

## Joubert on the Transvaal

Says the Republic Compares Favorably With England of To-Day.

Boers Quite Willing to Submit All Disputes to Arbitration.

George Van Sicele, a New York lawyer, has received an interesting letter from Gen. P. J. Joubert, commander-in-chief in the South African Republic, in which the General says:

"Your highly esteemed letter of June 11 is at hand. I am very glad to learn that a person can still be found in that, too, in the United States, the greatest Republic of America—who thinks the Transvaal may perhaps be in the right; for, as any one who reads the newspapers, he must come to the conclusion that the war is entirely ill-conducted with English truth concerning the so-called Transvaal tyranny and the grievances of the Uitlanders so that one must form the opinion that hardly any person in this world can be found who would be inclined to speak a good word for the Transvaal Boer, and also that the government must be considered to be as bad and guilty in the eyes of Almighty God as they are in the eyes of the great Chamberlain and of Rider Haggard, the famous Englishman, according to whom the Transvaal must cease to be not only an independent government but also a land inhabited by human beings.

"Now, I will not insist that the Transvaal government is infallible and perfect, but, as compared with England of old, and even with England of the present day, we have no reason to feel ashamed. It is said that England in her beginning was nothing more than a nest of robbers and a meeting place for all scoundrels. Now, if it is true that England has conquered Canada and Ireland in the manner described by the French authors, Elias Regnaud and E. Vander Maarten, then we are always able voluntarily to stand the test of comparison, and we never would entertain the least fear in submitting all our disputes with England to arbitration before any of our court of justice or body of arbitration.

"But this England never will do, nor dare to do. The plan of Chamberlain is not to come to an understanding or to a settlement of any dispute with us. It is impossible to dispel from the minds of the Boers the idea that he, Chamberlain, has been deeply involved with Rhodes in the raid and ravages of Jameson upon the Republic in 1895, and that this is the cause of his hostility to us. He is unable to swallow this, and he uses as a false pretense to 'declare' war against us for the so-called grievances of the Uitlanders in regard to the right to vote, in order that he may annihilate our small people and annex our country. He will permit him to do so.

"You speak of arbitration, but Mr. Haggard says that arms must arbitrate, and Chamberlain refuses arbitration, because he knows very well that he never can gain thereby.

"It is my ardent wish that there should be an opportunity in our country or in any European country to see any of these acting as arbitrators between us. How worthy of the grace of the great God of heaven would such a country make herself!"

Oliver Schreiner's Views.

Oliver Schreiner, whose "Story of an African Farm" gave her world-wide fame, has written a book she calls the "South African Question," published by the Charles H. Scribner Company, Chicago. The following statements, which appear therein, form a presentation of the South African view of the Transvaal trouble.

"Our Dutch fellow South Africans are a strange folk. Viable, resourceful, passionate, with a passion high far below the surface, they are at once the gentlest and the most determined of peoples. When you try to coerce them they are hard as steel encased in iron, but with a large and generous response to affection and sympathy which perhaps no other European folk gives. They may easily be deceived once, but never twice. Under the roughest exterior of the up-country Boer lies a nature strangely sensitive and conscious of personal dignity; a people who never forgets a kindness and does not easily forget a wrong.

The nomadic population of Johannesburg undoubtedly consists of men who are brave and loyal citizens in their own states and nations. To-morrow, if America were in danger, probably almost every American citizen would troop back to his home, and spend not only life but the wealth he had gained in South Africa soil defending her. Every German would go home to the Fatherland; every Englishman to England; every Frenchman would, as all brave men in the world's history have done when the cry arises, 'The birthland in danger!' The few Spaniards here trooped back to Spain as soon as the news of war arrived.

One thing only justifies war and the destruction of their fellows to the enlightened and humane denizens of the nineteenth century—the unavoidable conviction that by no other means can we preserve our life and freedom from a weaker state or individual, or from a stronger. Nothing can even palliate it but so intense a conviction of a right so great to be maintained that we are willing not merely to hire other men to fight and die for us but to risk our own lives for a life.

