

**SUPPLEMENT TO THE ANNALS OF
OUR TIME: A DIURNAL OF EVENTS,
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL, HOME AND
FOREIGN, FROM MARCH 20, 1874,
TO THE OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS**

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JOSEPH IRVING

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BY
JOSEPH IRVING.

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1879.

20.—To mitigate the distress caused by famine in the province of Upper Bengal, the Marquis of Salisbury announces, in the Upper House, the necessity for a Bill being introduced authorising a loan of from three to ten millions sterling, part to be expended in chartering steamers to convey food to the starving districts, and in creating such new means of communication and works of irrigation as might help to prevent a recurrence of such calamities. A loan bill of the nature suggested was introduced into the Commons by Lord George Hamilton, the new Under Secretary for India. In the course of debates which took place prior to the passing of the bill, Ministers gave a hearty support to the policy pursued by the Viceroy, Lord Northbrook, especially in so far as he had refused to interfere with the ordinary trade exportations of rice from the famine-stricken districts, a determination in which he was opposed by some of his own Indian officials as well as by a portion of the native and home press.

— Lord Rosmore of the 1st Life Guards thrown from his horse at the Windsor Steeplechases, receiving injuries from which he died on the 28th. The Queen, who witnessed the accident from her carriage in the King's Road, caused repeated inquiries to be made at the barracks, and on the following day at Her Majesty's special request none of the military races were run.

— A high tide in the Thames causes much damage and annoyance in the Westminster and Lambeth districts, fears being at one time felt for the safety of portions of the Houses of Parliament. At London Bridge the flood reached the almost unprecedented height of four feet three and a half inches above Trinity high water mark.

— The Ashantee troops begin to arrive at Portsmouth, the first ship reaching home this morning being the *Tamar*, with the 23rd Fusiliers. The *Manitoba* followed next day with General Sir Garnet Wolseley and Staff. On the 24th the *Sarmatian* with the 42nd Highlanders arrived; and in the course of the week the *Himalaya* brought the second battalion Rifle Brigade, a detachment of the Royal Engineers and Royal Marine Light Infantry, with a few invalids. On each occasion the troops received a warm welcome, and on the 22nd (Sunday) Sir Garnet had a lengthy interview with the Queen at Windsor. King Koffee's umbrella taken at Coomassie and brought to England by Lieut. Wood, 10th Hussars, was graciously accepted by Her Majesty.

21.—Vice-Chancellor Malins gives judgment in the action raised by Dr. Hayman, late Head Master, against the governing body of Rugby School. He was extremely sorry, he said, for the grievous hardship of Dr. Hayman's case, but was satisfied that a pro-

longation of the painful disputes which would be the result of overruling the demurrer in court would be of no benefit to him. Believing that events had made Dr. Hayman's retention of the office impossible, he would allow the demurrer, but without costs. Dr. Jex-Blake, of Cheltenham College, succeeded Dr. Hayman as Head Master of Rugby.

22.—Died at Cannes, aged 69, Albert Way, F.S.A., founder of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

23.—The twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of King Victor Emmanuel, celebrated with rejoicings throughout the kingdom of Italy.

24.—Sir C. Dilke's bill for extending polling hours at elections to 8 P.M., rejected by a majority of 75 votes.

25.—Hurricane at Mauritius continuing over five days, and destroying much property in the harbour and town of Port Louis.

— Died, aged 83, Sir W. H. Bodkin, late Assistant Judge at the Middlesex Sessions.

26.—Votes of thanks passed in both Houses of Parliament to the officers and men engaged in the Ashantee Expedition. The whole of the troops returned, numbering about 1,600, were also reviewed by the Queen to-day in Windsor Great Park. To Sir Garnet Wolseley, Her Majesty presented the insignia of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and of a K.C.B. Lord Gifford was then called to the front, and received the Victoria Cross for personal valour, Her Majesty fastening the honourable distinction with her own hand to the breast of the young Lieutenant. A similar honour was conferred on Captain Sartorius and Sergeant McGaw of the 42nd Highlanders; Captain Glover was made a Knight of St. Michael and St. George. The cost of the war to the British government was estimated at 900,000*l.* To Sir Garnet Wolseley, who declined titular honours, a sum of 25,000*l.* was voted in recognition of his services.

27.—Mr. Walpole brings up the report of the Select Committee on Privileges arising out of the committal of Mr. Whalley for contempt of Court in the Tichborne case.

— The Lord Mayor entertains Sir Garnet Wolseley and officers of the Ashantee force to a state banquet at the Mansion House. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cambridge, and other members of the Royal family also attended as guests.

