

The Planet.

DAILY AND WEEKLY

Chatham, Ont.

DUTCH CONSPIRACY.

The origin of the war is stated very clearly in a letter written by Theodore Schreiner, in a late issue of The Cape Times. He is a brother of the Premier of Cape Colony, whose Boer predictions have brought him under severe criticism, and who stands in danger of being summarily dismissed. He is brother also of Miss Olive Schreiner, the talented authoress whose sympathies have all along been with the Dutch element in South Africa. His letter is based on a manifest issued to the Orange Free State burghers by Mr. Reitz, the Transvaal Secretary of State. What he says thereon is of importance, as coming from a citizen of South Africa, whose native instincts would be favorable to the Boers if they had a righteous leg to stand on. This is what he says:—

I met Mr. Reitz, then a judge of the Orange Free State, in Bloemfontein, between 17 and 18 years ago, shortly after the retrocession of the Transvaal, and when he was busy establishing the Afrikaner Bond. It must be put to every one that at that time, at all events, England and its Government had no intention of taking away the independence of the Transvaal, for she had just "magnanimously" granted the same; no intention of making war on the Republics, for she had just made peace; no intention to seize the Rand gold-fields, for they were not yet discovered. At that time, then, I met Mr. Reitz and he did his best to get me to become a member of his Afrikaner Bond, but, after studying its constitution and program, I refused to do so, whereupon the following colloquy in substance took place between us, which has been indelibly imprinted on my mind ever since:—

Reitz—Why do you refuse? Is the object of getting the people to take an interest in political matters not a good one?

Myself—Yes, it is, but I seem to see plainly here between the lines of this constitution much more ultimately aimed at than that.

Reitz—What?

Myself—I see quite clearly that the ultimate object aimed at is the overthrow of the British power and the expulsion of the British flag from South Africa.

Reitz (with his pleasant conscious smile, as one whose secret thought and purpose had been discovered, and who was not altogether displeased that such was the case)—Well, what if it is so?

Myself—You don't suppose, do you, that the flag is going to disappear from South Africa without a tremendous struggle and fight?

Reitz (with the same pleasant, self-conscious, self-satisfied, and yet semi-apologetic smile)—Well, I suppose not; but even so, what of that?

Myself—Only this, that when that struggle takes place you and I will be on opposite sides; and what is more, the God who was on the side of the Transvaal in the late war, because it had right on its side, will be on the side of England, because He must view with abhorrence any plotting and scheming to overthrow her power and position in South Africa, which have been ordained by Him.

Reitz—We'll see.

Thus the conversation ended, but during the 17 years that have elapsed I have watched the propaganda for the overthrow of British power in South Africa being ceaselessly spread by every possible means—the press, the pulpit, the platform, the schools, the colleges, the legislature—until it has culminated in the present war, of which Mr. Reitz and his co-workers are the origin and the cause. Believe

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For a first-class line of pure hand made Kandles nothing can beat the line we now have on hand.

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Always on hand and served in any style

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Next R. C. Bur's Drug Store, King Street.

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RED STAR STORE

We are now ready for the Xmas trade, our goods, such as fruits, candies, nuts and candied peels are first-class and prices right. Also in china dishes—cups, saucers and plates and fancy goods, suitable for presents, and a choice lot of dinner sets and toilet sets, second to none in the city. We ask you to inspect our styles and prices before you say your wedding present.

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me, sir, the day on which E. W. Reitz sat down to pen his ultimatum to Great Britain was the proudest and happiest moment of his life, and one which had for long years been looked forward to by him with eager longing and expectation.

He and his co-workers have for years past plotted, worked, prepared for this war, and the only matters in connection with it in which they are disappointed are—first, that they are disappointed that the war had come several years later, so that their anti-British propaganda might more fully have permeated the country; secondly, that they would have liked to have declared war against England at a time when she should be involved in some great struggle with a foreign power, instead of at a time when she is free to give all her attention to South Africa; and, lastly, they are disappointed in finding out that English soldiers can fight.

