POOR DOCUMENT

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KRUGER PREVENTED PEACE.

THE PRIME MINISTER OF ENGLAND MAKES A STATEMENT

On the South African Situation—The Possibility of a Peaceful Solution of the Difficulty Made Impossible—Both Parties Support the Government.

LONDON, Oct. 17—Parliament opened today to consider the South African situation. In the speech from the throne her Majesty said:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,—Within a brief period after the recent prorogation I am compelled by events deeply affecting the interests of my empire to recur to your advice and aid.

The state of affairs in South Africa has made it expedient that my government should be enabled to strengthen the military force of this country by calling out the reserve. For this purpose the provisions of the law renders it necessary that parliament should be called together. Except for the difficulties that have been caused by the action of the South African Republic, the condition of the world continues to be peaceful.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.—Measures will be laid before you for the purpose of providing the expenditure which has been or may be caused by events in South Africa. Estimates for the ensuing year will be submitted to you in due course.

My Lords and Gentlemen.—There are many subjects of domestic interest to which your attention will be invited at a later period, when the ordinary session for the labors for a parliamentary session has been reached. For the present I have invited your attendance, in order to ask you to deal with an exceptional exigency, and I pray that in performing the duties which claim your attention you may have the guidance and blessing of Almighty God.

The reply to the speech from the throne was moved by Sir Alexander Foller Acland Hood, Conservative, and seconded by Mr. Clement Molineaux Royds, Conservative member for Rochdale.

The Liberal Leader.

Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, Liberal leader in the house of commons, followed Mr. Royds, saying parliament had been summoned to give its approval to the early steps of war. Never had the house met in circumstances more serious or amid conditions engaging to a greater degree the profound interest of the British people. The demands made by the government of the South African Republic were such as to make it impossible for the government of any self-respecting country even to take them into consideration.

"Actual hostilities have commenced," said Sir Henry, "and an active aggression has been committed which it is the plain duty of our ministers of parliament and of the people to resist. (Cheers.) There will be no disposition on the part of this house to place any obstacle in the way of granting such supplies and such powers to the crown as may be necessary to secure the rapid and effective prosecution of a war commenced to vindicate our rights. (Cheers.) The campaign should be vigorously and promptly prosecuted, and nothing necessary for that purpose should be refused by the house of commons."

Government Congratulated.

The leader of the opposition went on to congratulate the government upon the choice made of officers to whom the main charge of the "expedition" had been given. Never, he believed, had so capable and experienced a staff been despatched from the shores of England.

"Our natural position in South Africa," he declared, "has placed upon us the duty of seeing any impediment to our own supremacy removed. On that we are all agreed. I have no intention of entering upon a minute or detailed criticism of the steps taken by the government. The time for that has not yet come and it is proper to wait for further explanations. But I may say it does appear to me that the government are engaged in a game of bluff—(opposition cheers and ministerialist cries of "No,") which is not a very worthy one for a great country like this. The raising of the suzerainty question was utterly unnecessary, and did more than anything else to remove all chance of success from the negotiations. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Balfour, who was received with long cheers, expressed satisfaction at the declaration of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman.

House of Lords.

The house of lords re-assembled at 4 o'clock, the floor and galleries being crowded. The Prince of Wales sat amid the cross benches and there were many peeresses in the galleries.

The Marquis of Granby, in moving the address of the peers in reply to the queen's speech, said that the present situation had been brought about by the deliberate action of the Transvaal and Orange Free State governments. Difficulties had been accumulating for years. They were not the creation of a day. He went on to dwell upon the grievances of the outlanders and emphatically declared that the British government had resorted to every possible means of effecting a peaceful issue.

After criticising the action of the Transvaal legislative council in sending the ultimatum, the Marquis of Granby observed that it was "Not impossible that the union of the two states originated in some deeper scheme which may have lurked in the minds of the two governments for some time."

