

Northwest Review.

Senate Reading Rm dec 7



"AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM."

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FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA.

If two or three points are kept clearly in mind by our readers they will help to a more intelligent understanding of the news which comes from South Africa from day to day.

The first of these is that there is still a vast native population in all the territory affected by the present war. The blacks of Africa have not disappeared before the invading whites, as have the red men of America. In the British African colonies directly concerned in this struggle there are perhaps two and a half million blacks, and in the Orange Free State and Transvaal there are about three quarters of a million more. The total white population of all South Africa is under three-quarters of a million, of which about a quarter of a million is in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. This, then, is the first fact to be remembered—the preponderance of blacks over all the whites.

Another point to be kept in mind is that the first white population of practically all the disturbed territory was Dutch. Cape Colony was first settled by the Dutch in 1652, and did not become British territory until 1806. The Orange Free State and Transvaal were organized by Dutch (or Boers), who quitted Cape Colony because dissatisfied with British rule. Thus we find to day not only an almost solid Boer population in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, but a large Boer element in Cape Colony; and Natal, which was formerly a part of Cape Colony, as well The Transvaal to-day has a white population—now that the Uitlanders have left—of a little over 100,000, practically all Boer, or Dutch. The Orange Free State—there never were many Uitlanders there—holds about 100,000 Boers. In Cape Colony, according to the latest figures available, there are about 250,000 Dutch and 130,000 British, and in Natal there are 5,000 Boers and 45,000 British. The white population of Rhodesia and Bechuanaland is scarcely enough to count either way. Here, then, is the second important point to note: The Boers have an almost solid population in the Transvaal and Free State, and their blood relatives in Natal and Cape Colony largely outnumber the British population in those British colonies. Moreover, in all the colonies there has been a good deal of intermarriage between Dutch and British. It is thus really a civil war affecting all South Africa.

A few more facts of general interest may be added. The area of the Transvaal Republic is a little over 119,000 square miles, or about one-half of the Province of Ontario. The Orange Free State, which has entered into an alliance with the Transvaal, has an area of 48,000 square miles, or equal to that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick combined. The principal British colonies bordering on the allied republics are Natal, Rhodesia, Bechuanaland and Cape Colony. Cape Colony has an area of about 221,000 square miles, or a little more than that of the Province of Ontario. The area of Natal is a little over 20,000 square miles, or just equal to that of Nova Scotia. If the Dutch sym-

pathizers in Cape Colony actively assist their blood relations in the Orange Free State and Transvaal the situation will be exceedingly serious. If in addition to this about three and a quarter million blacks take a hand in the game the condition of affairs will be still much more serious.—Toronto Sun.

FROM THE SASKATCHEWAN

St. Louis de Langevin, Sask., Oct. 31.—We are having lovely weather; it is really astonishing for this time of the year. The sun seems to have donned its summer brightness.

Rev. Father Gouin, agent of colonization, was here the greater part of the week. He visited the surrounding settlements and gave the sermon at St. Louis on Sunday. He expressed himself with his usual eloquence, comparing the settlers scattered on the shores of the Saskatchewan to those who 200 years ago left France to settle the valley of the majestic St. Lawrence, predicting for them, if they are true to their noble origin, to become as important and to play as great a part in the social world. He also complimented the choir on the harmony and correctness with which they manage the sublime Gregorian chant. The pretty little church was completely filled, people having driven in from the country a long distance. After Mass there was a meeting in the school house for the purpose of forming a committee for colonization. Mr. J. B. Boucher was elected president.

Rev. Father Barbier, parish priest of Crooked Lake, was here on a short visit last week.

Mr. Marion, agent of the Batoche Indian reserve, was also a guest at St. Louis, visiting his young daughter, who is boarding at the convent of the Sisters of Providence of St. Brieuc. These good nuns, two mothers and two lay sisters, have been here two years teaching in the parish school and doing every kind of good work. Their boarding school contains 12 pupils, of whom three are boys. They are assisted in their noble work by Miss Dubuc, who teaches the English subjects.

