

like, have special editors. We note the statement of the late President McKinley, that Webster's is the standard of the Executive Department, and that of our own Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "If there is a better one than the latest edition of Webster's International, I am not aware of it." Such competent educationists of our own country as Professor Shaw, Superintendent Inch, Rev. Dr. Potts, Principals Dawson, Burwash, Loudon, Rand, Cavan, all give it their endorsement. The old phrase, "As dry as a dictionary," loses its meaning when applied to such a book. The study of words, their uses, derivations, variations, is one of fascinating interest. The thumb-nail index greatly facilitates the reference to words.

It may be well to call attention to the cheap photographic reprints of the original Webster's Unabridged, fifty years old, which are being foisted on the community. These are about as useful as last year's almanac.

"With 'Bobs' and Kruger." Experiences and Observations of an American War Correspondent in the Field with Both Armies. Illustrated from photographs taken by the author. By Frederick William Unger, late correspondent in South Africa for The Daily Express, London. Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates & Co. Pp. 412. Price, \$2.00.

The camera of the special correspondent enables us to be present, as it were, upon the very field of battle. It brings its horrors home to us as nothing else can do. One of Mr. Unger's pictures shows an enterprising photographer standing on the back of his motionless horse, taking stereoscopic negatives with his double camera. These vivid presentations make us feel, as cold words of description cannot, that "war is hell," and "hell is let loose" in South Africa. All the more tremendous is the responsibility of the wanton and wicked precipitation of this conflict by the truculent ultimatum of Kruger, and his invasion of peaceful British colonies and besieging of British towns.

This correspondent has been with the Boers, as well as with the British. He does not conceal his sympathy with the burghers, yet the

camera tells the truth. On page 60, showing the battle of Spion Kop, is a photo which he says had the unique distinction of an attempted suppression by two governments, by the British because it revealed the terrific slaughter, by the Boers because they did not relish this evidence of their love of loot in rifling the unburied dead, turning their pockets inside out, and carrying off their boots. Another, entitled, "A Modern Ghoul," shows a German photographer piling up the British dead on Spion Kop, in order to make a particularly gruesome photograph. Another shows the Italian Dynamite Brigade in the pay of the Boers mining the piers of a costly bridge. Another shows a group of captured burghers all wearing khaki uniform. Masquerading in the uniform of the enemy is as distinct a violation of civilized war as the burghers use of the white flag. Still another photo shows the "Tommies" buying chickens from the natives at a shilling each. "Only a few," Mr. Unger says, "were looted from the Kaffirs."

Dr. Leyds, who was kept well out of the way of bullets, Mr. Unger describes as "the arch patriot or arch conspirator, as you choose to look at it, of the South African republics." A Hollander by birth, who drifted into the land with little money of his own, he urged the policy which provoked the war, and made it inevitable. "He carried with him," continues Mr. Unger, "two million and a half pounds in gold to expend at his discretion without being called to render an account. This feat places him easily at the top of the list as the most monumental and successful political adventurer of the decade," and yet he says of this "adventurer," "To him, and to all like him, I cry hail, may success follow in your path and lead your footsteps."

This strongly pro-Boer correspondent says in his closing chapter: "The war started as a result of a plot. A conspiracy to undermine and drive everything English out of South Africa, and entirely uproot the last vestige of the Anglo-Saxon civilization, and plant in its place that of the Hollander-Boer peoples, which, while it may be just as good, yet is at heart everlastingly hostile to everything British." "The conspiracy elicits American sympathy," Mr. Unger says, "because it was a na-