"This scheme for a joint movement," he continued, "is not aided, I trust, by Afrikanders in other parts of South Africa; but if it exists, it is one that would tend seriously to impair the power of Great Britain. The unanimous feeling here, however, is that the paramount power in South Africa should be Great Britain."

Baron Barnard seconded the address.

Opposition in Line.

The Earl of Kimberley, the Liberal leader, said parliament had been summoned at a solemn moment, when Britons found themselves engaged in a war which was, in spite of some of its aspects, a civil war. Of course, it was not civil war precisely, but it was a war in which a number of British subjects, not of the English race, were deeply engaged.

"Regarding the calling out of the reserves and the voting of supplies," continued his lordship, "I can speak with no doubtful voice. Whatever may be our opinions as to the past history of this melancholy business, we are as ready as the usual supporters of the government to give our support to whatever measures may be necessary to vindicate the honor of the empire and to protect its interests."

Could Not Have Sent Another Reply.

Lord Kimberley said the government could not have sent any other reply than they did send to the extraordinary ultimatum of the Transvaal. He warmly praised the readiness of the reserves and expressed entire confidence that the British soldier would do his duty in South Africa in the future as he had done in the past.

"There are some points in the negotiations, however," observed his lordship, "which I have not viewed with satisfaction. The negotiations have not been conducted in a prudent and certainly not in a successful manner. "My own interpretation of the word 'Suzerainty' is that there are in the London convention certain stipulations which limit British sovereignty in the Transvaal and that, to the extent of these limitations, there is constituted 'suzerainty.'"

Lord Kimberley, in closing, criticized the tone of Mr. Chamberlain's recent speecher.

The Boers Challenge.

The premier, the Marquis of Salisbury, replying to Lord Kimberley's criticism of the negotiations, said:—

"The Boer government were pleased to dispense with any explanation on our part respecting the cause or justification of the war. They have done what no provocation on our part could have justified. They have done what the strongest nation has never in its strength dared to any opponent it had challenged. They issued a defiance so audacious that I could scarcely depict it without using words unsuited for this assembly, and by so doing they liberated this country from the necessity of explaining to the people of England why we are at war. But for this no one could have predicted that we would ever be at war.

"There have been very grave questions between us, but up to the time of the ultimatum the modes we have suggested of settling them were successful and the spirit in which we were met was encouraging. We lately had hoped that the future had in reserve for us a better fate.

Possibility of Peace Wiped Out.

"But now all questions of possible peace, all questions of justifying the attitude we had assumed, and all questions of pointing out the errors and the grave oppression of which the Transvaal government has been guilty—all these questions have been wiped away in this one great insult which leaves us no other course than the one which has received the assent of the whole nation and which it is our desire to carry out.

"It is a satisfactory feature of our policy during these latter days that on questions involving the vital interests and honor of the country there are no distinctions of party."

Kruger's Objections to Suzerainty.

His lordship said he believed that a desire to get rid of the word "suzerainty" and the reality which it expressed had been the controlling desire—the dream—of President Kruger's life. It was for that that the president of the Transvaal had set up the negotiations of 1884, and in order to get that hateful word out of the convention he had made considerable sacrifices. Mr. Kruger had used oppression of the Outlanders as a screw to obtain a concession on the subject of suzerainty.

"I quite agree," he remarked, "that the word 'suzerainty' is not necessary for Great Britain's present purpose. Situated as Great Britain is in Africa towards the Transvaal and Outlanders, she has a duty to fulfill which has nothing to do with any convention or any question of suzerainty.

"This word, however, being put into the treaty, obtained an artificial value and meaning which have prevented Great Britain from entirely abandoning it. If Great Britain dropped it, she would be intimating that she also repudiated and abandoned the ideas attached to it.

"It was largely due to the character of Mr. Kruger and to the ideas pursued by him that we have been led step by step to the present moment, when we are compelled to decide whether the future of South Africa will be a growing Dutch supremacy or a safe, perfectly established supremacy of the English people." (Cheers).

England's Future Policy.

