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GENERAL NEWS.

THE MEETING IN REVAL.

Owing to the weather, it was said, the Czar's plans were altered at the last moment. He went to Reval by train, arriving on Tuesday morning, and went on board the Imperial yacht "Standart," while his suite went on board the "Polar Star" and "Almas." At 9 a.m. the British ships were sighted; on coming nearer they steamed in a wide circle round the Russian ships, and the British Royal yacht "Victoria and Albert" dropped her anchor opposite the "Standart," the warships of both nations forming into line ahead. The Czar with a small suite boarded the "Victoria and Albert" where at 11.10 a.m. the meeting between the two rulers took place. Soon after, the whole Royal party repaired to the "Standart" where King Edward and Queen Alexandra were greeted by the Czarina and the Czar's mother.

At 2 p.m. all Royalty gathered at luncheon on board the "Polar Star," excepting the Czarina who felt overtired. After luncheon King Edward spoke for a long time with the Russian Premier, M. Stolypin. The Russian Foreign Minister, M. Isvolski, had an hour's conference with Sir Charles Hardinge on board the "Almas."

In the evening the Reval Choral Society serenaded their Majesties, singing songs in Russian, Esthonian and German.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

BURGLARY IN SIR H. HERKOMER'S HOUSE.

A daring and cleverly-planned burglary was carried out during the early hours of Sunday morning at the house of Professor Sir Hubert v. Herkomer, the famous painter, at Bushy, in Hertfordshire. The house, which is named Lulu-laund, and is a veritable museum of art treasures, was ransacked, and a number of valuable pieces of presentation silver were stolen. But the strangest feature of the affair is the unaccountable manner in which the thieves acted.

They cut Sir Hubert's beautiful picture, "The Lady in Black," from its frame, rolled it up, and carefully deposited it outside the artist's bed-room door, while they left more imposing canvases untouched. An enamel portrait of Sir Hubert was also taken out of its frame in the drawing-room and placed on the floor of the morning-room. Although the house was thoroughly searched and thrown into an extraordinary state of confusion, many articles of great value were neglected, and some of little value were taken.

An important clue was left by the burglars. Sir Hubert is an expert engraver, and one of the thieves placed on a copper engraving plate the clear impression of four finger-tips.

The stolen valuables, a number of which were given to the artist by his sitters, are as follows:—A large silver tray, presented to the artist by Sir Thomas Lipton; a large silver bowl (a presentation); two large silver salvers (a presentation); a silver loving cup (a presentation); a silver bowl (a presentation); a set of very valuable antique silver coins (English and foreign); several silver inkstands; two silver salt-cellars (these were thrown away in an adjacent field); and numerous small silver curios.

ACCIDENT TO A BATTLESHIP.

As the battleship "Irresistible," belonging to the Channel Fleet, was cruising off Portland, several valves could not be closed and the ship conse-

quently took a heavy list to starboard. The water poured in in such quantities that it became necessary to signal for assistance. Four tugs were soon alongside, and assisted to pump out the water. The water-tight compartments were closed, and the pumps were able to keep the inflow of water under.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

TROLLEY CAR DISASTER.

At St. Louis yesterday a trolley car running at a fairly high speed jumped the track owing to some unexplained cause, and overturning, was wrecked. The car was heavily loaded with passengers, of whom 42 were injured, many of them very seriously. One died almost immediately, and three more, it is stated, cannot possibly recover.—*Central News.*

HOTEL FIRE AT BROUXVILLE.

The Gramatan Hotel at Brouxville got on fire last Monday night and was burned to the ground. 450 visitors had to get into safety in the scantiest attire. The damage is estimated at one million dollars.

REDUCTION IN STEEL.

The Steel Trust has reduced the price of all steel products except that of steel-rails.

HEAVY RAIN IN THE TYROL.

Heavy rain-storms have swept the Tyrol during the Whitsun holidays, causing great damage. Three local railways had to suspend traffic. At Gerberbach, on the Stubai valley line, 40 yards of railway dam were washed away; traffic here cannot be resumed for at least a week. The cars could not run on the line up the Ritten, near Oberbozen, owing to damage done to the electric power station. The Bregenz railroad has not been able to resume traffic on account of the line being blocked by rocks, as reported in these columns.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

A MINISTERIAL COUNCIL.

