



by a few receptions and high-sounding speeches, while in the end it will really mean nothing. Oom Paul's triumphal procession through France and Holland will be like that of the Boer embassy to the United States last year. He will get plenty of fine talk and sympathy, but nothing else. That any European power would interfere at this stage of the game, after both the Orange Free State and the Transvaal have been conquered and formally annexed, is to assume that they want to pick a quarrel with Great Britain, which we very much doubt. If any of them had ever intended to interfere, the time was nearly a year ago, when things looked as though they were going in favor of the Boers. It cannot be considered as an unfriendly act so long as these demonstrations in Mr. Kruger's honor are unofficial and confined to the people. The British people have done exactly the same thing on more than one occasion, notably in the cases of Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian hero; Garibaldi, the liberator of Italy, and later in the case of Jeff. Davis, ex-president of the Southern Confederacy during the great War of the Rebellion. In all of these cases the demonstrations, although unofficial, were hearty and spontaneous, and showed that while the British Government desired to remain on friendly terms with the nations who had forced these heroes into exile, the popular sentiment of the people was very strongly in their favor. What was lawfully done by the British people in those days will be equally lawful to the French and Dutch now, and we Britishers may as well make up our minds to take it gracefully and smilingly. By all means let the sympathizers of Oom Paul in Europe fete him all they wish—the hotter the war the sooner there will be peace, and as, in their case, the more demonstrative they are the sooner their enthusiasm will effervesce and bring them back to cool common sense again.

**OUR BRAVE BOYS HOME AGAIN.**—The main body of the first Canadian contingent to South Africa, officially known as the "Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry," returned to Canada early last month and all along the route from Halifax where they landed they received a perfect ovation, and just here we might observe that in the French-Canadian cities of Quebec and Montreal the welcome was not less hearty and enthusiastic than in the Province of Ontario. The Toronto Company, under the command of Capt. Barker, reached this city at one o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, November 5th, and as the day had been proclaimed a civic holiday by the Mayor the whole population of the city turned out to do them honor. The train drew in at North Toronto C.P.R. Station, and from that point along the entire route of the procession their march was an ovation that must have done much to compensate them for the hardships they have endured during the year they were away in South Africa. The troops belonging to the Toronto city garrison turned out to a man to welcome their comrades back, and had the procession been confined strictly to the military there is no doubt that it would have been one of the grandest pageants ever seen in Canada. As it was, however, the enthusiasm was so intense and the desire of all to welcome the returning heroes so hearty that the committee, we think unwisely, allowed the procession to embrace civic and other organizations, not to say anything of several hundreds of students, who were ambitious to paint the town red on such a memorable occasion. However, even with these defects, it is not to be supposed that the reception was a failure. By no means. It was a huge success. The city was decked out in gala attire. Bunting was draped and flags fluttered everywhere. Every street along the line of march was a mass of color from start to finish, and to cap the climax every foot on both sides of the streets along their six mile route was lined with well-dressed and good-natured citizens who made the echoes ring with the heartiness of their cheers of joy and welcome. It was a great day for Toronto and a great day for Canada too, for the bronzed and travel-stained men in khaki whom this vast concourse of people honored have brought undying fame to our Dominion and given us a prestige abroad that we have never before enjoyed. Their march ended at the armouries where addresses of welcome and congratulation were delivered by the Mayor and other prominent citizens, and later with civic medals commemorative of the event. The Ontario Government has also announced its intention of making each of the

South African volunteers recruited from this Province a full grant of 160 acres of land in recognition of their services on behalf of their country. It was a glorious occasion, and every citizen seemed to feel just about the way the old American war song put it—

"When Johnny comes marching home again, Hurrah, Hurrah!  
We'll give him a hearty welcome then, Hurrah, Hurrah;  
The Men will cheer, the Boys will shout,  
The Ladies, they will all turn out,  
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home!"

**THE DOMINION ELECTIONS**, which have recently been held, although disturbing business for a few weeks, are now a thing of the past, and although the results do not appear to have been entirely satisfactory to either party, still the Government certainly has the best of it and its supporters can afford to do some crowing even if they have been disappointed in the verdict of Ontario, the banner province of the Dominion. We do not propose to discuss the result of the elections from a political standpoint, the politicians have been and are attending to that part of it, and you can pay your money and take your choice of opinions, but simply look at how the result will be likely to affect merchants and manufacturers generally. The noticeable feature of the campaign was the practical absence of any discussion as to the future of the Canadian tariff. Apparently the Liberal party of Canada have wisely come to the conclusion that a certain amount of protection is absolutely necessary for the preservation of our domestic industries, and although some of their supporters still declaim against the inequity of the system, it may be pretty truly said that the cry of tariff reform was practically absent during the recent political struggle. In its place there was the questions of reciprocal preferential trade within the British Empire, and the unfortunate race question which was used with effect in certain parts of the Dominion by politicians who cared more for their own success than for the real good of the country. It is to be deplored that the race cry should ever have been raised at all, and those who are responsible for it will find a day of reckoning sooner or later. This is a British country and it proposes not only to remain so, but to draw closer the ties which unite us to the great Mother Country and the rest of the Empire. The events of the past year should furnish food for thought to every man who loves his country, for it shewed the trend of public opinion towards Imperialism by the determination of the masses irrespective of party to send speedy and substantial help to the Empire in its hour of need, no matter what position politicians were prepared to take. Fortunately for the country and themselves the Government were wise enough to read the signs of the times, and bowed gracefully to the inevitable, with the result that Canada has not only proved that her citizen soldiers are born fighters, the equal of any in the world, but this country has taken a place amongst the nations that will hereafter entitle its views to considerably more weight than they ever had before. What has been thus gained by the sacrifice of Canadian blood and treasure our people do not propose to part with, but rather to go boldly forward in the path that they have marked out for themselves. Closer union of the Empire is in the air, and those who for a moment imagine that they can turn backwards the hands of progress upon our national dial will find that they have been reckoning without their host. There is no need, and certainly no room for race rivalry in this Dominion of ours. Our French-Canadian fellow-subjects of the Province of Quebec will doubtless remember that they are entitled to and should occupy exactly the same position towards the country from which they sprang, as do the English, Irish, Scotch or German Canadians of the Dominion. No sensible person should find fault with any of these Canadians being sentimentally attached to and proud of their origin, but this is a far different thing from attempting to make themselves *as a race* the dominant factors in Canadian political life or the arbiters of its political destinies. On the contrary, citizens of every race should remember that they are Canadian and British subjects first, and last, and all the time. There is only room for one national flag in Canada and that is the British Flag, and although Canadians of English, Irish, Scotch,