

HARD LINES.

The Transvaal, of which so much has been heard and published lately, is almost a terra incognita to very many intelligent English-speaking people. They have heard of it as a small Republic between South and Central Africa, inhabited by the descendants of the original Dutch settlers of Cape Colony, and that is pretty much the extent of their knowledge respecting it. It is, in fact, to most people little more than "a geographical expression."

But a great deal more than this is necessary to be known before the intelligent newspaper reader can be in a position to form an opinion on the nature of the disturbance in this African republic. The following extract from a leading article in the Times of the 20th of last month will give our readers a pretty fair idea of the Boer commonwealth and of the kind of men of which it is composed:

Those who are unacquainted with the details of South African politics, but who regard that region as one of the most go-ahead parts of the world, will be surprised to learn that in the midst of it there is an island of blind, uncomprehending conservatism of the medieval type, with which even the most retrograde of our old Tories would feel ashamed to sympathize. The autocrat of this island is President Kruger, who is doubtless a very worthy man according to his lights, but who was unfortunately born at least a hundred years too late. Regardless of all warnings and protests, he imagines that the Transvaal of to-day, containing an energetic industrial community which outnumbers by more than three to one the original population of the state, can be ruled in the same way as the old-fashioned, sleepy, pastoral Transvaal was governed half a century ago; and that the ever-increasing crowd of new settlers can be compelled for an indefinite period to pay nine-tenths of the revenue without receiving in return even the elementary municipal rights to which they are fairly entitled. Their modest demands for an efficient police, for competent mining inspectors, and for primary schools to which they might send their children are peremptorily rejected, and they are not even allowed to supply these deficiencies by private initiative and voluntary association. Fortunately for the peace of the country these settlers are on the whole an orderly, industrious set of people, who evidently wish to avoid violent methods of action; but it seems to us that President Kruger is putting their patience to a severe test, and that he would do well not to turn a deaf ear any longer to their grievances. They have transformed the Transvaal from a practically bankrupt state into a thriving, wealthy community and this fact ought to be frankly recognized by the Boer government.

It is not hard to understand that the condition of men born in free countries and accustomed to exercise the powers and enjoy privileges of constitutional freedom under the rule of such a community of mockasses as the Times describes, cannot be very pleasant. It must be remembered that all that a man who is not so fortunate as to be born a burgher has to do in the Transvaal is to obey. He has nothing more to do with the management of the public affairs of the Republic than a serf had to do with the government of Russia. Laws are made for him and officials placed over him with whose enactment or appointment the Uitlander has nothing whatever to do.

When it is considered that these despotic rulers are for the most part extremely ignorant, and that they are narrow-minded and prejudiced against the stranger within their boundaries, obedience to the laws that they make cannot be to those strangers either easy or agreeable. When it is considered, too, that the aliens are the most enterprising as well as the most intelligent men in the republic, and that they pay fully 90 per cent. of the taxes, it is not surprising that they do not bend their necks submissively to the Boer yoke or bear that yoke patiently.

With such a people so situated and so governed, it is reasonable to conclude that a struggle for political rights is merely a question of time. The agitation may be at first within the bounds of law, but if these rights of freemen are denied them long, a resort to physical force to obtain them is inevitable. It is to be hoped that the present disturbance will show Uncle Paul, as the Boers call their President, the necessity of transferring the Uitlanders, who have long been on the verge of rebellion, into contented, well-disposed and loyal citizens of the Republic.

HONESTY THE BEST POLICY.

A majority of the electors of Victoria having on Monday again declared their confidence in Hon. E. G. Prior and in the Liberal-Conservative party whose cause he represents, the successful candidate with characteristic courtesy hastened to express his thanks to the friends who had stood by him; and in acknowledgment of the efforts of the Colonist on his behalf wrote the graceful letter which we printed yesterday. This letter has been made the text of a bilious editorial paragraph in the Times, which in the supposed interest of its manager Mr. Templeman appeared during the campaign to have lost all sense of honor and honesty, and to be willing to circulate the most palpable lies in the hope that, "as one Liberal frankly expressed it, "someone will believe them."

