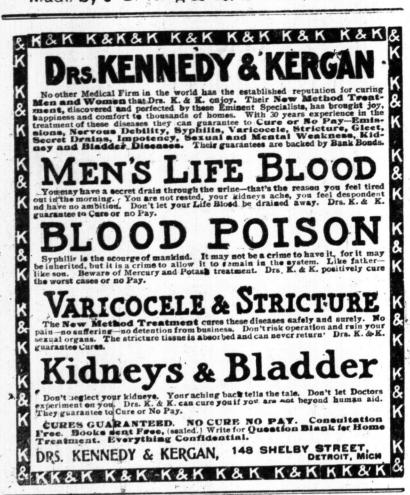
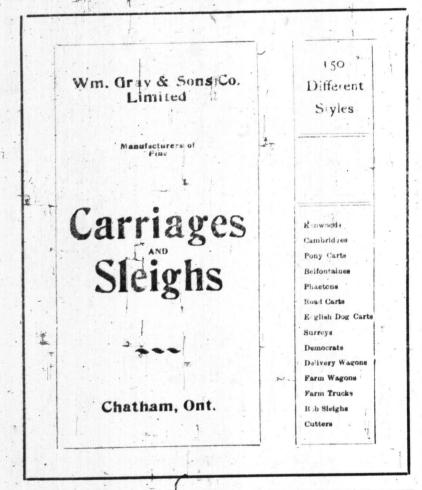
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Of the Real Merits of War.

BOER TYRANNY AND INTOLER. ANCE, SHE SAYS, RESPON-SIBLE FOR ALL THE BLOOUSHED.

rica, written by Sister Mary Reginald Murphy, O. S. D., to the New York Times is very interesting:

At this time, when the eyes of all na ions are turned on South Africa and the minds of all thinking men even outside the political arena are occupied with this war, a letter from the fair "garden colony" of Natal may not be unwelcome to your readers.

Of the course of war I need not speak, nor of the heroism and indomable courage of our soldiers who ight at a tremendous disadvantage ecause of the all but impregnable positions of the enemy. Of these things need not speak, as the cable has given and will daily give you the information. Yet there are many facts not generally known, innumerable pathetic incidents; aye, and those heroc sacrifices, loyalty and endurance which never come under the notice of the "war correspondent," much that cannot be realized except by a dweller in the land crimsoned with the blood of war's victims. And many, too, are the instances of God's wondrous mercy to souls dying on the battlefield-souls long forgetful of God, though faithful to man, and to whose wounded hearts faith spoke in a voice louder and stronger than the can non's roar, and so saved from all eternity.

Of the war itself it is inexplicable hat so many strange and unjust opinens should be entertained even by he enlightened and liberal minded. It s a patent fact to all close observers and easily ascertained by any one who impartially investigates the matter, that this war is the natural, inevitable outcome of

BOER DESPOTISM. intolerance, and injustice, and that

England's cause is just and her action a purely defensive one. Perhaps never before has England had so much justice and ciemency on her side, and in the cause of justice the truth should be made known. A glance at South African history of the last decade of the century will reveal the the Imper one dominant, yet patient under un-redressed grievances; the other an oli-garchy, fostered by capitalists, for-eign adventurerers, harshly intolerant or British subjects, plainly ambitious of supreme power in South Africa, and steadily preparing for this war, which it contemplated, and at last forced by invasion. Outside this land the Boers invasion. Outside this land the Boers are regarded as a peace-loying, Godfearing people, hard working, industrious, and careless of power, while they are in reality indolent, fanatical, and persistently intolerant of all creeds outside their own, especially the Catholic religion, which they abnor, and their desire ito rule is but too clearly evidenced by the deadly preferrations. their desire ito rule is but, the cearly evidenced by the deadly preparations they have ledge been secretly making to acquire by force of arms supreme dominion over the whole of South Africa. Had England been suspicious and on the alert she could have nipped those projects in the bud; had she even those projects in the bud; had she even been prompt in taking up the gaunt-let so nudaciously flung down by the Transvail oligarchy she could have saved not alone herself, but the guilty, plotting, treacherous enemy from much misery and bloodshed. But England was too late, temporized too long in vain hope of a peaceful settlement, and so gave the wily enemy the chance of securing the best positions, which, united to their guerrillatike waters. like warfare, gave them incredible advantages over our soldiers. Hence the vantages over our soldiers. Hence the long struggle, the thousands of lives lost, the streamlets of blood that crimsoned our sands, our hills, and plains, the bereaved and broken hearts that here and across the oceans weep over loved ones slain. But on the heads of the Boers lie the terrible onus of all this slaughter, this missey and heads of the Boers lie the terrible onus of all this slaughter, this misery and untold woe. The empire but too evidently shrank from war. Her simple demand was, "Equal rights to all whites' south of the Zambesi," but rather than grant this justice the Boer oligarchy, in its insatiable thirst for conquest and desputic power, and regardless of bloodshed and the interest of humanity,

