ORDERS FROM ROOT

Secretary Held a Conference With Philippine Commission.

FINAL MEETING OCCURS TODAY

Discussion Covered the Probable Scope of the Work of the Board for the Next Two Years.

WASHINGTON, March 29 .- By appointment the Philippine Commission waited on Secretary Root about 3 o'clock this afternoon and spent three hours behind closed doors in carnest conference. At the con-clusion of the conference the Secretary said the discussion covered the probable scope of the work of the Commission for the next two years. So far he has not been able to present the Commissioners written instructions, and what passed to-day was rather preparatory to the reception of those instructions. It was not the intention at this time to make the in-structions public. But it might be stated in general terms, the Secretary said, that he new commission will have much broader powers in dealing with the probems arising in the Philippines than had its predecessor. The primary purpose is the establishment of local civil government throughout the island. In the selection of the civil officers, the committee will have a free hand. When asked whether the civil authorities will dominate the military, the Secretary contented himse's with the reply that as he sees it, no quertion is likely to arise on that point; there will be no chance for friction. The Commission will meet again tomor-

row, and will continue the conference with Secretary Root in the afternoon. That will be the last meeting of the full commission in Washington before the departure for Manila. The members will dine with the President at the White House tomorrow evening, and tomorrow night three of them, General Wright, Judge Ide and Professor Worcester, will go to their homes to prepare their private affairs for a two years' absence in the Philippines. Judge Taft, the chairman of the Commission, will go to New York Saturday, but will return to Washington before starting on his voyage. Professor Moses will also leave Saturday, going directly to his home in California. The Commission will gather at San Francisco April 12 and will sail for Manila the 15th, on the army transport Hancock.

The personnel of the attaches and staff has been practically completed, but Judge Taft prefers to defer the announcement of their names until tomorrow, in order to comply with pertain necessary formalities.

COALING BASE AT GUAM. Navy Department Will Soon Begin Construction of Works.

NEW YORK, March 29.-A special to he Tribune from Washington says: The naval authorities have decided that Guamstrategically is of scarcely less value than Hawali, and have begun the prepara-tion of plans to make it one of the most important naval bases in the Pacific, The important invaluation in the recursion projected improvements will involve an expenditure of several millions for a breakwater at Port San Luis d'Apra, a coaling wharf and repair shops and shore batteries for protection against assault.

The department has just received com-dete surveys of the harbor and port of the island, with exhaustive soundings at the port, and is making an accurate chart to be used in laying down the public works. The project will be perfected by a board, to sit in Washington, and an ad-visory board may be convened at Guam to furnish additional information. Admirula Remey and Kempff will also visit Guam and make reports before construwork begins,

It is proposed to erect on one side of the harbor of Port San Luis d'Apra a coal shed and wharf of 20,000 tons capacity, with automatic leading machinery. The immediate necessity for this is shown by the fact that all naval vessels bound across the Pacific are compelled to call for coal at Guam, none of them being able to make Manila or Hong Kong, after leav-ing Honolulu with full bunkers, except through the exercise of extreme economs and the maintenance of their lowest speed. The Army transport service has found

try.

that a whole day can be saved on the voyage to Manila, by running faster and recoaling at Guam, and these ships will ston there regularly as soon as rapid coaling facilities are provided by the navy.

CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES. Bishop Potter Found Plenty of Room for Reform.

NEW YORK, March 29.-A partial refor of the condition of attars as found in the Philippines by Bishop Potter, ad-dressed to the Joint Commission on the increased possibilities of the Protestant Episcopal Church, has been made public. ne report is in part as follows:
"The religious situation in the Philip-

pines is such as was to be expected in a colony of Spain. She has stamped her ec-clesissuical traditions—narrow, intolerant and often corrupting-wherever she has gone, and she has gone almost everywhere among the various islands of the archipelago, great and small, Worst of all, her religious orders, except, perhaps, the Jesuita, have robbed the people, wrung from them their lands and taxed the addistration of the sacraments and ordinances of religion with a scale of exactions and impositions at once scandalou and outrageous.

"If we are to retain these islands, and the undersigned are constrained to own however they may differ from any of their associates as to the wisdom of originally entering upon them, that no other course seems for the present open to the United States, these wrongs and the righting of them lie at the foundation of the whole Philippine problem. We must do justly in the Philippines, or God will have no use for us, and our presence there nevitably redound to our National dis-

SPANIARDS IN PHILIPPINES.

of Naturalization.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Secretary Hay and the Duke d'Arcos, the Spanish Minister, today signed a protocol extending for six months the period allowed Spanish residents in the Philippine Islands elect whether they shall remain Spanish subjects or surrender their allegiance and adopt the nationality of the territory in which they reside. The article in the Paris treaty bearing on this subject Spanish subjects one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty within which to make the That period expires the 11th of next month. The extension arranged for does not apply to Cuba or Puerto Rico. It afined in operation to the Philippines for the reason that conditions in the archi pelago have been so unsettled as to war-rant the Spanish residents in hesitating to make an election in this matter

Kempff Transfers His Command SAN FRANCISCO, March 29.-Rear-Ad miral Kempfi has transferred the com the Mare Island navy-yard to Captain Miller. Admiral Kemoff next Saturday for the Asiatic station where he will be second in command.