The premier concluded by dealing briefly with the government's future policy in South Africa, declaring that while there must be no doubt as to the paramouncy of the sovereign power of Great Britain there must also be no doubt that the white races in South Africa would be put on an equality and due precautions taken for the "philanthropic, friendly and improving treatment of those countless indigeneous races, of whose destiny, I fear, we have hitherto been too forgetful."

"Those things must be insisted upon in the future," exclaimed Lord Salisbury. "By what means they are to be obtained I do not know. I hope they may be consistent with a very large amount of autonomy on the part of a race which values its individual share in government as much as the Dutch people do. But with that question we are not concerned now. We have only to make it clear that the great objects essential to the power of England in South Africa, and to the good government of South Africa and to the rights of all the races concerned are the objects of the British government, objects which, with the full support of the nation and without distinction of party, the government are now pursuing and which they will pursue and persevere in to the end."

After several less important speeches the House of Lords agreed to the address and adjourned.

Dick—"Charlie is a shrewd chap. He was around a little while ago, telling all the fellows he was drunk."

Bob—"What did he do that for?"

Dick—"To deceive them into thinking he was sober. Charlie has a long head."

HENRY CLEWS & CO.

MONEY IS STILL VERY SCARCE IN THE EASTERN STATES.

The Prepayment of Interest on United States Bonds Will Afford a Remedy—The British-Boer War Has No Effect on the Money Market.

NEW YORK, Oct. 14—Wall street has suffered another week's embarrassment from the effects of money pressure. Not that the stringency has increased in severity, but that there is as yet no material alleviation, nor any sign of immediate effective relief. It is true that about $2,750,000 of gold has come to the banks from abroad and the Pacific coast, and that the settlements of the sub-treasury at the Clearing House have been more than usually favorable to the banks, but the shipments of currency to the interior have been disappointingly large and the foreign exchanges suggest no hope of early importations of specie. The balance of the money movements of the week cannot be closely estimated at the hour of writing; but it does not seem improbable that next week may open with a somewhat improved condition of the banking reserves. Still the situation of the money market is less favorable than it has been hoped to be at the middle of October.

The coming week, however, may be expected to bring some relief. The offer of the treasury to pay out the whole interest on the public debt up to the 1st of July next places an important resource of gold within reach. The amounts of interest payable each of the eight months under the offer are as follows:—

Nov., 1899.....	5 p c of 1904..	$1,250,000	
	4 p c of 1925..	1,623,154	
	3 p c of 1908..	1,490,090	
			$4,363,244
Dec., 1899.....	2 per cent's...		126,820
Jan., 1900.....	4 p c of 1907...		5,566,526
Feb.....	5 p c of 1904...	1,250,000	
	4 p c of 1925..	1 633,154	
	3 p c of 1908..	1,490,090	
			4 363,244
March	2 per cents.....		126,820
April.	4 per cents of 1907..		5,596,526
May...	4 per cents of 1925.	1,623,154	
	3 per cents of 1908.	1,490,090	
	5 per cents of 1904	1,250,000	
			4,363,244
June...	2 per cents.....		126,820
July...	4 per cents of 1907.		5,596 526

Total interest, Nov to July 1st.. $30,359,770

The interest due on November 1st, amounting to $4,363,244, payment of which begins with Monday the 16th inst., may be expected to be collected promptly; and, as a large proportion of the disbursements will find their way to this centre, an appreciable relief to the local banks will result, which may be expected to appear in next week's statement. During the succeeding eleven weeks, bondholders will have the option of collecting interest in advance maturing up to July 1st., 1900; but it seems doubtful whether that privilege will be availed of to any large extent. On the interest due during the first half of 1900, the Treasury imposes a rebate for advance payment of one-per cent. per month, which on the July item would amount to 1 60 per cent. of the interest. It is an open question how far the treasury's offer may be accepted in respect to the interest maturing on 1st of January next, amounting to $5,596,526. The rebate upon it would be 3 5 of one per cent., if the demand were made before November 1; and the willingness of bondholders to pay such a rebate would depend principally upon the condition of the money market. It does not seem likely that much of the January interest would be collected unless the market rate for money should continue persistently high for some time to come; and that does not appear very probable. It would be entirely exceptional to experience if a considerable proportion of the money sent to the interior did not find its way back to New York in the second half of November, and during the interval before that the loan market would be growing gradually easier from receipts of currency. It therefore seems quite possible that, in respect to the January interest, bondholders may prefer waiting for its receipt in due course to paying a considerable rebate for getting it earlier; the more so as the immediate disbursement of the November interest can hardly fail to afford a quite appreciable relief. If, however, the money market should remain unexpectedly stringent, the five and a half millions of January interest is within reach at the pleasure of the bondholders, and lenders may be found willing to pay the rebate in order to be able to use the money at high rates. This is an important stay against farther apprehension.