The Colonist, on the other hand, with no personal enmity to attain and no personal ambition to gratify, appealed to the

reason of the electorate, presenting the case of the Liberal-Conservative party and candidate without introducing the private affairs of the candidate or electors on the other side, or printing a line which would impair the friendly relations that have always existed between this paper and the public of Victoria of all parties. We have commended Col. Prior to the public as an honorable and honest man; and we believe that his letter which we published yesterday expresses the opinion of those in either of the political parties who, like him, appreciate honesty and fair play.

QUIET DETERMINATION.

The Yankee jingoes must have been greatly surprised at the cool way in which the British public have treated President Cleveland's warlike message. They did not get in the least excited over it. They looked upon it as an electioneering artifice—a bid for votes on a large scale. The whole nation approves of the firm and determined stand which Lord Salisbury has taken without regard to the extraordinary pronouncement. The British newspapers comment on the message seriously, but without any sign of undue agitation. This is part of what the London Times said about the way in which the people of Great Britain regard the attitude which their Government has assumed with respect to United States interference in the Venezuelan boundary dispute.

In this country there is practical unanimity of opinion as to the manner in which President Cleveland's aggressive policy ought to be met. Lord Salisbury's dignified assertion of the fundamental rights of a Sovereign State has been received with unqualified approval by the organs of every shade of political opinion. In maintaining the firm attitude he has assumed, he will have the unwavering support of the whole nation. There are few questions of foreign policy upon which differences of opinion do not show themselves; but the pretension of a foreign government to appoint a commission of inquiry into the boundaries of a portion of our Empire, the conclusions of which commission are to be forced down our throats by the threat of war, is one which a less high spirited people would resist to the last gasp. When the American people realize the monstrous and insulting character of the demand which has been preferred in their name, we have little doubt that they will recognize our attitude as the only one which men of their blood could possibly adopt, or that they would see the wisdom of a bluntness which they eventually do us this justice or not there can be no question that in his vindication of the national dignity Lord Salisbury will have the unanimous and hearty support of the whole English people as well as the sympathy of every nation that respects itself.

There is no mistaking the tone of this article and there is no question as to its reasonableness. The Americans have learned by this time that the British nation is not in the slightest degree daunted by their blustering, and that it will not submit to dictation on such a matter from President Cleveland or any one else. It will back its Government up in what it believes to be right, no matter how much the jingoes rage or what vain threats are imagined by the anti-British Americans.

THE SHORTIS CASE.

The exercise of the prerogative of mercy in the case of Shortis has, it appears, created some discontent in the province of Quebec. Shortis is the young Irishman who, some months ago, killed two of the employes of the Valleyfield Manufacturing Company in a very extraordinary way. The only question which the jury had to decide was, was the young man in his right mind when he committed the dreadful deeds? But this is a question which an ordinary jury is not competent to decide. It seems to us absurd to leave the question of a man's sanity to be decided by an ordinary jury, which in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred does not contain a single professional man. Should not the question of an accused man's sanity be decided by competent men before he is put on his trial at all? In the case of Shortis there was no doubt whatever of his guilt, that is if he was in a condition to incur guilt. The killing was done openly and in the presence of many witnesses. The man's responsibility for his actions being decided, his trial for murder would be little more than a mere form. Was the jury that tried him competent to decide whether Shortis should be regarded as responsible for his actions or not? We should say that it certainly was not competent. If that is granted what was its verdict worth? It may be said that the jury heard the testimony of physicians and others on the subject. But is an ordinary jury able properly to weigh the testimony of experts on such a subject? We do not believe that they are. Would it not be wise in cases such as that of Shortis to decide the question of the man's sanity by a competent tribunal before he is put on his trial for murder. It seems unreasonable to try a lunatic for a crime which he could not commit; and to try him by a jury which is admittedly incompetent to decide whether he is sane or insane makes the unreasonable process more unreasonable still. As matters are, in cases in which there is good ground for doubting the sanity of the accused man, the question of his responsibility for his act is decided by experts after conviction. Would it not be more consistent with both justice and reason to have that question decided before the

ONE HONEST MAN.