Studying the Atmosphere.

Chicago Record.
In Prussia the Meteorological Institute is about to arrange for the systematic exam-ination of the aeronautical observatory at Tagel, near Berlin. Kites and balloons will be employed at heights from 2000 to 5000 meters to ascerta'n the atmospheric conditions. The registering apparatus is conditions. The registering apparatus is dency of the Massachusetts Institute of taken up by a kite-balloon inflated with Technology, at Boston.

hydrogen, and can lift 500 meters of wire To it a second kite is attached and to this latter a third, and so on until the balloon reaches a height of 4000 or more

NATIONS LITTLE KNOWN. Small Republics in Out-of-the-Way Corners of the World.

As regards population, the smallest re-ublic in the world is that of Tavora'a. an island about five miles long, with an average width of little more than half a mile, situated about a dozen miles to the northeast of Sardinia. The total population of the whole of the Republic does not exceed 60, but they elect a President every six years and a council of six members, all of whom serve the state without pay. The women of this island go to the polis and vote with the men, and ever since it became a Republic, in

er and one Martini-Maxim were discov-ered in a prospecting shaft of a mine, where a large quantity of ammunition was buried. Arms are being surrendered gradually, and the inhabitants are settling 1686, all public business has been transacted without turmoil, the elections tak-ing place without any high party feeling r undue excitement. In 1836 King Charles Albert of Sardinia granted the Island of Travolara to a famly of the name of Bartoleoni, but in less

than half a century the inhabitants threw off the yoke of the monarchy and took to themselves the right to be governed by themselves. This little war did not alarm the world, and was quite a peaceful one. King Paul 1 reigned until 1882, and on. his deathfoed requested that none of his kin should succeed to the throne, and, as no one claimed the honor, four years later the people decided to draw up a constitution, and Tavoraia has been a

very successful little Republic since. Twelve years ago its independence was recognized by Italy, and it is to be presumed that other powers would have recognized it also if they had known of its existence. The inhabitants live principally by fishing and raising fruits and vegetables. They fear no sudden invasion, for they dispense with an army and navy, and presumably in case of need would and presumably, in case of need would rely upon their entire population to up-hold the freedom of the country. The small half-French and half-Spanish

Republic of Andorra, which lies in an al-most inaccessible valley of the Eastern Pyrenees, possesses a charter of right dating from Charlemagne, in 790. There is but one way of getting to Andorra from France, and that is by the River Bollra. To reach it from Spain you have to be carried down by mule over one of the nost dangerous footpaths in Europe There are six parishes in the Republic and the whole contains about 6000 people and the whole contains about 6000 people, the territory covering an area of 148 square miles. The Republic is governed by a general council of 24 members, each parish sending four, and of this council the Syndic, or President, is chosen for life by the council. The Syndic, being President of the Republic, receives a salary of \$15 a year, and the members of the council are paid \$7.50. The Republic is rather hampered for while it elects its own ofhampered for, while it elects its own of-ficers, collects its own taxes, and looks after its own army of 1100 men, it has to pay to France 960 francs a year for the free importation of corn into the country, and is forced to import it from France. Twelve months ago Andorra bought a big gun from Krupp, and planted it almost in the center of the Republic, right between Spain and France. Europe should tremble, for when that gun is fired, either

low In this

The Republic of San Marino, in Central

Italy, is perhaps the best known of all

these tiny Republics. Its territory covers

about 33 square miles and the population

numbers about \$500 souls. This minia

ture state was founded in the Fourth cen-tury by St. Marinus, who, having em-braced Christianity, fied here to escape the persecution under Diocletian. The capital, San Marino, is on the crest of a

nountain, over 200 feet high, and has a copulation of 1200. It is one of the most

picturesque places in the world, being perched upon perpendicular cliffs. The Republic is governed by a Legisla-

ive Senate of 60 members, elected for life,

From this body is elected the council of 12, which, with a legal adviser, decides all

questions. Two Captains Regent, elected

every six months, represent the state, which has also its Home Secretary, its

ior of the Exchequer, its army of 800 men, and a regular budget. San Marino is proud of her antiquity, and has many

curious customs. By trenty with Italy the republic receives a certain proportion

In order to avoid copyright difficulties there is no printing press in San Marino,

and when the mail arrives at Borgo a bell is run, and those inhabitants who have

their dwellings up on the cliffs have to

escend to get their letters, for, owing to

the primitive state of affairs, the postman never ascends the rock. Another curious

fact is that the commissary or Judge and the physician must both be strangers, and are paid out of the public purse.—Lon-don Tu Dite.