FORCED THIS WAR, which has shrouded in gloom the close of the last century and the dawn of of the last century and the dawn of the new, That there are hundreds of Boers who desired not war and had no part in the making of it is certain-ly the case, and for this minority I have sympathy true and tender as for our own people, nor can my heart re-fuse sympathy to any suffering one in the enemy's ranks, even though they have caused our sorrows as well as their own; and widespread, mani-fold, and all-embracing are these soras their own; and widespread, manifold, and all-embracing are these sorrows. Yet we hope that much good will come out of this great evil and that progress, moral and mental, will enlighten and elevate the Boer masses, the lower classes of which are, in

TOSACCO HABIT GURED IN A WEEL

their mestic life, mere animals. In the British colonies here perfec freedom and equal rights are granted to all creeds, who live in harmony to-gether; but in the Transvaal the Catholic religion is especially hated. Catholics are ranked as Jews, shut out from all official positions, and but for the interference of the Imperial Government would be rendered liable to

be sent out of the country at a duy's notice and without even the grace of a trial! Of the injustice to Catholics we have had personal experience. As you know, we are Dominican nuns, refugees from the evacuated border towns of Newcastle and Dun-dee, now in possession of the Boers, When our Prioress, the Revi Mother Rose, who was Superior of a convent in the Transvaal, went to President Kruger, on his withdrawal of the school grant, when he learned the teacher, a highly educated Hollander, was a Catholic, and begged of him to reconsider his decision, he flatly refused, saying "that such was the of his country and he would uphold it!" I may add Dr. Leyds was present at the interview. Contrast these facts with the erroneous opinions generally entertained of the Boers and

their government. And if further confirmation is needed in testimony of the Boers' hatred of all things Catholic, it is forthcoming in their shameless desecration of our chapel in Newcastle, an act so horribly pro fane that it stands a shame to Christianity and manhood. Yet let us uope for the sake of both that they did not know what they did. What our fate would be under Boer rule, it is not pleasant to speculate.

No wonder we honor the brave men from all parts of the empire who bravely fight in our defense and fall in repelling the vandal hordes of the invader. And it is cheering to see the heroism with which, our wounded soldiers bear their sufferings and strive to laugh them away, and here conspic busly shines forth the joyous spirit

I have the privilege of visiting the

see the eager gladness with which the

THE SONS OF ERIN.

Colonial-greet the presence of a nun and the confidence with which they speak to her of themselves, their homes, and friends. What would not hundreds of mothers give to take my place for one short hour, to sit by the bedsides of their wounded sons! Well I appreciate my privilege, and do my best to make up in some measure for the absence of far-off loved ones. And the eagerness of the Catholic soldiers to receive some pions object, especially indeed consoling to see the faith of our soldiers, who, thank God, with very few exceptions, prepare for battle by approaching the sucraments. And their faith is equalled by their faith in the "Sisters," as all nuns are called here, and the confidence they show in our sympathy. One day a soldier ask-ed me the why to the hospital, pathetically explaining that he had several wounds in his arms, not reeived in honorable wayfare, but Transvaal Governments-the the hands of a Kaffir in a quarren the previous night, humbly adding "when he had a drop of drink taken." And so, of course, he could not discov er his wound, in military quarters. And they come to me a (1 passeby on streets, for a scaputar, a medal, or an Agnus Dei. Sometimes even those not of my creed want something to remind them of God, glad even of a leaflet verse that may help to elevate the heart. But as in our hurried flight we brought no pious objects save those on our persons, each Sister and child gave no everything, except the necessary rosary, in order to giv them to the soldiers, one little gir. bringing as her contribution a comic picture! This I took to the camp in order to make the poor wounded fellows laugh, and one-no mean artists himself-kept if to send to his little sister in the Emerald Isle.

