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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

An amusing dialogue took place during Monday's sitting, in which the House was treated to some of Mr. Haldane's characteristic, dry wit. Mr. Hart-Davies asked whether the War Office had any cognisance of a gun alleged to have a range of over 100 miles; and whether this weapon has been acquired by His Majesty's Government. Mr. Haldane replied that the War Office had no cognisance of this remarkable gun. Mr. Hart-Davies asked whether the right hon, gentleman had seen the statements with regard to this gun. Mr. Haldane replied that he had seen reports of it in the newspapers, but he was growing old and sceptical (laughter), but if the gun could do what was said of it, the right hon. gentleman might rest assured that it would not escape the Government's attention. Mr. A. Lee asked whether, if this gun had such a tremendous velocity, would not the projectile be melted before it reached its objective. Mr. Haldane said he was only a layman, but he was prepared to accept the hon, gentleman's thesis,

RESULT OF THE MONTROSE ELECTION.

The by-election at Montrose, Scotland, on Tuesday resulted in the return of the Liberal candidate, Mr. Harcourt. The polling was as follows: Mr. Harcourt, 3,083 votes; Mr. Burgess (Labour), 1,937 votes; Mr. Constable (Unionist), 1,576 votes.

THE TERRITORIAL ARMY.

The Secretary of State for War, Mr. Haldane, informed a representative of the Daily Mail that he estimates the number of soldiers who re-enlisted for the Territorial Army as being at present 40 per cent. He is confident that he will at no distant date have the whole number of troops required, unless a great change takes place in the attitude of the country towards his plan.

RUMOURS OF ARMAMENT LIMITATION.

According to Reuter, the rumour of Great Britain's intention to summon an international conference to consider the question of limiting armaments most probably originated in the fact of the British Government having requested the great naval Powers to send experts to London to participate in a conference for the purpose of arriving at a final decision regarding the formation of an international Prize Court, such as was proposed at the late Hague Conference. The Government has no intention of again raising the question of armament limitation.

AN IRISH ROMANCE RECALLED.

A famous Irish romance of over half a century ago, says a London correspondent, is recalled by the announcement on Monday last of the death of Mr. John M'Grath, of Lisronagh, Co. Tipperary. The heroine was a beautiful young English girl, Miss Arbuthnot, an extremely wealthy heiress. In the course of a visit to some relatives in Ireland while still in her teens she made the acquaintance of "Woodcock" Carden, a well-known Irish landlord, who derived his soubriquet from the number of times he had been shot at by his tenants, who, however, never succeeded in inflicting any serious

Carden became completely infatuated at first sight with Miss Arbuthnot, of whose charms he had already heard. His passion, however, was not returned, and he was given to understand that his

attentions were not desired. In despair he followed the lady back to England and there from one place to another. Later Miss Arbuthnot returned to Ireland to Rathronda Mansion, Co. Tipperary, and it was while she was residing there that Carden formed the desperate resolve of abducting her by force. He watched his opportunity, and one day succeeded in coming upon her alone, and seizing her he attempted to force her into a carriage which he had in waiting. Her cries, however, attracted the attention of John M'Grath, who was passing, and who gallantly went to her assistance. In the struggle which ensued the lady escaped and the abduction was frustrated. Carden was arrested and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment.

Mr. M'Grath soon afterwards obtained a post in the Inland Revenue and served in various capacities in many towns of England and Scotland. He retired on a pension ten years ago, when he re-

turned to his native place.

HERR DERNBURG IN LONDON.

On Tuesday evening a banquet was given in honour of Herr Dernburg, German State Secretary for the Colonies, by Herr v. Stumm, Counsellor to the German Embassy. The guests included Lord Crewe, Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Winston Churchill, President of the Board of Trade.

SEDITION IN BENGAL.