The Indecent Cuckeo.

The Academy.

The most affectionate of birds is the buildinch—tender to his wife, kind to his

children, faithful even to a human friend, and, as might be expected, he mates for life. When the last scarlet tips are rol-

ting on the bare hedgerow, you may still see him and the wife he courted in the

greenwood eating and roosting together. But the cuckoo is at the other end of the

scale. He has not the decency to stick to his wife even for a season, and she

spends Summer flirting with a succession of males, and laying eggs from about

the 9th of April to the middle of June

A lady robin or hedge-sparrow, knowing that she will have to feed and nurse her offspring, takes care that they shall not

number more than four or five. The cuckoo doesn't care. Without making a

nest, she lays her eggs at the hedge root

and then flies with it in her mouth to the first home that comes handy. She does

not even inquire into the character of the nurse, since her egg has been found among those of over a hundred species.

ranging in size from the wren to the

From so careless and disreputable

parent is it reasonable to expect any but a monstrous progeny? But the young cuckoo, though wicked, is interesting

Indeed he presents to students of evolu-tion a problem that becomes more diffi-cult and fascinating as the facts become

more fully ascertained. When newly out of the shell, the naked, feeble, sprawling

Superintendent Pritchett Resigns.

he Tribune from Washington says:

NEW YORK, March 28 .- A special to

Professor Henry S. Pritchett, superin-ndent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey,

has resigned his place to accept the presi

hicks or eggs out of the nest

mster proceeds to shoulder his foster

Minister of Foreign Affairs, its Char

owed to import it duty free

ion Tit-Bits.

all the baptisms and marriages take

pared to face the effects of the first frost upon such animals as may be affected with France or Spain will be hit, for the Re-public is but 17 miles across, and the gun carries 29 miles. orse sickness. It would be suicide to push troops forward until they are equipped to meet the exposure of Winter. Horses, clothing and food we must have." Very few people have heard of the exis-tence of the Republic of Goust, which is situated on the flat top of a mountain in The correspondent adds that the Boer forces have been re-equipped, and he the Basses Pyrenees, south of France. It has but an area of one and a quarter miles and a population of 140, so that as says he is fully convinced that 15,000 for eign troops have been landed to aid the regards size, it can fairly claim to be the smallest Republic in the world. It is an older Republic than the United States. The Duke of Norfolk has resigned th ffice of Postmaster-General, owing to the fact that he is going to South Africa with having been in existence since 1848, and enjoys the distinction of being recognized by both Spain and France. The Presi-

fact that he is going to South Africa with the Sussex Yeomanry.

Speaking at Belfast today, Herbert Gladstone, son of the late William E. Gladstone, and a member of Parliament, declared that nearly all of the Liberal shade agreed, in regard to the settlement of the South African question, that it was the duty of the government to make a recurrence of the war impossible, and to by both spain and France. The Fresh-dent is elected from an elder college, consisting of 12 peasants, who are chosen every 12 years by the people. The Presi-dent is also Tax Collector, Assessor and judge. If, however, his decisions, are dis-pleasing to the people, they appeal to the recurrence of the war impossible, and to Bishop of Laruns, in the Spanish parish down the mountain side, and what the Bishop says is law. Goust is certainly a unique place, for it has no church or clergyman, the people worshiping in churches beyond the limits of their country. Neither have they are border. show the world that British power in South Africa was predominant; that the British flag must wave over the whole of

WITHOUT A FIGHT.

The Movement Toward Glen-Reason

for Lord Roberts' Prolonged Halt

at Bloemfontein,

LONDON, March 29.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, March

"General Clements occupied Fauresmith today without opposition. One nine-pound-

"Colonel Pilcher visited Ladybrand on March 26. On leaving the town he was

attacked by a party of the enemy and one of his force was wounded and five are

"During the skirm'sh north of the Mod-

der River on March 25, five men were wounded. Three are reported to be miss-ing. Captain Sloan Stanley, of the Six-teenth Lancers, and five men of that

regiment were taken prisoners."

Conjecture as to Lord Roberts' advance from Bloemfontein is the topic

of the day, and is likely to con-tinue so if the British Commander-in-Chief in South Africa conceals his move-

ments as carefully as he has done in the

past. April 2 is set by various critics as the probable date of the departure of the

main army from Bloemfontein. It is pointed out that there will then be over a

week's hard marching before Kroonstad

is reached, though there, seems no cer-tainty that Kroonstad will entirely oc-

cupy Roberts' attention. The advance

when it does occur, will probably be made by parallel columns along a broad front.

The movements of the cavalry force and

part of the infantry towards Glen can scarcely be construed as an actual ad-

vance, although they undoubtedly point to

the imminence of such a step. But only a small part of General Gatacre's forces

have yet arrived at Bioemfontein and un-til that movement is completed, it is not likely Roberts will start for Pretoria.

