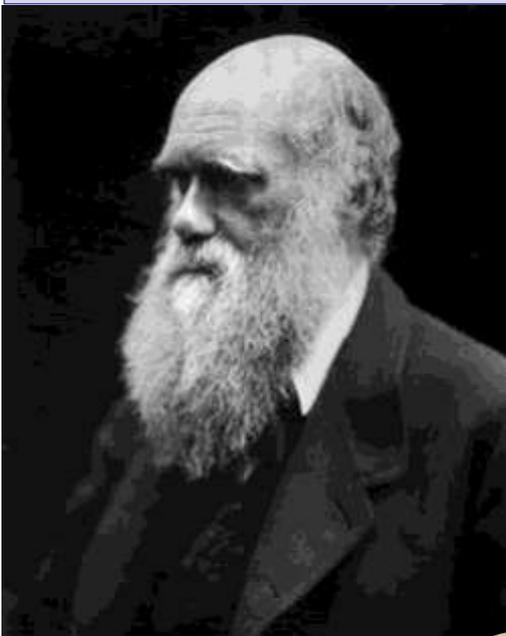


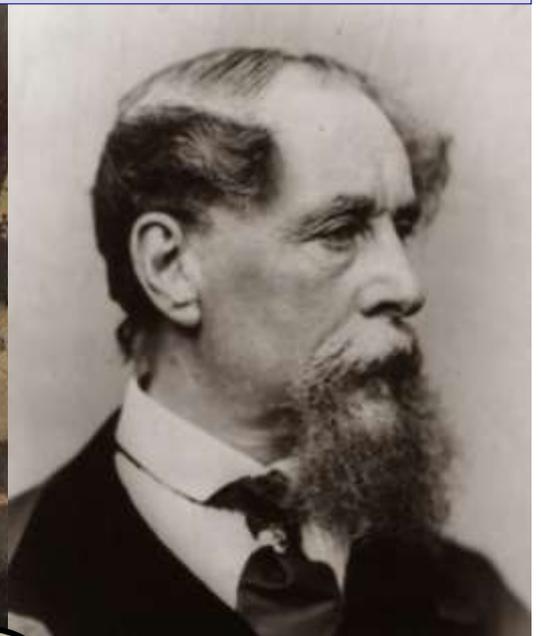
SOCIETY MEMBERS' ***BULLETIN***

"THE 1868 ANNIVERSARY EDITION"

THIS YEAR SEES THE INTRODUCTION OF ARTIFICERS INTO THE ROYAL NAVY



Charles Darwin



Charles Dickens



The Royal Naval Engineers Benevolent Society
to be founded in 1872



ROYAL NAVAL ENGINEERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

Society Members' Bulletin

Felicitations to you all of one company. It is my pleasure to offer to you, the reader, this anniversary edition of the Bulletin which will inform, enlighten and educate you about many of the events, happenings and proceedings from the year 1868.

This is the year when the Lords of the Admiralty made the significant decision to introduce the status and position of Artificer to those men who had the experience and requisite engine room qualifications.

Many years earlier, The Statute of Artificers 1563 sought to regulate the wages of skilled workman and to ensure that they had completed a compulsory seven year's apprenticeship before they could set up as a master or a qualified workman. Individuals who were formally apprenticed in the 16th century were far and few between but numbers steadily increased during the 17th century and by the 18th century apprenticeship was found at every level of society.

However, the Act only covered those trades that existed at that time and was subsequently abolished in 1813. Perhaps the Navy will rethink its actions and dismiss the Artificer sometime in the future and then bring them back again?

Regards

Mark Stevens

BSc (Hons), MSc
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General Secretary's Report

By Cliff Fiander

In this year of 1868 Artificers are coming to terms with their newly designated branch speciality. Unfortunately, their concerns over conditions of service and the prospects for promotion continue. Although they enter directly as Chief Petty Officers their living conditions are primitive and inferior to those provided for other senior rates. Other naval personnel are hostile towards them, resent their automatic status as senior rates and take every opportunity to disparage them and degrade their engineering status. There is no provision for the widows of those who die in service or any assistance for those who become invalided from the service. There is presently no prospect of advancement beyond the rating of ERA.

In response to these concerns it is being suggested that a society should be formed that has as its aims the improvement of the conditions and prospects of Artificers and the establishment of a system of contributions and benefits that can be used to aid those who become the victims of misfortune.

With active participation from all the port areas, such a society will build esprit de corps amongst Artificers and through an exchange of experiences and a sharing of ideas will encourage them to maintain the highest possible standards of craftsmanship and technical knowledge. Thus, it is believed, they will form into a recognisable body and by proving their worth will ensure Artificers become valued and respected as an integral and loyal part of the Royal Navy and this, in turn, will lead to improved conditions, better treatment and greater promotion prospects.

The exact nature of such a society has yet to be established and it is anticipated there will be considerable resistance to its creation from many parts of the service; not least because of its likely similarities to a trade union and the unease being caused in some circles by the inaugural meeting of the Trades Union Congress which will be held in the Mechanics' Institute, Manchester in June of this year. In addition it is common knowledge that many Artificers have experience of trade union activity from their time in industry where they learned the skills the Royal Navy now so urgently needs.

Regardless of the difficulties that may be placed in the way of creating such a society it will have at its heart loyalty to the Royal Navy, the well being and professional development of its members and the benevolent support of their dependants. These are the most laudable of intentions and should ensure that a society thus formed will last as long as there is a Royal Navy with the Artificers it needs to make it the finest in the world.

Whilst we struggle with the prejudice and unfairness of service at the start of the Artificer age it may be interesting to glimpse what other matters of great import are engaging the minds of those associated with the governance of our great Navy.

In The Beginning

The introduction of Engine-Room Artificers.

Circular No. 23.-N.

Admiralty 23rd April, 1868.

Her Majesty having, by Her Order in Council of the 28th of March, 1868, authorized the employment of Mechanics in the engine-room of Her Majesty's ships, in lieu of junior Engineer officers, and the substitution of such Mechanics, with the rating of "Engine-room artificer," for the present Chief stokers: their Lordships are pleased to issue the following Regulations on the subject.

Qualifications.

A candidate for the rating of Engine-room artificer must be either an Engine-fitter, a Boiler-maker, a Smith, or a Coppersmith.

His age must not be less than 21, or more than 35 years.

He must be able to read and write sufficiently well to be competent to note in the log the particulars of the working of engines and boilers ; and he must be generally acquainted with the names and uses of the principal parts of a marine engine.

He must undergo an examination by the Chief Engineer of the Dockyard and the Inspector of Machinery afloat, in the presence of the Captain of the Reserve; and if the candidate appears to be qualified, he is, in the first instance, to be appointed as acting.

He is not to be confirmed until he has served 12 months and has passed an examination: if at home by a Chief Engineer of a Dockyard and an Inspector of Machinery afloat, in the presence of the Captain of the Steam Reserve; or, if abroad, by an Inspector of Machinery afloat, or, if there is no Inspector of Machinery afloat by 2 Chief Engineers in the presence of the Captain of the ship in which the Engine-room artificer may be serving.

He must understand the uses and management of the various gauges - of the feed, injection, and blow-off cocks; he must know how to ascertain the density and height of the water in the boilers, and what should be done in the event of priming.

He must also know how to regulate the water admitted for

condensation; what should be done in the event of water passing into the cylinders; or of a bearing becoming heated; and how to act, on the occurrence of any of the ordinary casualties of an engine-room.

He must also obtain a Certificate from his Captain that he is fit to keep a watch in the engine-room, and is deserving of confirmation.

Pay.

The pay of an Engine-room artificer to be:

5s. a-day for the first 3 years

5s. 9d. a-day afterwards.

While acting the pay is to be the same as after confirmation, and if confirmed, acting time to be allowed.

Rank.

To be that of a Chief petty officer-in the place of the present Chief stoker, which rating will now be abolished.

Mess

To mess with Masters-at-Arms, and other Chief petty officers.

Pensions

As Chief petty officers.

General

All Engine-room artificers must enter for continuous service.

They will be entered in the Steam Reserve, and kept employed as Mechanics, or on such duties as Assistant-Engineers are now employed on, so as to be always on full-pay; and when on board ships in commission they will be employed in a similar manner.

Entries to be made by the Commanders-in-Chief at the Ports, and confirmations to be made either at home or abroad, by the Commander-in-Chief, or senior officer.

By command of their Lordships

To all Commanders-in-Chief, &c. Henry G. Lennox

Other Naval Ordinances

Regulations under which Boys are Entered in Her Majesty's Navy

Admiralty, 11th June, 1868.

All Boys who enter the Navy must understand that they are bound to serve continuously for ten years from the time of their attaining the age of 18; and they will be required to sign an engagement to that effect; but no Boy will be entered without the written consent of his parents, guardians, or nearest relations.

The age for entry is from 15 to 16½, and the following are the rules as to height, &c.:

Age	Height (without Shoes)	Measurement round the Chest
Boys between 15 and 15½	4 ft. 10½ in.	29 in.
Boys between 15½ and 16	4 ft. 11½ in.	29½ in.
Boys between 16 and 16½	5 ft. 1 in.	30 in.

They must produce a certificate of birth, or a declaration made by their parents or guardians before a magistrate, to show they are of the proper age, - or they will not be entered.

They must also be of sound constitution, not subject to fits, free from any physical defects or malformation, and be able to read and write.

No Boys will be received from Reformatories or Prisons, or if they have been committed by a Magistrate.

Candidates will be received by any of the Recruiting Officers of Marines, - by the Officers of the Coast Guard at any Station, - on board any Coast Guard Ship, - or on board the Flag Ships at the Ports of Woolwich and Sheerness:- and, if fit for entry, they will be sent to the Training Ships for approval.

In addition to the above, at those Ports where there are Training Ships, viz., at Portsmouth, Portland, Devonport, Falmouth, and also at Jersey, Boys between 14½ and 15 will be received, but they must be entered specially by the Officers of the Training Ships.

Age	Height (without Shoes)	Measurement round the Chest
Boys between 14½ and 15	4 ft. 8½ in.	27½ in.

Colours of Badges showing Marks of Distinction

Memorandum No. 13.-E.

Admiralty, 10th October, 1868.

My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are pleased to direct that Badges and all marks of distinction worn by Petty Officers and Seamen shall be of the following colours.

On Clothing Gold (as at present) On Blue Sergein Red (Bright) On White Duck or Drilling Blue (as at present)

The distance between Badges is to be three-eighths of an inch.

Watch Badges are to be worn, and of the same colours as stated above.

