

# RUSSIAN HEIR AND ENGLISH PRINCESS

## The Heir Apparent to the Russian Throne May Soon Wed.

The rumor comes from England that the Grand Duke Michael, heir to the czar of Russia, will shortly plight his troth to the charming little granddaughter of Queen Victoria, the Princess Margaret of Connaught.

As seen by European eyes this betrothal is one of the most important, if not the most important, which is likely to take place in years among the imperial and royal families. And this importance lies in the fact that it is hoped thereby to provide for the future succession to the throne of Russia.

Nicholas II., the present ruler of Russia, has three daughters, but no sons, and as the Russian imperial family law excludes women from the throne, it seems very probable now that the succession will not fall to the lot of a descendant of the reigning monarch.

It was only last summer that Michael became czarowitch, an honor which fell to him upon the death of his brother, the Grand Duke George, who died of consumption.

The Princess Margaret of Connaught is the oldest daughter of the duke of Connaught, the third son of Victoria, queen of England. She is really a very pretty child, and it is not too much to say that she is the most attractive of the queen's granddaughters. Princess Margaret was born in January, 1882, and is just 18 years old this month. In royal families it has come to be considered that from 18 to 20 is a very reasonable age for a princess to be married, since through a marriage thus early she learns to accommodate herself to those peculiar conditions under which a queen must live.

The girl princess is of slight, graceful figure, has hazel eyes, brown hair, and features extremely pleasant and refined. Albeit her nose is slightly retroussé, this fact does not detract from her one bit rather adds a dash of piquancy to her pretty features, writes Mary L. Stevens in the Boston Home Magazine. It was only during the present year that Margaret put on her first long dress, a creation which has been described by one writer as a garment that would not excite the envy of American hostesses.

The father of the princess, the duke of Connaught, is one of the generals in the English army. The duke is one of the most popular of the queen's sons and a loyal, patriotic Briton to the core. Indeed, so true is this that he absolutely refused, a short time ago to accept the betrothal to the duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, a sovereign state in Germany, because the acceptance would compel him to leave the English army and the country he delights in calling "home."

To indulge in generalities, it is claimed in some quarters that every unmarried princess in Europe would be envious if the Grand Duke Michael should win the affections of the little English girl, scarce yet out of short dresses. As czarina she would come into possession of the greatest collection of precious stones and jewels in the world; the wife of the most absolute ruler of the largest empire in the east, and in addition have the opportunity, dear to full many a woman's heart, to absolutely rule the absolute

strength, it may be recalled, but his health was exceedingly poor. He died in the prime of life from a complication of diseases, which seem to have been transmitted in some form to each of his children except the Grand Duke Michael.



PRINCESS MARGARET OF CONNAUGHT. She is reported to be engaged to Grand Duke Michael of Russia.

The future ruler of Russia is at present in Scotland at the home of the duke of Connaught, and everywhere has been received with acclaim. It is said that Queen Victoria is very much pleased at the prospect of the marriage, as she wishes to bind the Russian empire as closely to England as is possible.

The young grand duke has traveled widely since it was not considered so important to keep him in Russia, as it was his older brother, now dead. Like his brother, the czar, Michael is said to have ideas which are comparatively liberal, and furthermore to have more moral courage and strength to carry them out than has the present ruler.

### A POTATO EXPLOSION.

The Reappearance of the Vegetables Created Much Surprise.

