Campaign In Review.

Splendid Bearing of the Private Soldier a Bright Spot for Britishers.

Gallant Sortie on Lombard's Kop Proof of Condition of Ladysmith Garrison.

War Humanely Conducted But Isolated Instances of Boer Savagery.

New York, Dec. 10.—The London correspondent of the Tribune, reviewing the South African situation in a despatch dated Sunday morning, says:

"England has renewed her faith in Tommy Atkins as her best general, and bears with fortitude and patience the continuous strains of the war, with its flurries of excitement and its endless exaggeration of trivial details. If a campaign entered into without popular enthusiasm and mainly with a feeling of political fatalism, a conflict forced upon her by Kruger's ultimatum and extensive military preparations, be watched with something like evidences of weariness, it is because there is an utter lack of proportion between the minor incidents which fill the columns of the newspapers and the magnitude of the British armaments and efforts. John Bull suffers every day by the pin-pricking process by which skirmishes are enlarged into battles, and momentary interruptions of communications exaggerated into crises and defects in the supply department, and military preparations paraded as a sign of war office mismanagement. The effect of the undue importance attached to the trivial details, and the unceasing criticism of the management of the war is to induce irritability and nervousness.

"It is only when Englishmen think of the splendid bearing of the private soldier that their faces light up with a fine glow of enthusiasm. He is the true hero of the war in South Africa, and the war chanties go on to Kipling's refrain, 'Pay—pay—pay.'

"The most cheering news from the theatre of war yesterday came from Reuter's agent at Lorenzo Marques, where a despatch had been received from the Boer headquarters at Ladysmith, announcing that the British had

Stormed and Carried Lombard's Kop.

A good deal has been unjustly said about Reuter's despatches from that quarter being tainted with Boer influence, precisely as President Kruger's partisans may have suspected that the same agency's telegrams from the British headquarters were colored by the environment of the correspondents. But rewa favorable to the British side from Pretoria is accepted readily enough in London. This Ladysmith despatch was dated Friday, when both Reuter and the Central News were reporting that Gen. Buller's army was still centred about Frere, and hence it was a fair inference that Gen. White's force had made a sortie. Details were lacking with the single exception that the British had captured a Maxim gun and put one howitzer and one big Creusot out of action.

"Early tidings from the garrison through British sources have described the success of the British gunners in silencing two big guns, but nothing was said about the storming and capture of Lombard's Kop. Loungers at the clubs last night were almost convinced that Gen. White had dealt the enemy a severe blow, yet were at a loss to understand why he had not signalled the good news by heliograph to Frere. Suspicious commentators suggested that the Boer commander might be making use of Reuter's agent for purposes of his own. But they must also explain how Gen. Buller could be deceived when the heliograph enabled him to communicate directly with Ladysmith.

"The Latest News From Ladysmith,

by runner was dated Tuesday, when the garrison was reported by the Standard correspondent to be in excellent condition, after silencing the heavy guns mounted by the Boers.

"The war office after midnight settled a controversy by giving out a bulletin which Gen. Buller had received from Gen. White, fully confirming Reuter's despatch. White had sent a force of 600 men to surprise a gun on the hill, and had destroyed two guns with guncotton and brought back a Maxim into camp, with only one man killed and one officer wounded. A detachment of the 18th Hussars had circled around Pepworth Hill, burning kraals and cutting telegraph lines. It was a gallant and successful sortie, which proved that Gen. White's men were full of fight and in admirable condition for co-operation with Gen. Buller. It was a good omen, anyway, for the stirring events during the next few days, with victory as a crowning result.

"Otherwise the news from both Frere and Modder River was anything but startling. Both Generals Buller and Methuen were waiting apparently for howitzer batteries, which were on the way. Pontoon bridges had been finished over both rivers, and trains were running over them.

