

NOTES AND NEWS

Mr. Louis Brennan—or torpedo Brennan as he is familiarly called at Chatham—has had an interesting career. He is an Irishman by birth and a Home Ruler by politics. It appears that as a young man—he is not more than thirty-six now—he emigrated to the colonies, and obtained a boy's place in an establishment after the Whitley principle. The proprietor had a cargo of clocks sent from England. The salt air played havoc with the clocks and stopped a great number. Young Brennan—who always had a mechanical genius—got hold of the clocks and soon set them all going, much to his master's delight. Soon afterwards he invented his torpedo, or rather, as he puts it, dreamt it. He luckily fell in with a Mr. Temperley, an engineer of Newcastle, who took it up, made himself responsible for the drawings, and found the money. The first torpedo was constructed in pieces in different parts of the world, and before the English Government decided to purchase it, which they did for £120,000, the inventor and engineers were hard at work for two years at Chatham on the torpedo. Mr. Louis Brennan lives at Gallingham, Chatham, and drives some very spirited horses. He is a first sleight of hand conjurer. He is a bachelor.

M Drumont, of "France Juive" fame, will soon have another marriage to add to his list of Christian-Semitic alliances—money versus title. Prince Albert Grimaldi, only son of the Prince of Monaco, is engaged to the widowed Duchesse de Richelieu, nee Heine, daughter of the great Jewish banker of that name. Prince Albert has had rather a romantic career. Married when quite young to one of the Hamiltons, his marriage was annulled by the Pope in 1880. Since that time his engagement has constantly been announced—and contradicted—to various ladies. The Duchess, a tall, elegant blonde, is a woman of intellectual tastes, and was known in old days as one of Caro's most devoted disciples—a keen "Caroline." Curiously enough, by this marriage the houses of Richelieu and Mazarin will be united, the great Italian Cardinal's heiress having married the then Prince of Monaco.