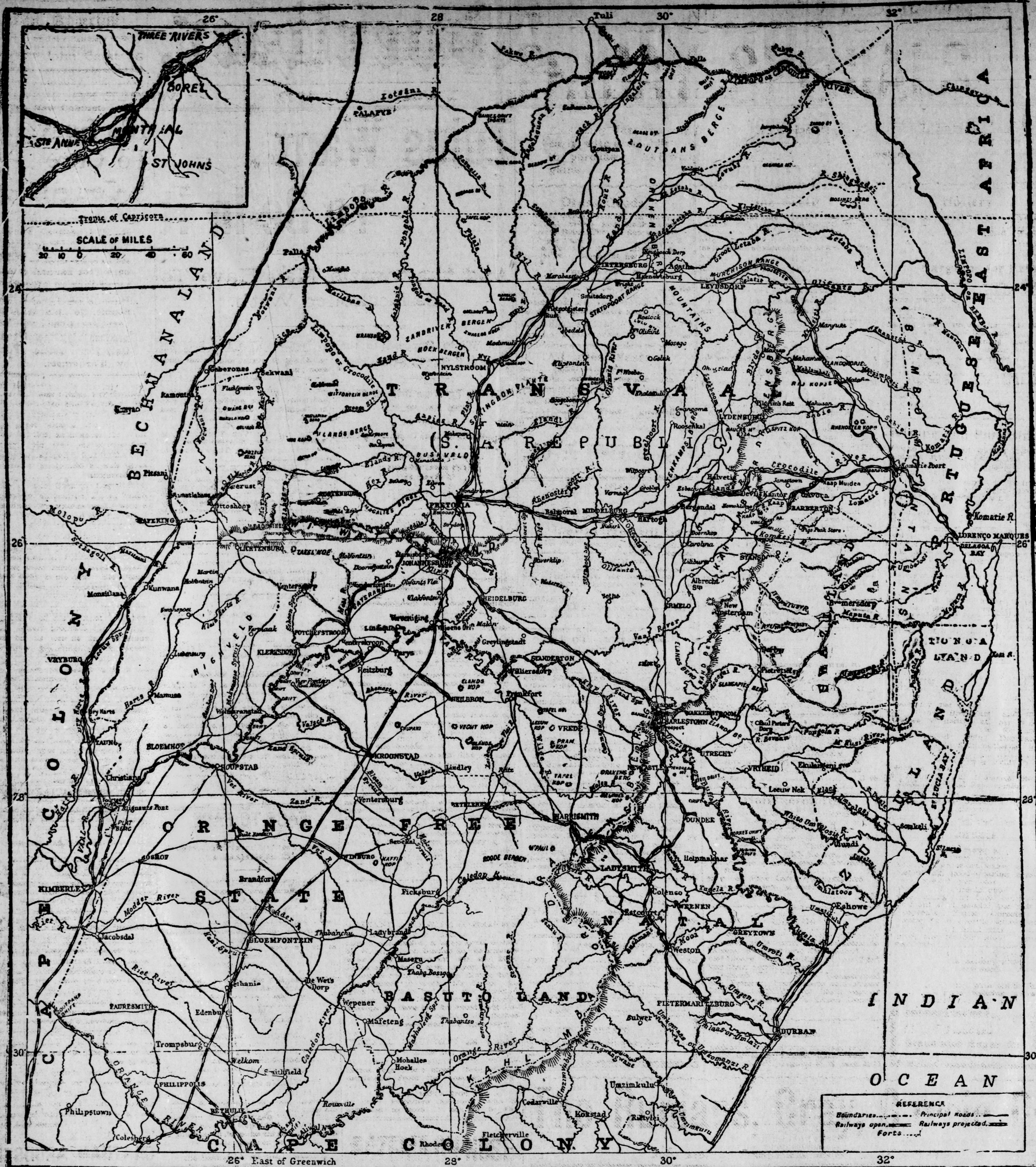




THE TWO SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLICS.

