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THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the course of the debate on Tuesday evening on the Irish Evicted Tenants' Bill the Marquess of Lansdowne sharply criticised the Bill, but spoke against its rejection, in consideration of the great majority by which it had been passed in the Lower House, and because such a rejection would still further increase the difficulties of the Irish Government. Some important amendments might be made in the Bill.—It is said that such amendments will not lead to any serious friction between the two Houses.

BELFAST OCCUPIED BY TROOPS.

The town was occupied by troops yesterday morning. The companies marched singly through the streets to their quarters while groups of the inhabitants looked on.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENT.

Reuter reports that there is good ground for supposing that the negotiations between England and Russia will shortly be brought to a favourable conclusion; hitherto no agreement has been signed.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON A DESTROYER.

An oil-tank caught fire on board the destroyer "Spiteful"; two stokers were burned to death, while four were badly injured.

COLLISION OFF PORTSMOUTH.

During night manoeuvres off Portsmouth, the torpedo boat destroyer "Quail" had her bow considerably damaged in a collision with the cruiser "Attentive". The "Quail" was towed into Portsmouth harbour for repairs.

YACHTING AT COWES.

The chief event of the regatta at Cowes is the victory of the Kaiser's yacht "Meteor", which won the King's cup. At the annual house dinner of the Royal Yacht Squadron Vice-Admiral von Eisen-decher, the Kaiser's representative, sat on the left of the King.

GERMAN CRUISER IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

On Monday the German cruiser "Bremen" arrived off St. Johns, Newfoundland, for an eight days' visit, and was received by the British cruiser "Brilliant"; the Governor who was away salmon-fishing returned in order to greet the German. Both the British and German crews were to take part in the annual regatta yesterday.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

MOB LAW IN NEW YORK.

An extraordinary outbreak of mob law occurred in New York on Sunday. Enraged by the continuation of wanton attacks on young girls, mobs in four sections of the city attempted to lynch the supposed culprits.

In one case a man, who was probably innocent, received a beating from which it is believed he will die. The determined resistance to the fury of the mob offered by the police reserves alone saved a Russian, named George Kestner, who was accused of entering a house and endeavouring to carry off a child. The mob was composed mostly of mothers and fathers, who beat and kicked Kestner. The single policeman present was powerless, though he assiduously used his night stick.

Once the mob threw Kestner in front of a moving tram-car, but the motor-man stopped the car. They then put a noose round Kestner's neck, and dragged him to a lamp post, but the police reserves came up, and saved the man with the utmost effort after breaking many heads. Kestner, entirely nude, was wrapped in a blanket and taken to hospital, badly injured.

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An innocent Italian, for no known reason, ran from the crowd which gathered after a girl had been attacked in East 120th-street. The mob pursued and captured him, kicked, cuffed, and stoned him. His skull was fractured, and he was otherwise injured. He will probably die.

The police were forced to draw their revolvers to save an Indian palmist from the fury of a mob of several thousand persons, who were seeking vengeance because he offered pennies to a child. An Italian who attempted to rob a married woman, was badly beaten before he could be rescued.

The situation is daily growing worse. The police authorities have ordered un-uniformed detectives to make a concentrated effort to track down men who assault children.

Delegates representing thousands of workmen met last night and decided to petition the Mayor and the Police Commissioner to put a stop to attacks on children. If this fails the Governor will be requested to lend his aid.

ARTILLERY AGAINST BURGLARS.

Repelling burglars with cannon is the novel expedient of a New Yorker who is spending the summer at the Thousand Islands in the St. Lawrence River. Mr. Robert M. Jones has his summer residence on Jolly Oaks Island, which is on the main channel used by yachts. On Sunday night a launch drew up at the island and five men disembarked. They proceeded to Mr. Jones' house, and tried to force the front door.