The latest news from Bloemfontein, con-ained in a dispatch published in the sec-

nd edition of the Times and dated Wednesday, again dwells upon the neces-sity for not making a premature sdwance

This correspondent, who on several occations seemed to be chosen as the mouth-piece of Roberts, cables:

"It should be clearly understood that the

present hait in the vicinity of Bloemfon-ein is absolutely necessary as a military

precaution. It should be borne in mind that we are about to enter on a new phase of the operations, with the main

communication through a recently occu-pled hostile country and that the recent successes necessitated a great expenditure

of horse power. Here and in Natal we shall move on the commencement of the South African Winter and must be pre-

missing.

AN INTERVIEW WITH KRUGER. try. Neither have they any burial grounds, and when a death occurs among them the body is slid down to a cemetery dent of Success.

NEW YORK, March 29.-The World publishes a long interview with President Kruger, under date of Pretoria, February 7. President Kruger said:

"I sent a message to the World saving that the losses in a war 'would stagger humanity.' The British laughed at me and said they would only take a month to conquer us. Did those 650 dead at Spion-kop and those hundreds who were killed in other battles please the British? Are they laughing now? When you came through London did you see much laugh-

in front of the London war bulletin boards, the weeping relatives and the sor rowing friends. Mr. Kruger went on: "Yes, that is only one side of the picture, Here we have the same scenes, only our casualties are not so great. Every home in South Africa has been desolated and the war has only begun. Walt until the war is ended and those who will suffer on account of it will be numbered by the hundreds of thousands. Did Chamberlain and Milner and the capitalists who were back of them think of those things before drove us to the wall? Are the tears idows and orphans to pay for the gold

of the Italian customs revenue, but ex-acts no customs on her borders. She also agrees not to grow tobacco, but is al-"Tell the Americans that I appreciate their expressions of sympathy, and that I will inform my burghers of it. I am greatly pleased to hear that committees have been formed to raise funds for our Red Crots. We need medicines and sup piles for the wounded-not so much for our own wounded, but for the many poor British soldiers who come into our hands, It makes my heart bleed to see that they suffer, we cannot help them as much as we would like to do, because the British authorities will not let us bring medicines or supplies for our local Red Cross through Delagea Bay."

President Kruger sald that the Boers coked for no assistance from any nation. He declared that the Boers would not de stroy the mines in any event. He said that before the war he believed that the United States would offer to act as ardirator of the differences between the two ent to accept the decision that would been made, but Great Britain refused o arbitrate.

Kruger explained at length the efforts which the British authorities made to seal up Delagoa Bay, and then told of a message he sent Salisbury concerning it. Kruger says he refused to have any more correspondence with Chamberlain, but frequently cabled to Salisbury. In one cablegram he asked Salisbury to

allow food stuffs to enter through Delagor Bay, or they would be compelled to feed 2000 British prisoners in Pretoria on maize porridge. Salisbury did not reply, but a message signed "Chamberlain" explained that the embargo on foodstuffs had been raised three days before. Kruger laughed heartily when he told that Chamberiain's message was telegraphed back to Salls-bury with the query, "Is this true?" The President added: "We have not heard from Chamberlain since," and laughed for

fully half a minute. Secretary Reltz then told of a series of communications between the President and Salisbury concerning prisoners who were taken by the British at Douglas Cape Colony, and who, although they be-came citizens of the Orange Free State. are being tried in Cape Town for high treason. The President sent a cablegram directly to Salisbury demanding that the Douglas prisoners be treated only as pris ners of war and not as treasonable sub-ects of Her Majesty's Government, and stated that if they were executed reprisals would be made. Salisbury replied that if the Pretoria prisoners were injured, both

hanged at the conclusion of the war. The President thought that was harsh lan-guage to use, and, according to Reitz' statement, replied: "Go ahead with your **CLEMENTS AT FAURESMITH** hanging, but remember that your son, Lord Edward Ceell, is in Mafeking." Kruger has no reply to this message. "My burghers are fighting bravely," he STATE TOWN OCCUPIED

said, with much earnestness, "and will continue to do so until Great Britain asks for peace or withdraws her soldiers. We cannot expect to conquer several hundred thousand men in a day, but my burghers are going ahead rapidly, as you can see by looking at the place where we keep our prisoners. Even as your forefathers fought against great odds in the Revolu ionary War, so are we struggling; and even as God was with your people, so is he with us. We have fought with Eng-land before, and we defeated her sol-diers. We will be victorious scain."

NEW WORDS IN ENGLISH. How Anglienn Dictionaries Will Be Enriched by the Boer War.

London Daily Mail. When the war is over and done with, many folks will be surprised to see the number of strange words that have crept into the English language, and which, in the process of time, will duly find their place in the dictionaries of the English

tongue.

Lip Service to Religion Deceiver None Who See the Cunning. Trickery and Dishonesty.