By Command of their Lordships,

W.G. Romaine

Revised Rules for Entry into the Naval Police

Circular No. 16.-N.

Admiralty, 13th March, 1868.

My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are pleased to lay down the following additional Rules for the Entry, &c. of Men in the Naval Police

1. All Men entering as Master-at-Arms or Ship's Corporal are in future to enter as Continuous Service Men. They must be not less than 5 ft. 7 ins. in height, and no Man is to be entered in either rating unless he signs a Continuous Service Engagement.
This rule, however, is not to be made compulsory on Men at present serving.
2. No Man is to be entered either as Master-at-Arms or Ship's Corporal of the 1st Class who has not served at sea for at least two years.
3. The rule laid down in Circular No. 38 of the 6th October, 1864, which allows Non-commissioned Officers of Marines, of high character, to be promoted after six months' service as Ship's Corporal, is to apply also to Petty Officers; - but Men can only be promoted when vacancies occur, - and promotion to the Rank of Master-at-Arms can only be made by the Authority of the Commander-in-Chief or Senior Officer.
4. No Man who has served in the Navy or Marines is to be entered in the Police Force, unless he produces certificates of "very good" character for the last three years of his service, - and if he has been more than twelve months out of the Service, his character, in the interval, to be satisfactorily explained.

By Command of their Lordships,

Henry G. Lennox

The British Abroad

A brief roundup of foreign affairs

9th January 1868

Penal transportation from Britain to Australia ends with arrival of the convict ship Hougoumont at Freemantle, Western Australia after an 89-day voyage from England. The 875 ton ship was built at Moulmein in 1852. This final sailing started on September 30th 1867, when a number of convicts boarded at Sheerness. The ship then moved onto Portland where more convicts boarded. Finally onto Portsmouth where it left British waters on 12th October with a total of 280 convicts and 108 passengers on board. Of these 44 were pensioner guards accompanied by 18 wives, 10 sons and 15 daughters. William Cozens and W. Smith were the captain and surgeon respectively. The only death recorded on the convict shipping and description lists was for Thomas Cochrane and sources said that he died near Africa.



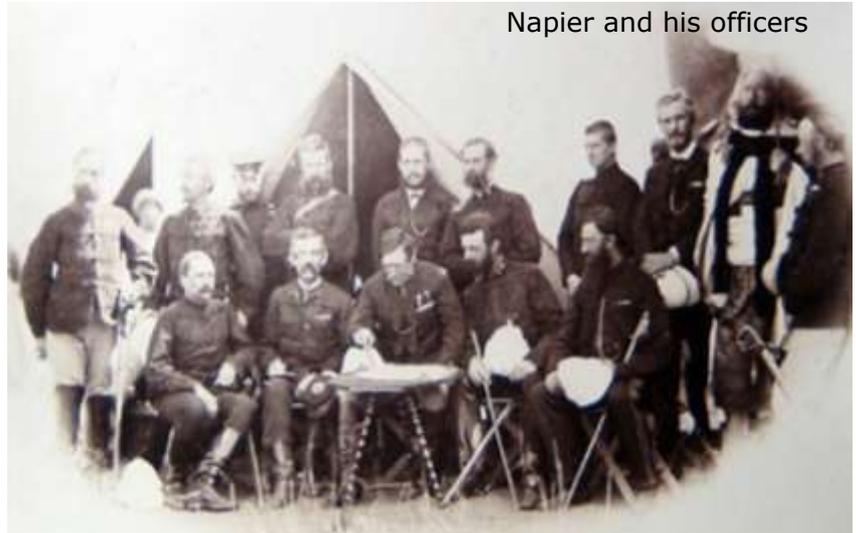
Hougoumont

9th to 13th April 1868

The Battle of Magdala, the former capital of Abyssinia: A 12,000 strong British-Indian task force under Lord Robert Napier (1810-90) inflicted 800 deaths and between 1,200 and 1,500 wounded as well as a crushing defeat on the army of the Abyssinian Emperor Tewodros II. The British and Indian forces suffered two dead and thirty wounded. Tewodros' estimated army of over 10,000 warriors attacked Napier's mule train on 10th April. However his old fashioned firearms were no match for Napier's more modern weapons and his warriors were no match for the Indian units in hand-to-hand



Magdala Fortress



Napier and his officers

fighting. The Emperor capitulated and Napier demanded an unconditional surrender.

The Emperor then wrote to Napier hoping that he would grant better terms but the unfriendly Napier stormed the fortress at about 0900 on Easter Monday and Tewodros, knowing that the end had come, committed suicide by shooting himself through the mouth with a pistol, denying Napier the satisfaction of capturing him. With Magdala now secure the British Expedition to Abyssinia came to an end although there was much looting of Ethiopia's treasures. Officers and soldiers who took part in the campaign were awarded the Abyssinian War Medal.

22nd / 23rd August 1868

The Yangzhou riot in 1868 was a pivotal moment of Anglo-Chinese relations during the late Qing Dynasty that almost led to war. The crisis was fomented by the gentry of the city who opposed the presence of foreign Christian missionaries there. The riot that resulted was an angry crowd estimated at eight to ten thousand who assaulted the premises of the British China Inland Mission in Yangzhou by looting, burning and attacking the missionaries who were led by James Hudson Taylor.

No one was killed, however several of the missionaries were injured as they were forced to flee for their lives down-river to Shanghai. As a result of Taylor's report of the riot, the British consul, Sir Walter Henry Medhurst, took seventy Royal Marines in a Man-o'-War and steamed up the Yangtze to Nanjing in a controversial show of force that eventually resulted in an official apology from Viceroy Zeng Guofan and financial restitution made to the injured missionaries. Hudson doubled the mission's reported losses to 2,000 taels to account for injuries suffered.



The top picture shows an older Hudson Taylor with members of the Mainland China Evangelical Church. The bottom picture shown missionaries in traditional Chinese dress.

16th October 1868

Denmark sells the rights to the Nicobar Islands to Britain. The Nicobar Islands are an archipelagic island chain covering an area of 1,648 km² and located in the Bay of Bengal. The Nicobar Islands are believed to have been inhabited for thousands of years but were first colonised by the Dutch East India Company in 1754.

Foreign News

A brief roundup of other news from overseas

Japanese Shogun Attacks Imperial Forces

In early January, Tokugawa Yoshinobu, leader of the Tokugawa shogunate of Japan engaged with allied forces of Chōshū, Satsuma and Tosa Domains near Fushima, a district in Kyoto. The argument escalated when the 15 year old Emperor's consultative assembly tried to order the confiscation of the shogun's lands. He launched his attack with a 15,000 strong army from his base at Osaka Castle on 24th January. The shogun forces were badly equipped with out-dated weapons whereas the Chōshū/Satsuma army had modern Armstrong howitzers, Minié rifles and even a Gatling gun. Even though the shogun army outnumbered their enemy by 3:1, they lost the four day battle and retreated.

The Impeachment of United States President Andrew Johnson

In February the House of Representatives voted 126 to 47 in favour of a resolution to impeach President Johnson for intentionally violating the Tenure of Office Act. Johnson, a former Vice President, is the 17th President of the United States succeeding Abraham Lincoln after his assassination in 1865. The trial commenced on 5 March and on 16 May the Senate returned a guilty vote by 35 to 19. However, it was one vote short of the two thirds majority required for conviction. President Johnson thus continues in office without a Vice President.

Assassination Attempt on Duke of Edinburgh

During a visit to Sydney, Australia, on 12 March, the 23 year old Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria, was shot in the back by 35 year old Irish immigrant Henry James O'Farrell. The Prince recovered in hospital for two weeks under the care of six nurses trained by Florence Nightingale. O'Farrell was subsequently tried at Sydney on 30 March, found guilty and sentenced to death.

Annexation of Basutoland

On 12 March 1868, a proclamation was issued declaring that Basutoland was now a British territory and that the Basutos were to become British subjects under the authority of the British High Commissioner for South Africa. Previous to this edict, the Basutos had been in conflict with the Afrikaner led Orange Free State and their king, Moshoeshoe I, appealed to Queen Victoria to make Basutoland a British protectorate.

Jesse James robs Bank

On 20 March 1868, the Jesse James Gang robs the Nimrod Long bank in Russelville, Kentucky, getting away with the sum of \$14,000. At this time Jesse James was 20 years old. In the cash drawer they found over \$9,000 in currency. From the vault they took several bags of gold and silver. This specie consisted principally of dollars, half-dollars and quarters, and had been placed in the bank on special deposit by several of the neighbouring farmers. This amount did not exceed five thousand dollars. Several private boxes which were on a shelf in the vault and contained bonds were broken open, but none of the bonds were carried off-doubtless because of a fear that they had been registered and would lead to the detection of the robbers.

Military Conflict in New Zealand

Fighting started in June between Government Forces and the Ngāti Ruanui Māori tribe. The government had enacted the New Zealand Settlements Act in 1863 to enable the legal confiscation of Māori land for colonisation after the local native leaders had refused to sell

land to prospective settlers. The main Māori leader, Riwha Titokowaru, mounted campaigns to destroy fences, huts and surveying equipment and this escalated into the killing of three settlers near the Waingongoro River. Major Thomas McDonnell was given approval to enlist 400 men and take on the rebels. Many skirmishes and battles have been fought this year and the conflict still goes on.

Adoption of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution

This amendment extends citizenship and legal rights to all people, including former slaves. It also restricts political or military authority figures allied with the Confederacy from running for state and federal public offices and excuses the federal government from any liability for Confederate debts. It was adopted on 9 July.

Earthquake in Peru

The 1868 Arica earthquake occurred on 13 August 1868, near Arica, then part of Peru, and now part of Chile, at 16:45 local time. It had an estimated magnitude between 8.5 and 9.0. A tsunami in the Pacific Ocean was produced by the earthquake that was recorded in Hawaii, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. There was heavy destruction in this seismic area of approximately 270 square miles and many hundreds of people were killed. Several ships were carried up to 300 yards inland.

Revolution in Spain

The Glorious Revolution took place in Spain on 19 September 1868, resulting in the deposition of Queen Isabella II. Leaders of the revolution including General Francisco Serrano y Domínguez, General Juan Prim and Admiral Juan Baptiste Topete, eventually recruited an Italian prince, Amadeo of Savoy, as king. His reign lasted two years, and he was replaced by the first Spanish Republic.

Revolt in Cuba

Lawyer, Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, was one of the principle conspirators in a war organized and directed by radical Creole landowners, against Spanish control of Cuba. On 10 October, Céspedes issued the historic call to rebellion, thus starting the 10 Years War and the First War for Independence. He also freed the black slaves from his plantation and inducted them into his poorly armed militia. After a period of fighting the Spanish, Céspedes became head of the provisional government and chief of the army after the Constitutional Assembly passed the constitution of the Republic in Arms.