"Tommy Atkins Was in Fine Spirits

and during his hours of idleness was taking like a duck to the muddy water or like a naiad to the surf at Margate. Stretcher-bearers had been called up from Durban and Pietermaritzburg, in readiness for battle, and Gen. Methuen's cavalry were on the alert against a second raid in their rear by the Free State rough riders. These bits of intelligence were pieced out with rumors that President Steyn was losing his mind; that the Free State troops were disaffected and unwilling to fight; that the bodies of three scouts belonging to Thorneycroft's Horse had been found, after the Mooi River sortie, tied up and riddled with bullets, and that a pigeon had brought in a map of Ladysmith and the Boer positions from Gen. White.

"The war office bulletins were meagre, relating chiefly to the strength of the bands of raiders against whom Generals Gatacre and French were operating. The seizure of a small quantity of dumdum ammunition reported from Gatacre's headquarters is no decisive proof that the Dutch allies are making general use of these destructive and mangling bullets. These supplies were found in two stores somewhere in the Dutch district of Capetown, and there is no definite information connecting the Free State Dutch with them. Mr. Knight, the correspondent, and other men disabled in Methuen's battles were wounded without doubt with bullets which produced effects similar to those of dumdum bullets. Military experts explain that the Mauser pistol bullet, known as the 'man-stopper,' produces a wound like that caused by a dum-dum bullet, and that any private soldier

Can Easily Convert Ordinary Cartridges

into dum-dums. While charges and counter-charges have been freely made during the campaign that dum-dums have been used by both sides, the truth, as it comes from the hospitals and war office, is that a very large proportion of the wounds are clean and neat, without being jagged or showing great crushing power. The British forces are using what is technically known as "Mark 2" ammunition, and its effects are not unlike those produced by a Mauser bullet, which is mainly employed by the Dutch allies.

"The evidence is clear that the war has been conducted in the humane manner proclaimed by The Hague conference as indispensable to the interests of civilization, and such exceptions as are noted in the cases of Knight and other wounded men of Lord Methuen's army, only serve to prove the rule. Misuse of the white flag has been, however, a common form of outrage and treachery on the Dutch side, and there are authentic cases of counter-use of Red Cross badges with what seems a flagrant instance of inhumanity in firing upon the hospital at Ladysmith.

"A war correspondent's letter published in to-day's Globe contains the remarkable statement that not only despatches but mail letters as well are subjected to military censorship. This seems incredible, but it has been a singular fact that few descriptions of the battles in Natal sent by mail have contained critical comments upon the tactics of the staff. The facts about Gen. White's setback when the mules stampeded have only been given vaguely in two or three letters. The censorship is operated on such drastic lines that the secret story of the campaign may be reserved for war correspondents' books."

FRENCH PROPHETS OF EVIL.

Tell How Transvaal Rains Will Destroy British Who Escape the Boer Guerillas.

New York, Dec. 10.—The Paris correspondent of the Times says:

"As it becomes more and more apparent that the British forces on either side of the border are not yet large enough for the tasks set them, French sympathy for the Boers gains force and consistency. The Paris papers give prominence to the statements of Major Wissman, who, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Matin, declares that it will take years before England can subjugate the Transvaal, for the real difficulties will begin with the guerilla warfare which the Boers have decided upon as soon as the British forces have penetrated well into the Transvaal.

"Demonstrations in favor of the Boers continue to take place in different parts of the country. At Valence, during a concert when the national anthem of the South African Republic was played, the spectators, two thousand in number, rose to their feet and applauded with the utmost enthusiasm. Cries of 'Vivant les Boers' rent the air, and the performance had to be repeated. Similar demonstrations have taken place at Marseilles and Bordeaux. Allusions to the Boers in concert halls at Montmartre and in the Boulevardi are greeted with noisy enthusiasm.

"The leading Paris papers publish interviews with M. Long, a Frenchman, and former manager of a dynamite factory at Modderfontein, who left the Transvaal at the end of October. M. Long predicted that if the British forces make their way into the Transvaal, they will never get out of it. He says that the forts at Pretoria are now as strong as those of any fortified town of Europe. Johanesburg is impregnable. The Boers, he said, were quite independent of foreign countries, as they can now make all the war material and amunition they require. Half their cannon had been supplied from Creusot, the total weight mentioned as received from that quarter being fifteen thousand tons, the other half being sent from Germany. M. Long said that the season of heavy rains was about to begin, and that the rainfall in December and January was always most intense and dangerous. He concluded his remarks with the words: 'In the Transvaal country an English soldier drenched is an English soldier lost.'"

