

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

R. WILSON SMITH,  
Proprietor.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

JOHN T. P. KNIGHT,  
Editor.

VOL. XX. No. 10.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1900.

SINGLE COPY - - .10  
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - \$2.00

### Where They Will Shine.

It is said that Mr. Chamberlain's request for 2,500 Australian bushmen is explained by the fact that the War Office will want them to pursue irreconcilable Boers, who, according to the intelligence department, have been collecting ammunition and stores in the mountain fastnesses of the Zoutpansberg district, in northern Transvaal, for the purpose of carrying on guerilla warfare. Without knowing to what particular duty the Strathcona Horse may be assigned, it is safe to say that Colonel Steele and his men are peculiarly fitted for just such work as that outlined for the Australians. Our White Riders of the Plains are quite likely to be selected for the service above described, and the best of the Boer riflemen will find it difficult to escape from the troopers of Canada's third contingent. If the Empire wants men who can ride and shoot, endure hardship and suffer in silence, the North West can supply them.

### Colonel Baden-Powell's Persiflage.

The gallant defender of Mafeking has established himself as easily first among the upholders of British supremacy in South Africa in bantering the Boers. He is reported by a London newspaper of recent date as having indulged in the following bit of airy persiflage in the course of a correspondence with Commandant Snyman regarding the proper observance of Sunday by each other's forces. It seems that the Boer leader expressed his distress at finding the British building forts on the Sabbath. In replying, the hero of Mafeking explained that he was only "relaying wire lines," and added that he had taken vast interest on the preceding Sunday in "observing the Boers completing a new work on the western front." The theological controversy between the Briton and the Boer degenerated into caustic personalities, in which Colonel Baden-Powell seems as much at home as in the saddle at the head of his men.

### A Curious Error.

During the present war with the Boers, innumerable have been the comments upon their seeming indifference to the importance of making correct statements. It has been impossible to obtain any knowledge of their numerical strength, and the reports of their losses have been too absurd for belief.

That the Boer is careless in the compilation of figures is shown by a curious error in the Transvaal State Almanack for 1898, which gives the white population as 345,397—males, 137,947; females, 107,450; natives, 748,759; total population, 1,094,156. There is a palpable error of 100,000 in the figures of the white population.

'Tis a pity that this want of accuracy ceases when the Boer looks along the barrel of his rifle.

### A Flag Incident.

To strike or lower a flag may be a token of respect, submission, or, in an engagement, of surrender. Whatever may be said or thought of the recent treatment of our country's flag in the metropolis of the Dominion, it is well for the authors of the treasonable outrage that they are not living in Mexico, where, at Pillares del Tierra, on Washington's birthday, three Americans and five Mexicans were killed.

The Mexicans raised the American flag above the Mexican, but later decided to reverse the position of the flags. The Americans declared such action would be an insult. A certain Superintendent Danforth told the Mexicans they would have to shoot him before they could haul down the American flag. The Mexicans were about to mob Danforth, when another American interposed with a six shooter in hand.

Firing immediately commenced, and one American was instantly killed, and two others were mortally wounded. But the Americans held the flagpole, and the two flags floated throughout the day. Five Mexicans were killed.