Mr. Jones is totally blind, a fact probably known to the burglars. He heard them and groped his way to the balcony over the front door, rousing and taking his young son with him. A tiny cannon, such as is used on yachts for saluting purposes, had been set up on the balcony. Mr. Jones directed his son to fire a blank cartridge. This was done, and the noise frightened the burglars, who ran to the river's edge and hid behind a boathouse. It was clear to the boy, however, that they intended to return to the house, and he placed a cartridge loaded with bird shot in the cannon. He then fired it again, and the shot pattered audibly against the boathouse. This was enough for the burglars, who hurried to their launch and steamed away.

UNION JACK ON LAKE SUPERIOR.

A dispatch has been received from Port Arthur (Ontario) stating that Capt. Young, a Canadian officer, has just returned from Isle Royale, in Lake Superior, where he has planted the Union Jack without meeting with any opposition.

The Canadian landing party under Capt. Young's command was armed. The Dominion Government has notified the authorities at Washington that it declines to associate itself with the action of Capt. Young, whom it regards as a filibuster. The island is neutral, its status having been definitely settled by treaty.



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Capt. Young, however, claims that the island lies north of the 49th parallel, and belongs to Canada. The action of the Ashburton Commission in agreeing to consider it neutral ground he describes as a disgrace to British diplomacy.

HEIRESS KIDNAPPED.

The New York correspondent of *The Times* cabled on Monday, after giving details of the "mob-law" proceedings above referred to, as follows: "Miss Agnes McMullen, aged 19, heiress to a considerable estate, was, it is supposed, kidnapped by five men in Broadway and 123rd Street today. Her mother says that the men were in a motor-car. Two of them jumped out, seized the girl, carried her into the motor-car, and drove away. No trace of the girl has yet been found."

THE PARTING OF THE TWO EMPERORS.

At the parting dinner on board the Russian Imperial Yacht on Monday the Czar Nicholas, in drinking to the health of the Emperor William and to the prosperity of the German Navy, said: "I am happy to have this opportunity of sincerely thanking your Majesty for the hearty reception which has been given to me, and of expressing the full value which I attach to the continuance of the relations of traditional friendship and of affinity which have been a constant and intimate bond between our two Houses and countries. Having witnessed with lively interest and great admiration the manoeuvres of the fine German fleet, I raise my glass to the health of Kaiser Wilhelm, the Commander-in-Chief of that fleet, and to the prosperity of the brave German Navy."

The Kaiser replied: "I offer your Majesty my most hearty thanks for the kind words just spoken which have expressed the friendship that binds us and our countries. It is the first time that my fleet, under the command of my brother, has had the honour of manoeuvring before your Majesty. The appreciative words of your Majesty will live in the hearts of my officers and men. We are all penetrated by the wish that it may be granted to your Majesty to carry out successful the rebuilding of the Russian fleet. Like your Majesty I am filled with the thought of the unalterable friendship of our Houses and our peoples. That friendship has lasted more than a century; it binds us together today and will endure. I raise my glass to the health of the Czar Nicholas, His Majesty the Emperor of Russia. Hurra!"

After luncheon on board the Russian yacht on Tuesday morning the Emperor William returned to the "Hohenzollern". As described in our yesterday's issue the Russian Imperial yacht with the Czar on board and the Russian escort left the roads on their home-voyage.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE ATTEMPT ON THE PRESIDENT'S LIFE.

The sailor who on July 14th fired a pistol when the President was passing in his carriage is not to be tried by a criminal court but is to be sent to a lunatic asylum.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE PORT ARTHUR TRIAL.

Last week the *Russ* published a remarkable article written by its former war correspondent in Port Arthur to the effect, that when Gen. Stössel received orders from Gen. Kuropatkin to leave Port Arthur and to resign the chief command to Gen. Smirnoff, Gen. Stössel concealed that order, which contained also a special order to Gen. Smirnoff, and mentioned it to nobody. That order was sent on June 5, 1904; on June 17 Gen. Kuropatkin sent another similar order, and Gen. Stössel concealed that also. Thus, only on his return from Japan did Gen. Smirnoff learn that the chief command had been conferred upon him by two orders. Gen. Smirnoff has just been interviewed with regard to