

abolishes the moisture feed that the trap formerly had, and applies another drying influence into the traps, so that evaporation is going on both on the house and sewer side of the water seat, that is lodging in the dip of the small trap, therefore, it is only a matter of a few hours for the seal of the bath trap to become broken, and a passage is then open to introduce the gas from the sewers into the sleeping rooms, and it is by this method that some of our best houses have diphtheria and typhoid.

It may be safely said that where one trap can be found with its seal broken, because it has been syphoned, fifty traps can be found that have had the seal broken and dried out by evaporation, caused by the air coming in contact with the water on both sides of the trap, and on account of having a ventilation pipe placed on the sewer side of the trap, as has been shown.

### SOUTH AFRICA, ITS PEOPLE AND TRADE.

#### CAUSES OF THE BOER WAR.

##### ARTICLE V.

(Continued from last issue).

A word as to the commercial situation. In the year 1884 the revenue of the Transvaal was £161,596, and the expenditure, £184,820. The population at that time was about 45,000, of whom 35,000 to 37,000 were Dutch. That was the year when Kruger went to England to obtain the new convention. The finances of his country were in bad shape, and remembering what England and Englishmen had done to rehabilitate the country financially during the three years of British administration, he had a letter published in the London papers inviting British capitalists, miners and merchants to come and settle in the Transvaal. They accepted the invitation, and in 1885-86 the De Kaap and Witwatersrand fields were discovered, with the result that the revenue for 1898 was £3,329,958, practically all of which is derived from the energies of the Uitlander. In the face of this, Kruger now asks, and the pro-Boer organs throughout the world echo the question: "If the Uitlander does not like the treatment he gets, why does he not stay away?" The Uitlander, upon Kruger's invitation, came to the country, discovered the gold, and built up the industry. Should he be robbed of the business he has created? And if prior occupation is urged by the Boer, how about the Kafirs, whom he has dispossessed of their lands? But while an unnecessary revenue, such as this, is squeezed from one element of the population, the expenditure has gone on to keep pace with it. This year the civil service list amounted to £1,216,294, or enough to give £40 to each male inhabitant of the country. The ordinary expenditure last year was £3,476,844. A large part of this, as stated, goes to build up a military power to overawe and oppress the very people whose exertions provide the money; much of it, according to Cecil Rhodes, has gone as a bribery fund to influence elections in the Cape Colony, and carry on the propaganda for seducing the Cape Dutch from their allegiance to Britain. A huge secret service fund\* is used largely for political purposes in Europe to the same end; while a large but unknown sum is given by the President himself, as "doles," to Boers in the back districts, ostensibly to help farmers

in distressed circumstances, but in reality to keep burghers loyal to him. The various monopolies also yield large bribery funds. The dynamite monopoly, by which the sole right to make or sell dynamite was given to one man (afterwards a syndicate), who was permitted to charge 200 per cent. over what the article would cost in the open market, filches from the Witwatersrand mines alone £600,000 a year. Space forbids reference here to the other monopolies, but it may be noted that these monopolies are given to Kruger's favorites on articles that are chiefly imported from Great Britain, or are used chiefly by British subjects. This is one of the numerous violations of the conventions, which provided that the taxation should be equal to all classes. It may also be noted that President Kruger has not only defended these monopolists under all circumstances, but in the numerous cases in which boodling schemes have been unearthed, and scandals exposed—sometimes by honest men in his own party—he has invariably shielded the boodlers and not infrequently promoted them or given them fresh opportunities.

A great deal might be said on the external relations of the Transvaal. The convention of 1884 fixed the boundaries of the Transvaal exactly, and the republic undertook solemnly to respect the independence of native chiefs outside its territory. Scarcely a year has passed without the violation of the convention in this respect. One of Kruger's first acts was to invade part of the British Protectorate and proclaim it a portion of the Republic, following up the operations of some of his free booters. And he only withdrew because of Mr. Rhodes' protest and the Warren expedition, which cost the British Government over £1,250,000. Then the Boer Government turned its attention to Zululand, which, after an intrigue with Dinizulu against the other chiefs, it invaded and attempted to upset the settlement made by Lord Wolseley. Next they invaded the country of the Matabele whom they had driven out of the Transvaal originally, and who were now under British protection, and they were only turned back by the tact and firmness of Dr. Jameson. Again they tried to lay hands on Tongaland, but the Queen Regent would have nothing to do with any country out England, whose protection she had sought. The invasion and spoliation of Swaziland was another Boer outrage, which Great Britain, from a mistaken notion of keeping peace with the Boers, condoned.

Such are a few of the features of Krugerism in South Africa, and the reader can judge whether they are such as to justify the interference of Great Britain.

It is a subject of wonder to many that the Boers persist in a course which a large number of them must know to be wrong, and stand out against the whole might of the British Empire in so doing. It must be remembered, however, that the vast majority, who never read a newspaper, or a book, except the Bible, are as ignorant of the outside world as the Hudson Bay Indians. Perhaps not ten of the whole body of burghers ever saw a man-of-war or visited England or Europe. Even Kruger and the other members of the Volksraad, who visited England, saw little of its resources; and it must be admitted of Kruger, who is a man absolutely without fear, that if he had the clearest realization of Britain's power, it would make no difference with his policy, so convinced is he that the Boers are the only favored nation of Heaven. What can be