U.S. Presidential Election

The 21st presidential election held on 3 November was won by the Republican candidate Ulysses S. Grant, the former commanding general of the United States Army who led the Union Army to victory over the Confederate forces during the American Civil War. He beat the Democrat Horatio Seymour with 52.7% of the popular vote. He will take office in March next year.

The Battle of Washita River

On 27 November, the 7th U.S. Cavalry under the command of Lt Col George Armstrong Custer attacked a Cheyenne settlement and massacred over 100 men, women and children. This is part of a campaign to force the native Indian populations into reservations by taking their supplies and livestock and in retaliation for raids on nearby white settlements. Cheyenne chief Black Kettle and his wife Medicine Woman Later were both shot in the back whilst trying to escape on a pony. Custer ordered the killing of 675 horses and ponies and retained another 200 to carry off 53 prisoners. The 7th Cavalry only lost one combatant.

Business News

New businesses that started or were founded thus year

Baxters was founded in 1868 by 25 year old gardener George Baxter when he borrowed £100 from family members and established a grocery shop in Fochabers, Moray. George's wife Margaret Baxter supported her husband by making jams and jellies using local fruits.

Chemoxy International Limited began in 1868 at the All Saints Refinery specialising in tar processing.

Hodder & Stoughton, the British publishing company that was founded when Thomas Wilberforce Stoughton joined the existing firm of Jackson, Walford and Hodder after the retirement of founders Jackson and Walford.

Exchange & Mart was launched in 1868 by E. W. Cox, a lawyer and publisher, from a converted potato warehouse in the Strand, London. It was the first weekly published magazine in the world to specialize in classified advertising.

Fleischmann's Yeast. Brothers, Charles and Max Fleischman did not like the American bread made with unreliable home-brewed starters and leaveners and was no match for the light, tender breads they had enjoyed back in their homeland. They formed a partnership with a successful American businessman, James Gaff and built a yeast plant in Cincinnati, Ohio. They produced and patented a compressed yeast cake that has revolutionized home and commercial baking in the United States. This new yeast has excellent leavening power, delivers consistent quality and makes a great tasting bread. The Fleischmanns have created America's first commercially produced yeast.

International Watch Company (IWC) has been established in Schaffhausen, Switzerland by Florentine Ariosto Jones (1841-1916), a watchmaker from Boston, Massachusetts and his partner Johann Heinrich Moser. Their aim is to produce high quality mechanical pocket watches for the American market whilst keeping to traditional Swiss standards but using progressive American techniques.

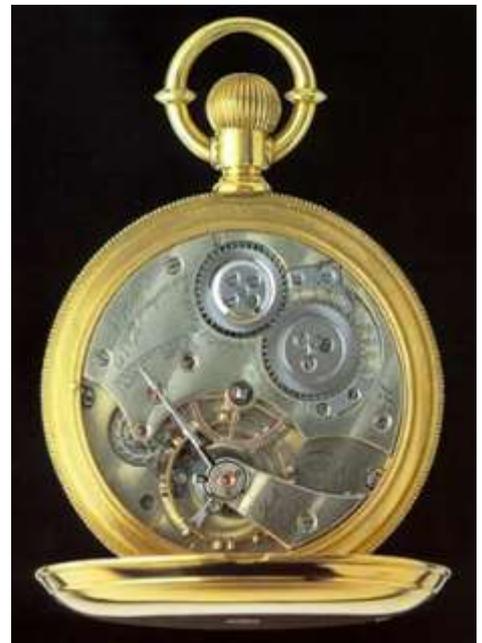
These Swiss watch manufacturers are creating masterpieces of haute horlogerie that combine precision engineering with exclusive design. The picture on the right shows a



Jones Calibre pocket watch no. 1410 dated 15th September 1868 and housed in an 18 carat gold case.

The manufacture of watches is not a new thing and other well known brands have been around for over one hundred years, such as: Vacheron Constantin (1755), Breguet (1775), Girard-Perregaux (1791), Jaeger-LeCoultre (1833), Patek Philippe (1851), Cartier (1847), Omega (1848), Tag Heuer (1860) and Panerai Officine (1860).

Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust: The Company was founded by Philip Rose, who also founded the Royal Brompton Hospital in 1868. As The Foreign & Colonial Government Trust it was the first collective investment scheme in the world and specialised in investing in Government bonds.



MetLife Inc. is among the largest global providers of insurance, annuities, and employee benefit programs, with 90 million customers in over 60 countries. The firm was founded on March 24, 1868.

Tata Group: The Tata Group is an Indian multinational conglomerate holding company headquartered in Bombay, India. It was founded in 1868 by Jamsedji Tata and gained international recognition after purchasing several global companies.

Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, an Indian industrialist and entrepreneur was the first person in his whole family to venture beyond priesthood. An adventurous and ambitious young man, he dreamed, amongst other things, of building an iron and steel company and a world-class educational institution.

Blessed with an intuitive business sense and a sharp mind, he soon became a pioneering entrepreneur and founded his first venture, a trading concern in 1868. He had travelled extensively all over the world while trying to expand his father's business (an export-trading firm) and as a result acquired a lot of valuable knowledge and experience. He realized that there was tremendous scope for Indian companies to develop and compete with the British dominated industries.

Yale Lock Manufacturing Co was founded in Stamford, Connecticut, in 1868 by Linus Yale, Jr. and Henry Towne. In about 1840, Linus Yale Sr. began to design and manufacture a range of innovative and highly secure locks in his Yale Lock Shop in Newport, New York. He specialized in expensive handmade banking locks. Linus Yale Jr. joined the firm in 1850. He perfected and patented his fathers' pin tumbler cylinder lock and is considered the locking expert at this time. Yale Jr. was also experimenting with a lock based on a mechanism used by ancient Egyptians. Granted patents in 1861 and 1865 he finally succeeded in creating his main invention - the Yale cylinder lock. The locking industry will be forever changed because of his ground-breaking inventions.



Kobe Beef, one of the top brands in the world was first introduced during the Boshin Civil War (also known as the Japanese Revolution) between the forces of the Tokugawa Shogunate and the Imperial Court. In a country where meat eating was uncommon, it was permissible to eat the flesh of mammals for medicinal purposes. Many wounded soldiers were sent to hospitals in Tokyo where they were fed a Western diet of beef to build up their strength. These patients liked beef so much that they told others about it when they returned to their homes during the Meiji Restoration.

It is rumoured that the Imperial Navy will start feeding their sailors beef to improve their nutrition and that the Imperial Army will do the same. Kobe Beef is derived from Tajima cattle born in Hyōgo Prefecture, they are fed on grain, Processed at defined slaughterhouses and have a marbling ratio of level 6 and above.

Pacific Life Insurance Company: Pacific Mutual Life was founded in 1868 by former California Governor Leland Stanford in Sacramento, California. Stanford is also the first policy holder of the company.

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company is an American multinational corporation headquartered in Marysville, Ohio, where O.M. Scott began selling lawn seed in 1868.

The McIlhenny Company of Louisiana has begun production of Tabasco Sauce in America. Founder Edmund McIlhenny obtained seeds of the *Capsicum Frutescens* peppers from South America and salt from mines on Avery Island. The ripe peppers are picked, mashed, mixed with salt and placed in jars for 30 days. The mash is then mixed with vinegar and aged for another 30 days. Once strained, the sauce is put in cologne bottles specially made in a New Orleans glassworks and then sold to the public.

Zeno-Watch Basel is an independent Swiss watchmaker established in 1868 by Jules Godat in La Chaux-de-Fonds. Originally a seasonal watchmaker he set up the company, Godat & Co, where he produced very small numbers of classic silver pocket watches.

The Refrigerator Car: William Davis, a Detroit, Michigan fish dealer, received a patent for a refrigerator car ('ice box on wheels'). He also designed the first refrigerated railway car.

The Stapler: C.H. Gould of Birmingham, England patented a stapler.

The Typewriter: Christopher Lathan Sholes of Wisconsin patented a mechanical writing machine, called a type-writer. It was as large as a desk, made of black walnut and had black and white keys. He was to sign a deal with the Remington Arms company for its manufacture and it was Remington who turned it into a more practical machine.



London Railway News

The new tracks from King's Cross to Farringdon were first used by a GNR freight train on 27 January 1868. The Midland Railway junction opened on 13 July 1868 when services ran into Moorgate Street before its St Pancras terminus had opened.

The Metropolitan and St John's Wood Railway opened the Swiss Cottage station on 13th April 1868. Early plans record that this railway is to extend as far as Hampstead High Street. However, this extension is unlikely to be built due to lack of finance.

The Tottenham & Hampstead Junction Railway line was opened on 21 July 1868 between Tottenham North Junction and Highgate Road. This line was approved by an Act of Parliament on 28 July 1862 but there had been problems with the proposed route underneath Hampstead Road. An extension is planned to Gospel Oak and should be completed sometime in 1870.

Passenger train services were switched from King's Cross to St Pancras on 1st October 1868. The first train to arrive was the 22:05 overnight mail train from Leeds. The construction of the station has been a huge undertaking with a large area of housing in Agar Town and Somers Town being cleared to make way for the new line and station. To the north of the station the St Pancras Church burial ground has been partially cleared.



Engineers William Henry Barlow and Roland Mason Ordish were responsible for the train shed and overall layout of the site together with George Gilbert Scott who was the architect for the hotel and station accommodation. Work has already commenced on the Midland Grand Hotel and work is planned to complete in 1876.

The new Central Meat Market was opened at Smithfield. Designed by Horace Jones, who was also responsible for Tower Bridge, it is a huge building covering 8 acres. It includes an underground area linked to railway lines so that livestock and butchered meat can be transported via train. Constructed with stone, slate, cast iron and glass it has cost £993,816 to build.



The British at Home

A brief roundup of domestic affairs

27th February 1868

Benjamin Disraeli has become prime minister after Edward Smith–Stanley, the 14th Earl of Derby, retired from political life due to medical reasons. However he lost the general election later in the year (see below).

9th May 1868

The Parliament of the United Kingdom passes the Capital Punishment Amendment Act, thus ending public hanging. The Act required that all prisoners sentenced to death be executed within the walls of the prison in which they were being held, and that their bodies be buried in the prison grounds. The Act was prompted at least in part by the efforts of reformers such as Sir Robert Peel and Charles Dickens, who called upon the national press to support an end to the "grotesque spectacle" of public executions.

