

Clipping, January 16, 1878

The London Times — Jan, 16, 1878

Baron and Baroness Mayer de Rothschild, is fixed for the 10th of the ensuing month.

The Telephone at Court. —On Monday evening, as announced in the Court Circular, Professor Bell and Colonel Reynolds were presented to the Queen, and exhibited the telephone, being assisted by Mr. C. Wolleston. In a lecture of 15 minutes' duration Professor Bell explained the mechanism of his invention and then held telephonic communication with Osborne-cottage, the residence of Sir Thomas Biddulph. The apparatus there was under the management of Mr. F. C. Ormiston, who was the first to address the Royal party. Her Majesty conversed with Sir Thomas and Lady Biddulph, and later Miss Kate Field, who was at Osborne-cottage, sang "Kathleen Mavourneen," for which Her Majesty returned gracious thanks telephonically through the Duke of Connaught. Miss Field afterwards sang Shakespeare's "Cuckoo Song," and "Comin' Thro' the Rye," and delivered the epilogue to *As You Like It*, all of which were heard distinctly. The applause which followed came through the telephone. The Princess Beatrice, the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby, and others conversed with Osborne-cottage, sometimes through a circuit of one, three, and five persons. As the evening wore on telephonic connexion was established between Osborne-house and Cowes, Southampton, and London. At Cowes, where Major Webber, of the Royal Engineers, superintended the line, a quartet of tonic-sol-fa singers, consisting of Miss Webber, Miss Strohmenger, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Curwen, sang several part songs, which produced an admirable effect, and the Duke of Connaught talked for several minutes with Major Webber. Attention was then turned to Southampton, where Mr. W. H. Preece, of the Post Office, talked as fluently with Professor Bell and Colonel Reynolds as though he were in the next room. A bugle in Southampton sounded the retreat with startling distinctness; and, lastly, came the tones of an organ from London in charge of Mr. Wilmot. The experiments lasted from half-past

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9 until nearly midnight. Her Majesty, the Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught, and the entire Royal household evinced the greatest interest. Yesterday Professor Bell made very successful experiments between Cowes, Osborne-house, and Osborne-cottage, at which the Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Richmond, Lord John Manners, Lord Ripon, Lady Biddulph, Lady Cowell, Sir John Cowell, and others assisted.

Merchant Seamen —Mr. Henry Shuttle