At the time of writing, war between England and the Boer republics has become a certainty through Kruger's foolhardy ultimatum. The notable fact that the event has been attended with little or no agravation of the financial situation in London shows that the worst outcome of the warlike contingencies had been discounted in advance. In fact, the ending of the suspense seems to have brought relief rather than aggravation. The war contingency has been a cloud overhanging the situation both in Europe and this country for quite a long period, and so far as we are concerned it may be considered as having been fairly discounted. The way in which we would be most affected would be by the stoppage of gold remittances from the Transvaal to London, which last year amounted to $62,000,000. If England does not get these remittances to strengthen her gold supply, it will make it almost impossible for this country to draw much, if any, gold from Europe meanwhile, as it will be resisted by the Bank of England and continental banks; consequently, we are liable to get in payment for any commercial trade balance due us, a return of securities instead. The population of the Dutch republic numbers 800,000 people, of which only 300,000 are whites, including 225,000 Outlanders or foreigners; which makes President Kruger's ultimatum to Great Britain a very bold step to take, and apparently a very weak one, considering the greater power in money, men and weapons that his meagre army will have to contend with. The outcome, providing it is confined to a war between the Dutch Republic and Great Britain, is easy to forsee. It can but result in a crushing defeat to President Kruger and his seven associates, who are really the government of his little nation. In the event of any European nations becoming involved, which some anticipate but is not very likely, it of course becomes a different matter. Should France, Germany and Russia become involved by any possibility, the effect will be not to put down American securities, but to make them so sought for by foreign investors as to advance them instead, for the reason that this country is so far removed from the contest and less likely to be involved than any other, thereby making investments in this country safer than any other while the war lasts. The war can hardly be a very protracted affair; and for that reason it was not probable that the interruption of the African gold supply will precipitate any really acute financial results. And, in any event, we are having a large current increase in our home output, while the current Klondike supply is variously estimated at from 20 to 30 millions per annum. Were the African output suspended for six months, the world's supply would still about equal that of two or three years ago. So far as this country is concerned, the stock of gold far exceeds all precedent, and we could well afford to take securities instead of cash in settlement of any creditor balance in our foreign trade. There is every probability of such a balance accruing through the next few months; and that factor will protect us from attempts to compensate European deficiences from our resources of the metal.

Taking the stock exchange situation as a whole, whilst the market still remains drooping and dull, yet it only awaits the removal of the money stringency for starting a revival of buying. Money may remain active for some weeks to come; but, from natural trade causes, the tendency must be gradually towards easier conditions. The underlying tone of the stock market is so strong that large operators will not be likely to wait for cheap money; a settled prospect will be a sufficient assurance for beginning buying. Meantime the market is a good and reasonably safe one for moderate buying on the breaks in prices, with quick sales.

QUESTIONS OF TRANSPORT.

Magnitude of the Task Which British Authorities Are Undertaking.

LONDON, Oct. 16—European powers may well look on with interest, as despatches have told us, at the task which Great Britain is this week undertaking in despatching practically two army corps in South Africa. To understand the magnitude of the task it is only necessary to point out that shipping to the amount of half a million tons will be required, or, in other words, that at least one hundred and fifty large steamers will have to be used as transports.