A visit to the camp hospital reveals even to a casual observer, much that is true and tender in human naturemany of the finest qualities in the human breast, as well as much of the horror of war. But soon—very soon, I hope—this dread evil shall disappear from the land. Already thousands of brave men are slaughtered and loving hearts broken and happy homes darkened. And who can number the thou sands of homeless refugees that at short notice had to fly from the Transvaal, and the north of Natal, leaving their all behind? Int this city alone there are 8,000. We, in this five-roomed cottage, number fifty-nine—twenty-nine Sisters and thirty children-and in our flight we brought but a few necessary articles for each having left all behind in convents, schools, and chapels, and now nothing remains to us—goods looted, all that was sacred and could not be utilized destroyed and chapel desecrated. Our buildings in Newcastle are used for a magazine, so there is small hope of their being left intact. We have in-deed had our share of the "fortunes of war," which have robbed us of all, destroyed every source of income, and made us homeless wanderers, dependent on the government for our daily bread. Yet we must not complain, as suffering and sorrow, privation and hardship are the lot of all in this wartrodden land. And far away, too, this war has caused woe, and before its termination, not a little, I fear, to Columbia's soil, as doubtless not a few of Canada's brave sons will fall in the defence of sight and empire. Their names will his on glory's page, but, alas! such will be but a moor saive for the wounded hearts of bereaved

loved ones.

Such considerations and painful facts minimize our misfortunes and cause us to forget personal trials. Our wants are few and simple, and easily supplied, and we trust to the provi-dence of God, and the charity of our countrymen agross the seas to help us in our extremity and to enable us to begin again and establish on a fit-ting basis the important work of edu-

cation.

Hoping that the blessings of will soon brighten and gladden woeienshrouded land, and begging

DR. PIERCE'S **FAVORITE** PRESCRIPTION

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A strictly temperance medicine; there is no alcohol, morphine or other narcotic in it

this letter a corner in your valuable paper, believe me, dean Sir, very truly yours in Jesus Christ, SISTER MARY REGINALD MUR-PHY, O. S. D., Late of Cork, Ireland 123 Pieter Maritz St., Maritzburg, Na-tal, South Africa, Jan. 19, 1900.

THE CITY OF TELL

A Co-operative Town in Indiana That Ha

Don't say that co-operation or a cooperative town always fails. Out in Indiana is a city of 3,000 inhabitants that is called the most successful social colony in America. It is called Tell City because its people are Swiss, and it has weathered the storms for forty-four years. It has a larger percentage of home-owners than any other town in the State.

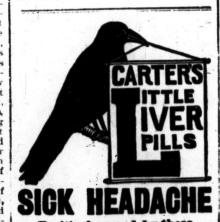
The colony was organized by Swiss residents of Cincinnati. They sent out workingmen by groups of ten or more, who elected their own overseers by ballot and at first divided their earnings, but afterward fixed their wages annually by vote and established reserve

Almost all the Swiss colonists were carvers and woodworkers. The old factory, which they built in 1856 with the money advanced by the colonization society, is still standing, but it has been increased by additions until it is the biggest chair factory in the State.

The second co-operative plant was a furniture factory. Others followed from time to time, until there are now twenty-six of various ages and sizes, employing 541 workmen. Last year their combined wages and dividends were \$663,000. Besides paying them selves wages ten and twenty per cent. higher than other workmen receive, they are part owners of their own respective plants, and as such receive dividends. They still elect their fore-men. The men work steadily and avoid waste; they profit by so doing.

When a young man wishes to marry he can borrow from his group money to build a home and pay from his wages in easy instalments. The homes are all owned by their occupants.
Travelers say that Tell City is one of the prettiest towns in the country, every house having a beautiful gar-den, and the people of the place are all well and neatly dressed. The town has electric lights, fine schools and three social clubs.

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