I often wonder we had not more accidents in our cooking school, considering the crass ignorance of our ladies, says Lady Broome in Cornhill's Magazine.

up a good deal of useful knowledge. These girls also cleaned up after the class was over, so saving the poor, weary cooks, who early in the undertaking remarked with a sigh: "The young ladies do make such a mess, to be sure!" Well, this girl was very steady and hard working, but abnormally stupid, saw fit one morning to turn on the gas in certain stoves some little time beforehand. The stoves were so airy, to say the least of it, that there was not sufficient smell to attract any one's attention, and the gas accumulated comfortably in the stoves

until the class started work. It chanced to be a lesson in cooking vegetables, and potatoes were the "object." About twenty-five small saucepans had been filled with water and potatoes, and the next step was to put them on to boil. I was not in that kitchen at the moment, or I hope I should have perceived the escape and have had the common sense to forbid a match being struck to light the gas in certain stoves. But I was near enough to hear a loud "puff" followed by cries of alarm and dismay, and I rushed in while the potatoes were still in the air, for they went up as high as ever they could get. Happily no one was hurt, though a good deal of damage was done to some of the stoves, but it was a very narrow escape, owing doubtless, to the space and involuntary ventilation of these same stoves. In the midst of my alarm I well remember the ridiculous effect of that rain of potatoes. Every one had forgotten all about them and their reappearance created as much surprise as though such things had never existed.

### NO SHOW FOR WRITERS.

The Outsiders Have Inevitably Every Field Except Fiction.

The professional writing man should devote his efforts exclusively to fiction. In that field, if he can write at all, he need fear no rivalry. Why should he try to write of finance, when such masters as Henry Claws and Lyman J. Gage are offering their services at so much a column? Why write of law-making, when Tom Reed, ex-speaker, can be had for moderate space rates? Why fool with an article on iron and steel when Andrew Carnegie can be persuaded at any time to dictate a page or two of his own? Why write of shipping when there is a retired Mahan with rolls of manuscript? Why write of electricity when there is a Tesla to exploit himself and Edison? Why write of medicine and surgery when there are Shradys in the field. There is no field of effort or invention that is not covered in magazine journalism today by authorities born to it. The whole world wants to write. It seems to be the national and international craze of the century. If I wanted an article on railroad reorganization I would give J. Pierpont Morgan \$50,000 to write it. It would carry more weight than all the combined efforts of all the ablest professional writers, cost less in the end, and return a handsome profit. If I could persuade James R. Keene to write his views on stock speculation and how to make a bear raid successful I could make \$100,000 in a year by the sale of such opinion. If Russell Sage were to open his heart and tell us by the column how to lend money in Wall street at 40 per cent a day, more or less, what would it be worth to a newspaper?—New York Press.

### Still Another.

"What ho! Within there!" shouted the knight at the castle gate. The warder got him up, yawning prodigiously. "Another man with a ho," said he to his faithful valet.—Indianapolis Press.

## AT OLD GREYSTONE.

THE FORMER HOME OF SAMUEL J. TILDEN.

It is Undergoing Some Extensive Alterations and May Lose Its Cherished Identity—The New Owner Removes All but the Stone Walls.

(Special Letter.)

Samuel J. Tilden's estate on the Hudson river, familiarly known to Americans as Greystone, is at present undergoing repairs which will materially change its appearance both inside and outside. Samuel Untermyer is the owner of the property, and he contemplates spending several hundred thousand dollars in making improvements. Originally Greystone cost \$225,000, but when Mr. Untermyer puts his plans into effect it will represent an outlay aggregating not less than \$850,000. When Mr. Untermyer bought Greystone, in June last, for \$171,500, he also bought a tract of land in North Broadway, Yonkers, directly across from the old Tilden property, for \$50,500. The grounds surrounding Greystone comprise fifty-three acres bordering on the Hudson and this additional tract of fifty acres across the road. They include the water rights along the river, for upward of a mile. The old mansion stands on a bluff 450 feet above the river, commanding a view for miles up and down the Hudson and across Long Island sound. The building is about 150 feet long and fifty feet wide, and the old gray stone walls, which are three feet thick, are about all that remain of the original building. Mr. Untermyer has had the building completely done over inside. While the interior of the mansion has been taken out and practically an entirely new one substituted, the exterior of the building also has been considerably changed, a new roof, new cornices and a massive limestone porte-cochere and balcony having been substituted. The entrance hallway, which was about 100 feet long and thirty feet wide, has been altered, so that there now is a large vestibule of solid limestone, carved with a mosaic floor. The main hallway now is mosaic. On the right side of this wide hallway is a large gothic fireplace, fifteen feet high and twelve feet wide, the fire hearth being seven feet high and eight feet wide. To the left of the entrance a reception room has been made, and beyond that a "den" or smoking room. Beyond that, on the left, is the salon, more than fifty feet long and thirty feet wide. Beyond this is the library, with a Louis XIV. bow window and doors leading to the veranda overlooking the river. The old Tilden stairway of walnut has been retained, although it has been remodeled in architectural design. At the top of this stairway stained glass has been put in, and the entire house has been lighted by openings in the ceiling for stained glass windows of varying designs. On the right of the hallway is the dining room, with doors leading to the veranda overlooking the river on that side. Mr. Untermyer has made extensive provision for the comfort of his family and guests. All of the plumbing, heating and electric lighting arrangements are new. There are more than twenty sleeping rooms, all large and airy, on the second and third floors, and ten bathrooms have been put in the house. On