While a single ship of not much over 4,000 tons burthen can accommodate upward of 1,000 soldiers, it takes many more than 35 4,000-ton vessels to transport the 35,000 of all ranks who, approximately, constitute the personnel of one British army corps. As a matter of fact, between 60 and 90 ships, each of from 2,000 to 4,000 tons, will have to be taken up as transports before one army corps, with its horses, guns and stores, can be moved from Great Britain to South Africa.

Such figures help towards a clear appreciation of the strain which the despatch of not one, but two, army corps would throw not only upon the war office and the naval transport department of the admiralty, but also upon the mercantile marine. Lord Wolseley some time back made a point of saying that two army corps could now at all times be ready for embarkation before the vessels hired for their transport could be got ready to receive them on board. When it is realized that shipping to the amount of 500,000 tons is involved in this calculation, the cold logic of the war office position will be understood.

The corps going to South Africa will be accompanied by a force of cavalry, either a brigade attached to the army corps, or, more probably, an independent cavalry division, and line of communication troops. The cavalry division, with its 6,700 officers and men and 6,600 horses, will require considerably more tonnage than would 7,000 infantry, and the line of communication troops could not be landed in South Africa in less than six or seven transports of, say, 4,000 tons each.

Racehorse to Send Her to College.

Jim McCleevy, a thoroughbred colt that has been racing to win money to furnish his owner, Miss Jessie Flanegan of Council Bluffs, money for her education, was claimed out of a selling race at Hawthorne yesterday by V. Huges & Co. The loss of the colt may shorten the young lady's college course she is about to enter upon.

The colt's success on the turf this year began when he became the property of Miss Flanegan a few weeks ago. The young woman had several hundred dollars, but not enough for her to enter college with an assurance of completing her course. The money was given to relatives for investment, and Jim McCleevy was purchased from Settle & Co last month at Hawthorne.

All the season he has raced, but had never been first. He was started at Harlem for his new owner Aug 26 and won. He repeated Aug 28. Since that time he has been second twice and gave promise of becoming a great race horse.

He won nearly $1,000 for Miss Flanegan in less than a mohth. He was started yesterday, but was unplaced with a weak jockey in the saddle.

Hughes & Co. took the colt for the entered price of $800. It is said the claimants did not understand the conditions under which the colt is racing and that he may be recla ed to Miss Flanegan.—[Chicago Times-Herald.

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CONSERVATIVE CONSPIRACY.

QUEER TACTICS RESORTED TO AT A MEETING IN MONCTON.

Resolutions of Censure Passed on Yeas and Nays—Chairman Would Not Grant Requests For a Standing Vote—Decided For the Side Which Shouted His Way.

MONCTON, Oct. 17—Moncton has held many public meetings but the citizens meeting held in the Opera House tonight to demonstrate loyalty to queen and country, will go down in history as one of the greatest uproars ever witnessed in this city. The meeting was called to repudiate the telegram sent by Mayor Ayer to the Montreal Star and, while there was no doubt about the feeling of loyalty and the advisability of sending a Canadian contingent to the Transvaal, yet the meeting broke up in the wildest disorder, owing to strife between the mayor's friends and his opponents to carry the meeting. A riot was probably only averted by the band striking up God Save the Queen in the midst of the uproar.

The meeting was called for 7.30 and the Opera House was packed to the doors when it was opened by W. B. Chandler, who acted as chairman. F. W. Sumner moved a resolution setting forth that Mayor Ayer's telegram, which endorsed Sir Wilfrid Laurier's stand, did not represent the sentiment of the citizens of Moncton.

C. W. Robinson moved an amendment deploring the introduction of party politics by Conservatives into a matter of such national importance and incorsing the action of the Liberal government in taking steps along the lines indicated by the imperial government.

Dr. Chandler seconded Mr. Sumner's resolution and Ald. Grant Mr. Robinson's.

Speeches in support of the resolution were made by the mover, and seconder R. W. Hewson, while the mover and seconder of the amendment, and J. Hawke supported the latter.