The Englishmen in Johannesburg and foreigners of all nations could not possibly feel. They were not more bound to die to obtain control of the gold mines of Johannesburg for a man alone, or to his confederates than to assist South Africans in defending their or than we visit the South of France or Italy for health should feel ourselves bound to remain and die if war breaks out between the Bonapartists and the Republicans, or the Pope and the King. If by a process of abstract thought we have arrived at a strong conviction

of a right of human justice to be maintained by a cause with which we have no personal concern, we may feel morally compelled to take part in it; but no man can throw it on their teeth if we refuse to die in a strange land for a cause that is not ours.

The Englishmen and others who refused to fight in Johannesburg, or died rather than run the risk of remaining, pursued the only course open to wise and honorable men. Had they resolved to remain permanently in South Africa, and to become citizens of the Transvaal Republic, the case might have been otherwise. As it was, they could not run a knife into the heart of a people which had hospitably received them, and attempt to destroy land in which they had found nothing but greater wealth and material comfort than in their own; and they could also not enter upon a deadly raid for a man whom personally the workers of Johannesburg cared nothing for, and with whom they had not a sympathy or interest in common.

Rightly to understand the problem before the little Transvaal Republic to-day, it is necessary for Englishmen to imagine not merely that, within the space of ten or twelve years, forty millions of Russians, French and Germans should enter England, not in dribs and drabs, and in time extending over half a century, so that they might, in a measure, be absorbed and digested into the original population, but instantaneously and at once; not merely that the large bulk of them did not intend to remain in England, and were there merely to extract wealth, not merely that the bulk of this wealth was exported at once to other countries, enriching Russia, France and Germany out of the products of English soil; that would be comparatively a small matter—but that the bulk of the wealth extracted was in the hands of a few persons, and that these persons were opposed to the continued freedom and independence of England, and were attempting by the use of the wealth they extracted from England to stir up Russia and France against her, that through the loss of her freedom they might the better obtain the command of her wealth and lands. When the Englishman has vividly drawn this picture for himself he will hold, as nearly as is possible, in a nutshell an image of the problem which the people and the government of the Transvaal Republic are called on to face to-day; and we put it straightly to him whether this problem is not one of infinite complexity and difficulty.

Especially at the present moment has arrived a time when it is essential that, however small we may feel is our inherent fitness for the task, we should at least remain silent and inactive, but exert by word and action that peculiar function which our position invests us with.

If it be asked, why at this special moment we feel it incumbent on us not to maintain silence, and what that is which compels our action and speech, the answer may be given in one word—war!

The air of South Africa is heavy with rumors; inconceivable, improbable, we refuse to believe them; yet, again and again they return.

There are some things the mind refuses seriously to entertain, as the man who has long loved to accept the assertion of the first passer-by that there was any possibility of her raising up her hand to strike his wife or destroy his child. But much repetition may at last awaken doubt, and then the man may begin to look out anxiously for further evidence.

We English South Africans are stunned; we are amazed; we say there can be no truth in it. Yet we begin to ask ourselves: "What means this unwonted use of armed and hired soldiers on South African soil? Why are they here? And the only answer that comes back to us; however remote and seemingly impossible, is—war!

To-night we laugh at it, and to-morrow when we rise up, it stands before us again, the ghastly doubt—war—war, in South Africa! War—between white men and white! War—Why?—Whence is the cause?—For whom?—For what?—And the question gains no answer.

We fall to considering, who gains by war?

There are some who think they gain! In the background we catch slight, misty figures; we know the old tread; we hear the rustle of paper, passing from hand to hand, and we know the fall of gold; it is an old familiar sound in Africa; we know it now! There are some who think they gain! They gain?

The man of whom South Africa has need to-day to sustain England's honor and her empire of the future is a man who must possess more than the knowledge and wisdom of the intellect.

When the woman rules a household with none but the children of her own body in it, her task is easy; let her obey nature and she will fail. But the woman who finds herself in a large, strange household, where children and stepchildren are blended, and where all have passed the stage of childhood and have entered on that stage of adolescence where coercion can no more avail, but where sympathy and comprehension are the more needed, that woman has need of large and rare qualities, springing more from the heart than from the head. She who can win the love of her husband's household in its adolescence will keep its loyalty and sympathy when adults are reached and will be rich, indeed.