A collection is being taken up around here for the purpose of erecting a monument to the Métis who fell in the insurrection of 1885 at Batoche. FRIDA.

Freshly back from the country, in a region where muzzling orders are unknown, the dog of Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem strayed from his Long Acre home one day without its muzzle. Its mistress explained the dog's misconduct on Wednesday at Bow Street. "He forgot he was back in London, Sir. As a rule he always asks for his muzzle when he wants to go out." It seems a pity that the mistress of such a good dog should have been fined 5s. and costs.—Universe (Eng.).

The large new steam laundry attached to the St. Boniface Hospital is now bricked over and will be ready for work during the month of December. The new cottage for isolated patients, next to Mr. Pambrun's former residence, St. Boniface, used as an annex to St. Boniface Hospital, is now ready.

THANKS FROM WINNER

OF THE PRIZE FOR LATIN TRANSLATION.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of the volume of poems you had the kindness to send me and accept my sincere thanks for this beautiful gift.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
LUDWIG ERK.
Rosenort P. O., Man.,
Oct. 24, 1899.

A DREYFUS AFTERCLAP.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—I notice in your issue of the 11th October the enclosed extract from the Midland Review, in reference to which I cannot but say: "This is the most unkindest cut of all." So it was the howling of the press, not any sense of justice which after all procured the condemnation of Dreyfus. Excuse me if I smile, I see this stated as a note of triumph, as it were. The immortal five, have they fallen so low as to be treated thus in the house of their friends?

However, one cannot forget what the great de Maistre says about the nations that fail to do justice. I need not quote to one so learned as you; his remarks are to be found in "Les Soirées de St. Petersburg." I was greatly struck by those terrible words: "The nation that shall fail in executing justice shall herself be punished for the sins she has failed to punish." God forbid. I should say, France is not more guilty in this respect than many another. We have only to glance at history to see the judicial murders of other countries, Lord Stafford's, for instance.

For my part, I have a tender feeling for the Jews. It is true, we are like Jacob, and have supplanted our elder brother, but Our Divine Lord Himself was a Jew, and to despise the Jews seems to me a personal insult to Him. His Immaculate Mother was a Jewish maiden; St. John the Baptist, dear to French Canadians; St. John the Evangelist and most of the other Apostles were Jews. Dear Sir,

Faithfully yours,
M. T.

A LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
OTTAWA, Oct. 30, 1899.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—I note what you write in your kindly notice of the Year Book and also your criticism of the date 1777 in connection with the escheat of the Jesuits Estate in Canada.

The date 1777 is the correct one for the fact of the escheat. The memo I made and from which the date was taken is:

"The status of the Jesuits was made the subject of inquiry by King's order-in-council of 1786, the order being carried into effect in 1787. The report of the commission made in 1788 was to the effect that a law or ordinance would have to be enacted in order to effect a legal transfer of the property to the crown. The law officers of the crown in 1790 advised that 'no aid of law is required to give the crown possession, the estates having long ago fallen to the crown un-

der the decision of the Attorney-General of Canada in 1777.'"

It was the fact of the escheat, which was a Canadian matter, that I had in mind, rather than the fact of the suppression of the famous order.

I can see that the sentence is not well devised to bring out the fact of the escheat and will revise it for next issue.

Thanking you for your criticism, I remain,

Yours truly,
GEORGE JOHNSON,
Statistician.

AN ENGLISH SOLICITOR-GENERAL ON THE WAR.

The Casket.