The speeches were all clothed with sentiments of unbounded loyalty, but uproar began when the vote was taken.

The amendment, on being put, on a yea and nay vote, was declared lost by the chairman. The supporters of it demanded a standing vote. It was at this stage the meeting almost resolved itself into a free fight. The amendment supporters called for a standing vote, while those opposed clamored for adherence to the chairman's decision. The chairman ruled that if it was lost, and after about twenty minutes of the wildest uproar put the original resolution which he declared carried on a yea and nay vote.

The meeting broke out in the greatest confusion. Mayor Ayr's friends protesting for a standing vote. The National Anthem and Rule Britannia were sung more than a dozen times, and cheers were given for the queen, both sides joined in the expression of loyality.

At a meeting of the city council a resolution was passed endorsing Mayor Ayer's telegram and applauding the Transvaal contingent proposal of the federal government. The vote stood 5 to 2.

KRUGER.

There is no more picturesque figure on the world's stage today than the old man whom his friends and followers know as "Oom Paul," and who is known to official England and to the world at large as President Kruger, of the Transvaal Republic—a truly notable man in many respects, the like of whom we are not likely to see again.

Endowed at birth with great physical strength and mental vigor, he is now in his 80 h year a picture of a stalwart patriarch and reminds us of those "shepherds of the people," of whom Homer sung. Great stories are told of his youthful prowess, and we can well believe them. Even as a boy he was as much at home on horseback as on foot and there was no man in the Transvaal who was more skilful in handling a rifle or a shotgun. It is said that he could run as fast as a horse, and that on one occasion while galloping home he shot a mad buffalo from his saddle without drawing rein. In the same cool manner he frequently killed lions and other large game with a single barrelled muzzle-loader.

Physical pain never inspired in him any fear. Many years ago one of his fingers was shattered by the explosion of his gun, whereupon he straightway took out his clasp knife and amputated it. A short time ago he suffered severely from toothache, and instead of going to a dentist he wrenched out the offending tooth with his knife.

HIS OPINION OF ENGLAND.

This wonderfully virile man became president of the Transvaal republic after the treaty of 1881, by which the Boers obtained control of their internal affairs, and he has practically been suzerain of the country every since. It is on him that the Boers rely for resolute action in an emergency like the present, and it is surely he who will take it most to heart if victory falls to England. Fain would he preserve the Transvaal as it was years ago. "He must think it better to be dead," says a friend, "than to see Boerdom swamped by the rowdy cosmopolis into which the discovery of gold has turned it."

To him there are only two great powers in the world—The Transvaal and Great Britain. He admires Great Britain.

He visited England after the last Transvaal war and attracted much attention. To court etiquette he paid no attention, and he has been described as the untidiest distinguished visitor that was ever entertained in England. He frequently received callers in his shirt sleeves. To the queen's ball he refused to go on the ground that such an entertainment was a kind of Baal worship, in which his conscience would not permit him to indulge. He also went to Paris, and while there he refused all invitations to go into society on a Sunday. He also was much displeased at the manner in which French ladies dress for dinner parties and the opera, and he said that he did not see how any self-respecting woman could witness a ballet.

"Oom Paul" is indeed a stern moralist and a most religious man. In early life he joined the "Doppers," who form the strictest sect of the Dutch Reformed Church, and ever since he has held fast to their doctrines. He is a constant attendant at the austere little church in Pretoria, and when the spirit moves him he preaches there.

READS FEW BOOKS.

"The Bible is one of the few books I have time to read," said a short time ago this man, who has in him so much of the temperament of John Knox and of Cromwell. A few other books he reads, too, such as "The History of the Princes of Orange," Motley's "History of the Dutch Republic," the "Pilgrim's Progress" and "The Thirty Years' War," but he does not spend much time in this way, and as for newspapers, he never looks at them. The main reason assuredly is that he received hardly any education in his youth. As a result he is a man of slow thought and apparently also of slow action.