Julian Ralph, special correspondent of the London Daily Mail with the British army in South Africa, contributes to the New York Times this letter:

The agents of the Transvaal, paid to arouse sympathy and, if possible, to in-duce the intervention of a foreign power have different methods in different coun tries. In France they simply malign Eng-land and prevaricate about her purpose and part in their war. In Holland and Germany they hold up the glistening bub-ble of a great Teutonic nation embracing all South Africa. In England and America they pose the Transvaal and Orange Free State, as two feedle farmer-republics throttled by the British octopus, though they never would have made this war if they had not expected to play the part ongue.

Of the octupus themselves and to take
These words are the direct result of the
England at a disadvantage. They are
bresent operations in South Africa. In honest in no country and in nothing, but every case when England has had occa- it is in France that they come nearest to

WORSE NOISE AND MORE OF IT.



sion to add to her empire some portion of | the truth. They hate England as genu land hitherto in the possession of an-other power, she has also annexed certain words most commonly current in that

ountry.

Already there are signs that a dozen words at least have been, so to say, in-corporated into our language, of which 59 per cent of Britons would have been ignorant had it not been for the war. Take a word like "commandeer," meaning to annex, by force if necessary, but anyhow The Transvani President Still Confi-dent of Success. to take possession of. The Boers "com-mandeered" men, money, guns, horses and anything they found ready to their hands. We shall hencoforth speak of schoolboys "commandeering" apples from an orchard, or a selfish traveler "commandeering" the est seat in a first-class compartment Again the word "roolnek,"

neck," which is a Boer nickname for an English soldier, is already used as a term of opprobrium, and a new slang expression to denote a man against whom one

Another Boer term that is extremely expressive, and cannot fail to make its way, even in the English language, which s so well supplied with adjectives of a like nature, is "slim." This means cun ning, sly, canny, or smart in the rather unpleasant sense of the term as implying desire to get the better of somebody ise. General Joubert is called "Slin Plet," and many instances have occurred during the past few months demonstrating the fact that one of the chief characteristics of the Boer nation is that of "slimness." It is a useful word, and conveys a subtlety of meaning which is not fully expressed by any other single word in our

Again, to "trek," implying to travel, to shift one's quarters, to move, to travel across an expanse of country, is a very useful synonym for an operation of daily occurrence. The Boers always "trek" fro one place to another, and with them it means a kind of caravan, which, before the advent of railways in their country, was their only means of progression. We shall henceforth say, "Where are you trekking to this summer?" in place of "Where do you mean to spend your holidays?" or "It is a long trek home when the snow blocks the tram lines." It will be found an extremely useful word, with a deal of tocal color clinging to it.

A collection of wagons, forming an obong inclosure, and containing the oxen used to draw the wagons, is called a "laager," and forms a sort of primitive fortification which the Boers use at night to protect themselves from the raids enemies or wild animals. "Lazer," again, will be heard very ofen after the war is over. Children will build "laagers" at the seaside with sand, and even the old proverb may be altered to read, 'Every Englishman's house is his langer." There are many other developments which this word may take, but it is sufficient to indicate its general ecope.

When a team of oxen is unharnessed

from the yokes they are said to be "out-spanned," and when they are put to the wagon again they are "inspanned." This applies equally to horses or to mules. Here and there on the commonage cl o the larger towns a notice board may often be seen displaying the inscription "Geen Ultspan," which means that oxen must not be outspanned on this spot. When our troops come back from South Africa the stables through England will cho to the familiar expressions "inspan and "outspan."

future, no doubt, every little hillock will be christened a "kopje." It is a useful term for any elevation larger than a dust heap and smaller than a mountain. It omes trippingly off the tongue, particulary if it is pronounced in the South African (ashon, "koppy," and not, as is too often the case in England, "kopjee," which is

absolutely wrong and unauthentic.

These and many more words will make their appearance before long in current talk, as they already have done in the columns of the newspapers. Our grand-children will find them duly inscribed in the dictionaries of the period, and will eve cease to wonder whence their origin.

Tennessee has become the leading phophate producer of America. There are 248 valuable mines in the state, and over 21,-000 men are employed in the busin New mines are being opened daily.

inely as the "professional Irishmen" only pretend to. They have hated her since she freed their slaves and forbade the inhuman cruelty with which the Boers treated the black races around them. They left Cape Colony, which England owned by purchase, and trekked as far as possible from the loathed "red necks" in order to set up a government wholly

according to their tastes and liking

In the Free State, by reason of intermar-riages with the Briton and close relations with him as a neighbor and as a customer. they produced a dignified and hones ernment and a happy commonwealth, now betrayed, alas, by an unscrupulous President, who, bribed by a promise that he shall succeed Kruger as the head of s union of both republics, has sold his country to the victor in this war. In the Transvaal the more ignorant, fanatical and unruly section set up such a govern-ment as could be planned by the progeny of 17th century peasants who had retro graded from even that narrow foothold on the edge of civilization. As to the pitiful character of that government and their unworthiness of even so poor a makeshift, I refer you to James Bryce's "Impressions of South Africa," trusting that you are aware that Mr. Bryce's prin-ciples constitute him neither a tory, a lingo, nor a warm devotee of Mr Jos Chamberlain. In his able book you wil also read how helpless the Transvaal be came in the state of its finances and the face of its black enemies, how England came to its rescue, then took over the chaotic government, and then abandoned it, but retained that suzerainty continuance has been questioned only by means of a quibble in Boerdom, but i ognized by every other power on earth.