31st July 1868

The passing of the Telegraph Act, an Act to enable Her Majesty's Postmaster General to acquire, work, and maintain Electric Telegraphs.

31st July 1868

The Public Schools Act has been passed by parliament to reform and regulate public schools. St Paul's School and Merchant Taylors' School were omitted from the Bill but seven others had Crown responsibility removed, these being: Charterhouse, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Shrewsbury, Westminster and Winchester.

Also a Board of Education has been set up to make education compulsory for children aged between seven and twelve. However, children may be exempted if they are privately educated, have parents who cannot manage without their labour, can already read and write, or cannot attend school safely. Failure to attend school can result in a forty shilling fine per child.

20th August 1868

At 7.30am on Thursday August 20th, the Irish Mail left Euston station in London on its daily journey to Holyhead. The train, The Prince of Wales, which had the reputation of being the fastest in the kingdom, four carriages for first and second-class passengers and a post-office van. It collided with six wagons loaded with petroleum and spirit that had been left on the main line. 33 bodies recovered were so badly burned, that it was impossible to recognise them. The final official tally was 10 males, 13 females, and 10 sex unknown. All the remains were buried in a mass grave in Abergele Churchyard, on 25th August.

17 November–7 December 1868

This general election is the first to occur after the Representation of the People Act of 1867 (also known as the Second Reform Act) which increased the number of voters from about one million by adding in about another million male heads of households. William Gladstone (Liberal Party) unseated the incumbent prime minister Benjamin Disraeli (Tory Party) by winning 369 seats to 289 seats.

Military Medals Awarded This Year

The Abyssinian War Medal and Victoria Cross

The Abyssinian War Medal was awarded to those involved in a 1867-1868 expedition to Abyssinia to secure the release of British labourers sent to the country at the request of King Theodore, but imprisoned on their arrival along with other British representatives.

This medal (shown on the right of the page) was awarded to Able Bodied Seaman T. Simpkin, who served onboard HMS Spiteful at the time commanded by Commander Benjamin Langlois Lefroy. Despite only being a wooden paddle-steamer carrying 6 guns, the ship single-handedly quelled piracy in the Arabian Gulf during the campaign in May 1868. During this period she captured 6 vessels and rescued 200 slaves. Simpkin was presumably part of this effort.

The medal is silver, 1¼ inches in diameter, was designed by Joseph and Alfred Wyon and struck at the Royal Mint. The medal is unique in that the recipient's names were stamped in relief on the reverse of the medal. This feature required that the dies for the reverse had to have a removable center so each recipient's name could be impressed.

The obverse bears the left facing effigy of a diademed Queen Victoria. Around the edge is a stylised border with indentions, between the indentions are the letters ABYSSINIA.

The medal is held by a ring suspension attached to a crown surmounting the medal. The medal is borne upon a crimson ribbon 1 1/2 inches wide, with white borders. Some 186 medals were issued to the ships company and are listed in ADM 171/36 series at the National Archives.



Two Victoria Crosses awarded this year.

James Bergin VC (born 29 June 1845) was an Irish recipient of the Victoria Cross. Bergin was 22 years old, and a private in the 33rd Regiment of Foot.

Michael Magner VC (born 21 June 1840) was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland and was an Irish recipient of the Victoria Cross. He was 27 years old, and a drummer in the 33rd Regiment of Foot, British Army. Magner later achieved the rank of Corporal.

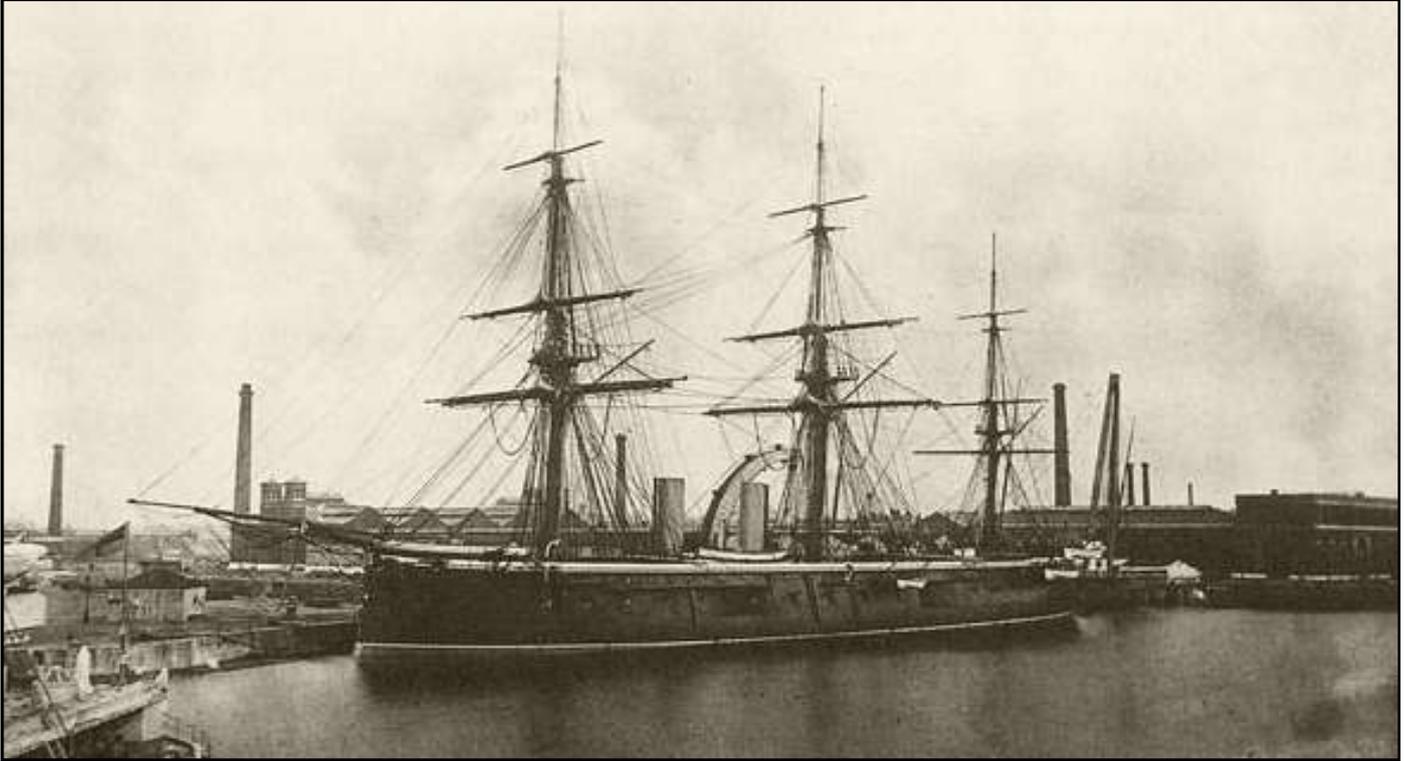
It was during the Abyssinia Expedition when the following deed took place for which they were both was awarded the VC.

"On 13 April 1868, during the assault on Magdala, when the head of the column of attack was checked by the obstacles at the gate, a small stream of officers and men of the 33rd Regiment and an officer of the Royal Engineers broke away from the main approach to Magdala and, reaching the defences, climbed a cliff, forced their way over a wall and through a strong and thorny fence, thus turning the defenders of the gateway. The first two men to enter Magdala were Drummer Magner and private Bergin."

New naval vessels launched this year

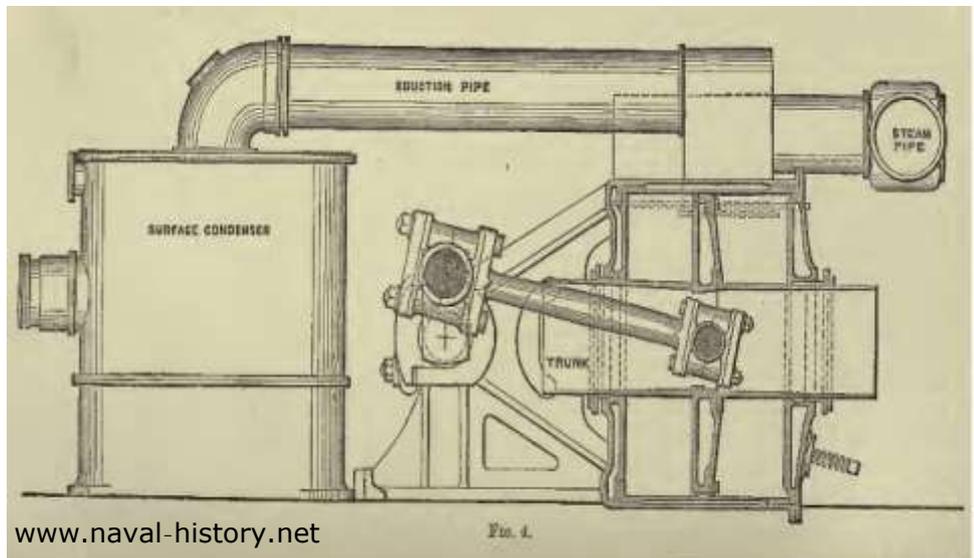
Four more ships added to the fleet

HMS Hercules



Built in Chatham dockyard, this enlarged version of HMS Bellerophon was designed by Sir Edward Reed and is the fourth ship to bear this name. HMS Hercules was laid down on 1st February two years ago, launched earlier this year on the 10th February and was finally completed on the 21st November. She is the first to mount 10in muzzle-loading guns, four each side. The 18-ton guns can fire a 400-lb shell with a muzzle velocity of 1,380 feet per second. It is estimated that a well trained crew will be able to fire one shot every 70 seconds. She also has 2 x 9in guns and 4 x 7in guns. The armour plating is between 6in and 9in thick.

She is 325ft. long with a beam of 59ft 6in and displaces 8,867 tons. Hercules is a fully rigged ship with a sail area of 49,400 sq. ft. as well as a single shaft powered by a 7,178 horse power trunk engine produced by John Penn, similar to the one in this diagram, giving it a speed of 14 knots. She was first commissioned on the 31st October by Captain Viscount (Richard James Meade) Gilford RN and Lieutenant C.C.P Fitzgerald as First Lieutenant. It will be operated by a crew of 650 officers and men.



