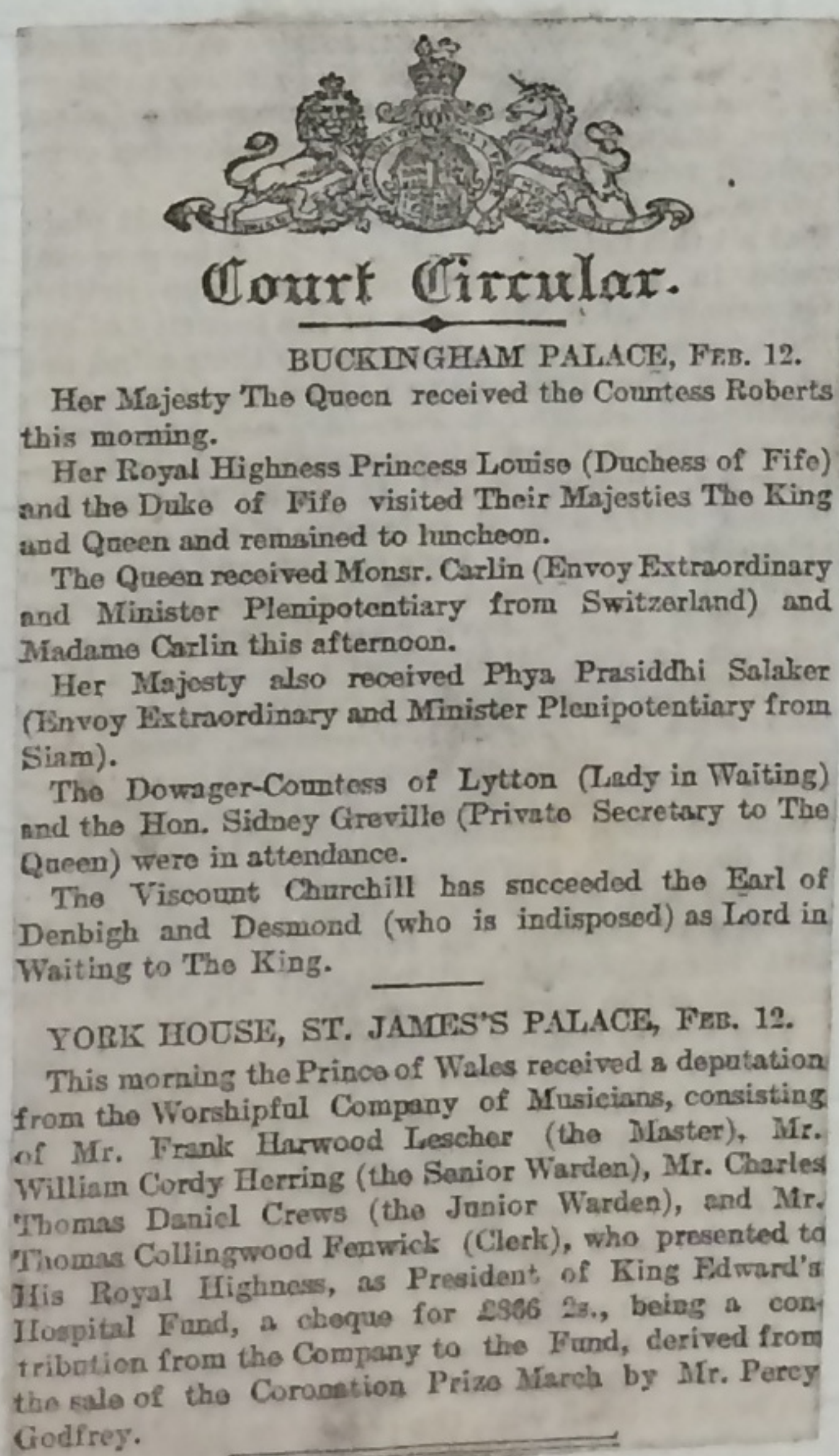


On Thursday the 12th February 1903 a Deputation consisting of F. Harwood Lescher Esq, Master, W. C. Herring Esq, Senior Warden, C. J. D. Crews Esq, Junior Warden, and accompanied by the Clerk, attended at York House, St^{James} Palace when the Master presented His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, with a cheque for £866:2:0 being a contribution from the company to King Edward's Hospital Fund derived from the sale of the "Coronation Prize March", and the Senior Warden presented His Royal Highness with a copy of the March appropriately bound.

The following are extracts of the proceedings from the "Times" and the "Daily Express" of the 13th February 1903.

228



FOR THE KING'S FUND.

£3,000 FOR CORONATION MARCH
AND CONCERT.

THE PRINCE'S PLEASURE.

A little ceremony of great interest was performed at York House yesterday morning, when the Prince of Wales received a deputation from the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

The object of the deputation was to present to his Royal Highness a cheque for £866 2s., the result of the wonderful sales of the "Coronation Prize March," composed by Mr. Percy Godfrey, which was placed before the public during the Coronation season by the "Express." The profits on the Coronation concert and on the sales of the march, which amount to about £3,000, are to be devoted to the Coronation gift to King Edward's Hospital Fund, in which the Prince shares with the King the most profound interest.

No one who was present at the "Coronation Prize March Concert," organised by the "Express," at the Albert Hall on June 11, will ever forget the wonderful effect produced by the playing of the march by nine massed bands.

It was with unfeigned pleasure that the Prince of Wales received the cheque from the hands of the Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, Mr. Frank Harwood Lescher.

The deputation, consisting of four gentlemen—the Master, Mr. W. C. Herring, the senior warden, Mr. C. T. Daniel Crews, the junior warden, and Mr. T. Collingwood Fenwick, clerk—arrived at York House shortly before eleven o'clock, and were presented to the Prince of Wales by Sir William Carrington.

His Royal Highness, who was in morning dress, cordially shook hands with each member of the deputation, and the proceedings were quite informal.

Mr. Lescher, Master of the company, gave his Royal Highness a brief history of the Company of Musicians, whose charter dated from the time of King Edward IV.

The "Coronation Prize March," suggested by a liveryman of the company, Mr. T. L. Southgate, in 1901, was composed by Mr. Percy Godfrey, who was successful in gaining the prize offered by the company for the best march among 129 competitors.

Commerce stepped in and helped the company. Messrs. Metzler, Limited, commercially pushed the sale. Then the "Express" pushed the sale of the march immensely all over the world.

More than 34,000 copies of the "Prize March" were sold. The June concert, at which the march was one of the chief attractions, produced over £2,000, and he had great pleasure in presenting the cheque for £866 2s. as a result of the sales of the march.

The senior warden—Mr. Herring—then presented to the Prince a copy of the march bound in white watered silk, with his Royal Highness' arms in gold.

The Prince of Wales, in his reply, expressed his satisfaction at the number of copies of the march sold, and warmly thanked the company for the large sum of money, which would do so much good to the hospitals.

His family had always been attached to music, and he was present at the great concert at the Albert Hall, and much enjoyed the "Prize March."

His Royal Highness again shook hands with the members of the deputation, and they withdrew.