

fast developing into a prosperous and modern community, with merchant and war ships alding its conmerce on the lake and railroads connecting it with the ocean and the interior. ocean and the interior. On the west coast is the Niger Terri-tory, holding the mouth of the great waterway of Western Africa, under the comfol of the British Royal Niger Com-pany; having such absolute away that it makes war and peace, condides trea-ties with the natives and exercises all the attributes of sovereignty under the protecting care of Great Britain. Then there are the minur colonies, the Gold there are the minor colonies, the fold Coast, Sterra Leone, scarcely worth speaking of, as they are relics of past greathess during the slave trade days. It is in East Africa, however, from the Cape to the Mediterranean, that one sees the present imperial sway of the Briton, as well as the potential import-ance of this new empire. It extends practically in an unbroken sweep from the northernmost to the southernmost points of the continent. Egpyt continues to be nominally indepen though under the protection of the Brit-teh fing, with British officials directing Egyptian analoes and British officers leading Egyptian armies. Essentially therefore, Egypt is to be regarded as a British sphere of influence and Kitchener at Khartoum it will be only short time before Egypt's lost colonies in the Soudan will be brought back to her and to the British sphere of influ-ence. The area of Egpyt and the Soudan was not included in the 2,300,000 square mfles given as the British Em-pire in Africa, and if these dependencies are added the total is brought up to al-

the process of empire-making is still in a formative stage, and while the flags have been planted at Kiao Chou by the Germans, at Port Arthur by the Rus-sians, at Wei-Hai-Wei by the British and at Kwang-Chan-Wan by the French, the actual assertion of sovereignty over wide extent of territory has not yet occurred. Already, however, the planting of the flags on the coast Bennett from the upper end of the not yet occurred. 'Already, however, the planting of the flags on the coast has been followed by the laying out of "sphere's of influence," in which these powers will idirect their emergies 'and their commence, these "spheres" being the roteshaddwing of coming empires. The British sphere in Chlina, like that in Africar, centres about the great water-ways and harbors. By a recent con-vention with Ohina, the valley of the Yang the rotes Kildwing 'river, 'tapping the inin Afticut, centres about the great water-ways and harbors. By a recent con-vention with Ohina, the valley of the Yang tse Kinng river, tspping the in-terior for a distance of 2000 miles, be-comes Oreat Batan's special sphere of influence. Along this mighty river are treaty ports and the great commercial cities of Ohina. To the south also Great Britanii is again planted at 'Hongkong,' the entrepot of Southern China, and near the 'entrence' of the West river, next in importance of the Yang tse Kiang, Great Britani is not 'any well-planted strategically, on the

The Russian "sphere" centres in

north, in Manchuria, and reaches down to Port Arthur, where, thus far, the Russian rights are those of entry and exit. The needs of Russia are well known, and her moves in China are strictly following hers needs. Until China offered an outlet Russia was prac-

and will parted strategically, on the north with Wei-Hai-Wei and on the south with Hongkong, but she has the arteries which command the greater part of the hiterior of China. system of derricks will also be construct-ed and several new warehouses will also the be built. The sensational trial of J. Homer Bird. of New Orleans, charged with the foul or New Orieans, charged with the foul murder, of his two mining pattners, J. H. Herling and R. H. Patterson, on the Yukon, eighty-five miles above Anvil, over a year ago, has terminated in a conviction of the accused. The trial was had at Juneau before Judge Johnson, of tically without a port on the Pacific men the year round although her vast the United States district could, possessions sought an outlet there. The The possessions sought an out-et there. The most southerly Russian port on the Pa-cific. Viadivostick, is the bound for six months of the year, so that neither the war ships nor the commance of Russia could depend upon this port. In this energency Russia has been during a favorable opportunity to sectre a more southerly port from China. ' The German sphere in China grows out of the senter of Kiao' Chon in No-terase: which followed. 'Germány' was lease: which followed. 'Germány' was most southerly Russian port on the Pa- jury returned a verdict of guilty, Tuesmeeting is said to have been most pa-thetic. Though Bird had to all intents and purposes deserted his wife for a woman mamed Noma Strong, upon whose testi-mong, mainly, he was convicted, the mony mainly he was convicted, the wronged but faithful wire followed from New Orleans to Junean, where she was in attendance on the trial from the day of its beginning. Jealousy of the Strong woman and quarrel with his partners regarding a division of their outfit and other property is supposed, to have led to the murder. The evidence tended to show that a third partner, Charles Sheffler, had supplanted Bird in the diffections of the woman. Sheffler was also a witness against the accused. He, too, it is said. narrow'y escaped being murdered by Bird, Sentences were imposed Saturday, De cember 9, by Judge Johnson on convictmiles about twice the area of Cuba- ed Alaska prisoners as followks: A. Frank Temple, assault and attempt to wound, six years at McNeil's Island, this state; Indian Jack, five years; Indian Harry, three years; James Carrol!, of Dyea; murder, second degree, twenty years; Chas. Johnson, known as Account Kid," one year for petty lar-ceny. Carroll the twenty-year man, is now 49 years of age. Capt. W. J. Rant, who has been min-Capt. W. J. Dani, who has been magistrate ing recorder and stipendary magistrate at Bennett, resigned and quit the ser-vice on December I, and is in Skagway by strong powers, Corea has obtained Capt, DeBrissay, of, Victoria, and for the last several months chief of police in the Atlin district, succeeds Mr. Rant. According to reliable reports the promoters of the Chilkat, railroad have selected Skagway as the coast terminus. This will practically kill the town of Dyes. The line will be built around the base of the mountains separating Skagway and Dyea. The terminals will centre at the foot of State street in Skag-Sylvester's wharf will afford the way, ded water extension. The report that indictments had been brought against eight memebrs of the Seattle. businessmen's excursion for theft of the totem pole as confirmed Their names were as follows: N. H. Listimer, George H. Highbee, Edgar B. Piper, Rev. John P. D. Llwyd, J. W. apparently decided to try a similar pol- and encampment to a degree out of the Clise, E. F. Blaine, George W. Fischer for in regard to what she considers as question with British fed troops, and