But it is as to their plea that England is waging war against two struggling "farm-er-republics" that I desire briefly to ader-republics" that I desire briefly to ad-dress you. I do so because extracts which have seen from reputable American of my countrymen may be impressed by Transvaal arguments relterated in news-papers whose aid may have been purchased, and in others whose editors may swayed by sentiment rather knowledge or reasoning.

To begin with, the Boers are not and never have been farmers. Until 20 or 25 years ago they were hunters and traders in pelts. Since then they have become cattle-berders. Their so-called farms are but ranges of the veidt-the prairie. These ranges are fenced with barbed wire, im-proved by wells or reservoirs, and reinforced by small patches of Indian corn Otherwise these farms remain as the first Boers found them. In the second place this is their war, and not Great Britain's It should have been of England's making and should have been waged a dozen or Is years ago, when the Boer conspiracy to seize South Africa was seen to be waxing strong and general. But, as events have proved, it is a war steadily projected for 19 years by the Boers, who began to equip themselves for it with laying outlaws for arms and fortifications. lavish outlays for arms and fortification at least four years ago. Finally, it was forced by the Boers, declared by the

Boers, and begun by the Boers. I am here with a British army, but I came with an open mind. On the voyage I read all the trustworthy books upo history of South Africa, and since I landed here four months ago I have made it my task to study the Boer at home and at large. The public at home knows, so far as it knows me at all, that I take no retainer for what I write. Here I am a foreigner, an outsider, and a looker-on. I am frank to say that the English re peatedly made grave mistakes in their dealings with both their own colonists and, in one or two instances, with the Boors, but these mistakes were always to their own damage. They did one injustice. They acted unjustifiably in their mode of acquiring the Kimberley diamond felds, but the Free State accepted a small sum of money as a salve, and may never with dignity or decency reopen that sore. As to the Jameson raid-by that sore. As to the Jameson raid—by means of which the Boers seek to justify their present war-so long as the British Government be not shown to have been privy to it, there can be no more to say than that it was an asinine and outrage ous affair, for which many of the reform ers were punished as the Boers saw fit, days.

BOERS AT CLOSE RANGE and a portion of the raiders as the English law decreed.

The Boers would have you believe that the capitalists among the disappointed Utilianders are the progenitors of this war, and that their purpose is to hand over the Rand to England. Several facts interfere with this theory. In the first place, there are hundreds of men in Cape Town who were approached as far back Town who were approached as far back as 17 years ago with an invitation to join the Dutch in their conspiracy to drive the British out of South Africa and make it a great Boer empire. In the second place, the Uitlanders are not nearly all Englishmen, and the Rand mines are mainly owned by French and German investors, the English interest being a very small part of the whole. In the third place, the grievances of the Uitlanders truly were the basis and cause of the demands which England made of the Transvani last year, but those were not unjust demands. They could have been acceded to with great credit to the Transvaal, but every man who was here, be he Boer or Briton, knows that war and not peace was the goal at which Kruger was driving, and driving in such hot haste that, three weeks before he declared it, he devoted a Sunday morning to urging Steyn to join him in its instant declara-tion, that the English might be thrashed efore they were ready to fight.

If this really was a war of the Uitland-ers against the Boers, and if the Ameri-can public would inform itself upon the nature of the rule which persecuted these heavy taxpayers who have created Boerdom's wealth and made possible its crude ambition, then, I say, no Boer could get a hearing from my countrymen. Grave and cruel as was the injustice our forefathers suffered at the hands of an imbe-cile English King before we threw off his yoke, I do not hesitate to say that the grievances of these Uitlanders were more numerous and in some part more grave and intolerable. The crafty Boers have dared to liken their present hapless plight to our unhappy condition as colo nials, but whenever they rouse an American to the point of studying the facts, they will find that man likening the Uitlanders to his ancestors and vowing that so narrow, bigoted, unjust and corrupt a people as the Transvaal Boers have to right to national existence in this broad numane and progressive age.
You are 2000 miles from the Boers, but

I assure you that the nearer you ap-proach them and the more closely you view them the less you will respect them; to like them is impossible. Their lip service to religion deceives those who do not know that they are a non-moral peo-ple, cunning, tricky, dishonest, and un-truthful in the extreme, and holding up "slimness" (which is ability to take an unfair advantage of a neighbor) as the highest, proudest aim of man. I will not describe to you how they are housed, how they eat, dress and sleep, for unless you have heard something of the facts you could not believe the whole account to be true. You will find somewhat similar conditions only in the Balkans and in Turkey, and yet it is unjust to those peo-ples to even seem to compare them with the Boers.