DEAR EDITOR.—Please inform your readers, that if written to confidentially I will mail in a sealed letter, particulars of a genuine, honest home cure by which I was permanently restored to health and vigor, after years of suffering from nervous debility. I was robbed and swindled by the quacks until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but thank heaven, I am now well, vigorous and strong, and wish to make this certain means of cure known to all sufferers. I have nothing to sell, and want no money, but being a firm believer in the universal brotherhood of man, I am desirous of helping the unfortunate to regain their health and happiness. Perfect security assured. Address with stamp—Mr. Edward Lambert, P.O. Box 55, Jarvis, Ont.

Hon. E. G. Prior left for Ottawa this morning.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Municipal Matters in Vancouver and Nanaimo—Public Works at the Terminal City.

Prospects Poor for Nanaimo Miners—Westminster's Flood—The Month's Rainfall.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 7.—The municipal fight in Vancouver is very keen. Henry Collins and his friends are working hard, while Mr. Browning, though not soliciting votes himself, has a number of supporters using every legitimate means to assist him in the contest. The alleged obnoxious poll tax is one of the chief issues in the fight.

The city solicitor has advised the council that \$400, the present price paid for shop licenses is too high, though it did not act as other solitors, that it was illegal. On Mr. Hammerley's recommendation, however, the license will probably be reduced.

The Western Light Co. have given \$1000 bonds to complete their contract to light the city according to agreement. The provincial government will be asked as usual to grant the city \$6,000 for the hospital and \$1,000 for the fire department.

A review of the work done by the city for 1895, is as follows: Very little street grading was accomplished as compared with the previous year, owing to the meagre appropriation for that purpose. A number of lanes have been made and improved by the chain gang during the year. The gang also did regular work around the city buildings. Their total work for the year would have cost in the usual way about \$2,015. The only sidewalk laid have been those absolutely necessary to give owners access to their property. Only about 2,000 feet of sewer work for the year was done. During the year the old paving which had become defective by the frost was repaired, and the following streets newly paved with asphalt: Hastings, between Carroll and Cambie, and between Carroll and Robson, and Hastings. The streets have been kept clean by men employed as sweepers by the city at \$1.50 per day. The question of permanent sidewalks is to be taken up by the city council. The board of works have spent this year including the bituminous paving, \$62,898. Vancouver at present has 22 miles of sewers, 75 miles of graded streets, 1.82 miles of bituminous pavement, .05 blocks, 5.30 planked, 10.95 gravelled, 19.85 macadam, 16.18 miles of lanes, 1.80 miles of bridges, 67.70 miles of sidewalk, and 15.45 miles of drains.

The Vancouver operatic society is practicing "Ermie."

At the Mainland Teachers' Institute yesterday the following officers were elected: President, W. A. Graham; first vice-president, Miss M. E. Spink; second vice-president, Miss M. E. Spink; treasurer, D. M. Robinson; secretary, J. D. Fraser. Hon. Col. Baker and Prof. Hill-Tout were made honorary members of the institute. A paper entitled "The Education of the People," by Mr. Templeman, was read and created favorable comment. W. C. Coatham's paper on "Composition" created much interest. Col. Baker in the evening addressed the teachers and their friends at Dun hall, in a paper on his subject "The Evolution of the Mind." Those who had the pleasure of listening to the Minister were loud in their praise of the lecture and the manner in which the subject was handled.

AN ARGUMENT FOR PEACE.

We wonder if the Yankee jingoes ever studied the trade returns of the United States. If they did they would soon find out what, from a commercial point of view, war with Great Britain means to the United States. To say that Great Britain is the United States' best customer is to say something so vague that not one person in a thousand can form anything like a fair idea of its true significance. Great Britain is not only the best customer that the United States has, but she buys more of the products of American farms and factories than all the rest of the world put together. Great Britain and her dependencies purchased during the past five years an average of \$519,925,479 worth of United States products per annum. The whole export of the United States for the year 1894 was \$369,204,937. If the exports to Great Britain and her possessions that year were up to the average of the five years ending December, 1895, the exports to all the rest of the world were only \$349,276,456. Let us repeat: the United States sold to the whole world in 1894 products to the value of \$369,204,937. She sold of these exports to Great Britain and her possessions \$519,276,456 worth, the rest of the world taking only \$349,276,456 worth.