There have been Englishmen in Africa who had those qualities. Will this new Englishman of ours evince them and save an empire for England and heal South Africa's wounds? Are we asking too much when we turn our eyes with hope to him?

### DR. BERTRAM'S RETURN.

Citizens of Dundas Welcome a Successful Canadian Rifleman.

Dundas, Sept. 7. A public reception was last Tuesday A. T. Bertram, Surgeon Lieutenant of the 77th West-Whitton battalion, who distinguished himself at Bismarck by securing the highest score in three aggregates against 2,000 competitors, from all over the Empire, for the highest volunteers aggregate; and the Dominion of Canada challenge shield and gold medal, as winner in the grand aggregate. The latter two trophies had never before been captured in the same year by the same man.

## A Mysterious Agent.

M. Bureau Visits Edmonton to Find a Home for a French Family.

Did He Want a Refuge for Dreyfus?—Interviews With a Mr. Henry.

There came to Edmonton, in the Klondike rush of 1898, an enthusiastic young Frenchman, Mr. Leon Bureau, from Paris. He was in company with another young man, Mr. Henry by name, who is said to have been an Irishman, although he spoke French fluently. With several attendants the young men set out on the journey to the Klondike by way of the Mackenzie route, and with so many companies waiting they were soon forgotten. But along in December, last year, Mr. Bureau unexpectedly reappeared in Edmonton, having come in partly on foot from the Athabasca. He said that he had left his friend, Mr. Henry, at Fort Resolution. He did not stay long here, starting almost immediately for France. He was back here in June, no longer intent on going to the Klondike but seeking investment for the large sum of money he was known to possess. He purchased the Banque Jacques Cartier building, and he made other investments here. On Wednesday, Aug. 30, he sailed on the Red Star liner Friesland for Havre, bound for Paris.

A few days ago the Associated Press sent out from Seattle a despatch which was widely published in the Eastern papers. It was as follows:

Seattle, Aug. 24.—Leon Bureau, private secretary of Maitre Labori, leading counsel for Dreyfus, who has been in Seattle visiting the French vice-consul, Dr. Monnet, has left for Paris. In an interview Mr. Bureau admitted, for the first time, that his trip to the Northwest was for the purpose of securing information of great value to Dreyfus. He has obtained it, and this explains his desire to return home without loss of time. "I have been to the Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories," said Mr. Bureau, "after information connected with the Dreyfus case. I hope to reach Paris in time to hand over to Mr. Labori before the case closes, but even if I do not, it will be still of value."

During his stay here Mr. Bureau made many acquaintances, some of whom became friends, and when this despatch was shown to them they were very well pleased at it. Mr. Bureau said it was absurd, Mr. Laurenceau laughed incredulously, Mr. Cartier said it was nonsense manufactured out of nothing; Dr. Roy said, "It fits us well, so Mr. Bureau would not tell us of it." These gentlemen are all Mr. Bureau's friends, who respect and esteem the young Frenchman for his affable ways and gentlemanly conduct while here.

But there are circumstances connected with his movements here which give color to the statement that he was in the Northwest for the purpose of obtaining information for the defense in the Zola case. It is said he was in the office of Mr. Labori, the eminent lawyer, who was chief counsel for the defense in the Zola case, and he was now handling the case, and he was doing preliminary work.

A. Chalmers, 4 below—Working four men; turned the creek Friday; other side was good; big money.

W. J. Slattery, 1 below—Working 12 men; saying good wages; better on this side.

Discovery claim, Miller & McKinnon—Working 16 men; two shifts; better on this side.

Dr. Johnson, 14 men working; this was one of the disputes; claims our work is dead work; but will soon be washing.

D. Patterson, 3 above—Will put 16 men at work at once.

Mrs. Johnson, fraction of 4 above—working six men.

J. McKinnon, 5 above—Not working; trouble with lower claim; backing water up and flooding.

## Real Work on Pine Creek

Miners in Atlin District Getting Out Gold in Earnest.

Details Given by an Eye-Witness Are Decidedly Encouraging.