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HMS Repulse

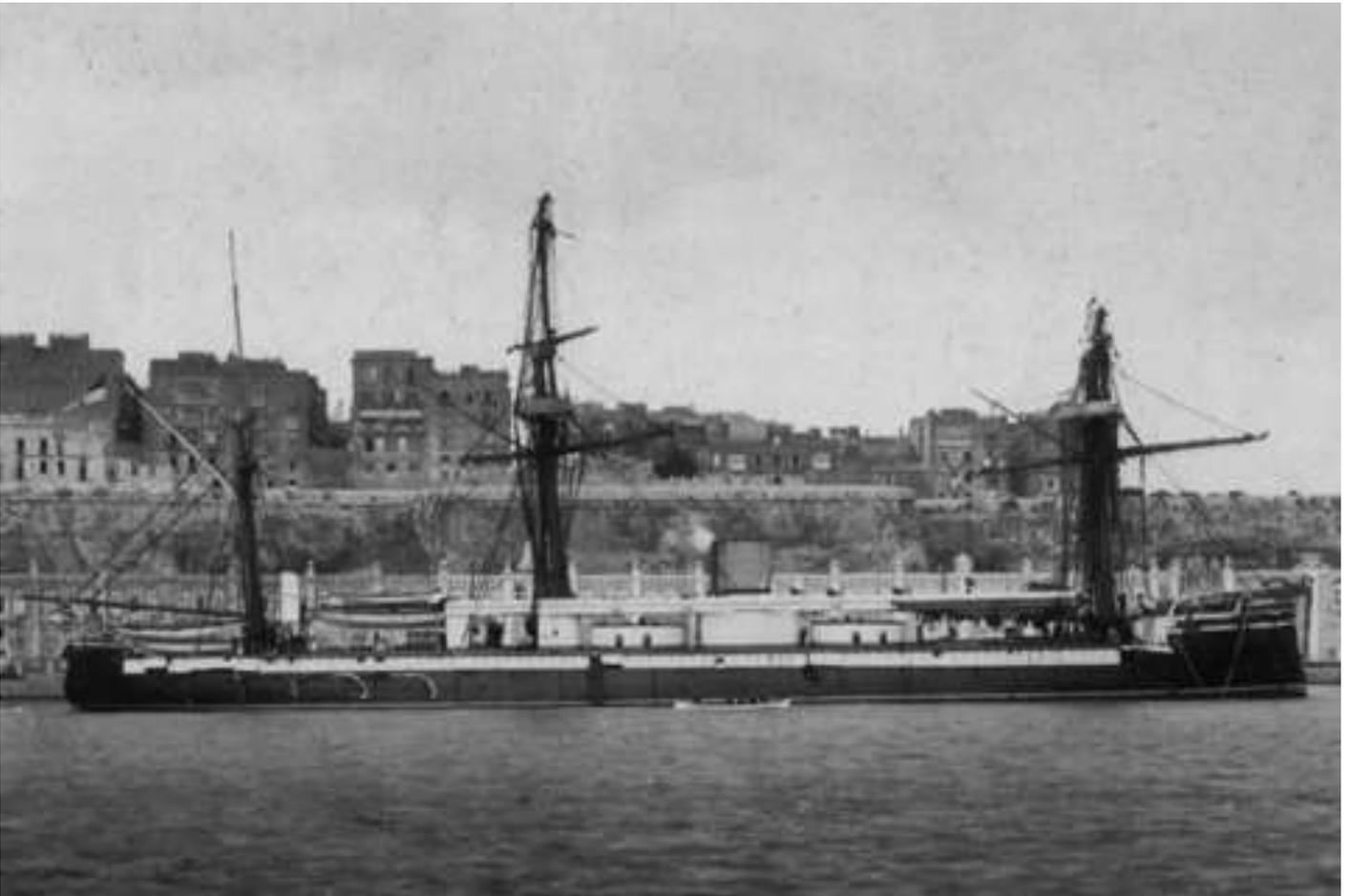


HMS Repulse was the last wooden battleship constructed for the Royal Navy, originally laid down in 1851 as a 90-gun second-rate line-of-battle ship with two decks. However, in 1861, approval was granted to convert her into a broadside ironclad but work was intentionally delayed until the performance of earlier conversions from wooden hull to ironclad could be assessed. In 1864 Sir Edward Reed had been Chief Constructor for some eighteen months, and was in a position to specify the nature of the armament and the disposition of armour which HMS Repulse should carry when construction resumed in 1866. She was finally launched in April this year.

Guns of 9in and 10in calibre were already deployed in the Royal Navy and clearly similar weapons could be carried by potential adversaries (namely the Americans). It followed that the standard armour of 4½in thickness could no longer be so considered, even though it had been considered adequate when HMS Warrior was launched in 1860. The provision of thicker armour in turn meant that less of the side of the ship could be armoured, in case the displacement exceed the allowed tonnage. While the water-line belt was continuous from stem to stern, the armour over the battery stretched for only 70ft., the hull fore and aft of this being exposed wood. The risk of battle damage to these large unprotected areas will be minimised as she will be posting to the Pacific station, where combat with any unit of significant force is thought to be unlikely.

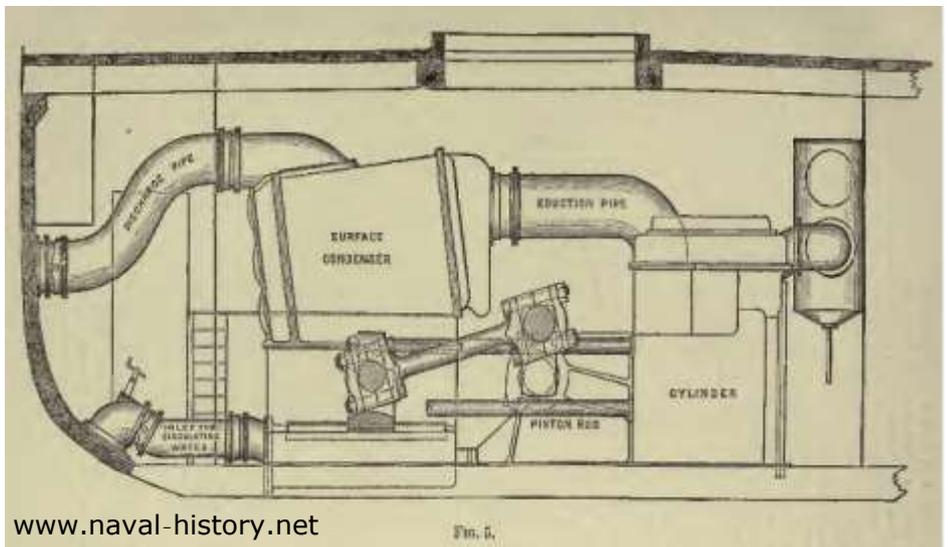
HMS Repulse was always intended as an overseas flagship as she is said to have the best accommodation in the fleet, with the Captain's quarters under the poop, the Admiral's quarters on the main deck, and officers' cabins arranged either side of the poop. Most officers will be able to bunk under an open port-hole, which in the tropics will no doubt enhance comfort and habitability.

HMS Monarch



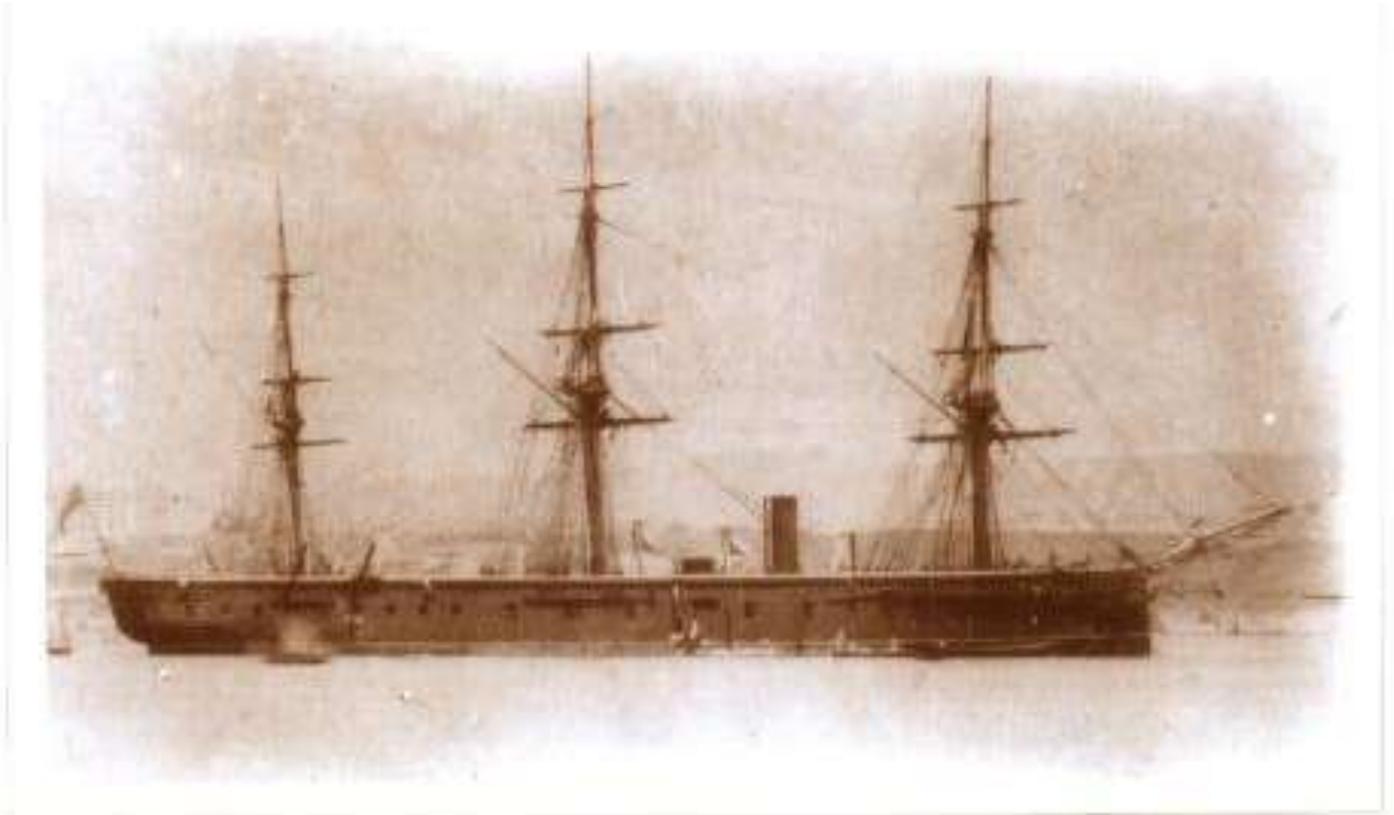
Built in Chatham Dockyard and launched on the 23rd May, she is a Screw Turret Ship with a Ram bow. The iron plating on the ship's sides varies between 4in and 7in and that of the turrets between 8in and 10in. The ship is 330ft. long with a beam of 57ft. 6in and she carries a complement of 525 men and cost £366,000. Although the hull was laid down in 1866, the ship will be commissioned next year when Captain J.E Commerell VC CB will be in command.