The following return showing in another aspect the immense value of the British trade to the United States, was handed to us by a greatly esteemed contributor:

According to a statement presented to congress in the month of December, 1895, the United States bought from and sold to Great Britain and her dependencies, during a period of five years, as under:

	Exported to.	Imported from.
Great Britain	\$2,184,048,834	\$ 800,740,150
Holland	4,029,675	2,222,463
British Honduras	2,065,769	962,584
Canada	257,140	173,181,682
Newfoundland and Labrador	7,492,485	2,110,627
British West Indies	42,239,495	67,356,924
British Guiana	9,913,067	21,021,262
India and East Indies	18,410,214	110,194,824
Hongkong	22,842,285	3,873,665
Australia	49,471,244	90,496,988
British Africa	19,482,825	3,726,576
British, all others	2,804,060	9,319,582
Total	\$2,996,642,369	\$1,231,087,400
Total trade	\$3,293,284,769	\$2,262,174,800
Balance in favor of U.S.	17,854,956	
Average per year	278,710,959	

We are not surprised that after these figures were published, the jingoes, both in and out of Congress, lowered their tone. They were shrewd enough to see that the loss of this immense trade would mean ruin to thousands upon thousands in every part of the United States, North, South, East and West.

WESTMINSTER.

WESTMINSTER, Jan. 7.—The recent inclement weather was the cause of a number of serious wash-outs in the city. On Carnarvon street part of the roadway was carried away, while the basements of a number of buildings were filled with water. The main damage was caused by the drains choking up. The fire engines eventually kept the high rush of waters down by steady pumping. Considerable damage was done to the shops and houses on the whole, however, there was comparatively little destruction, considering that the registered rainfall was 5.21 inches in 31 hours and the snow which lay thick on the water made it fast and so added to the rush of water.

Yesterday morning, although there was water everywhere there was none to drink, for some time during the night the water main broke in front of the water works. The break was caused about half a mile from Westminster Junction, at Scott's Creek. The water in the creek rose and submerged the pipe, which is carried across the creek by girders, and the pressure of the

LANGLEY.

LANGLEY, Jan. 3.—During the month of December rain fell upon eighteen days, amounting to 7.10 inches, and snow upon eight days, amounting to 5.500. For the first week in the month the deposition amounted to 0.949 inches, the second 3.935 inches, the third 0.215 inches, the fourth 1.713 inches and for the balance of the month 0.509. The first snow that remained fell upon the 12th and thereafter until the end of the month, being frequently largely mixed with rain. For November of the present year the fall amounted to 6.314 inches upon fourteen days with no snow. In December 1894, rain fell upon eighteen days amounting to 5.579 inches, and snow upon three days amounting to 3 inches, while in November of 1894, there were sixteen days of rain amounting to 8.302 inches, and snow upon two days amounting to 4.5 inches, while January 1895 rain fell upon eight days amounting to 5.868 inches, and snow upon nine days amounting to 9 inches.

DUNCAN.

DUNCAN, Jan. 7.—An Indian from Chemainus named Sam was yesterday convicted by Indian Agent Lomas and H. O. Williams, J.P., of having had intoxicating liquor in his possession on the 31st October last and fined \$25 and costs for one month. Sam's wife was also convicted from view on or about the 31st October is still unheard of and a large party is being organized to go over the bush this week to search for her body.

The sudden melting of the snow and heavy rains have caused freshets on the rivers but no damage of importance is reported.

ROSSLAND.

ROSSLAND (From the Miner).

J. Herron and J. G. Bullock, stockmen of Pincher creek, Alberta, have purchased some interests in mining claims.

This has been a week of important strikes, not the least of which was that made on the Deadwood, between Rossland and Trail. A fine body of galena was found which averages 150 ounces in silver and 50 per cent. lead. The ore is being sacked and will be shipped as it is taken out.

