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## THRILL OF HORROR AND SYMPATHY IN ENGLAND

Mortality of Officers in Transvaal Campaign is Unprecedented.

## TROOPS SERIOUSLY UNDER-OFFICERED

Demand That the Old Military Tradition Shall Be Set Aside—Warm Praise For General White.

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LONDON, Oct. 28.—The large number of British officers killed in the battles which have already taken place in Natal has brought out strenuous protests from many quarters against the ancient custom of British officers in refusing to take cover when under fire. From figures at Glencoe it is apparent that one out of every four men killed was an officer, whereas, the organization exists upon the theory that to every 25 men there is one officer.

It is evident that if the same ratio of mortality is kept up the British forces will become seriously under-officered. Among the enlisted men at Glencoe the proportion of killed to wounded was 30 to 154, while ten officers were killed to 22 wounded. The differences in the percentage leads to the conclusion that many of the officers were hit more than once and kept on leading their men after the first wound.

Emperor William's recent criticism of the British officers refusal to take cover is now frequently quoted. The feeling in the army itself is that though the regulations do not say the officers must not lie down, it is such an old establishment principle that it would take a brave man to inaugurate a change, and the adage of the British soldier "follow wherever an officer leads," is held still to be intensely true, for though the officers believe the personnel of the army is as good as ever, it has been the history of Great Britain that they at the same time maintain that "Tommy Atkins" needs more leading than any man in the world, so the spilling of Great Britain's best blood is likely to continue for the present.

The proportion of the casualties as a whole has caused a thrill of horror and sympathy throughout Great Britain, for the people now begin to realize what a fight with a civilized enemy means. Old soldiers point out that at the Alma, one of the bloodiest battles in Great Britain's annals, the casualties totaled only six per cent, whereas, in the recent Boer engagements, they considerably exceed that figure.

General White's strategy and the execution of his movements are warmly praised and it is said at the clubs that General Sir Redvers Buller will have to hurry up or General White will get a posthumous first. General White represents the Indian element in the British army and those who have served in India have always maintained that the commander there had a more important post than the commander in chief himself. As General Lord Roberts was considered too old for another campaign, Generals White, Symonds and Hunter were sent as a sop to the Indian faction, for General Buller has always been more or less antagonistic to General Roberts and his partisans.

Regarding European intervention, Great Britain's plans to meet such an emergency continue. The Journal de Geneve publishes a dispatch from Constantinople saying that Russia intends handing the porte a note at an early date demanding the opening of the Bosporus and the Dardanelles. Unless Great Britain is a party to such demands, Russia's action will undoubtedly stir up a hornet's nest, compared with which the Transvaal question will be quite insignificant.

Such reports have a depressing effect upon consols in spite of the boom in South African securities, and there is considerable uneasiness on the stock exchange regarding the future action of Russia and France. South African mine shares are no longer referred to as "Kaffirs." They are now called "British," while South Africa is optimistically described as a mineralized Egypt.

Russia is reported to be endeavoring to raise a loan of £20,000,000 in Paris, but so far she has been unsuccessful. The conditions of labor in England have not been improved by the war. About 2,000 Welsh miners are liable to be thrown out of work November 1 by a threatened strike of the surface engineers and other mechanics, who are claiming shorter hours. The negotiations on the subject have failed and the surface men announce that the strike will begin on the date mentioned. It will then be practically impossible for the miners to continue underground.

Mr. Joseph Choate, United States ambassador, is enjoying a holiday at the Duke of Sutherland's, Trentham Hall.

Society is busy. In London there has been a series of dinners and luncheons.

The Bradley-Martins and Marlboroughs frequently figure on the lists of guests.

Lady Dilke has just published a critique on French painters and the Duchess of Sutherland also appears as the author of a book dealing with the life of a factory girl, a subject she seems remarkably well acquainted with.

Sir Robert Peel's plate, consisting of valuable heirlooms, was sold at auction this week fetching £6,000.

Miss Klumpke of San Francisco, to whom Rosa Bonheur left all her large fortune, has decided to share half of it with the deceased painter's relatives, who were disinherited. All the paintings and other valuables left by Rosa Bonheur will consequently be sold.

The marriage of Princess Marguerite of Orleans to her cousin, Prince Jean, of Orleans, October 26, at Kingston, will bring together several royalties, among them Princess Waldemar, of Denmark, the bridegroom's sister, and perhaps the Prince of Joinville, the grandfather of the bride, who is 81 years old. It is reported that the Duke of Orleans wishes the wedding to be as quiet as possible because he "cannot be festive when so many of my friends are in prison."

"St. Luke's Summer," corresponding with the Indian summer, favored Newmarket this week, where the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Cambridge, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Lady Georgiana Curzon, Baron Russell of Killowen and Lady Russell, and many lingering Americans watched the phenomenal recuperation of American jockeyship. The fact that on Wednesday the American jockeys won four out of seven races and secured places in four events, and Thursday won four of the five races, has given Great Britain another surprise. Curiously enough, the success comes after Riley Gramman and other Americans have returned to the United States, disgusted with "Tod" Sloan's series of losses.

The possibilities of the English turf are illustrated by the fact that Irish Ivy, as a yearling, was purchased for 36 guineas and won over 30,000 guineas in Cambridgeshire stakes, and was sold yesterday to Broderick Closter for 500 guineas, with some further contingencies of rebates to the horse's former owner, Captain Peel.

J. Martin, the American jockey who has won admiration on all sides, unfortunately neglected to weigh in for one race yesterday and incurred £10 penalty and a caution.

After a long controversy concerning the use of starting machines, the Jockey Club management has just intimated the selection of the Oray machine which will be used for two year olds next year.

The transfer of "El Capitán" to the Comedy theater will have additional interest in the fact that De Wolf Hopper will have the opportunity to display his comedy talents. For this purpose, W. H. Post, whose travesties are well known at the Lamb's Gambols, has prepared a travesty on "The Degenerates" in which Marion Gironx will take a Langtry part and Hopper the leading male part. The piece will be produced October 30. It is understood that Mr. Hopper will continue his series of travesties on current London successes.

Louis Parker's new play "Captain Birchall's Luck," will be produced at Terry's October 30.

Hare celebrated the 200th performance of the "Gaylord Quex" tonight. He anticipates an American tour next autumn.

Fenny Ward will be the leading lady in Charles Hawtree's forthcoming piece at the Avenue, which is said to be of rather more serious interest than usual.

"Hearts and Trumps," it is said to be drawing £3,000 per week at the Drury Lane theater, which is believed to constitute a record, though "The Degenerates" and "The Belle of New York" are close seconds.

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