I am not permitted to describe the at-mosphere of treason, spying, false infor-mation and underhand dealing with the enemy by which the dialoyal Boer subjects of the Queen environ the British armies on their own British ground. Nor am permitted to tell you of the barbarities and despicable tricks with which the Boers are fouling their record in war. I am under military law, and these things are forbidden. This much I will say—that the course of this war, which thus far appears to reflect extraordinary credit upon the Boer as a soldier, is due to British blundering far more than to Boer prowess. No European army of these days has encountered the conditions which prevail here, and the British are learning to suit their methods to the novel requirements. We are now about to open the chapter which will record the results of this revo-lutionary training in modern warfare.

But the point I wish to emphasize is tha his war is of the Boers' own begetting, and they should be allowed to take their fill of it, whether they like the medicine or not. As for England's part in it, con-sider how it has already cemented her and her colonles, and reflect how surely this means that there is to be a multiplied Great Britain, stronger than ever we dreamed she might be. A new Great Brit ain with a large army-the only experi-enced, practical, modern force in Europe and with another standing army in each of her colonies. JULIAN RALPH, Modder River, Grequaland, West, Feb. 15.

We Are Cleaner Today,

The Cornhill, With regard to all the refinements of habit conveyed in the words cleanliness, sanitation and facility of locomotion, the small shopkeeper, the mechanic, the very peasant of today is better off than were Princes and noblemen 70 or 80 years ago That little bathroom of poor Queen Marie Antoinette at the Trianon must have bee almst as much an object of curiosity, for its singularity, in her day, as it is now for its associations; and certain it is that in all those vast piles of buildings at Ver with all their gorgeous magnifi cence, bathrooms were an unknown quan tity.

According to some authorities, Louis XIV never washed-a little cold cream apolled with a cambric handkerchief serving This-let us hope-was a umny, but in St. Simon's minute and detailed account of the monarch's day, from the handling in of his periwig through the closed bed curtains in the morning until everal Dukes and Marquises had handed the royal night chemise to each other, the highest in rank placing it upon the royal shoulders, and his chaplain, kneeling at a prie-dieu at the foot of the bed, had said night prayers for him, no mention is made of any ablutions, except that he was

shaved every other day.

Mme. De Carette, in her "Souvenirs," gives a curious account of the state of Tuileries under the Second Empire the splendor of the state appartments in strange contrast with the discomfort and larkness of the interior of the place; narrow windowless corridors and staircases, with no ventilation and lighted with lamps oth night and day; the consequent heat and oppressiveness becoming quite painful with the first return of spring, and mak-ing the whole household sigh for the signal of departure for St. Cloud or Fontain

Intolerant Bigotry Bred Skepticism New York Commercial Advertiser.

While some persons are investigating the decline of Christianity in our rural districts and cities, others have turned their attention to colleges and universi-ties, and claim to find a very encouraging state of things among the students. The nfluence of the late Mr. Moody, varied by the scholarship and tact of his friend, Professor Henry Drummond, appears to have been enduring and fruitful. Accord-ing to replies received from 46 educational institutions in 20 states, from 45 to 85 per cent of the students in different colleges profess some form of Christian belief. It is significant that at Johns Hopkins, our first university in the strict sense that many of our best educators attach to that term, 65 per cent of the senior class are identified with religious effort. Another significant fact is that returns are as good from undenominational as from denominational colleges. The whole result of the investigation is an educational sign worth noting, because it is an unforced tendency of young men in an environment where intellectual effort s both fresh and active. It is different from the numerical return of the census-taker; it is proof of quality under exceptional conditions. In another respec-also it serves as contrast between the colonial and later type of college under church control or influence, and the pres-ent educational openness to intellectual influences of all kinds. The returns are nore favorable under the new than the old order. It is doubtful if today there s in any college or university in the country such an assertion of skepticism as there was once in Yale in the early

Thousands of Water Fowl and Song Birds Visit the Territory Every Summer,

Some of the exploring parties sent out by the War Department in 1898 traversed wholly unknown regions in inner Alaska hundreds of miles from the coasts, says the New York Sun. They saw a good deal of Alaskan game, and in their reinformation on this subject. Lieutenant Castner, for example, who struck out a route all the way from Cook Inlet to Dawson City, sums up his observations with the remark that Alaska is not so well suplied with game as most people imagine. Many large tracts in the interior seems entirely devoid of game and are a perfect solitude. Every summer, however, thousands of water-fowl and song birds pay a visit to our northern territory, rear their young and then go South again, Among them are many varieties of the duck and geese families, and many of the water-fowl stay all winter along the mild south coast of Alaska. The raven, the ptarmigan and a few small snowbirds are the only birds that remain after the