A remarkable discovery was made in the Josie this week. The ore body widened out to several feet. Suddenly the ore came upon what appeared to be a cross vein. The character of the ore changed and the pitch was different. It was more silicious than the ore which had been taken from the Le Roi ore.

A strike of great importance has been made in the Jumbo, in the tunnel commenced about two months ago, diagonally on the ledge about 175 feet below the shaft sunk near the top of the hill last summer. The shaft was sunk 40 feet, nearly all in solid ore that averaged \$10 in gold per ton. The ledge runs north and south, and the tunnel was driven from the southeast to the northwest. The ore was found on the upper side 115 feet in and was six feet wide. It is one of the finest bodies of ore ever opened in the camp, but its assay value has not been ascertained up to the time of obtaining this report. It is highly silicious with solid bunches of iron pyrites here and there.

With the advent of the New Year the Homestake has begun regular daily shipments, and the management is making contracts to haul the output to the smelter at Trail. The development work is now sufficiently advanced to guarantee the freighters a steady and continuous business. The Homestake is the first mine in the south belt to become a producer. The Homestake mine is situated between the two main forks of Trail Creek on the ridge running west of the summit to Deer Park mountain and is about a mile south of Rossland. The ore of the Homestake differs considerably from that on Bear mountain, in that it carries galena and with depth some copper. There are carries gold, silver, lead and copper, and averages throughout a total value of \$30 per ton, though much of it runs from \$50 to \$100 especially in the deeper workings and the No. 2 shaft.

NELSON.

(From the Tribune.)

Tom Collins writes:—"We are down 30 feet on the Jeff Davis, and it is looking better than ever. Morris's Blackhawk is also looking well. The snow is about five feet deep on the mountain."

The following shipments of ore and bullion from mines and smelters in Southern Kootenay were made since last report:

	Tons.	Value.
Pilot Bay Smelter, bullion	60	\$6,000
Skyline mine, Ainsworth	26	2,600
War Eagle mine, Rossland	180	9,000
Total	266	\$17,600
Total so far for 1895	29,516	\$2,339,650

The Gibsen mineral claim on the south fork of Kaslo creek may be reckoned among the shipping properties, and a considerable quantity of high-grade ore is being rawhided to the railway at the Forks as rapidly as possible. This claim is owned and managed by Isaac Gibsen and Schell. The Black Fox on the same stream, has also a couple of cars ready for shipment.

William Hunter, the pioneer merchant and steamboat owner of the Slokan, speaking in a general way of the Slokan country, said that there was a steady improvement all over the line. The prospects in the country around the foot of Slokan lake were looking well, and one or two had made small shipments of ore. The Howard Fraction, on Springer creek, shipped several tons to the smelter at Pilot Bay, and the returns were 176 ounces silver and \$18.75 gold per ton. Mr. Hunter is of opinion that

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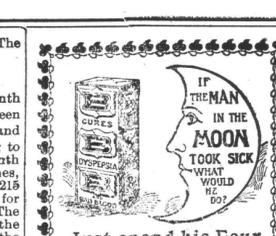
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next season will see several regular shippers in that section.

The Hall Mines smelter is receiving its finishing touches, and Mr. Johnson, the superintendent, announces that the furnace will be blown in during the ensuing week. Though relatively a small concern, at a minimum cost it can be increased from its present capacity of 100 tons per day to one of 500 tons. In point of convenience, however, it is doubtful if the smelter has its equal in America. Mr. Johnson is satisfied that with respect to working arrangements, he has the handiest concern of its kind on the continent. From a careful sample of the general run of the mine, it has been estimated that the ore from the Silver King will average from 40 to 50 ounces in silver, \$2 in gold, and from six to seven per cent. copper. Taking the lowest side of these figures it will give the ore a value slightly over \$42 to the ton. The ore will make from six to seven into one, and during the first few months the output of the smelter will be fifteen tons of matte per day. The gross value of the daily output will be slightly over \$4,000.