Mr. Chamberlain and his war policy have received a staggering blow from the ranks of his own party. Flushed with his success in goading the Boers to hostilities, he arose in his place in Parliament on Thursday last to justify his conduct, and with all the flippancy and brazenness characteristic of him he "challenged any one to see a sign of provocation, blood-guiltiness, or desire of war in the negotiations." The challenge was promptly accepted, not by one from the Opposition benches, but by one of the ablest of the Government's own supporters, a leader of the English Bar, Sir Edward Clarke, Solicitor-General under Lord Salisbury's former Ministry, who said that "the more he read the correspondence the more convinced he had been of the blunders in the negotiations, and that this lamentable war was unnecessary. For any Minister to assert that we—since 1884—have had suzerainty over the Transvaal," continues the cabled report of Sir Edward's speech, "was certainly at variance with the facts, and a breach of national faith. President Kruger had had much difficulty with his Volksraad, and on many occasions he had shown himself moderate and an advocate of peace. There was no reason why the conditions which President Kruger attached to the franchise proposals should not have been accepted, seeing that suzerainty was dropped in 1884." Having asked Mr. Chamberlain whether he considered a certain one of his communications to the Transvaal conciliatory and having received an affirmative answer, Sir Edward rejoined: "Then I consider this amendment [Mr. Stanhope's amendment declaring Mr. Chamberlain's conduct of the negotiations responsible for the war] proved to the hilt;" and he proceeded to declare the war, what it undoubtedly is, a crime against civilization.

The speech of the ex-Solicitor-General will carry conviction home to the minds of many who have heretofore hesitated to believe in the nefariousness of this business. The condemnations pronounced by political opponents might be attributed to party exigencies, especially by people in Canada who fail to realize how readily patriotic statesmen in England sink party differences when questions of foreign policy arise. But here is this able lawyer among the Government's own supporters, whom the Prime Minister has honored with one of the highest offices to which a lawyer, remaining such, may aspire—a man who, when he speaks as to the construction

of a document, speaks with all the authority due to his high professional standing—declaring that this awful war has been brought about by the recklessness of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in stubbornly pressing a demand that has not a shadow of foundation. Yet it is for unwillingness to participate in this "crime against civilization," as it is characterized by Sir Edward Clarke, that people in Canada are being denounced through all the moods and tenses as traitors by the blood-sucking Jingoos of Canada! The hysterical Herald of Halifax would have had the Government of this Dominion dispatch a military contingent to South Africa while the negotiations were yet going on!

MGR. DUHAMEL'S JUBILEE.

THE 'PRESENTATIONS TO HIS GRACE AMOUNT TO ABOUT \$10,000.

Special to the Montreal Star.

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—The total presentations in cash to Archbishop Duhamel amount to nearly \$10,000. The French laity give \$1,000, instead of \$500, as stated previously. Among the presentations to the Archbishop was a cheque for \$80 from the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, and \$100 from Mr. L. Gauthier, architect, of Montreal, who has designed many of the institutions in Ottawa. The relatives of Archbishop Duhamel presented him with a beautiful soutane, and the people of Pembroke gave a set of rich vestments.

Rev. Father Gendreau, late of Mattawa, now an Oblate missionary at Dawson, sent a magnificent large card embellished with the figures 25 in gold nuggets.

Much credit is due to Mgr. Routhier, vicar-general, who made all the arrangements for the celebration. He was highly complimented by the visiting clergy and others.

Yesterday Archbishop Duhamel visited St. Patrick's Asylum, and in the afternoon he was presented with the addresses of the ladies' sodalities of the city churches, afterwards holding a reception for ladies at the palace. On Sunday his visit to Hull, where an elaborate reception awaits him, closes the jubilee ceremonies.

Last Friday a High Mass of Requiem for the deceased members of the Congregation of the Oblates was celebrated in the cathedral by Rev. Father Guillet, O. M. I., with Rev. Dr. Béliveau, as deacon and Rev. Father Enck, O. M. I., as subdeacon. Were present in the chancel Very Rev. A. Dugas, V. G., Rev. Father Dorais, O. M. I., Rev. Fathers Gravel and Trudel.

His Grace Archbishop Langevin, of St. Boniface, officiated pontifically at the imposing All Saints' day service in Notre Dame Church, Montreal. There was a large congregation. He alluded to the fact that 40 years ago the late Archbishop Taché had conducted a service at Notre Dame and there were people present who had heard him on that occasion.

The Oblate Fathers hope to be able to occupy their new presbytery next month.