— The *Captian*, a Sunderland brig, wrecked off the island of Colonsay, and all on board—Captain Chambers, his wife, and crew of eight men, with the exception of one of the latter—drowned, Mrs. Chambers after hanging for an hour on to a trawler.

31.—Intelligence received of the escape of Rochefort and other French prisoners from New Caledonia to Sydney.

April 3.—Mr. Rumbold, British minister in Chili, demands the release of Captain Hyde, and an indemnity of 25,000*l.* for wrongous imprisonment on the charge of wilfully causing the death of Chilian subjects in the wreck of the steamer *Tacna* off Valparaiso, Captain Hyde was afterwards permitted to leave the country and an indemnity promised.

5.—Died, aged 80, Commander R. J. Morrison, astrologer and editor of "Zadkiel's Almanac."

6.—Outbreak in Portland prison, a gang of twelve convicts falling upon two warders and severely mistreating them. The former were ultimately beaten off by officials and driven to their cells.

8.—Re-opening of Worcester Cathedral after undergoing restoration at the hands of Sir Gilbert Scott. The work, on which 100,000*l.* was said to have been expended, was carried on over a period of twenty years.

9.—Jean Luie, or Lundgren, pretended mate of the *Osprey*, and the so-called "Captain" Brown, sentenced at the Central Criminal Court, the former to seven and the latter to five years' penal servitude for perjury, in connection with the Tichborne case.

10.—Died, aged 72, Marquis of Clanricarde, K.P., Lord Lieutenant of Galway, Postmaster-General, 1846, and Lord Privy Seal for a short time in the first ministry of Lord Palmerston. (See p. 506.)

14.—Explosion in the Astley Deep Colliery, Dukinfield, near Manchester, causing the death of fifty-one men and boys out of 151 employed in the pit at the time, about 7.30 P.M. The part of the workings where the explosion took place was 700 yards long, and known as the engine brow. Here sixty men were imprisoned by the fallen roof, and though efforts were repeatedly made to break through and reach them, only ten were rescued alive, and of these one died afterwards. The pit was known to be one of the deepest in England, but noted for its freedom from gas.

— Inquest held at Payhembury, Honiton, on the body of a young married woman named Miffin, who had drowned herself in a pond near the Vicarage while labouring under the delusion that she had been "overlooked" by a witchwoman in the neighbourhood. Verdict, temporary insanity.

15.—Died, aged 65, Owen Jones, an eminent authority in decorative art, and author of the "Grammar of Ornament" and other cognate treatises.

— The *Makua*, brings the remains of Dr. Livingstone to Southampton where they are

carried ashore amid many mournful tokens of respect. The body was afterwards conveyed by special train to London, accompanied by relatives and friends, and placed in the rooms of the Royal Geographical Society. The identification of the remains was placed beyond doubt by Sir William Ferguson, who found the left arm still showing traces of a fracture caused by the bite of a lion over thirty years since.

16.—Riel expelled from the Canadian Parliament as a fugitive from justice.

— Message from the Queen asking a grant of 25,000*l.* to Sir Garnet Wolseley read in both Houses. Vote agreed to on the 20th.

— Annual Budget introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The total expenditure for 1873-4 has reached 76,466,500*l.*, including the American Award and Ashantee war. Last year's revenue was estimated at 73,762,000*l.* but the gross receipts had increased to 77,335,657*l.* On the same basis the revenue for 1874-5 was calculated at 77,995,000*l.* and the expenditure at 72,503,000*l.* With the surplus of nearly 5½ millions, the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed, not to abolish the Income Tax altogether as Mr. Gladstone had suggested, but to reduce it by one penny, thus preserving the system with its collecting machinery for future use. He also proposed to abolish the remaining sugar duties and the House Tax. The Budget was well received.

18.—The Duke of Abercorn, the new Lord Lieutenant, makes a formal entry into Dublin.

— Reredos in Exeter Cathedral pronounced illegal by the Bishop, on the advice of Mr. Justice Keating, who acted as his assessor. The plea of the Dean and Chapter, that they were independent of the Bishop in these matters, was refuted by demonstration that the bishopric and cathedral had co-existed for two centuries before the deanery. Regarding the reredos itself, it was decided that the figures it contained were images, although only in alto-relievo, and the erection was therefore held to be illegal.