On his long journey Lleutenant Castner saw the tracks of hundreds of bears, but did not see one of the animals. The large brown and the small black bears are the principal representatives of the bruin family. The black bear is most plentiful and is not so flerce as the brown bear, which is said to be very ferocious when wounded. The large game that he saw were moose, caribou, sheep, goats, lynx, foxes, wolves and wolverines. He saw the tracks of perhaps a thousand moose, out they are so shy and so quick to dis-cover the presence of a human being that he saw only one of them. The wolverine seems to enjoy a practical joke, for he tears open caches and destroys their con-

tents, even though they are not edible. Captain Abercromble mentions in his re-port 29 species of mammals living in the port 29 species of mammals living in the Copper River Valley, including those mentioned above, besides the silver tip, blue glacier and yellow bears, and the beaver, marten, mink, muskrat, whistling marmot, porcupine and gopher.

Captain Glenn's report tells of the efforts that Mr. Story, of the Alaska Packing Association, and others are making to raise blue foxes on Fox Island, about

raise blue foxes on Fox Island, about 20 miles southwest of Port Valdez. They pay the United States about \$100 rental every year for the use of the island, and their plant, including the foxes brought to the island, has cost about \$12,000, with very small return up to the end of the third season. In 1898 they had about 300 head on hand, and expected to utilize some of their increase last year. The re-puted increase of the animals is seven per female annually, but these trappers are amply satisfied if they succeed in raising five. The foxes run wild on the island, but are caught readily without injury in box traps, from which the males are tak-en and killed and the females are reeased. The pelts are valued at from \$10

Mr. F. A. Lucas has recently described in Science the feeding and trapping of blue foxes on Pribliof Islands, where the industry has not long been established. The Island of St. George is admirably adapted for the abode of the fox, the only drawback being the lack of food during the winter. After pelagic sealing bean abundant supply of food in the shape of seal pups, whose mothers had been shot at sea, the pups starving in conse-quence. In 1896 every pup was devoured by foxes. On the Aleutian Islands dried salmon has been used to feed foxes in Winter, and on St. George linseed meal hes been fed to them. In 1897 it was de-cided to use the carcasses of skinned eals, but as the catch out of St. Georga has of late been small, carcases were salted, brought over from St. Paul and used for baiting the fox traps. As the use of the bex proved slow, a corral, was constructed and arranged so that the eftrance could eastly be closed. This plan proved a success, the foxes entering with-out hesitation, so that from five to forty breaking their necks, but one male is left alive to every three females. Blue foxes seem to lack the proverbial craft of the other fox species, for they readily enter the pen, and when released do so again.

If by a little artificial selection and environment a naturally monogamous animal can be rendered polygamous, the sup ply of blue fox skins will be materially increased. The greatest number taken in one evening on St. George Island has been 245, of which 61 were killed.

Gage's Happy Thought.

New York Journal of Commerce It was a happy thought of Secretary Gage to decorate the new 2 per cent onds, authorized under the gold-standard law, with the portrait of Senator Benton, of Missouri. The process summarized in "Gresham's law" had sent gold out of the country; the inconvenience of silver had etimulated the issue of bank notes with little regulation and inadequate se-curity. Mr. Benton, a Democrat of the period of Andrew Jackson and not of that of William J. Bryan, saw that the mint ratio must be made to conform to the market ratio, and induced Congress to so change the law. As he desired not simply the concurrent circulation of gold and silver, but a circulation of gold in preference to silver, it served his purpose that gold was somewhat overvalued. From date of the coinage act which he carried through Congress to the present time, with the exception of the paper money period the country has been in fact upon the gold basis, and now that the country has been put legally also on the gold standard, it is fit that this en lnent Democratic champion of gold should be bonored.

Blowing Him Down.

Longman's. Dr. Isaac Barrow was an eminent di-vine, great at long sermons; three hours were nothing to him. On one occasion he was preaching in the abbey, and had got well on in his "tenthly, my brethren." without any indication of the stream's running dry. Now, the abbey is a show-place as well as a church; and the showmen-to wit, the vergers-became restive under the eloquence of Dr. Bar-row. Accordingly, as the veracious chronfeler records, they "caused the organs to play, until they had blowed him down." Here again, you see, the organs blew. Whether the organist was asleep-not un-likely, for organists prefer a sleep to a long sermon any day-and one of the vergers officiated at the keys, I do not know, but I confess I should like to have, heard the "voluntary"—fit name!—that 'blowed" Isaac Barrow down

Officer Arrested For Kidnapping. SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 29,-The

agent of the State of Washington, having n charge John Collins, the alleged Seattle bank robber, was arrested here on the arrival of the Oregon train on a warant issued by Judge Lawter on a charge of kidnapping, a preliminary step to habeas orpus proceedings.

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