It is true that an active factor in bringing about this war has been the existence of the gold fields of the Rand, not, however, as asserted, because England covets them; and has determined to seize them; but because the wealth drained from them has enabled the republics to become military powers of a strength far out of proportion to their population, and thus has led F. W. Reitz and Co. to think that their dream of a pan-Afrikaner republic and the ousting of the British flag may become a reality. Hence their declaration of war against England rather than grant just political rights to the inhabitants, whom that same wealth has led to settle down in the Transvaal, and whose presence and numbers, however, useful to the Dutch republics towards the production of wealth to be used for the setting forward of their political aims, might, if they became possessors of the franchise, prove damaging to the success of the scheme of the great pan-Afrikaner republic. Although I have been obliged in this record of an historic reminiscence to mention the Afrikaner Bond, I do not wish to be supposed to be attacking that body as it exists in the Cape Colony at the present time, or to accuse it of backing Mr. Reitz up in his declaration of war against the British Empire. Its leaders claim that it and they are loyal to England. So be it! My object is to show that, not the British government, but the republics, led by Kruger, Reitz, Steyn, and their co-workers, have been steadily marching on towards this war, and consciously plotting for it, ever since the "magnanimous" retrocession of the Transvaal by England, and even before the Witwatersrand gold fields were discovered.

A TACTICAL MISTAKE.

We imagine the Conservative party in both West Elgin and South Ontario would have done better by conducting a quiet campaign of their own. The criminal atrocities perpetrated for the benefit of the Hardy-Ross government were sufficiently well known to need no stirring up. Honest Liberals could have been trusted to their own consciences to do what was right for their country. Many of them did do what was right, as the result in West Elgin shows, but the warmth of the campaign, however, was undoubtedly too much for others, who at the last moment let party feeling sway them into line again against their better judgment. These men realized that a vote for a Ross government's candidate was a vote endorsing the criminal acts, but for which that government would not now be in power. Perjury is perjury, theft is theft and fraud is fraud, whether it is done for personal gain or for the Hardy-Ross government's candidates. This fact would not in all probability have been forgotten by many presun-

ably honest men in South Ontario and West Elgin, had the Conservative workers not excited their baser natures by forcing on them a warm contest.

MANITOBA'S GREAT CROPS.

The final crop bulletin for the year has been issued by the Manitoba department of agriculture. The following gives a summary of the yields of the various crops of the province:—Wheat—Area in crop, 1,629,995 acres; total yield, 27,922,230 bushels. Oats—Area in crop, 575,136 acres; total yield, 22,318,378 bushels. Barley, 182,912 acres; total yield, 5,379,150. Flax, 21,780 acres, total yield, 540,929 bushels. Rye, 3,217 acres; total yield, 64,340 bushels. Peas, 1,366 acres; total yield, 20,490 bushels. Potatoes, 19,151 acres; total yield, 3,226,395 bushels. Roots, 10,079 acres; total yield, 2,679,106 bushels. Dairy products—Butter, 2,357,049 pounds; value, \$383,578.93. Cheese factory products, 848,587 pounds; value, \$86,980.16. Poultry disposed of by farmers, 65,845 turkeys, 25,155 geese, 246,250 chickens.

CHATHAM THE PLACE FOR MANUFACTURERS.

Chatham as a location offers greater advantages to manufacturers than any other city in Canada, bar none.

It is the only place in the Dominion, through and by which all the great trunk railway lines pass.

It is the head of navigation on the Thames.

A more healthful city to live in. Cheaper living. Pure water. Lower taxes. Cheaper lands and room to grow. Pleasanter surroundings. The centre of a rich farming country.

In the face of all this, why manufacturers should want to locate in such one-horse places as Hamilton and Toronto, we cannot imagine.

A LIBERAL TO LIBERALS.

W. A. Weir, Q. C., M. P. P., a leading Liberal member of the Quebec Legislature, and president of the remarkable Reform Club, delivered a remarkable speech before that club on Wednesday night. Mr. Weir took occasion to sharply criticize some of the actions of the Liberal leaders, and complained that the club had not had a single political speech in English from any of the Ministers since the Government was in power. Mr. Weir said that the Conservatives were very strong in the cities, while the Liberal strength lay almost entirely in the rural districts. The Conservatives had on their side the clergy, all the leading manufacturers, as well as the educational bodies, and presented a united strength, while the Liberals were divided. He believed that the Conservatives would make a great fight at the coming elections, and if the Liberals hoped to be successful they must rally at once, or else they would be beaten.