The 10,000 horsepower engines are supplied by Messrs. Humphrys and Tennant of London. Its design was that of a horizontal twin-cylinder, return connecting-rods set as shown in the diagram below. With steam-jacketed cylinders 120 ins in diameter by 4.5 ft. stroke. The engines indicated 7800 hp., made 64 revs per minute and drove a two-bladed Griffiths propeller, 23.3 ft. in diameter and 26.3 ft. pitch, which gave the vessel a speed of 14.9 knots. When under sail her sail area was 27,000 sq. ft. and could maintain a speed of 13 knots. Her armament consists of 4 x 12in 25-ton rifled guns in two turrets and 3 x 7in 6½-ton rifles guns as bow and stern chasers.



www.naval-history.net

HMS Inconstant



This ship was one of the last hulls to be built at Pembroke Dockyard which has played a pioneering role in the development of steam propulsion. Designed by the Director of Naval Construction, Sir Edward Reed, she was laid down on 27 November 1886 and launched on 13th November this year. HMS Inconstant is an iron-built screw frigate, cased with wood, 337ft. long by 50 ft. 4 in. wide and displacing 5,880 tons. She will carry a complement of 605 men and has cost a total of £213,324.

The design incorporates 10 x 9 in. guns, 6 x 7 in. guns and four 6½-ton revolving bow and stern chasers on the upper deck. The RML 7 in. naval gun introduced in 1865 as a broadside or pivot gun for frigates, to replace the 7 in. B.L. and 68-pr S.B. guns, and is now very extensively used. These guns are in total length 18 inches shorter than the land service versions, being a length more suited to the requirements of the Navy. The primary projectile for the 7 in. gun was Palliser shot or shell for attacking armoured warships, fired with a large "battering" charge for maximum velocity. All guns were also equipped with shrapnel shells for anti-personnel use and explosive common shells for attacking unarmoured targets. The "double" common shell was much longer than the standard common shell, and hence contained approximately twice as much gunpowder. It was unstable in flight and hence inaccurate beyond 2,000 yards.

HMS Inconstant has retractable funnels so that they can be moved out of the way when under sail. It has a sail area of 26,655 sq. ft. Propulsion is provided by a one-shaft Humphreys & Tennant return connecting rod engine. Burning up to 200 tons of coal per day, the ship can make 15.7 knots in moderate weather. Initial trials have shown that the ship rolls quite heavily when coal stocks are used up, so 180 tons of ballast has been added to improve stability. Under steam and with 27,000 sq. ft. of sail she can attain a maximum speed of 16.51 knots. When commissioned next year she will form part of the Channel Squadron and Captain Elphinstone Aplin will be in command.

Mine Warfare Comes of Age

A new Invention from Dr Hertz

The concept of mine warfare goes back at least to 859 BC, where the Assyrians used digging and borrowing techniques to weaken and destabilise the foundations of defensive walls, hence the use of the term 'mine'. The use of an explosive mine did not occur until well after the development of gunpowder in the 9th century. The first recorded use of explosive land mines was in 1277 by the Chinese when they were defending a Mongol attack of a city in southern China.

The Chinese were also the first to develop a naval mine sometime in the 16th century. A 17th century record describes the mechanism having a rip cord that operated a wheellock flint mechanism. English alchemist and inventor, Ralph Rabbards, first proposed a design for a sea mine to Queen Elizabeth I in 1574. Dutch innovator, Cornelius Drebbel, was employed by King Charles I in the Office of Ordnance to make weapons including not very successful mines, some of which were used at the Siege of La Rochelle in 1627.

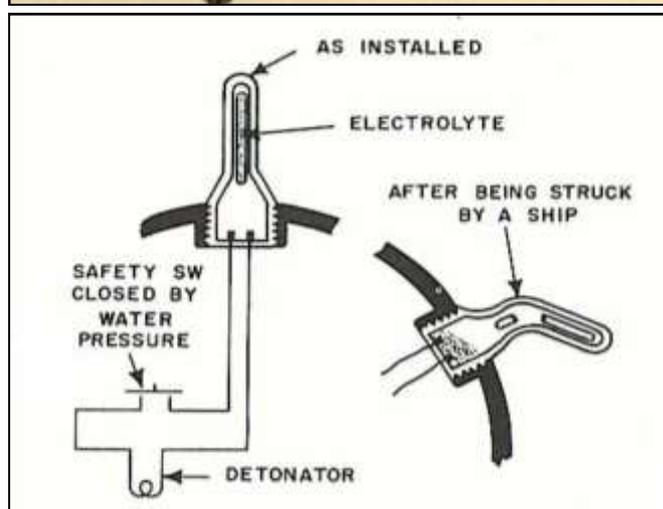
American inventor David Bushell was the first to produce a practical sea mine for use against the British during the American War of Independence (1775 to 1783). Many other types of mine were then developed by various countries using electrical and chemical initiators to cause the main charge to detonate.

During the American Civil War (1861 to 1865) the Confederate forces deployed underwater mines (then known as torpedoes) mainly in the form of the Raines Keg Torpedo. A five gallon beer keg was sealed with pine pitch then filled with gunpowder and outfitted with a contact or electrical fuse. They could be anchored in place or attached to floats and allowed to drift on the tide towards anchored ships.

The Confederacy deployed thousands of these, particularly in the Mobile Bay area. Though very crude and prone to failure, they sank or damaged more Union ships during the war than gunfire did.

In 1868, the Prussian scientist Dr. Albert Hertz developed a new fuse for sea mines. Known as the Hertz Horn, the fuse was made by placing a carbon plate, a zinc plate, and a vial of bichromate in a bulge on the side of the mine. When the bulge was hit by a ship the vial of bichromate was crushed and mixed with the metal plates, creating a battery where the electric charge produced detonated the mine.

These Prussian mines would be developed to contain a number of fuses on each mine, similar to the multi-fused keg mines used during the American Civil War. The Hertz Horn ended up as one of the most successful designs of sea mine and variants are still used today.



Popular and Classical Music

For the discerning listener

Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 1 ("Winter Daydreams") is first performed in Moscow on February 3rd.

Richard Wagner's opera Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg debuts at the Königliches Hof- und National-Theater, Munich with Hans von Bülow conducting on June 21st.

The Giuseppe Verdi Theatre opened in Busseto, Italy on August 15th.

Edvard Grieg, the 24 year old Norwegian composer completes his 'Piano Concerto in A Minor', whilst on a visit to Søllerød, Denmark.

The Cornell University Glee Club, a male choir performing choral and classical pieces, was first organised when students first arrived on campus this year.

The Tonhalle Orchestra Zürich was founded this year after many attempts to establish a permanent orchestra in the city. The impetus began in 1861 at the Swiss Music Festival where many people wanted the musicians to remain afterwards. A group of Zurich citizens founded the Orchesterverein in 1865 as the city's first permanent orchestra with the Tonhalle following on a few years later.

First published in the previous year the "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze" was republished this year in 1868. The words were written by British lyricist and singer, George Leybourne, the music composed by Gaston Lyle, and the arrangement by Alfred Lee. The song was based on French acrobatic performer and aerialist, Jules Léotard. His is credited with the invention of the leotard, a tight one piece knitted garment specially designed for his performances.

W.S. Gilbert (of Gilbert and Sullivan fame) is to premiere his new show on 21st December this year at the newly rebuilt Gaiety Theatre. Called 'Robert the Devil', it is an operatic parody of Giacomo Meyerbeer's grand opera 'Robert le diable', which was named after the medieval French legend of the same name. The new tunes are set to music by Meyerbeer, Bellini, Offenbach and others.

Popular songs released this year are:

- Champagne Charlie (George Leybourne)
- Cradle Song (Johannes Brahms)
- How Lovely are they Darlings (Johannes Brahms)
- Lullaby and Good Night (Johannes Brahms)
- O Little Town of Bethlehem (Phillips Brooks)
- What a Friend We Have in Jesus (Joseph M. Scriven)
- Come Back to Erin (Charlotte Alington)



Births

Notable naval personnel born this year

Admiral Cecil Frederick Dampier CMG (11 May 1868 to 11 April 1950)

Dampier was the son of Reverend A. Dampier. He was commissioned in 1881, gained the rank of Lieutenant in 1888, the rank of Commander in 1900 and the rank of Captain in 1904. In March 1906 he commanded the cruiser Hermione and was in command of the cruiser Defence in 1908. He was Captain of HMS Audacious between May 1913 and October 1914 which was lost to a German mine off Lough Swilly. He was promoted Rear-Admiral in February 1915 and was appointed Rear-Admiral of the Third Battle Squadron in March 1916 and Admiral-Superintendent of the HM Dover Dockyard in 1917. He was invested as a Companion, Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.) in 1919 and promoted Vice-Admiral in August 1919. He retired from the Navy in 1922 and lived in Bishops Waltham where he died at age 81.



Captain Robert Falcon Scott CVO (6 June 1868 to 29 March 1912)

Scott was born at Devonport. In 1880 he entered the naval college H.M.S. Britannia and 2 years later became a midshipman and promoted to lieutenant in 1897. In 1899 after Sir Clements Markham won partial government backing for the race to the pole, Scott was chosen to head the National Antarctic Expedition. Enthusiasm for Antarctic explorations had waned after 1904 but in 1909 Scott announced plans to reach the South Pole. British and Dominion governments provided financial support and the Terra Nova sailed in June 1910.

On January 18 1912 Scott's party reached the South Pole and found the Norwegian flag, a tent, and a note left for Scott by Amundsen who had reached the goal on December 14, 1911. Approximately 11 miles from One Ton Depot the remaining three members of the party made camp for the last time and on March 29 Scott made his last journal entry. Eight months later a relief expedition found the tent, bodies, journals, and records.



Lieutenant-Commander Norman Carlyle Craig KC (November 1868 to October 1919)

Born the son of William Simpson Craig, a doctor from Ham Common. He was brother of the prominent psychiatrist Sir Maurice Craig. Educated at Peterhouse, Cambridge, he was called to the bar in 1892 and appointed Kings Council in 1909. He was the Member of Parliament for the Isle of Thanet in 1910 and again in 1918. He had booked passage on the Titanic in 1912, but cancelled before the sailing, thus avoiding being on board when the ship sunk on 15th of April.

He joined the Royal Naval Reserve for the duration of WW1 and died in 1919.