GREYSTONE.

The second floor there has been constructed a swimming tank of marble eighteen feet long and twelve feet wide. Attached to it is a Turkish bath with showers, sponges and other appliances. The Tilden conservatories, which were about three-quarters of a mile long, have been entirely renewed. Mr. Untermyer has also made extensive improvements about the grounds.

### The Struggle With R.

Every baby has struggled with r; sometimes the struggle lasts for years, sometimes the victory is doubtful to the end. And this is a survival. And there is a general weakness in this respect all across the central European plain, from Poland through Prussia, to Paris. The Poles turn the pure Slavonic r into sh; the Prussians and Parisians pronounce it as gh, saying light for breith and amougheuse for amourense, and so on. Thus late reconciles the victors and vanquished at Sedan. Across the channel the same consonant gives trouble. We have all heard of a class of people who are supposed to say "Weally, deah boy," and so on, and all the Saxon area in England has this disability. It comes across the Atlantic, and New York and Brooklyn have invented a new evasion of r, worse than anything Chinaman, Fole, Prussian, Parisian and cockney have ever attained. They say "foyst," "thoyd," for "first, third," and "boyd," "skoyt, noyse, oyth, doyt, boyth," for bird, skirt, nurse, earth, dir, birth, in all of which a Scotchman, for instance, would pronounce a pure r. In their case, I think, this is the influence of the Dutch up of New Amsterdam

## A GOVERNOR'S WIDOW.



MRS. W. Y. ATKINSON.

(Newman, Ga., Letter.)

Bereft of the brilliant husband who stood by her so chivalrously in her time of trial, Mrs. W. Y. Atkinson has embarked in the insurance business in order to be able to train her boys to emulate the example of a noble father.

Not alone because she is the widow of a former governor of the state does her venture command sympathetic attention, but also because she is the first woman in this part of the country to enter into competition with the stronger sex in this branch of business.

Mrs. Atkinson occupies a commanding social position in the south. Her great gifts and her personal charm, as well as her association with the husband whose untimely taking off will long be mourned here, have endeared her to all classes. Brave little woman that she is, she is not too proud to take advantage of the popularity for the sake of her young sons and for their future, which she believes will be a bright and honorable one.

breaking through, but whatever it is, it is horrible, and should be stopped by legislative intervention. Charles Johnston, in the Contemporary.

### CANDY FOR SOLDIERS.

Candy has been added to the regular ration of the American soldier. One New York firm has shipped more than fifty tons of confectionery during the last year for the troops in the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico. The government buys candy of good quality, which would retail from 20 to 40 cents a pound.