SATOLLI'S ELEVATION.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 7.—The second step in the elaborate ceremony of elevating Francis Satolli, archbishop of Lepanto and apostolic delegate to the United States, to the rank of cardinal, prince of the church, took place in the venerable cathedral here on Sunday. The ceremony consisted of conferring the beretta, which is the cap worn by priests on ordinary occasions, and differing only in the case of cardinals in that it is red. The preceding steps have been the conferring of the zucchetto, or red skull cap, and the administering of the oath. The remaining step is the conferring of the red hat, which must be done in Rome, by the Pope himself, within six months from November 30, the day upon which Satolli's appointment was made.

THE LAST STATE.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 7.—Yesterday the inauguration of the state officers took place at the tabernacle at noon. Decorators had been busy on the great building for several days and everything was arranged in the most artistic manner. A feature of the decoration was a large American flag suspended under the ceiling, giving a beautiful effect to the whole surroundings. The flag was 125 feet by 75, covering a space of over 9,000 square feet. The forty-fifth star on the flag is composed of electric lights in the national colors. The decorations at the Salt Lake theatre, where the inaugural ball was held, had been arranged with great care and beautiful effect. Ten thousand incandescent lights were turned on the building.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carver's Little Liver Pills. They will positively cure it. People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

WORTH \$5.00 A BOTTLE.

SER.—For five years I have been troubled with neuritis and tried everything I could see or hear of. At last I was advised to try a bottle of Yellow Oil and refused because I thought it was like all the other failures. I had a bottle given me, however, and I found it helped me, and I bought a bottle which cured me. If it cost five dollars a bottle I would not be without it.

THOS. QUINN,
Gravenhurst, Ont.

TROUBLED T
How the Difficulties
Aggravated Utilia
Support Dr.
Story of a Gall
Tremendous Odds
Situa

LONDON, Jan. 7.—from Johannesburg, delayed in transmission summary of the situation has been prepared. For a long time the Transvaal have been treated to which, they have the Boers. They have to contribute practice of the republic, yet the Boers claim that are mainly Englishmen them that if they gave sentation they would and make the re colony. Intimation made to Dr. Jameson the territory of the Company that the Boers were ripe for revolt made preparations for Johannesburg, must be border about 700 men ammunition, but little was then sent him asking him to go to the campsite who were with him to the border, crossed the border, seem without the the Uitlanders of Johannesburg, his being ordered by government. At K. pected to meet rein thousand Uitlanders. The following news there was intense excitement, people hurr from the mines and a central committee of Uitlanders themselves, met for the town an ample provision would it. The provisional go established itself and to the government at Pretoria, which pence at Pretoria on Wednesday, but the ed by the new governo go to Pretoria without at Pretoria, which had crossed the bo Johannesburg, and h place was expected ho Meantime the Boer have been fully aware gathering together a equipped and excellen men. The Uitlanders numbers of them left was in hand of the assisting Dr. Jameson away. Later the con visional government communication to Si son, governor of Nya. "We have informa body of Boers has been immediately attack shoot on sight all wh cerned in the agitati critical that was not the protest of the rights of long agitated legally fi This caused a lux cable messages with ment, and everything to be in a bad way. Eventually, h mittee of the pr ment of Johannes Pretoria, and had a President, and the ing. The president, the complaints mad res their grievance leaders representative ment of Transvaal, days' mission, with this removed any fur raising men to sup In the meanwhile th erment received fr burg. Germans ar during this time jo union, represented government, and the lowed by Africans, Italians and by the tion, but while Presi to grant the main committee of the ment, he imposed which aroused the red skull cap, and the admistratio of the mission. In ef that the only thing further uprising was the report with regard British subjects in a Dr. Jameson. Gene guaranteeing the sa burg, if the town was mated he would a measur-s if any fur against the Transva eurred.

The Americans at this time they tel Kruger, that while t sympathy with him help him unless he demanded by the U Germans to assure of their sympathy at they supported the in the administration. They also called Em ing him to bring a Great Britain in of interfering actively Transvaal. Despite of President Krug leaders, the news th fighting his way to raised such a storm the lukewarmness national union, that tation was sent. P minding that Dr. J allowed to enter an burg unmolested, al

Will be found an sick headache. Carver's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters that prove this fa