The above map, which is a complete representation of the face of the two South African Republics, will enable readers to form an adequate idea of the

extent of ground necessary to be covered by the British troops opposing the Boers, and of the physical features of the terrain which has again assumed so much interest in the eyes

of politicians and soldiers. The map shows a country thirty-six times as large as the section of the Province of Quebec shown as a comparison. The map shows the positions which

might be defended by the Boers along the line taken in Jameson's raid—the position between Newcastle and Volksrust, including the Majuba Hill, Laing's Nek, and the tunnel on the railway

where the line enters Transvaal territory. It shows the entire railway system of the two republics, and from Delagoa Bay on Portuguese territory, with the lines projected and in course of

construction. It also indicates the forts at Pretoria and Johannesburg, of which detailed information exists in this country outside of the intelligence department of the war office.

SOUDAN'S DEBT TO ENGLAND

The Horrors Which Kitchener's Guns Swept Away.

The Salvation of the Whole People—Evidence of Slatin and Neufeld.

After the first rejoicings in England over Lord Kitchener's victory at Omdurman there was the usual period of criticism, during which the peace-at-any-price party bewailed the wholesale slaughter of the dervishes and called the sirdar to account for the murder of the wounded. It was said that the English themselves acted like savages, and many a homily was preached on the brutalizing influence of war.

But people who had read Slatin Pasha's story of fire and sword in the Sudan must have felt little sympathy for the khalifa's followers or their English advocates, and Charles Neufeld's relation of his twelve years of servitude to the mahdists will confirm them in the belief that the march of civilization upon barbarism cannot proceed too rapidly. "Chains and Slavery at Omdurman" is the title of the work whose revelation of horrors seems well-nigh incredible.

Cruelty was the pastime of the dervishes, the sport of their daily life under a tyranny which kept all men trem-

bling, whether they were mahdists or not. The favorite of today might become the victim of tomorrow if the jealous fears of the khalifa were aroused. For all those who had incurred his displeasure there was the prospect of torture and death.

Slatin tells of a common punishment which consisted in lopping off the arm on one side, the leg on the other, and leaving the mutilated sufferer to die. Neufeld supplements this with a story which rivals those of the black hole of Calcutta. In a cell less than thirty feet square from 250 to 280 prisoners were kept at night, not once only, but repeatedly throughout periods that extended over two weeks. He says: "Any prisoner who went down on such a night never got up again alive; his cries would not be heard above the pandemonium of clanking chains and bars, imprecations and cursings, and for any one to attempt to bend down to assist if he did not mean only meant his going under also. In the morning, when we were allowed to stream out, five and six bodies would be found on the ground with the life crushed and trampled out of them."

A vivid description of one night in particular helps to a more perfect realization of the scene. On that occasion one of the prisoners was Ibrahim Pasha Fazel, an old officer of Gordon's. He had been shackled like the rest, and between the pain and the stench of the place had swooned. As he lay on the ground four Sudanese sat upon his legs, and Neufeld determined to go to his rescue. A desperate fight then ensued, which resulted in his release, but more horrors followed.

"At midnight the doors of the cell

were thrown open again and about 20 men each, wearing a shayba, were thrust into the place. (A shayba is a kind of yoke fastened to the neck and the extended arm in such a way that to move the arm throttles the wearer.) Practically there was no room for them, but they had to be driven by some means. To make room for the jailers resorted to their favorite device of throwing into the cell handfuls of blazing straw and grass, and at the same time laying about the heads and shoulders of the prisoners with their whips.

Prior to this experience Neufeld had been led out, as he supposed, to execution, but he was tortured instead with all the devilish ingenuity of the American Indians. Spears and swords were thrust into his side and he was given to understand that the final blow was to be delivered by one big fellow who kept making passes at him. But each time the fettered man was jerked back by the chain which bound him, to the great delight of the thousands who were watching the play.