Steamers are still running on Lake

had been found on the top of a sago paim, and a third had stories to tel: of bodies swallowed by sharks. "Great lumps of stone came out of the sea with the tidal wave. "At Hatossoea over 100 are killed and 40 wounded. The bulk of the people have field to safer regions. "There is a panic amongst the people on account of the hill tribes. "The Positioner Moerrees was inland operations in the Transvaal with the circumstances have, during the past few years, afforded; me can, accurate insight at the time of the earthqueke, and owes into the affairs of South Atrica. Several his fife to that fact. He reports scent-ing suphur finnes both at sea and on which I am persuaded are not sufficient-tween columns and bases, and for overing suphur finnes both at sea and on land on and about 30th September. ly taken into account in England. I take Other details go to show that the com-bined sea and earthquake was very widespread, but that the greatest dam-age was in and about Epapoetih Bay." it as granted that you sufficiently understand at home the immense gravity of the war as regards the continuance of the British Empire as Weltreich, and 送发送 Yusterday the Times reported the prethat you are consequently resolved on victory, cost what it may in time, life or arations being made by Japan as told money sacrifice. Assuming the foregoing by the Jupan press. Herewith is an acthere can be no doubt that England. ount of Russian military movements as with its exhaustless sources of power, old by the correspondent of the N. C. will be able to Daily News at Pekin. He says: "The Tsungli Yamen received the other day a dispatch by courier from the Tartar even should the whole of Southern Afgeneral of Kirin (Central Manchuria) to rica rise rebelliously against her might. the following effect: Officers command-The other and the real question is, howing mounted patrols in the vicinity of ever, whether England is not again, as the east coast report that a ground re-

their lives. Those who escaped have

dreadful stories to tell. One man said

bodies had been found wathout heads

and the suspicion exists that they were beheaded after death by the Head-hunt-

ing Hill Alfurese, another said a body

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foregoing into due account, the conclusion has to be arrived at that if England Too Small. German military officer writing to London Times from Berlin, under date of November 14th, says: Aided by a thorough personal know-ledge of the military conditions existent in England, and that to an extent percan easily haps possessed by very few non-British officers, notwithstanding the latter's in South Africa without in any way re-

trained men in all parts of her Empire greatest interest. So much the more as who are able and willing to proceed south. Judiciously mixed with your able coming any treachery of the natives, white or black. Such judicious strengthening would have the result that the regularly trained and seasoned men could be dispensed from such duttes and would be available for the offensive operations of your regular army. Such men are to my knowledge to be had in England and in your various colonies in thousands. and an appeal from your Queen to her people in all climates would convert thousands into hundreds of thousands, from which only the best material might he chosen

And when one takes into account the remendons balance which is at stake on this war for England, surely the increased expense of transport and such like is justifiable. The fitting out, and this I am convinced is the case in the present issue, notwithstanding the extent for a moment: ce will be vastly less than will result if England continues to push on the war with her present insufficient troops, all top good to be exhausted slowly by an immediate imprudent parsin nony. As is tary mishaps during the present century have to be ascribed solely to her Persistent Under-Estimation of her opponents' resources. Will your lenders repeat the fault in view of an enemy furnished with every modern advantage of war, or has she at last realfzed the advantages and responsibilities which attach to the governme nt of 400. 000,000 of British subjects-the latent power at her disposal with which to safeguard the latent possibilities of a nawhole future and destiny of the British ent military operations, in South Africa clear to every Briton, as it is at least to every thinking European. An Engand which is impotent to reduce and hold South Africa is destined, not only to become the scorn and victim of all other nations, but is safe to lose all her colonies and fall to the rank of a thirdclass state!