According to news received from Atlin by the Alpha, which arrived last evening, great activity is seen on all sides of Pine Creek. Men can be seen in the vicinity about discovery doing an enormous amount of discovery work. The Kierman claim, owned by H. McKay, and adjoining Lambert & Jackson's property on Pine, was sold to the latter gentleman last week for a good figure.

A correspondent who made a trip up and down the creek sends the following notes:

Lambert & Jackson, three claims, the Rose, Viola and Seagull—Twelve men working; two shifts; working Viola on bedrock, but did not come up to expectations. The Rose is holding her own. The Seagull just began work.

A. S. Officer, 11 and 12 below—Five men working; the work of the creek will be turned in about two weeks.

Bahl Bros., 15 below—Turned this creek on the 19th of July; not much; day and a half on bedrock; 4 men; 10 ounces since we turned the creek.

J. Anderson, 14 below—Eleven men working; taking out a little; not got to bedrock; putting in another pump.

H. E. Ward, 13 below—Four men; washed one day on this claim; have been working on bench above and took out 45 ounces in two days and nights; have had trouble getting water.

Stokes & Waters, 12 below—Four men working; ready to start in; prospects favorable.

Wm. Richards, 10, 9 and 8 below, who is superintending the working of the claims for Dr. Mitchell—Working 19 men; ground all right; started in 10 days ago clearing ground and making ready; changing times.

Harrigan & Miner, 9 and 10 below, benches—Working 12 men; getting good. K. Smith, 5 below—Three men working doing preliminary work.

A. Chalmers, 4 below—Working four men; turned the creek Friday; other side was good; big money.

W. J. Slattery, 1 below—Working 12 men; saying good wages; better on this side.

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### WELSHMEN AND FINNS

Are Visiting Canada in Search of Homes.

Winnipeg, Sept. 7.—D. L. George, M. P., W. J. Rees and W. Llewellyn Williams, M. A., are members of a delegation from Wales, which arrived here this morning. They desire to see if it is possible to secure a tract of land for settling 500 Welshmen in the Northwest. They have been taken in hand here by Mr. Speers, one of the agents of the department of immigration, who will take steps to see that they view Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

They will then go to British Columbia, including the Kootenay, returning probably by the Crow's Nest Pass.

The Finn delegates have decided to locate near Snake lake, in the district drained by the Blindman and Medicine rivers. They will probably require a tract of country 40 by 100 miles in extent, and in expanding expect to go north of this location. The delegates were much pleased with that part of the country. One of the delegates is of the opinion that 50,000 will leave at once and that the number will be made up of nearly all young men.

Mr. Lloyd George, when interviewed in London just before his departure regarding the nature of the expedition, said: "I'm afraid I can't tell you our plans, for I really don't know them. Beyond the fact that we are going to spy out the land and judge government supplies and at government expense, I know nothing. We shall have a good time, no doubt, and enjoy a perfectly free hand to do what we like and go where we please. We have had the most express assurance on that point. There is even no stipulation that we should speak well of the country, or that we should submit a report to anybody. We shall make our plans when we get out, probably securing a good deal of time in British Columbia."

The directors of the Standard Insurance Company, London, have received an offer from Sir Thomas Lipton for the Lakes of Killarney. The officials of the company say Sir Thos. Lipton is the only person who has ever seriously negotiated for the purchase of the lakes.

## A Story of Progress

Mr. Robert Jaffray Tells of the Development of British Columbia.

Coal Deposits—Work in the Camps—Mineral Wealth of the Province.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

Mr. Robert Jaffray returned home on Tuesday after his tour of the Northwest and the mining districts of British Columbia, which he made in company with Senator Cox and Major H. M. Pellatt, in the interests of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and other undertakings with which the three gentlemen are identified. Mr. Jaffray, having taken a more extended trip, was the last of the three to return to the city. While in the West he was a close observer of the progress and present situation of the province, and with a representative of the Globe he discussed interestingly the state of the western provinces as he found them, and their opportunities for advancement. Within a period of two years Mr. Jaffray has made five trips to the Pacific coast, and is, therefore, in an excellent position to speak as to its rate of development.