At a ministerial council which was held at the Elysee on Tuesday the incident on the Indo-Chinese frontier was discussed in connection with the demands about to be made of China.

CHINA APOLOGISES.

The French consul at Yünat has received from the Chinese Government apologies for the occurrence on the Indo-Chinese frontier and the promise that those responsible for the assault shall be arrested and heavily punished.

THE PRINCE HENRY AUTOMOBILE COMPETITION.

A good start was made from the Tempelhofer Feld on Tuesday when punctually at 6 a.m. the first car shot away from the white ribbon. 129 cars are competing, while in all 137 were started at intervals of 30 seconds, carrying 461 persons, among them 3 ladies. The first day's run was to Stettin, a distance of 308.1 kilometres = 192½ miles. At 12.30 the first 2 cars (Stoewer) reached Stettin, and shortly after No. 5 (Miss Levitt, driving a Napier car) arrived. There were no accidents on the first day. The roads were in excellent condition.

Yesterday morning at 5 o'clock the run was resumed from Stettin, the goal being Kiel, a distance of 389.2 kilometres = 243 miles. There was rain during the night. At 9.25 a.m. the first cars arrived at Schwerin, ahead of time, and passed by the

castle; the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin witnessed the spectacle from a balcony. The journey was continued at 12 midday. It had been raining all morning.

The first to arrive at Kiel was No. 6, at 2.10 p.m.; at 2.12 22 more cars had passed the mark. Prince and Princess Henry witnessed the arrivals.

THE RAILWAY COLLISION IN ITALY.

THE VICTIMS.

According to an official statement 4 people were killed in the collision at Rocca Pietra. 83 injured were taken to the Varalla hospital, among them 2 severely injured, and 210 were taken to the Novara hospital. Some of these could proceed to their homes after having been attended to by the surgeons.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

MORE DEATH SENTENCES.

The Court martial at Warsaw pronounced 7 death sentences, and that at Lodz eight on Monday last. At the latter four executions of former death sentences took place.

MACEDONIAN REFORM.

Reuter reports from London that Russia's answer to Sir Edward Grey's last Note had not yet been received. It is expected, however, that it will show perfect agreement between the two nations on the Macedonian question. The next step to be taken will be a conference of representatives of the Powers at Constantinople in order to resolve upon a Note to be handed to the Porte.

PERSIAN AFFAIRS.

THE SHAH'S FLIGHT.

According to advices received from Teheran the Shah is still camping at Baghsha outside the town at the head of an armed force. The political clubs who intended to seize the royal treasury and the arsenal found them empty. A panic was caused by the prohibition to carry arms and by the arrest of the Shah's uncle, nephew and other men. Cossacks are guarding the European quarter. The Shah seems to be amply provided with money and his cause is gaining more and more adherents.

THE NEW CABINET.

A new Ministry has been formed at Teheran. The former Ministers of War, Finance, and Commerce have resumed their posts, while Mushir-es-Saltaneh has accepted the post of Premier and Minister of the Interior, Ala-es-Saltaneh that of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Muayid-es-Saltaneh that of Minister of Justice, Mustashar-ed-Dowleh that of Minister of Public Works, and Mushir-ed-Dowleh that of Minister of Education.

A London journal reports from Teheran that the Shah, after ordering the arrest of a few prominent personages, has appointed Hajib ed Danleh, who belongs to the reactionary party, to be Governor of Teheran. The Shah further issued an edict that all agitators shall be arrested and punished. Parliament is endeavouring to avert a catastrophe, and is disposed to reconciliation.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH TEHERAN SUSPENDED.

The originator of the conspiracy, the leaders of which have been secured, was evidently Prince Zill-es-Saltaneh. Parliament had nothing to do with it. The Emir Dsheng who had taken refuge in the Russian Embassy has returned from there. Tele-

(Continued on page 2.)