledge and pursuit of the natural sciences, and who belong, like our predecessors in the reign of Charles II., so far as this branch of activity is concerned, to the category of the unemployed. (Laughter.)

BENEFIT TO THE STATE.

In the genial diary of Samuel Pepys, himself a fellow, and indeed at one time, I think, president of this society, there are entries which throw light on its early activities, which in those days, whatever may be the case now, were so much given to experiment. On one occasion he records meeting in a tavern a man, "a little frantic, whom the college hath hired for twenty shillings to have some of the blood of a sheep let into his body, and this is to be done on Saturday next." (Laughter.) And from a later entry it appears "that the gentleman found himself much better since, and, as a new man, will have it done again"—(laughter)—but the diarist adds, "he is a little cracked." (Laughter.) But if we are too ready to laugh at these early experiments of science, it is as well also to remember that it was under the auspices of Pepys that Newton's "Principia" was produced.

I will not linger over these reminiscences of the early days of this society. The foundation, so fairly started, has had a continuous career of successful and illustrious work. It has not escaped its share of criticism and ridicule, but it has justified itself by its deeds, and the position which makes the letters "F.R.S." one of the proudest additions that an Englishman can make to his name has been won by the sheer weight of meritorious work. (Cheers.)

The society has not, I think, at any time had any direct financial assistance from the Government. For this the Government may be criticised, but I venture to think the society is to be congratulated. (Hear, hear.) It is not well that science should be a mendicant for State endowments. I do not forget annual grants for scientific research which are administered by the society, but their administration is not a benefit conferred on the society by the State, but a service conferred on the State by the society. (Cheers.)

HUMAN PROGRESS.

Sir, it would not be possible for anyone to traverse in a few minutes the history of this society, or to chronicle the achievements of its fellows, without at the same time traversing and chronicling the history of English science itself. There is hardly a year when your roll has not been enriched by a name to which not only we, as Englishmen, but the whole world, is indebted for a share in the slow but steady subjection of Nature to the intelligence of man—that process which is described in Bacon's immortal words, "natura non nisi parendo vincitur."

If we look at the names of Isaac Newton, who was, I think, for a quarter of a century president of this society; John Locke, Dunlop, Flamsteed, and Halley; Sir Hans Sloane, Adam Smith, and Grote; Woolaston and Watt; Davy and Faraday; Pringle and Young; or, closer to our own time, Darwin, Huxley, Hooker, Herschel, Huggins, and Sir Michael Foster, Lord Kelvin, and one whose loss we lamented only a few months ago, perhaps the greatest benefactor in our time of the human race, your ex-president, Lord Lister—(hear, hear)—the roll contains the names of England's worthiest children in a wide field of work,

and the strength of States, ne was bound to say he wondered whether, in that great hall—so associated in the minds of all of them with homely and glorious occasions—there had ever been an occasion more memorable, more worthy of their commemoration than this, when they met this noble and splendid fraternity of the lovers of truth. (Cheers.)

THE CHURCH AND SCIENCE.

Professor EMILE PICARD (Paris), in replying to the toast, spoke in French, and paid a high tribute to the discoveries in science which had been made by members of the Royal Society. He said that they were assembling that evening in the brotherhood of science which was the glory of England. (Cheers.)

Professor W. WALDEYER (Berlin) responded in German, and drew a parallel between the scientific development in England and Germany, on the one hand by Isaac Newton and on the other by Leibnitz. There had been the closest association in scientific development between the two great countries for 250 years, and he hoped it would continue to the end of the world. (Cheers.)

Professor C. WINKLER (Amsterdam) also replied.

The toast of "The Learned Societies in the Old World and the New" was proposed by the Archbishop of CANTERBURY. His Grace said that 400 years ago such a gathering of ecclesiastics and men of science would have been impossible, but the times had changed. Such change was, in his judgment, due in no small measure to the work of the Royal Society, which had from its very start, and in its very origin and beginning, set itself to counteract the theory that there could possibly be any antagonism between the different realms of truth and the complementary paths that lead to its discovery. If he understood the toast aright, that international fellowship, that interchange of membership and of honours, had been one of the objects for which associations of this kind were founded in other lands, and it was one of the very best means of furthering the cause which all men had at heart. The members of the gathering might be termed merchants of light who were going forth in search of scientific truth, scientific facts, great or small, from earthquakes to mosquitoes, who were making the result of their investigations known not only for the good of their own country, but for the good of all. (Cheers.) Such men, working in the spirit of Bacon, enjoyed universal distinction, for they were doing so much to break down the barriers between country and country. They were hearing how modern knowledge, modern education, modern science was taking the place of older knowledge and older literature with which our schools were more familiar, and the old literature was receding into the background in favour of modern science. He would remind them that if the old tongues still remained in our schools and universities some of those present that night would have been able to follow more naturally the speeches delivered that evening, because they would have been delivered in a tongue which would have been familiar to all. Gratitude, if there were nothing else, would bid us be cautious before we went over to the changes to which he had referred. All the guests were men of thought and research along their own lines for the progress of the world, and there were no distinctions of race or of country, for all were animated with the desire for the advance of knowledge and the bettering of human life. (Cheers.)

Marchese E. PATERNO DI SESSA (Rome), who spoke in Latin and Italian, replied, and expressed his gratitude for and admiration of the Royal Society, and wished it all prosperity. In doing so he was, he was sure, interpreting the thoughts of the whole of the scientific societies in the Old and New Worlds. (Cheers.) The eyes of the scientific world were always turned towards the society, which was a great example to them all.

Prince GALITZIN (Russia) said that the scientific world of his country hoped to welcome the members of the Royal Society in St. Petersburg next year. These periodic meetings were of immense importance, and he hoped the cordial feelings that existed now would continue to exist between scientific men.

Dr. ARNOLD HAGUE (Washington) also replied.

The toast of the "City of London" was proposed by Principal PETERSON (McGill University, Montreal) and responded to by Sir T. VEZEY STRONG.