means to come out victorious she will have to be represented in South Africa by an immensely increased numerical force, at any rate one quite beyond the proportions of anything as yet conceived by the public. Happily for her she Double or Treble Her Power proneness to most exhaustive criticism, I am naturally following your military onies. I mean thereby the phousands of onies. I mean thereby the thousands of regulars they would be quite efficient for garrisoning, the chief places in Cape tween columns and bases, and for over-

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Tugela Riv realized th office would publication There w statement communica there was such an e The late dated Sun tion appea The Boer ments and

most 3,000,000 square miles, equal to the area of the United States not including

A glance at the British possessions in Africa shows how strong the impulse of British statesmen has been to knit together his African empire into the

Homogeneous, Whole

instead of detached parts Each part is reaching out to its neighbors. This has been going on until the chause of a "Cairo to the Cape" route, entirely under British control, is no longer a dream. Already the railroad is Buluwavo, twelve hundred miles fro the Cape, while from the north Kitchhas pushed the railroad even fur ther. The Nile and the lakes give added means of transportation. At presopt there is a gap of less than three hundred miles in the connection of Brit ish Central Africa, and the British East Africa, and with this gap filled the rule of the British Empire will in fact reach from Cairo to the Cape. It will be from Germany or from the Congo Free State that this gap will be made up, either by cession or lease.

Considering the steady development of this new empire in Africa and the manifold benefits springing from it, it would seem to be a part of this general plan that the Transvasl and the Orange Free State should be absorbed by the larger power. But it may be that these small communities will show a Spartan forti-tude and courage which will resist this hitherto irresistible tide of empire. Such result would be of doubtful value to the world at large, for thus far with empire have come development and progress.

French Empire in Africa.

The French explorers and statesmen seem to have chosen Western Africa as their field of influence, as Britain has chosen Eastern Africa: The total nows reach the enormous total of 3,000,-000 square miles. This includes the French possessions, free from contro versy and dispute with other powers, flourishing colony of Algeria, on the north, which, like Cape Colony at the other extremity of the continent, is naturally adapted as a home for the white man. South of this is that vast sweep of country once known as the Desert of Sahara, and still referred to with derision by Lord Salisbury as "very light

But France has found unknown wealth in these sands. Already, a railroad has crossed Algeria and is pushing into this former desert for the purpose of opening up the whole western section and bringing forth its latent riches. South of the desert France controls the headwaters of the Niger, with its fertile valleys,

Further south is the French Congo. with the Congo River and its valley along the southern border. It was from these western possessions American process of expansion is a

that Marchand pushed forward to Fa-

to her naval station, and the whole province of Shantung was made a special field of activity-railways, mining and agriculture-for German citizens-in short, a German "sphere.' In the same way France secured the harbor of Kwang-Chan-Wan, and concessions in the province of Yunnan, constituting the French "sphere," alongside French Tonkin. This much in the em-pire building in China is already ac-complished, and it remains to be seen how soon these "spheres" broaden into more substantial seats of empire.

Extension in South America. In the hurry of other world events the recent decision of the British-Venezuelan court of arbitration at Paris has attracted little attention. The territory in dispute covered about 75,000 square so that its permanent attachment to one or the other contending parties is a matter of considerable concern, not only to them, but also to the American derotees of the Monroe doctrine. The recent decision brought about two

essential results: First-The delta of the Orinoco, with its strategic and commercial importance as commanding the interior, passes inthe possession of Venezue'a. Second The great sweep of country south of the Orinoco delta, between the Essequibo River and the advance claim of the British passes, in the main, into the possession of Great Britain. In short, Great Britain gains the bulk of territory, and Venezuela gains a strategic position which is valueless to a weak nation. But the overshadowing fact of the award is that Imperial Britnin continues on her way, extending, ex-panding, and that her latest acquisition

is within the Western Hemisphere. The good influence this will exert, opening waste tracts of the Uruan and carrying the white civilization of Demerara and Georgetown into the desolate reions of Barima, is another story, but is not to be doubted that the world will be the gainer for this conclusion of the Paris conference, American Expansion.

This glance at the empire building throughout the world indicates how the

part of the world mevement. A hun- and Thomas W. Prosch.

strong, fortified position held by maining portion of the army corps. in command at Possiet Bay asking the neaning, of the mobilization. The answer was as follows: "Preparing for invasion of Japan."