The Boers, however, see no defects in him. In their eyes he is always the one man on whom they can rely, for they recognize in him a true son of those Dutchmen who flooded the Netherlands to keep out the French invasion headed by Louis XIV. Even the younger men reverence him, though to many of them he must appear as much a man of the past as was Rip Van Winkle when he found that New Amsterdam had been transformed into New York.

Personally Oom Paul is a most impressive figure. Heavily built he is and all his movements indicate the great muscular strength of his earlier days. A strong, square, sagacious face is his, clean shaven save for a fringe of gray hair around the iron jaw. His home life is most simple, and it is said that his wife does all her own housework. Yet he is a very wealthy man, some, indeed, claiming that he is worth a million pounds sterling. Only when he travels through the country does he appear in anything like the style becoming his rank. Then he appears in great dignity, and, much to the delight of the loving Boers, in a great, lumbering, covered carriage, drawn by a team of eight or ten horses.

HIS LIFE'S AMBITION.

The old man is frequently called upon to decide questions of law, and his decisions are sometimes very quaint. Thus, two brothers who are disputing about some property asked him on one occasion to arbitrate between them, and he gave his decision in those words: "I decide that you, being the senior, shall have the dividing of the property, but I also decide that your brother shall have his choice of the two portions." As a clew to his character may also be mentioned the fact that, when a national subscription was collected for the purpose of erecting a statue to him in Pretoria, he insisted that he should be represented as wearing his familiar top hat.

The great aim of his life has been to make the Transvaal a free, independent State, and he only goes to war with England because England, in his opinion, is trying to ruin his country. He believes that he is doing right, and as long as he is of this belief he will go steadily on his appointed course. Many may believe that he is wrong, but even his bitterest enemies will admit that he is actuated, not by sordid or selfish motives, but by what he believes to be patriotism and the best interests of his country. A younger man, and one who lives less in the past, might see that the Transvaal of today is not the Transvaal of a quarter of a century ago, and might be willing to make the desired concessions to England, but "Oom Paul" still holds the reins of government, and his word is law throughout the Transvaal.—[New York Herald.

English Army Nurses.

With warlike preparations on all hands, women's minds are instinctively asking what is being done for the care of the sick or wounded in the dread eventuality of actual combat, says the London Daily Telegraph. All told, the army nursing service numbers between seventy and eighty. The same uniform of gray serge, with the little red shoulder capa and severely plain white linen cap, is worn on war duty, as at home, for it is the aim of the department to make the hospitals as homelike and familiar as possible. Indeed, Miss Norman tells how at Spakim, where the hospital was so close to the actual scenes of fighting that fear was felt lest the enemy should be able to attack it with a rush, there was not the slightest difference in cots or appliances to those she had been accustomed to use at home. A man of the medical corps is always told off to wait on the superintendent and sisters, but his duties become varied and extensive, and in many little ways the nurses know what "roughing it" in a campaign means. Sisters' pay begins at £30 and rises to £50, that of superintendents being on a somewhat higher scale. As everything is provided, including uniform, there are no war allowances but as officers they share in any batta at the end of hostilities, and receive, of course, any medal that may be issued. Should the present crisis involve the sending out of more superintendents and sisters, it is not anticipated that any call would be made upon the Army Nursing Reserve, which is due to the suggestion of Princess Christian, with the approval of the secretary of state for war. A heavy call upon the home forces means that the chief centres, as Aldershot, are practically deserted and their hospitals unused, and with very slight adjustment there are enough nurses to go to the front.

Only One Opinion on This.

There certainly can only be one opinion regarding the premium pictures for FAMILY HERALD AND WEEKLY STAR subscribers this season. They are beauties, and to think that every yearly subscriber gets both pictures is a wonder. They are the "Battle of Alma," in colors, size 32x17, and "Pussy Willows," size 13x20. One dollar pays a year's subscription, including both pictures. Canadians should be proud of the FAMILY HERALD AND WEEKLY STAR, of Montreal. It certainly has no equal.