It consists of mixed chocolate creams, lemon drops, coconut macaroons and acidulated fruit drops, says the Scientific American. These are put in sealed one-pound cans of a special shape, designed to fit the pockets of a uniform coat. The use of candy as an army ration originated in some experiments on the diet of the troops conducted by the German government ten years ago. They showed that the addition of candy and chocolate to the regular ration greatly improved the health and endurance of the troops using it. Since that time the German government has issued cakes of chocolate and a limited amount of other confectionery.

Queen Victoria forwarded half a million pounds of chocolate in half-pound packages as a Christmas treat for the troops in the Transvaal. American jam manufacturers are considering a movement to add jam to the army ration. It has been found so wholesome for the British army that 1,450,000 pounds have been despatched to South Africa as a four month's supply for 116,000 troops.

### The Puma of the Andes.

Chicago Record: The puma, or mountain lion, of the Andes, is naturally an affectionate and harmless animal, and is often domesticated, and some of the ranchmen in Patagonia and Chile often tame them and train them for watch-dogs. An extraordinary story is told of Francis, who raged in Paraguay for years, and was notorious over South America for his cruelty and craft. It is said that Francis once had a woman chained to a tree in the forest, where she would either starve or be devoured by wild beasts. After she had been out about ten days, he sent a scout to see what was left of her, and, much to his astonishment, it was found that she had been fed and protected by two pumas, male and female, and had suffered in no way except from exposure and frost. The pumas brought her raw meat from the animals they had killed.

At the desk in the south room of her home, where she so cleverly directed William Yates Atkinson's first campaign for the governorship of Georgia, she now sits in her widow's weeds, wrestling with tables and columns of figures, applying herself to the mathematical perplexities of life and fire insurance with the same womanly zeal that distinguished her when she mastered the problems of politics for the advancement of the man she loved.

It is upon her own sex that she chiefly relies in this courageous venture of hers. The company that she represents insures women for as high as \$5,000, and as her territory is confined only by the borders of the state, she has an ample field to work in.

The story of her ordeal nearly five years ago, involving as it does the story of Gov. Atkinson's steadfast loyalty, is one of the romances of politics in the south.

and slept by her side each night like watch-dogs.