Referring to the Manitoba school question, Mr. Weir said that Mr. Greenway's defeat was due principally to the concessions he had made to the French-Canadians. He also expressed the belief that the present tariff should be greatly reduced. Mr. Weir's plain talk created a decided sensation.

Archbishop Langevin stated in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's presence that the educational system of Manitoba was not satisfactory to the Catholics of that province. The archbishop and Sir Wilfrid will please settle the question between them if it is ever to be settled. The Conservative party has had all the experience it wants with it.

The stockbroker liar who invented that Ladysmith story, overdid the thing so much that it fooled nobody except the Banner, which bulletined it out as confirmed. Our esteemed local cotem is bound to maintain its regulation for fairy-tale announcements.

August Meyers, a German laborer, applied for work of Wm. J. Wells, carpenter and builder, of Vassar, Mich. Wells said he had a tree on his father's place that he wanted cut down for wood. Instead Meyers went to Wells' place and cut down a 15-year-old orchard, consisting of 27 pear, 5 cherry and 11 plum trees, valued at \$200.

If G. F. Marter, M. P. P., had swatted the Commie Bill or the Serp Iron Assessment he would have done more good to the Conservative cause in ten minutes than he will do in ten years with the carols which illustrate the decline and fall of the provincial surplus.—Toronto Telegram.

THE CONSERVATIVE GROWING TIME.

Ottawa Citizen.

Manitoba gone, Ontario shaking and Prince Edward Island just joined the glad procession, looks like a Tory triumphal march; doesn't it? The general elections can't be brought on too soon now.

"THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN!"

What more Appropriate Name could be Applied to That Most Insidious and Universal of Diseases—Catarrh—Which affects Nine Hundred in every Thousand of our People.

Dr Agnew's Catarrhal Powder has Poved Itself a Wonderful Power in Lifting the Burden—A Dove of Peace in the Battle of Health.

It makes life Worth living—It helps in a Hurry and it cures Permanently—Relief in 10 to 60 Minutes.

So-called cures come and go and hardly a week passes but some new claimant as a cure for catarrh presents itself, only to fail in its mission, add another disappointment to the long

list of disappointments in the line of permanent cures for this most universal and distressing disease.

Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder has been for many years before the public as the surest, safest, most harmless, quickest and most permanent treatment for Catarrh, Hay Fever, Cold in the Head, Sore Throat, Influenza, Catarrhal Deafness, Headache, and Tonsillitis. That it has proved its worth thousands of times, east, west, north and south, over the whole continent,

HOW IT LOOKS FROM BUFFALO.

Buffalo News.

In his paper, La Patrie, Mr. Tarte, leader in the Dominion government, in praising a new French torpedo says: "It is easy to perceive the advantages that will result for France in case of war with England." In this playing into the hands of the Conservatives, Mr. Tarte shows a recklessness that courts defeat.

HADN'T TIME FOR THE WHOLE JOB.

Ottawa Citizen.

The treatment of the treacherous Boers by the Highlanders at Elands-laagte recalls the story of the Covenanters, to whom, in the hurry of a rout, an enemy put up a squeal for quarter. "Loeb, mon," exclaimed the brawny Scot, for it was his busy day, "I hanna time t' quarter ye, but I'll just half ye."

THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL IT.

Chicago Times-Herald.

"Papa, what is broad-mindedness?" "Agreeing with headstrong people when you know they are wrong."

THE EDITOR'S LAMENT.

Buffalo News.

Of all the wild and woolly wars That vex the souls of editors, This beastly bout 'twixt Bull and Boers

The fiercest of the lot. I've wrecked my mind and morals, too, I've raved and stormed (and cursed a few); With grating, bloodshot voice I chew Their greswome polygot.

My brain's a seething mass of Ooms, And Burgs and Dorps and Kops and Strooms, Fontaines and Kopjes, Krails and Blooms

Across my vision trek. There's Spytfontein, Bechuanaaland, With Vroooms and Spruites, to beat the band. From Elands-laagte to the Rand I get it in the neck.

And Grobler's Kloof! (excuse these tears) With such things ringing in my ears As Steyns and Laagers and De Beers

Just think of Blaauwbank, Ugg and Vreep, Nauwpoort! (again I pause to weep); I fain would kneel away and sleep. No more "chew the rag."

