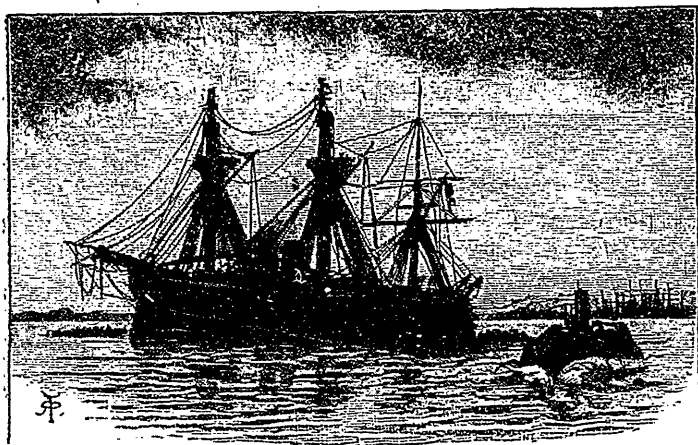


Queen's ships and all the Queen's men (and a Queen's grandson to boot; for Prince George of Wales was on board the *Canada*) trying to pull the good ship off again. I fear they have a desperately hard task before them; for she went aground on the top of the very highest tide ever experienced here.

While we were watching these operations, a six-oared boat came alongside, bringing the Officer of Health, who was most minute in all his inquiries and cross-questionings as to the sanitary condition of every individual on board. No sooner was the officer satisfied, and our quarantine flag had been hauled



THE "NORTHAMPTON" AGROUND.

down, than several men-of-war's boats, which had been hanging about, came alongside, from one of which stepped on board our old friend Captain Victor Montagu, whom it was a real pleasure to see again, though he was looking worn and worried, like all the other officers here, about this unhappy flag-ship

the severe gales of winter. The principal islands are Bermuda, St. George, Somerset, St. David, Boaz, and Ireland. On the first named is situated the town of Hamilton; on St. George—which, like Ireland, is strongly fortified—is the ancient capital, of the same name; and on Boaz are the well-known convict-prisons. The climate is mild and very healthy, though rather too damp and relaxing to suit all constitutions. The chief productions are cotton, timber, arrowroot, cocoa, potatoes, and onions; although tropical and other fruits are also raised in abundance. The islands were first discovered by Bermudez, a Spaniard, in 1527. Sir George Somers was wrecked here in 1609, and the group was soon afterwards colonised from England and from Virginia.