Reuter reports from Calcutta that at meetings of Behar and Darjeeling planters, and public meetings held at Muzaffarpur on Saturday, the speakers, native as well as European, urged the Government to take firm action to suppress what was characterised as "the nascent anarchy in India," and to put a stop to inflammatory writings and speeches inciting the people to the defiance of authority, and breaches of law and order. The enactment of an efficient press law was also demanded. The journal Yugantar published an article glorifying the persons arrested in connection with the discoveries of bombs as martyrs, and regretting "the interference of the cursed Feringhi," which prevented a great sacrifice being arranged in honour of the Goddess Kali. The journal concludes with the following words: "Have courage, brethren, the Mother watches. Another day and a universal sacrifice will come."

The police have visited certain places, including the offices of the Bande Mataram, for the purposes of inquiry. The greatest secrecy is being observed with regard to the proceedings at the Conference on the situation between Sir A. H. Leith Fraser, the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Chiefs of the Executive.

"THE PILGRIMS" IN LONDON.

Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the American Ambassador, presided at the "Pilgrims" luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday in honour of Mr. E. A. Abbey, R.A. The toast of "The Guest" was proposed by Sir Lawrence Alma Tadema.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

AEROPLANE PROGRESS IN AMERICA.

Advices from New York state that a storm put a stop to the aeroplane flight at Manico in North Carolina on Saturday. The inventors of the experimental flying machine, the Brothers Wright, veil their operations in the greatest secrecy, but contradict the reports that their machine attained an extraordinary height. The trials were, in fact, only made for the purpose of perfecting the steer-

ing apparatus. In the course of the trial the gasoline motor became red-hot, so'that alterations to prevent overheating were rendered necessary. The machine never rose more than 20 feet above the ground, the velocity attained was estimated at from 40 to 60 miles an hour. On starting, the machine glides along a single iron rail until it begins to ascend at an angle of 40 degrees. The longest flight made on Saturday was a mile and a half, and is said to have proved that the steersman can ascend, turn, swoop down and up again, at will.

Other telegrams have reached London to the effect that the Brothers Wright continued their experiments on Monday on the lonely beach by Kill Devil Hill. The aeronauts took flight upwards in the morning, rose to a height of 75 feet above the sand dunes, flew along the coast for half a mile and then landed with ease. The flight was very successful; whether the same height was maintained throughout, is not stated.

PADEREWSKI'S BIG FEES.

It is understood that M. Paderewski, who left New York last week on the conclusion of a seven months' tour in the States, received in fees altogether \$250,000. The great planist gave concerts in 64 different towns.

THE INDIANA FARM HORRORS.

The New York World's correspondent at Laporte states that everyone except the police is becoming convinced that Mrs. Guinness died in the flames which destroyed the three children. The ring and keys which were found on the adult body have beyond doubt been identified as belonging to Mrs. Guinness, though this fact does not necessarily prove that the victim of the fire is the murderess,

On Monday night it was reported that some men have been found who helped to dig the graves of the victims. More than 15,000 persons paid a visit to the farm on Monday, and the railway which serves Laporte gave special excursion rates to visitors from the surrounding country.

TERRIBLE TORNADO IN THE WEST.

The Daily News publishes a report from New York that several towns and farms in Arizona and Illinois have been destroyed by a cyclone, which devastated the harvest, killed 40 people and injured hundreds. Millersburg, in Arizona, is in

At Omaha, where the storm raged on Tuesday. 12 people lost their lives and many were hurt. Half the town of Louisville was levelled to the ground. It was the most violent tornado ever known in eastern Nebraska.

RUSSIAN NEWS.

MARTIAL LAW DISCUSSED IN THE DUMA.

During the discussion in the Duma on Tuesday last over the Budget of the Minister of the Interior, the policy of that Department was the subject of comment. Members of the Centre and Opposition declared that the central and local governments lacked a uniform policy. The central government is said to only issue proclamations of martial under exceptional circumstances, but Opposition members stated that martial law was demoralising government officials and was usurping the place of legitimate civil control.

Later on in the debate a Polish deputy, Dmovsky, criticised the policy of the Ministry in Poland in attempting to obliterate Polish nationality, attempts which, he said, had all proved hopelessly abortive.

(Continued on page 2.)