After referring to his visit of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, Mr. Jaffray said:

"We spent a large portion of our time at Fernie in connection with the business of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company. Recently there has been put before the public a statement by Major Pellatt of the progress made by the company, but everyone who visits the town is astonished at the rapid extension of the mining works. Fernie has grown from being simply a site, with no road or house within 40 miles, eighteen months ago, to a town of from 1,000 to 1,500 people to-day.

The Coal Deposits.

"The matter of the quality and quantity of the coal deposits have been established beyond question. The company is expending a large amount of capital developing the coal and building coke ovens. We are applying ourselves to the task of placing our products on the market, and we feel that the best policy is to supply coal and coke to the mines at as low a price as we can possibly afford, feeling that our future success must depend on the extent of our market rather than on heavy profits. We feel that it is a large market that we have to depend upon and that we are interested in giving every possible encouragement to the development of the province. This is the decided policy of the board, and as managing director I am very pleased to see it carried out."

"Can you tell me something of other mineral developments of the province?" Mr. Jaffray was asked.

"I have tried to keep myself identified with the progress of mining affairs, feeling that upon that must rest the success of our coal operations," he answered. "I have also endeavored to obtain a correct idea of the value of the mining interests which I am to some extent represent, and I am simply astounded—in fact, I have not the words to express my opinion regarding the mineral wealth and the general diffusion of it in British Columbia."

In the course of a conversation which I had at Victoria with the Lieutenant-Governor of the province he said: "You have a pretty general idea of the resources of the Kootenay and British Columbia south of the main line of the railway, but you must remember that there are 1,200 miles more to the north of the main line of the C.P.R. of which as yet you know nothing, and in which I believe there are not five square miles which do not contain mineral wealth."

"Now active operations have been begun in East Kootenay for the development of a district hitherto practically unknown. Ex-Governor Macdonald, formerly managing director of the B.C. C., is going into extensive operations near Elkton, and is opening up a new district. The North Star, St. Eugene and Lake Shore are assured mines, and in the district around Fort Steele and Windermere and Golden and Golden are great deals of development is being rapidly done, and the Nelson, Ymir and Rossland districts are making quick strides towards a thorough opening up of their resources."

Capital Invited Capital.

In answer to a question regarding the cause of the speedy advancement of mining properties, Mr. Jaffray remarked: "It will be some time before the people of Canada realize the great benefits that have accrued to the whole country through the investment by the Goodenough-Bellstock syndicate of its capital in British Columbia mining properties. By entering upon mining operations on so large a scale and by proceeding in so thorough and businesslike a manner the syndicate has made mining in the West come to be regarded as a business instead of a speculation. Had it not been for the example that syndicate, which has brought other Eastern capital into the country, the great wealth of the mines of the West would have continued to go into the pockets of our neighbors to the south."

"To what noticeable extent, Mr. Jaffray, has this introduction of Canadian capital acted?"

"Since my first visit to that district," returned Mr. Jaffray, "there has been a very great change in the personnel of the mine-owners and mine-workers, they now being very much more Canadian in character, and the American citizen is not so much in evidence as before. The Americans, however, justly deserve the credit for their foresight and enterprise in first developing and exploiting the mineral resources of the country. They assumed the initial risks, and if they made money they earned it, and they deserved it. It was their knowledge and their enterprise which brought the mines of British Columbia to the attention of the world."

The Okanagan Valley.

"You visited Vancouver and Victoria, did you not?"

"Yes, and one who had seen Vancouver recently could not but be impressed with its rapid growth and prosperity, and with the confidence of its people in its future. Victoria, although not making as rapid strides commercially, is a fine city and an ideal place for a residence. The Parliament buildings in Victoria are admired by everyone, and reflect great credit upon the architect, both because of their splendid appearance and the small cost of their construction. We returned by way of Skamogawa Junction through the Okanagan Valley. I passed through this valley several times before, and always had a favorable opinion of its agricultural products, but until this visit I possessed no correct idea of its extent and the rapid progress that was being made in the development of its resources. I had considered that Lord Aberdeen's ranch here was rather an interesting experiment than a sound commercial enterprise. We spent a day on the ranch, and were surprised and delighted with the progress that had been made. The grain fields, small fruits, orchards and hop fields were in a high state of cultivation. There is now on the farm 75 acres of hops, and it was very satisfactory and pleasing to find that the hops have been grown with profitable results. An increased acreage in hops is being added every year. The orchards are now only coming into the bearing state, but are in perfect condition. A glance which we had at the balance sheet, showing a large profit for the year, convinced us that the farm would, year by year, become a more profitable investment. We had not the pleasure of meeting Mr. Ricardo, the manager, but the condition of the farm evidenced that it was in the hands of a manager who understood his business. I considered enterprises as a means of education in equal to any government experimental farm, and that Lord Aberdeen has done a great service to the agricultural interests of British Columbia in showing what the possibilities are in that district."