That the situation is very serious in apan is shown by the warlike tone of the Japanese press. The Japan Mail in the course of a long article, save: "In the Far East we know that Russia

striving to gain a foothold in Corea blows sooner or later, and Japanese papers have expressed regret at the fact

that Great Britain, whom they regard of those places the numbers quoted will as the policeman of the Far East, should be very materially diminished. From the British fleet will be forthcoming." A Corean correspondent of the Kobe Herald says: It may sound absurd to a good training in diplomacy. As is the itiation has amboldened her: and she has gained greatly in her diplomatic only make compromises according to cir-

dealings. Apparently this new departure has been crowned with success, as wit-

ness the negotiation, about, the Chino- for the brayest, most competent Euro-Corean treaty, and probably her attitude pean troops. They shoot admirably, towards Bussia's demand concerning the they, are manoeuvred with astonishing land at Massanpho; the Ul-lung affair strategical, ability, already revealed in in connection with Japan, and so forth, the triffing operations hitherto carried Emboldened by the success Corea has out; they can ignore question of fool

of the forces which at first sight seem to be in employment. One is apt to overlook that just as little as the conditions of the South Africa of to-day can be contrasted with those of a decade ago, much less is the military power of the Boers in 1899, with their Mauser well known, nearly all England's mili-Hiles, their quick-firing guns, and strategical science comparable with that displayed by them in 1881 and 1884 when those aids were wholly wanting. Again, it appears that England is wholly de-ceaved as regards the number of efficient combatants at the disposal of the Transvaal and Orange Free States of to-day. You continue to appraise their number at 35,000 to 40,000 men, when it actual-

Achieve Its End,

ly amounts to at least 60,000. This body of armed efficient opponents you expect to defeat with a force of, all told, in-cluding the Cape and Natal Volunteers, hangs neither less nor more than the say, at the most favorable estimate, 80.-000 men. I use the words most favor- Empire. An untoward end of the presable with the fullest possible consideraand that in this she is being strenuously tion, as in the case of Ladysnrith, Kim- is the beginning of the dismemberment plainly that she will have to come to the British reliefs of the whole nation, a fact, it is hoped, clear to every Briton, as it is at least

Can Raise the Sieges

at the present time be engaged with the these 80,000 troops have to be deducted South African campaign, as they fear from those required for keeping open that Russia may take advantage of this the requisite base lines as well as the to carry out her wishes, and that Japan forces necessary for checking the risings will be deprived of British aid in oppos- in the Cape Colony and in Natal and ing her advance. It is asserted by some, those need for garrison duty in the chief and probably with more than the pro- centres. I am of opinion, one which is verbial grain of truth, that a secret un- freely shared by my brother staff offiderstanding or agreement exists between cers, that not less than 40,000 to 45,000 Great Britain and Japan to the effect will be absorbed by such considerations that in the event of the latter being en-gaged in a war with Russia the aid of 35,000 to 40,000 for active military operations. It has further to be taken into account that the majority of the men are unused to the climate, and that an unhear of Corea adopting a strong foreign usual percentage of sickness may therefore be expected; that the local geography is a scaled book to most, and that an unusual number of reserve men have been pressed into use before they case with a tyro on any subject, this in- have been reworked into the military condition necessary for such a campaign. I do not consider that our German view dealings. The adoption of a conciliatory is unjustified-viz.: How can England policy won't do for her, she thinks; she expect to crush a force of at least 50,ought rather to present a firm front, and 000 Boers, with an army comprising at the outside 40,000 men available for ofcumstance. It is exceedingly likely that fence? Consider that these 50,000 Boers Corea has acted in pursuance of this pol-icy in several of her recent diplomatic of the country and all Its Capacities for Traps

an obnoxious nuisance from which she they are contending for their rotten oli- Garnot election case.

GAINING A WIDE REPUTATION.

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide re-putation. D. B. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with that sil-ment since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found anything that would relieve me intil I used Chamber-lain's Pain Balm. It acts sike magic with me. My foot was swollen and chiped me very much, but one good applica-tion of Pain Baim relieved me." For sale by Henderson Bros., Wholesale Agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

The mail Manitoba government crop bulthe hard difficult of the agricultural department reduces the August estimate of the wheat clop from 33,000,000 bushels to about 28. boo,boo. The principal causes of shrinkage were a period of draught in August when he wheat was filling and the ravages of the Hessian fly.

The Emperor of Russia has probably finer hunting forest than any other living sovereign, but he has not time to visit it often. The name of the forest is Bjelowest kaja Puschtcha, and it takes 1,500 foresters take care of it. It is in this forest that Angust the Strong was hearly killed by a

A dispatch from Winhipeg says F. H. Turnock and James Hooper, of the Tele gram, were arrested last hight charged with conspiracy in connection with

London, D that four re ing horse an Bombay for It is hoped t Gen. Builer Since the erts as com rica, the qu bars the Dul to the front, sire ito go, Queen's relu It is not unl come. Lord Ches the Royal I has been au of 3,000 Yec

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