Senior Naval Appointments

Admiral of the Fleet: Sir James Alexander Gordon GCB

Born in 1782, he was a midshipman serving under Admiral Sir Horatio Nelson at the Battle of the Nile in August 1798. He was promoted to Post-Captain in May 1805 and assigned command of the 28-gun frigate HMS Ligeia. He commanded HMS Mercury in 1807 and HMS Active in 1808. In March 1811, Active was one of four ships that successfully defeated a much larger French squadron at the first Battle of Lissa and she was one of three that defeated three more powerful French frigates off Palagruža in November. In this latter action Gordon's left knee was shattered by a cannonball and his leg had to be amputated; he used a wooden leg for the remainder of his life. He was given the nickname of "The last of Nelson's Captains". It has been said that his career was the basis for C.S. Forrester's Horatio Hornblower stories.

First Naval Lord (the 1st Sea Lord): Admiral Sir Sydney Colpoys Dacres GCB.

Is the professional head of the Royal Navy. He was the son of Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Dacres and the grandson of Vice-Admiral James Richard Dacres. He entered the Navy in 1817. He was Captain-Superintendent of the Royal Hospital Haslar and the Royal Clarence (Gosport) Victualling Yard from July 1855 until June 1858. He became 1st Sea Lord on 18 December 1868.

Second Sea Lord (the 2nd Sea Lord): Vacant

Is the Commander-in-Chief Fleet and responsible for personnel and naval shore establishments. This post was left unfilled when Sydney Dacres was promoted to First Sea Lord and remained so until 1872.

Controller of the Navy: Admiral Sir Robert Spencer Robinson MCB.

The post was only in existence between February 1861 and February 1871 where the incumbent was responsible for the procurement of warships at a time when the Royal Navy was changing over from unarmoured wooden ships to ironclads. Robinson was in post in 1871, when this role was combined with the duties of the Third Naval Lord. The son of Sir John Robinson, he entered the Royal Navy in 1821.

Third Naval Lord (the 3rd Sea Lord) : Vice-Admiral (George) Henry Seymour CB.

Seymour was the last person to hold this post until 1869 when Admiral Robinson took over as both Third Naval Lord and Controller of the Navy. Seymour was the son of Admiral Sir George Seymour and grandson of Lord Hugh Seymour. He commanded HMS Cumberland and HMS Pembroke in the Baltic Sea during the Crimean War and later commanded HMS Victory and the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert.

Junior Sea Lord (the 4th Sea Lord) : Rear Admiral Lord John Hay GCB.

The Fourth Sea Lord as Chief of Naval Supplies was responsible for supplying the navy, and his responsibilities included transport, victualing (supplying food), and medical services. Hay was the fourth son of George Hay, 8th Marquess of Tweeddale and Lady Susan Montagu (daughter of William Montagu, 5th Duke of Manchester) and joined the Royal Navy in 1840. He served during the first and second Opium Wars and the Battle of Taku. He became an MP for Wick and Ripon and was 4th Sea Lord from March to August 1868.

Scientific and Technical

Other notable events that occurred this year

English naturalist, Charles Darwin, publishes his latest book on 30 January 1868 'The Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication' some thirteen years after he had started his experiments with pigeons. The book had been advertised as early as 1865 with the unwieldy title 'Domesticated Animals and Cultivated Plants, or the Principles of Variation, Inheritance, Reversion, Crossing, Interbreeding, and Selection under Domestication' but Darwin was persuaded to go with the shorter title.

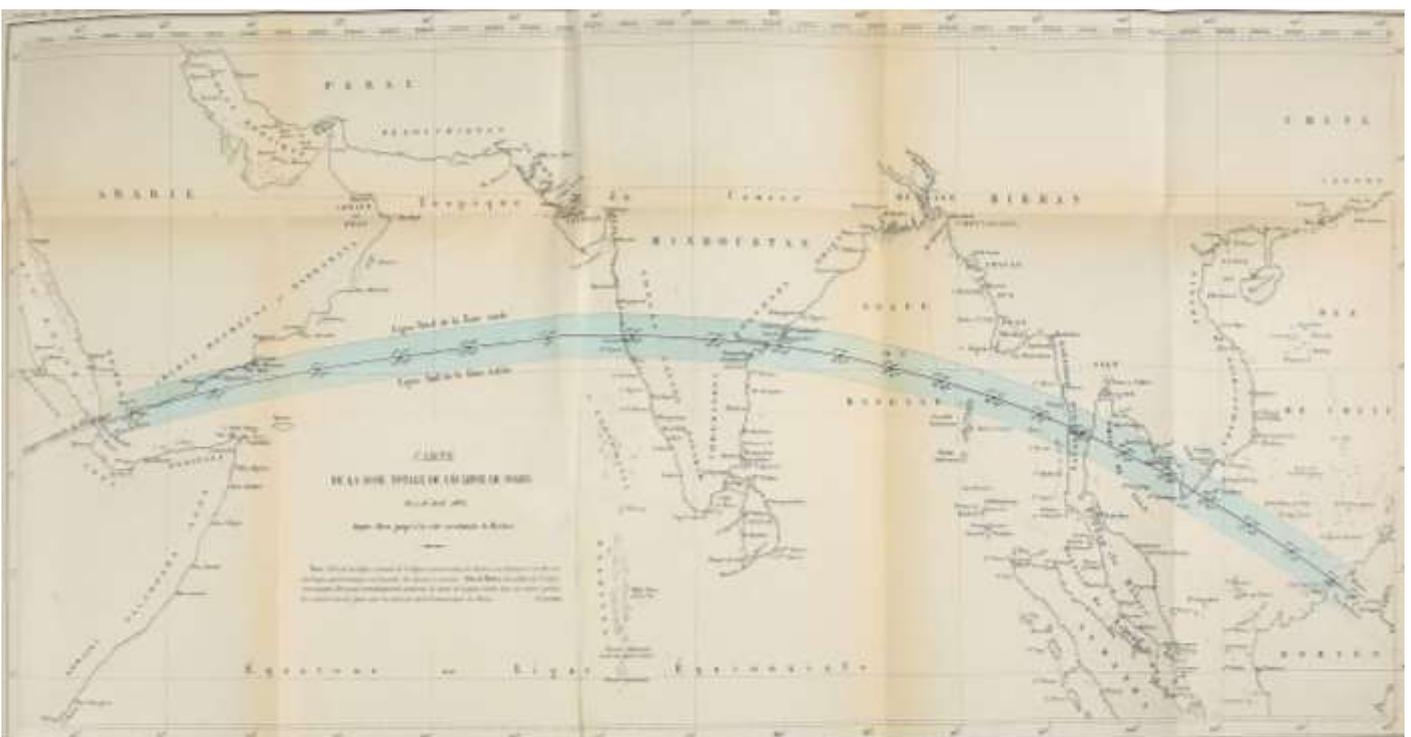
English scientist and astronomer, Norman Lockyer, and French astronomer Pierre-Jules-César Janssen were jointly credited with the discovery of the element, helium. This followed observations of a yellow line in the solar spectrum caused by an unknown element in the sun.

Frenchman, Louis Arthur Ducos du Hauron, patented a practical process for colour photography on the three-color principle, using both additive and subtractive methods. His work is purely theoretical because photographic emulsions are only sensitive to blue light and the proposed process requires three exposures with different colour filters placed over the camera lens; one green, one orange and one violet (in 1868 film sensitive to green, yellow and red light did not exist).

The Granny Smith apple originated in New South Wales, Australia and was named after Maria Anne Smith, who propagated the cultivar from a chance seedling. Smith was born Maria Ann Sherwood in 1799 in Peasmarch, Sussex, England, married labourer Thomas Smith and migrated to New South Wales as free settlers in 1838. They bought two blocks of land in 1856 to start their orchard.

American inventor, Thomas Edison, applied for his first patent for a form of electric voting machine, which was granted the following year (U.S. Patent 90,646).

On August 18th, a total solar eclipse occurred. A detailed report of the observations at Guntur, Andhra Pradesh was written by Major J. F. Tennant under instructions from the Secretary of State for India. The map below shows the predicted path of the total eclipse taken from the Archives des missions scientifiques et littéraires, 1868.



French geologist and palaeontologist, Louis Lartet, discovered the original prehistoric human Cro-Magnon remains, during excavations in a rock shelter near the French village of Les Eyzies. He discovered the partial skeletons of four prehistoric adults and one infant along with perforated shells used as ornaments, an object made from ivory, and worked reindeer antler.

Traffic Lights were first installed in London on 9th December. These gas-lit lights were installed outside the Houses of Parliament to control the traffic in Bridge Street, Great George Street and Parliament Street. However, this did not last long as on 2nd January 1869, a leak in one of the gas lines caused an explosion, killing the policeman who was operating it. The concept was abandoned until electric lights were developed in 1912 and were eventually deployed at Piccadilly Circus in 1926.

General Sir Charles Warren GCMG, KCB, FRS starts the first excavation of the ancient site of Jericho. He later became the head of the London Metropolitan Police from 1886 to 1888, during the period of the Jack the Ripper murders.

Sir Charles Wheatstone FRS was awarded the prestigious Copley Prize, by the Royal Society, for his researches in acoustics, optics, electricity and magnetism. He is best known for the development of the Wheatstone Bridge, a device used to measure an unknown electrical resistance. The English scientist and inventor was also known for inventing the English concertina, the stereoscope and the Playfair cipher.

In the Press

Paper based news

The Press Association was founded this year in 1868 by a group of provincial newspaper proprietors. The organisation provides a London-based service of news-collecting and reporting from around the United Kingdom. The news agency's founders sought to produce a more accurate and reliable alternative to the monopoly service of the telegraph companies.

Today in Britain you are able to purchase as many as 45 periodicals.

Quality broadsheet newspapers available include:

- The Observer (Est 1791)
- The Guardian (Est 1821)
- The Sunday Times (Est 1822)
- The Daily Telegraph (Est 1855)

The Echo was launched this year in London by Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co. was the first halfpenny evening newspaper. It was published daily except on Sunday. Sometimes its Saturday edition appeared under the name The Cricket Echo or The Football Echo. Issue Number 1 appeared on 8 December. Sir (Robert) Arthur Arnold was the paper's first editor.

In America, "The Revolution" was a weekly newspaper established by women's rights activists Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in New York City. It was first published in January 1868. It focused primarily on women's rights, especially women's suffrage. It also covered other topics such as politics, the labour movement and finance.

News From 100 Years Ago

Looking back at events in 1768

In this year, George III is on the throne and William Pitt the Younger is Prime Minister.

In business news, Richard Wall opens a butcher's stall in St James Market (later to become Wall's). Henry Overton Wills and his partner Watkins have opened a tobacconists shop in Bristol (later to become W.D. & H.O. Wills).