Neufeld is a German. Slatin is an Austrian, but both glory in the advance of the British, which saved the former from captivity. They have seen and felt too much of Dervish cruelty to mourn with the English peace party over the fall of a detestable despotism. Neufeld goes so far as to defend openly the killing of wounded dervishes on the ground that this was the only way to prevent the treacherous murder even of those who went to succor them.

But whatever may be said of the debate on this point, there can be no doubt that there is an infinitely better

rule now in the upper Sudan than there ever was before. Kitchener's coming was the whole people's salvation.

GREAT BRITAIN'S MILITARY RESERVES

Strength of Various Arms—Procedure in Calling Them Out.

A correspondent is anxious to know the number of men at present serving in the army and navy reserves, circumstances in which they can be called out and the mode of procedure. On Jan. 1 last the army reserve, composed of regular soldiers, consisted of nearly 79,000 men, of whom 45,000 were under 35 years of age, 29,000 were between the ages of 35 and 40, and 4,000 between 40 and 45. The cavalry reserve consists of 2,800 men, the Royal Artillery of 10,500, the Royal Engineers of 3,000, the Foot Guards of 3,300, the Infantry Corps of 2,600, and the remainder are departmental. On Jan. 1 last the militia reserve consisted of 30,000 men, composed of the pick of the militia. They are a fine body of men, and would be a welcome addition to any regular regiment.

The military forces of the country may be divided into three categories—the first line, the second line and the third line. The first line is available for service in all quarters of the globe, and is composed of the regular army, the army reserve and the militia reserve; the two latter are utilized to

bring the regular forces to a war footing, and can be called out by "proclamation" in case of imminent national danger and of great emergency, and are liable to serve anywhere at home and abroad. The second line is composed of the militia, and is available for home defense and for garrisoning foreign stations. The militia may be embodied by proclamation under the same circumstances as the army and militia reserves can be called out, i. e., in case of imminent national danger and great emergency. It is a thoroughly reliable force, has been embodied on seven different occasions, and has never failed the country. The third line is composed of the yeomanry and volunteers, and would only be called upon as a last resource. It is available only for home defense, and for the most part can only be called out when the United Kingdom itself is in danger of attack.

The yeomanry can be called out whenever the militia is embodied, but cannot be employed outside of Great Britain. It has in the past been called out for short periods in cases of riot and insurrection at home, and served with credit; but in recent years it has sadly diminished in numbers, while its efficiency is doubted. Neither the yeomanry nor volunteers can be employed in defense of Ireland, even should that part of the United Kingdom be invaded, although they could be employed on garrison duty in Great Britain in such a case. The present volunteer force has never yet been called upon nor put to the test; but there is no reason to think that it would serve otherwise than with credit.

The procedure in regard to calling out the reserves is as follows: When, in the opinion of the war office, mobilization appears imminent, general and others officers commanding at home and abroad would be duly warned to give them time to carry out any preliminary arrangements necessary. Before a mobilization can take place, the cabinet will, of course, have arrived at a decision that the military forces of the country should be placed on a war footing—that, in fact, a situation has arisen which may be termed one of "imminent national danger and of great emergency." The cabinet will also have decided whether the circumstances are such as to demand the calling out of the whole or only a part of the reserves. Her majesty in council can then, by proclamation, the occasion being first communicated to parliament, if sitting, or declared in council and notified by proclamation if parliament is not sitting, order the army reserve and militia reserve, or either, to be called out for permanent service. The general and other officers concerned will then arrange for the proclamation to be posted in all public places. A railway and passage warrant is then dispatched to each reservist, with notice to join; he will either, if pronounced physically fit, be drafted to his battalion to complete it to war strength, or remain at the depot for further disposal. It will be seen by these explanations, how foreign to their conditions of service are those cheap offers of embodiment on the part of certain volunteer corps, and how remote is the possibility of their being accepted.—London Globe.