— Funerals of Dr. Livingstone in Westminster Abbey, the Queen among others sending a beautiful wreath of azaleas as a tribute of respect and admiration for the great traveller and missionary of civilization. The coffin bore the simple inscription:—"David Livingstone. Born at Blantyre, Lanarkshire, Scotland, March 19, 1813. Died at Ijala, Central Africa, May 4, 1873." The route of procession from the Royal Geographical Society's rooms was by way of Pall Mall, Charing Cross, and Parliament Street to Broad Sanctuary, the crowds on each side reverently uncovering as the remains were borne along. The following (Sunday) afternoon Dean Stanley preached a funeral sermon in the Abbey to

a large congregation, among whom were the traveller's aged father-in-law, Dr. Moffat, and Mr. H. M. Stanley. Special sermons were also preached in several other of the London churches.

18.—"Mad Lucas," the Hermit of Redcoats Green, near Stevenage, and the hero of Dickens' "Tom Tiddler's Ground," found dead among the ashes of his neglected cottage.

20.—The Archbishop of Canterbury calls attention to the present state of Public Worship in the Church of England. His grace entered into a lengthened description of existing evils and anomalies, and concluded by moving the first reading of a "Bill for the better administration of the law respecting Public Worship. As introduced at this time, the bill provided that the Bishop should have the sole power in directing worship, as was evidently designed in the constitution of the Church, guided, however, by a Board of Assessors, lay and clerical. In the event of the Bishop thinking that a complaint against an incumbent demanded inquiry he was to call his Assessors together, and if they condemned the acts in question an Episcopal motion was to issue forthwith. An appeal was also provided for to the Archbishop and his Assessors, their decision to be final. After detailing various Romanizing practices observed by Anglican clergymen, the Archbishop concluded:—"I call upon all those who glory in the name of members of the Church of England, who have no feelings of Puritanism in any form, but who have often fought the battles of the Church of England against the Church of Rome on the one hand and against Puritanism on the other, who style themselves Anglicans and regard the Church as one of our great institutions, I call upon them to come forward and declare themselves manfully against such a desecration of the Holy Communion as a thing which all Churchmen should unite in condemning." In the discussion which preceded the first reading of the bill, Lords Nelson, Shaftesbury, and Selborne took part. (See May 11).

— The Duke of Edinburgh lays the foundation stone of new buildings for the Royal Seamen and Marines' Orphan School at Portsmouth.

— In introducing the Navy Estimates, for which 10,179,485*l.* was asked, Mr. Ward Hunt describes the late government as having left the navy in a state far from satisfactory. Of our forty-one sea-going ironclads (of which five are building) only eighteen could be considered effective at present, and of the fourteen available for coast and harbour defence—among which he included the *Devastation* till further trials were made of her, only nine were good for anything at all. The naval administration of the late Government was defended by Mr. Goschen, and later in the session by Mr.

Childers, in the course of a renewed discussion regarding estimates.

21.—The Bishop of Peterborough draws attention in the House of Lords to the evils arising from the present condition of the law of Patronage in the Church of England. A Select Committee was afterwards appointed to inquire into the subject.

22.—Inspection at Gosport by her Majesty of that portion of the Naval Brigade which had taken part in the Ashantee war.

24.—Died from the effects of a fall down the staircase at All Souls' College, John Phillips, F.R.S., Professor of Geology in the University of Oxford. Professor Phillips was born in 1801.

27.—Discussion raised by the Home Secretary regarding a Bill relating to the Sale and Consumption of Intoxicating Liquors. He proposed among other changes that the hours for opening and closing public-houses should be fixed by statute and not by local magistrates, and that the adulteration clauses in the Act of 1872 should be repealed.

28.—The tariff adopted by the International Tonnage Commission comes into force on the Suez Canal.

29.—Ball at Mansion House in honour of the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

— Count Arnim, German Ambassador, presents his letters of recall to Marshal MacMahon.

30.—Fighting in Arkansas between rival political factions, accompanied with loss of life.

May 2.—At the annual dinner of the Royal Academy the Prince of Wales makes special mention of the meritorious picture sent in by Miss Thomson, entitled "Calling the Roll after an engagement in the Crimea."

— Entry of the relieving army under Marshal Concha into Bilbao, being the anniversary of the day when the war of Independence broke out. Four days later Marshal Serrano received an enthusiastic welcome on returning to Madrid from the city he had helped so much to prevent falling into the hands of besieging Carlists.

4.—Earl Russell's motion for papers regarding the maintenance of peace in Europe rejected after a speech by Earl Derby, in which he affirmed that while certain feelings excited at present in foreign courts gave rise to anxiety and apprehension, there was, so far as immediate results were concerned, no cause for anticipating any disturbance of the peace.