On 14 July, the Convention of London took place between the Kingdoms of Great Britain and Spain to agree the status of British settlements along the Mosquito Coast. After signing, the British will evacuate some 2,000 colonists, moving most to Belize but some will go to Jamaica, Roatan and Grand Cayman. The Spanish have agreed that Britain can expand its logging operations in the Yucatan Peninsula and a superintendent will be duly appointed to oversee the colony. [NB: The territory later became British Honduras, was granted self government in 1964, was officially renamed Belize in 1973, and was finally granted independence in 1981].

Captain Francis Light (1740–1794) has founded the colony of Penang and named its capital George Town. On behalf of the British East India Company, Light has leased Penang Island from Sultan Abdullah Mukarram Shah of Kedah Sultanate, renaming it Prince of Wales Island. Light has been made Superintendent and is in charge of the settlement. This looks to be the start of British expansion into the Malay States, and the British colonization in Southeast Asia.

Royal naval officer, Vice Admiral The Hon. John Byron, RN, died this year on 10 April. Born in 1723, he joined the navy in 1731 and served under Admiral George Anson, on his round the world voyage in 1740. In 1760, he commanded a squadron during the Seven Years' War, primarily a maritime and colonial conflict between Britain and its Bourbon enemies, France and Spain. In 1765, whilst circumnavigating the globe as captain of HMS Dolphin, Byron took possession of the Falkland Islands. In 1796 he was appointed governor of Newfoundland and in 1778/79 he was Commander in Chief of the British fleet during the American War of Independence. He was grandfather to poet George Byron and to admiral and explorer, George Anson Byron.



British naval officer, Rear-Admiral Sir James John Gordon Bremer, KCB, KCH was born this year in Portsmouth on 26th September (died 14 February 1850). He joined the navy in 1794, became commander of HMS Rattlesnake in 1807 and was promoted to captain in 1814. Bremner was twice the Commander in Chief of British forces during the First Anglo-Chinese War and took formal possession of Hong Kong in 1841. In 1846 he became second in command of the Channel fleet and later in the same year became superintendent of Woolwich Dockyard.

British naval officer, Vice-Admiral Granville George Waldegrave, 2nd Baron Radstock CB, was born this year on 24th September (died 11 May 1857). He joined the navy in 1798

and eventually became an aide-de-camp to King William IV and Queen Victoria. [NB: His great grandson, Commander John Montagu Granville Waldegrave, DSC, was lost at sea when his ship, HMS Penelope was torpedoed by U-410 on 18th February 1944].

'Government approves Penal Colony in New Holland'

On the 18th of August, the government approved the establishment of a penal colony on the east coast of New South Wales at Botany Bay. Since losing the American War of Independence in 1783, alternative locations needed to be found as previously about 60,000 convicts had been transported to the British colonies in North America. This new location was chosen after examining the detailed information provided by Lieutenant James Cook's maps and journals after he had completed his first expedition to the South Pacific in 1770.

An experienced naval officer, Admiral Arthur Phillip, will command the first colonisation fleet and is Governor-designate of the proposed penal colony. 775 convicts are to be transported in six transport ships, accompanied by a number of officials, crew and their families, totalling 645. Together with two naval escorts and three storeships, the fleet will assemble in Portsmouth to set sail on 13 May 1787. It is estimated that they will arrive at their destination sometime in January 1788.

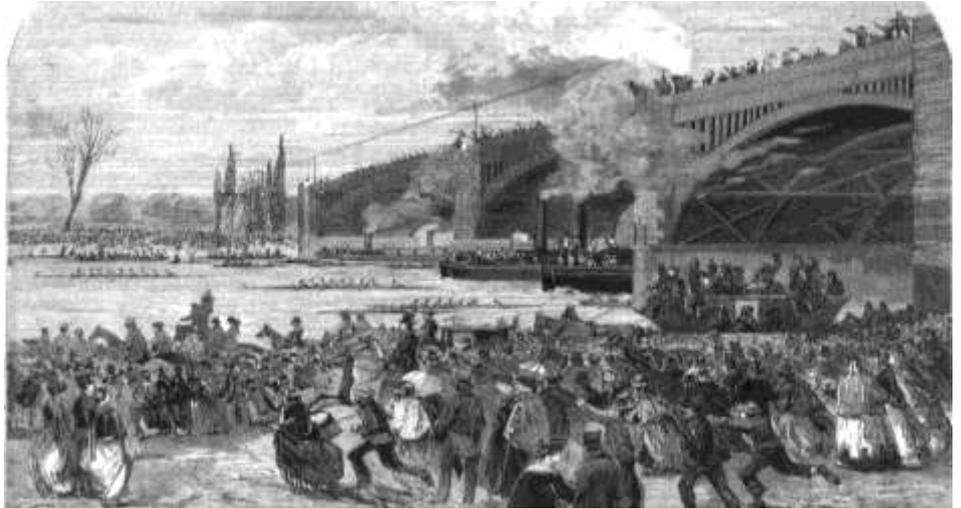


The Sports Pages

Notable sporting events that occurred this year

The Boat Race

The 25th Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge took place on Saturday, 4th April. Cambridge won the toss and chose Middlesex (the North side). After an initial lead Oxford caught up and overtook them. Towards Hammersmith there was a thick mist and the steering became difficult. Oxford



rowed too close to Surrey at the start of Crabtree reach losing some of their lead. However they held on and eventually Cambridge broke. At Hammersmith Bridge Oxford led by two lengths and then Cambridge caught a bad crab along Corney reach, completely stopping the boat. Oxford won by 6 lengths in a time of 20 minutes and 56 seconds. This was Charles Tottenham's (Oxford) record fifth coxing victory.

Oxford were then leading Cambridge by 15 victories to 10.

Cricket

The first organised cricket team from Australia to travel overseas was composed entirely of Australian Aborigines. They toured between May and October playing 47 matches, winning 14, losing 14 and drawing 19. The first match was played at The Oval and attracted a crowd of 20,000.



Football

Nine association football clubs were formed this year;

- Aidrie FC
- Caerleon FC
- Harefield United FC
- Leyton FC
- Long Melford FC
- Newark Town FC
- Notts Rangers
- South Bank FC
- Swifts FC



Four football teams competed for The Cromwell Cup in February at a ground in Sheffield. The teams participating were; The Wednesday, Garrick, Exchange and Wellington. The Wednesday beat Garrick in the final 1-0 after extra time on February 15th.

The Cromwell Cup final was the first match where an admittance fee was charged. A crowd of around 600 assembled at Bramall Lane for the final with Garrick winning the toss and electing to play with a strong wind at their back. Garrick had the better of the play in the first half and hit the post after ten minutes, however it was goal-less at half time. The second half was more evenly contested with Garrick having some dangerous attacking moments but Wednesday skipper John Marsh along with Denton and Whelan played well in defence to keep the score at 0-0 at full-time. Jenkinson, Broomhead and Wood also had good games for Wednesday. It was decided to keep playing extra time until one of the teams scored.

After ten minutes of extra time Wednesday scored when Whelan passed to Wood who played the ball into the goal mouth which resulted in a general melee. A Garrick defender hit the ball high into the air and when it dropped it hit somebody on the shoulder and went into the goal.

The Cromwell Cup was donated by (and named after) Oliver Cromwell, the manager of the local Alexandra Theatre, who also played for Garrick FC. The competition was open to any club under two years old. The cup is still held in the Sheffield Wednesday trophy cabinet.

Tennis

The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (commonly known as Wimbledon) was founded as a private sports club on 23rd July by six gentlemen in the offices of the magazine, The Field, these being;

- John Henry Walsh (Chairman) and editor of The Field from 1867 to present
- Captain R.F. Dalton
- John Hinde Hale, a cricketer from 1853 to 1865
- Reverend A. Law
- S.H. Clarke Maddock (Treasurer)
- Walter Jones Whitmore (Secretary) and author of Croquet Tactics, May 1968

Births and Death in 1868

Of other notable persons

The person who lived the longest and was born in 1868 was **Judia Ward**. Judia was born in Campbell, Virginia as the daughter of Anderson and Charlotte McDaniel. She married a man named George Ward and had ten children, her last son Percell being born when she was 48. She lived in Virginia for her entire life. She was to live for 113 years and 72 days.

The oldest British person born in 1868 was **Florence Ada Bethia Pannell**. Born on December 26th in Kensington, she was to live for 111 years and 298 days.

James Brooke, known as the "White Rajah", was a British adventurer whose exploits in Borneo and dealings with the Sultan of Brunei led to the creation of the independent state of Sarawak. He became the first Rajah of Sarawak and ruled the small independent state from 1841 to his death on June 06, 1868, aged 65.

James Buchanan was the 15th President of the United States and served in the War of 1812 against the United Kingdom. He served in the defence of Baltimore when British forces invaded the neighbouring state of Maryland in 1814. He died on June 01, 1868, aged 77.

Kit Carson (December 24 1809 to May 23 1868), the famous American mountain man, wilderness guide, Indian agent and US Army officer, died at the age of 58. He fought in both the Mexican-American War and the American Civil War. He had been married three times and had ten children.

Harvey Samuel Firestone was born on December 20, 1868 in Columbiana, Ohio, USA. He was to later found the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, one of the first global makers of automobile tires.

John Gray (January 06 1764 to March 29 1868) was the last verified person who fought during the American Revolutionary War (1775 to 1783). He died at the age 104 years, 2 months and 23 days.

Fritz Haber (born December 9 1868) was a German chemist who would go on to develop a method of synthesizing ammonia directly from nitrogen and hydrogen and would lead to the large-scale commercial production of nitrogen fertilizer.

Felix Hoffman (born January 1868) was a German chemist who would go on to synthesize aspirin.

Florence Foster Jenkins was born on July 19 1868 in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. She was an American soprano who would go on to become famous because she was considered to be a poor singer. She would sing somewhat out of tune, would have a poor sense of rhythm and would be considered quite unmusical.

Scott Joplin was born in late 1868 somewhere along the border between Texas and Arkansas. He would take up the piano as a child and would eventually become a travelling musician as a teen.

Czar Nicholas II of Russia was born on 19 May 1868, was crowned in 1894 and would be the last Emperor of Russia. He was the first child of Tsarevitch Aleksandr III and his wife, Maria Fyodorovna. He was christened His Imperial Highness Nicholas Aleksandrovitch Romanov, Grand Duke of Russia.

James Mayer de Rothschild died 15 November 1868 (born 15 May 1792). He was a European banker and founder of the French branch of the Rothschild family.