### COMMANDER CLOVER.

London Letter: Some confusion has been caused by the various reports of



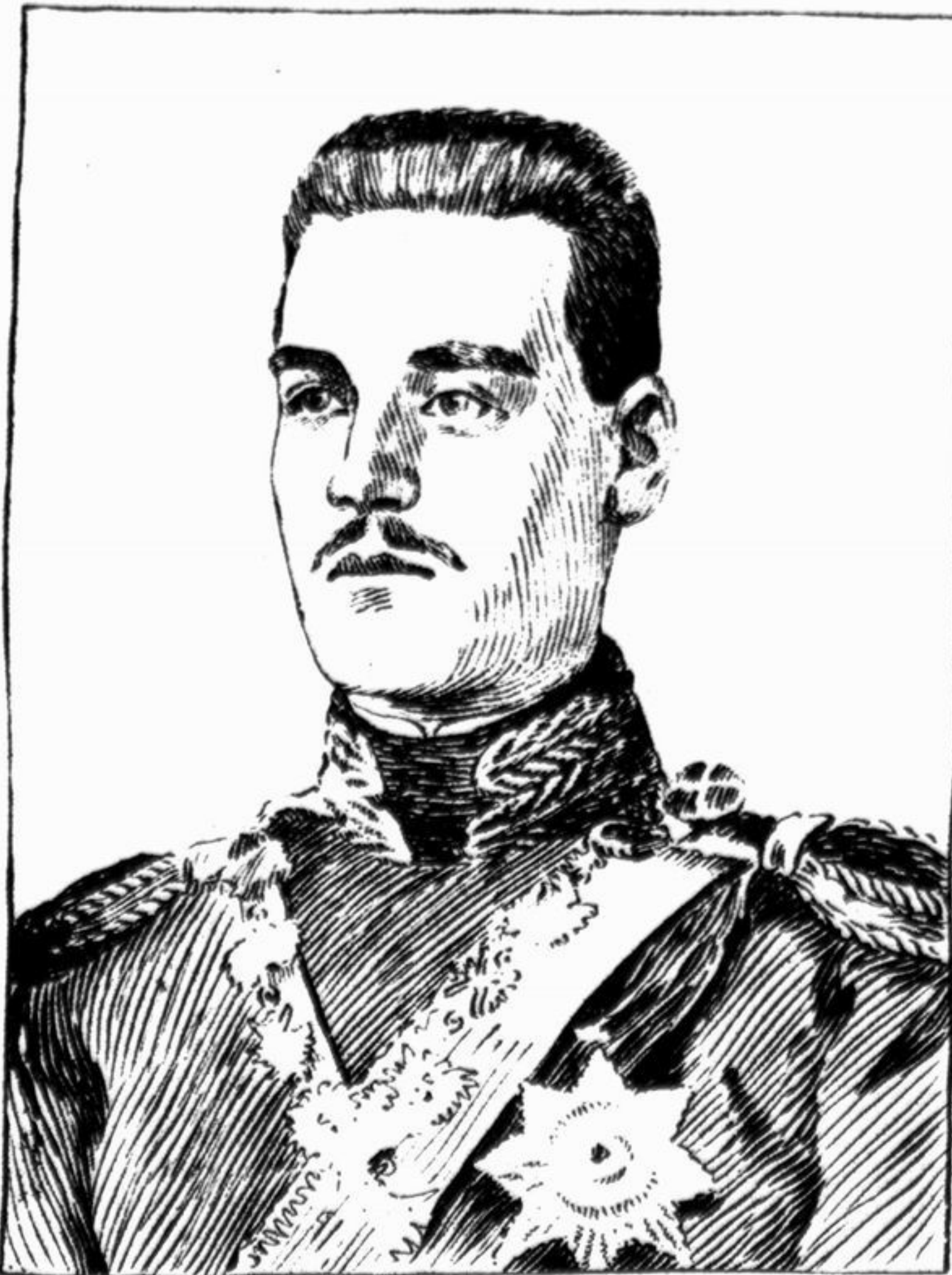
COMMANDER CLOVER.

the relief of Lieutenant-Commander Colwell, the United States naval attaché, and the name of his successor. The press statements announcing Commander Richardson Clover's appointment considerably antedated an issue of orders from Washington and in some unexplained way the admiralty went astray and Commander Colwell's name was substituted for Lieutenant-Commander Colwell on the list of attaches. Mail being arriving addressed to Commander Clover, and it took no little trouble and explanation to extricate the present incumbent from the inconveniences. It is understood that Commander Clover will arrive here several months before he assumes his duties. Commander Clover was a member of the naval strategy board during the recent war with Spain. He married in 1886 the only daughter of the late United States Senator John F. Miller of California.

### Secured an Appropriate Topic.

Mrs. Stubb—John, I expect to attend the sewing circle tonight. Mr. Stubb—Well, Maria, what is the program? Mrs. Stubb—We are going to discuss this man, Aguinaldo. Mr. Stubb—Absurd! What has he to do with sewing? Mrs. Stubb—A good deal. Don't the papers say he is hemmed in and his temper is ruffled?—New York World.

The Yellowstone park was visited last summer by about 15,000 tourists, or about \$,000 more than in any preceding year. If the rubber trust ever there will be a



GRAND DUKE MICHAEL OF RUSSIA. The reported fiance of Princess Margaret of Connaught.

ruler of this immense kingdom. Michael, the grand duke, was born Dec. 4, 1878, and is just a little over 21 years of age. He is large, well knit together, and of exceptionally robust health. His father, Alexander III., was a man of remarkable physical

zine. Oddly enough, the only alarming episode came to us from a girl of the people, one of four who had begged to be allowed to act as kitchen maids. Their idea was a good one, for, of course, they got their food all day, and were at least in the way of picking