A Glance at the Camps.

Mr. Jaffray was then asked to describe his tour through the mining camps, and he said: "We went to Penikese and then to Camp McKinney. Cariboo is the mine which being the most developed, is the property which has attracted the attention of the public to the district. We found its condition and prospects highly satisfactory, and there is no doubt that this will be a most successful camp. Republic camp is in a prosperous condition. The Republic mine is one of the best for the stockholders that I have seen. The town of Greenwood showed great signs of activity, and there is no question but that surrounded by rich properties as it is, it will become a great centre. We passed through Midway, which, having a waterway in the Kettle river and plenty of room, may yet be a very valuable ore-smelting town. The ledges around Greenwood are wide and strong, in fact there seems to be no limit to the quantity of the ore that can be produced out of that district. We inspected the Mother Lode and the King Solomon and a number of others, and also visited the Copper Camp, B.C., and the Emma. The width of the veins and the quantity of the ore here were also altogether beyond our expectations. We were taken over the Brooklyn, Stewards, Idaho and Rawlins and the properties of the Dominion Copper Company. Some of them are well developed enough to prove that they will be very profitable properties. The condition of the Knob Hill, Ironside and Virginia was also most promising, and the fact of the large smelter being erected in Grand Forks is the best evidence of the faith that the owners of the properties have in them."

C.P.R.'s Enterprise.

"Can you tell me something of the transportation facilities afforded mine owners?"

"There is perhaps nothing more satisfactory in the situation in British Columbia than the enterprise of the Canadian Pacific Railway in that country," said Mr. Jaffray. "The main line of the road would be of little service if the cases were there no railway connections from them to the road. The company is, however, sparing neither energy nor money in reaching these camps. Four spur lines, necessitating a heavy expense for grading, are being constructed, and the feeling of dissatisfaction which existed and the desire to have the Kettle River Railway come in there are not by any means as strong as they were. It is now felt that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is doing everything in its power to develop the country, and it is a satisfaction to know that Canadian orders are to be treated on Canadian territory instead of being carried across the border, as in the case of Le Roi."

"Columbia and Grand Forks we had, over to our satisfaction, to pass to our satisfaction, through rapidly, but even in a passing glance you can see strong evidence of activity and rapid progress."

"Phoenix at Summit Camp, is, by the way, springing up and becoming quite a suburb of Butte, and to Victoria I found the government ready to expedite business and alive to the importance of facilitating the development of the province."

Manufacturers' Opportunity.

A last question put to Mr. Jaffray was as to the opportunities offered Eastern manufacturers for trade with British Columbia.

"Eastern Canada," he said, "cannot give too much attention to increasing the business with this Western country. At present Canadian manufacturers are taking a much better hold on the trade and are giving more better satisfaction, and it is required, and that is that the machinery, tools and supplies must be of the first quality. The residents of British Columbia are a people who do not begrudge paying for a good article. Quality and price are of great importance, and it is the duty of the manufacturer to be left undone to gain the confidence of the mining population."

Mr. Jaffray was much benefited physically by his trip, which was of nearly three months' duration.

GOOD ENOUGH TO TAKE.

The finest quality of loaf sugar is used in the manufacture of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the roots used in its preparation give it a flavor similar to that of maple syrup, making it very pleasant to take. As a remedy for the cure of coughs, colds, in gripe, croup and whooping cough it is unequaled by any other. It always cures, and cures quickly. For sale by Henderson Bros., Wholesale Agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

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