7.—Died, aged 71, Lieut. Gen. Sir Archdale Wilson, Bart, G.C.B., conqueror of Delhi. (See p. 497.)

9.—The Chelsea section of the Thames Embankment opened by the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on behalf of the Queen.

—The Queen visits the Empress Eugenie at Chiselhurst, and inspects the tomb of the Emperor Napoleon.

10.—Drowned in the Regent's Canal, Edward A. Foley, sculptor, aged 39.

11.—Died, aged 70, Baron Henry de Triqueti, French sculptor.

12.—Explaining the position of the Government with reference to English possessions on the Gold Coast, the Earl of Carnarvon remarked that motives connected with trade would not afford a sufficient reason for remaining in such a locality; but there were moral obligations, and a great empire like England must be prepared to accept the duties and burdens resulting from its greatness. By a long system of protection we had taught the natives to depend on us, and by abandoning them we should probably hand them over to the Ashantees, and then within a year after our departure all the barbarous practices we had induced them to give up would be revived. With reference to the existing system of domestic slavery, Lord Carnarvon observed that though it was a difficult subject to deal with, he would be glad to pave the way for its ultimate extinction, and as far as territorial jurisdiction was concerned he said that Government, while inclined to maintain the protectorate, thought it undesirable to enlarge the actual extent of the territorial power. It was proposed to constitute Lagos and the Gold Coast one single colony, very much on the principle of the Straits Settlements, with an executive and legislative council, composed of a very small number of persons.

—The University of London resolve to admit women to degrees.

13.—The Emperor of Russia arrives at Dover, and afterwards proceeds to Windsor on a visit to the Queen. A state banquet was given at the castle next day, and on the 15th the Emperor received the Diplomatic Body at Buckingham Palace. On the 16th, after visiting the Empress Eugenie at Chiselhurst, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, the Emperor, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and a numerous suite, visited the Crystal Palace, where an enthusiastic reception was experienced from a vast assembly drawn together by the interesting spectacle. In celebration of the Imperial visit the Corporation of London presented him with an address on the 18th, and in the evening a full dress concert took place in the Albert Hall. On the 19th a review was held at Aldershot, and a ball given at Buckingham Palace. On the 20th Woolwich Arsenal was visited, and the 21st the Emperor left by way of Gravesend.

13.—Mr. Trevelyan's Bill for assimilating the County and Borough Franchise rejected after a debate by a majority of 287 to 173 votes. Mr. Disraeli protested against the doctrine that the distribution of political power was an affair of abstract right, and not of expediency and convenience. With regard to the class affected by the Bill he admitted to the full that they were as competent to exercise the franchise as town householders. Mr. Disraeli's main objection to the Bill was that while it extended the franchise, it did not deal with the redistribution of seats. If the Bill were passed the county votes would exceed the borough by half a million, and yet they would only return 187 members, while the boroughs would return 300.

15.—Judgment of the House of Lords on appeal in the Mordaunt divorce case, a majority of the judges being in favour of continuing the proceedings.

—Defeat and resignation of the De Broglie ministry at Paris.

16.—Distribution of medals to officers and men engaged in the Ashantee expedition by her Majesty, at Windsor.

—Bursting of a reservoir near Haydenville, Massachusetts, causing the partial destruction of four neighbouring villages. As many as 200 lives were reported to have been lost, and property damaged to the extent of 1,500,000 dollars.

17.—Public Worship Regulation Bill read a second time, the Marquis of Salisbury explaining that while Government approved of the measure generally they were not responsible for details nor for the time selected to raise the question. "We are told (said the Bishop of Peterborough) that we should govern the Church by fatherliness. Now I must be allowed to say there is something very one-sided in this cry for fatherliness from the bishops when they meet with no filialness, and I should like to have some reciprocity. When a monition is to be flung back in my face, and I am to be told that I am 'neither a gentleman nor a divine,' and that 'my conversion is to be prayed for,' I must say that I should like to see a little filialness on the part of those who are demanding this fatherliness. I honestly desire, as far as I can, to be fatherly towards these men, but when I hear this advice given to us I am reminded of the solitary instance in which a ruler attempted to govern in this fatherly fashion, and that his name was Eli, while his sons were Hophni and Phinehas."

18.—While in a state of madness from drink a bricklayer named Blair, residing at Bow Common, East London, murders his wife and four children, first stunning them to all appearance by striking them with some blunt weapon, then cutting their throats, and afterwards committed suicide by cutting his own throat.