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

New Xmas Fruits

Finest Selected Raisins 95c
Extra choice clean-d Currants, 2 lbs. for 25c
Cream & Black-ell's Peel 30c
Shelled Almonds and Walnuts, per pound 35c
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something that will be of practical utility to the recipient, handsome in design and of the sort that will be sure of genuine appreciation. We have especially for this season's trade, an excellent variety of Leather Upholstered Easy Chairs, Couches and Rockers, deep-seated and comfortable, trimmed in the latest style, with the best of spring and material used in their construction. Our show rooms are filled with the things that have that little touch of originality about them, so much to be desired in choosing a Christmas gift. Purchases made now can be set aside and delivered at any time when ordered.

Hugh McDonald

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Home Spun Dress Goods

Are the latest and nobbiest for this season's wear. We ask the LADIES to call and see our up-to-date goods. You will then be convinced that you cannot buy a Tweed Dress for this season's wear, also see OUR DRESSING JACKETS at \$1.50 to \$2.00. SEE THEM AND YOU WILL BUY THEM

Tailoring Department

We have this season made a special effort in selecting a special range of the best Imported Worsteds, Scotch, English and Irish Tweeds and Overcoatings with a vast range of our own make. We guarantee to save you money and to make your clothes up-to-date and to give you the very best trimmings. OUR CLOTHING IS CASH.

A special reduction in Yarns and Blankets. We have the BEST Underwear for the money in the world. See US for Mitts, Socks, Ready-made Pants \$1.50 per pair. Special line of Ready-made Suits, Ulsters, Horse Blankets, Rugs, etc. Beaver Flies is the best to buy.

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The T. H. Taylor Company, Limited

A CANDY WINDOW Cooper's = Book = Store

Great Display for Xmas Made at Hugh Malcolmson's.

Near the Post Office

The Very Choicest Confections are There on Sale in Large Quantities.

The window of Hugh Malcolmson, the King St. grocer, presents a very attractive and elegant appearance. It has been dressed for the Christmas season and the beautiful decoration of the store front is a most artistic conception. The west window is the one which receives the chief attention. A large circular arch covered with crystalline decorations and concealing a number of incandescent electric lights forms the background. Through-out the window space colonades rise and descend, and a large, ornate, similarly adorned, with an additional embellishment of holly and mistletoe. A ground-work of delicate satin overlaid with boxes of candies, and baskets containing the choicest of confections complete a very elaborate and charmingly pretty picture. The baskets are something decidedly new and were imported from Germany. They are daintily trimmed with ribbon and filled with the best of candy. The price of these pretty bon-bon receptacles is 35 cents to \$2 each.

The candy department in this store looks bright and attractive, and is presided over by Miss Leroy. Every sweetmeat made is here displayed. Taffies of all descriptions, including Malcolmson's famous butter-scotch, which is soporific. The taffies are all fresh from Crawford, of Hamilton, the great candy man. The creams are the finest made. The best candies of the best dealers are purchased and mixed, the giving variety and excellence. The assorted boxes of these special creams are sold at a dollar. The fine creams and chocolates are sold by the pound at from 40 to 50 cents.

This firm is also putting up, specially for the Christmas trade a box containing a pound of fine candies. These they are offering at 25 cents. Besides the candies of all sorts, kinds and sizes, a large consignment of fruits, grapes, oranges, nuts, figs, etc., are on view ready for sale. The usual array of dinner napkins, towels, consisting of dinner napkins, towels, etc., can also be purchased at from 10 cents to a dollar. These furnish great fun for the children, as they explode, scattering bon-bons, and sweet-meats in every direction. Don't forget to give this store a call when purchasing your Christmas candies.

Pocket and Office Diaries for 1900, Christmas Saturday Night, Christmas Globe,

These are done up in tubes for mailing long distances

R. Cooper,

Chatham, Dec. 5th, 1899

Our Xmas Stock

Of Ladies' Long Gold Chains and Gold Watches is completed and the prices are far below any offered to the public before. At Sign of

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Dover Taxes

The collector of Dover, for Division 2 and 3, will be at the Montana House, every Saturday until January to receive taxes and give receipts for the same.

H. R. BECHARD, Collector.

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Miss Burns

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