



Walron, "Graphic" photo.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD RANFURLY ADDRESSING THE PUPILS.

The Unfurling of the Flag at Napier Street School, Auckland.

BLACK SUDDENLY BECOMING WHITE.

Many people are in the habit of taking stories of "hair turned white in a single night" with the traditional pinch of salt. As a matter of fact, there are numerous cases on record of fright or weird experience bleaching a man's raven locks. In battle not a few soldiers have experienced the odd and unpleasant sensation of finding that within the course of a few days their raven or auburn "thatches" have become white as the driven snow.

Sir H. M. Stanley entered upon his great march across Africa with jet-black hair. He emerged from his series of adventures in appearance twenty years or more older and with hair bleached pure white. It took nine years of anxious war-correspondence and exciting experiences to bleach the hair of the veteran "special," Mr Archibald Forbes.

But in not a few cases has the strange transformation come suddenly. There are some who insist they have reason to know that in those last terrible days at Khartoum the hair of valiant General Gordon went snow-white! More authentic is the case of a young lieutenant whose red locks were suddenly streaked with white on the eve of his first battle, which was against the Zulus in '79.

A commissioner in one of the London banks tells how his hair was changed from brown to iron-grey within a week as a result of his gall-ing experiences during the Indian Mutiny. One of the most eminent French generals became an old man, in appearance at any rate, when he was but twenty-two, after taking part in one of the most sanguinary battles in the Franco-Prussian War. And there are several cases, authenticated by officers and surgeons, of Crimean soldiers whose hair changed colour during that trying campaign.

SOME EXPENSIVE LACE.

The late Mrs John Jacob Astor purchased a lace robe in Paris for £3500, and a dress of the same material was a short time afterwards sold in that city for £5000.

Several of the millionaire families in the United States possess fortunes in laces. Those belonging to the Van-

derbilts are said to be worth £100,000. The Astor family has rich lace treasures valued at £60,000. Mrs A. T. Stewart paid £100 per pair for lace curtains, while those in the mansion of Robert Garrett, at Baltimore, cost £40 a yard. New York buys more laces

than any other city in the world. It has at least a score of wealthy women whose laces exceed £10,000 in value, and a hundred whose collections would each sell for £4000. A dressmaker stated that she had seen two lace shawls in that city worth about £600 each.

Her Majesty's wedding dress was decorated with a piece of Honiton lace for which £1000 was paid. The Pope has a collection of lace at the Vatican worth £175,000, the Queen's collection is worth £75,000, and the Princess of Wales's £50,000.



CAVALIER, WINNER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL HURDLES AT A.R.C.'S WINTER MEETING, ELLERSLIE.