18.—The Duke of Richmond introduces a bill to abolish lay patronage in the Established Church of Scotland.

— Navy estimates passed after a sharp discussion between Sir E. Watkin and Mr. E. J. Reed, late Chief Constructor, regarding alleged deficiencies in vessels designed by him for the Admiralty.

19.—Dr. Parker's temple on Holborn Viaduct opened for public worship.

20.—Sir R. Anstruther's Licensing Bill for Scotland read a second time. This measure was afterwards withdrawn.

21.—Prince Hohenlohe, the new German ambassador at Paris, formally received by Marshal MacMahon.

— Unveiling of the equestrian statue of Sir James Outram at Calcutta.

— H. M. S. *Niobe*, 5-gun sloop, lost in a fog on Cape Blanc, Miquelon.

— Completion of the submarine telegraph between Constantinople and Odessa.

— Died, aged 72, the accomplished Sylvain Van de Weyer, formerly Belgian Minister in London.

— The Liverpool and Australian iron steamer *British Admiral* lost on King's Island, Bass's Strait, with about 50 passengers and most of her crew.

22.—Whit-Monday enjoyments around London greatly interfered with by a heavy rainfall, accompanied by thunder and lightning, the latter fatal in at least one case at Hackney.

June 2.—The Church Patronage (Scotland) Bill read a second time in the Lords, the Duke of Argyll giving his assent generally to the measure, but objecting first that the compensation of one year's stipend to be allowed to patrons was excessive, and second, that the choice of a minister should be left in the hands of congregations as a whole and not of communicants only. The Bill appeared to him to have been conscientiously framed on the ancient principles of the Church of Scotland. It had been accepted by an immense majority in the Church, and was calculated to be of great benefit to that part of the kingdom.

3.—Provincial Mayors entertained by the Lord Mayor to a banquet in the Mansion House.

5.—In Committee on the Licensing Bill it was resolved to fix 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (afterwards altered to 6 p.m. in and around London) as close hours on Sundays. The clause relating to *bomb-fide* travellers was settled by defining him as a person who had lodged on the preceding night at least three miles from the place where he demanded refreshments.

7.—Died at Simla, Surgeon-General Beatson, C.B., Principal Medical Officer to Her Majesty's Forces in India.

8.—Prince Arthur takes his seat in the House of Lords as Duke of Connaught.

9.—Fire in the Tannery of Mr. Ellis, Bermondsey, a large portion of the premises being destroyed and much adjoining property placed in extreme peril.

10.—Unveiling of the statue of John Banyan at Bedford by Lady Augusta Stanley. An address was delivered in the afternoon by Dean Stanley, who selected as his text the opening sentence of "Pilgrim's Progress:" "As I walked through the wilderness of this world I lighted on a certain place where there was a den," the "certain place" being Bedford town, and the "den" Bedford jail.

— The Lord Mayor again extends hospitality at the Mansion House, this time to the Judges, Magistrates, and Benchers.

13.—"Grand Day" at the Middle Temple, the Prince of Wales dining with the Benchers.

14.—Died, aged 64, Sir Charles Fox, civil engineer.

15.—A motion by M. Casimir Perier, in favour of a formal recognition of the Republic, carried in the French Assembly by 345 to 341 votes.

16.—Honorary degrees conferred at Cambridge on Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, Sir Bartle Frere, Dr. Stokes, Mr. Freeman, M. Leverrier, and other distinguished writers. On the 17th Oxford paid similar honours to General Wolseley, Sir T. E. May, Clerk of the House of Commons, and Professor Carus of Leipzig.

— M. Rochefort, arrives at Queenstown and experiences a hostile reception.

17.—Congress opened in London to devise measures for more effectually preventing cruelty to animals. At the jubilee meeting the Chairman, Lord Harrowby, read a communication from her Majesty expressing the horrors with which she read of sufferings endured by dumb animals from the thoughtlessness of the ignorant, and sometimes, she feared, from experiments in pursuit of science. For curing the former her Majesty trusted to the progress of education, while so far as science was concerned she trusted the advantage of anæsthetic discoveries, so beneficial to man, would be extended to the lower animals. The Queen rejoiced that the Society awakened the interest of the young by the production of essays connected with its objects, and had heard with gratification that her son and daughter-in-law were to distribute the prizes. This was accordingly done by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Edinburgh.

19.—Died, aged 56, J. C. M. Bellew, elocutionist.

— Died, aged 69, Jules Gabriel Janin, a famous French journalist and critic.