OVER RUN WITH CANNIBALS.

Explorer's Gruesome Description of Little Known African Territory.

London, Dec. 10.—Arthur Sharp, an explorer, has arrvied in England with interesting information regarding the region between Lakes Tanganyika and Albert Edward. All the country on the west shore of Lake Tanganyika is overrun with cannibal herds, who have followed in the wake of the Congo Free Staters and are literally eating up the inhabitants. Fortunately Germany has established Stations along Lake Kion within the Free State border and will establish order. The country is a combination of broken up lava, impracticable hills and bushes.

THE POPE WELL AGAIN.

Rome, Dec. 9.—The Pope, who it was announced a few days ago was suffering from a heavy cold, has completely recovered his usual health.

GEORGIA NOT PROHIBITION.

Atlanta, Dec. 8.—By a vote of 26 to 15 in the senate to-day State prohibition was defeated.

COTTON PRODUCTION.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The final report of the statistician on the production of cotton in the United States for the year ending August 31, 1899, shows a total of 11,189,205 bales, an increase of 291,348 bales over the preceding year.

HAS SAID ENOUGH.

London, Dec. 9.—Mr. Chamberlain shows no sign of repentance or desire to recant his Leicester speech. When questioned by a representative of the Associated Press he replied: "I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

Thousands of Canadians can vouch for the efficacy of that peerless cough remedy, Pyny-Pectoral. It cures a cold very quickly. 25c. of all druggists. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis, Pain-Killer.

An Appeal To Europe.

Boer Mission Seeking Protection From Consequences of the Republics' Folly.

British Preparing to Deal With Any Enemy Rash Enough to Interfere.

World Would Witness Thrilling Spectacle of Lion in Full Battle Array.

New York, Dec. 10.—The London correspondent of the Sun says:

"A couple of weeks ago, it was announced that Chief Justice Gregorwski and other civil officers of the Transvaal had arrived at Lorenzo Marques from Pretoria en route to Capetown and suggested that their mission was to sue for peace at the feet of Queen Victoria's high commissioner.

"As the war was then young and the Boers had matters military pretty much their own way, it seemed strange that Kruger would so soon assume the role of suppliant, but it now appears that the mission is not bound for Capetown, but for Europe. The members are aboard a North German Lloyd liner, and will probably be in Paris by the end of next week. They propose visiting every European capital with the object of interesting the powers in the cause of the South African republics, so that when the time comes for peace, England will not be permitted to impose too hard terms.

"Judging by the aroused temper in this country and the known views of a majority of this government, it may safely be asserted that the mission is foredoomed to failure, whether or not any power is so foolish as to interfere. There is however, abundant evidence to show that the British government will not be taken by surprise if France should endeavor to lend the Boers diplomatic help and that such mediation would be politely but decisively declined.

"In view of what might happen after that, the British government has been quietly making a variety of preparations, some of which are known to all the world, because they could not be concealed, such as the concentration of the Mediterranean and Channel fleets and the commissioning of a small special service squadron. There are other preparations of which the newspapers have made little mention and which have had no prominence by special request of the government. It is a fact that arrangements have been made for calling out of the naval reserve and coast guard, to man every fighting ship in the British navy, and that the commanding officers of all Volunteer regiments have been warned that their men may be called to colors on short notice. Some of these commanders have in turn confidentially warned their subordinate officers, and so a good many people have gained a knowledge of what is going on.

"Commanding officers have also been requested to furnish an estimate of the number of men who are likely to volunteer for full military service. The Volunteer forces muster about two hundred and twenty thousand men, in addition to which there are believed to be fully a quarter of a million of men who have passed through the Volunteer ranks, so-called veterans, all under 40 years of age. It is estimated that 170,000 active Volunteers and 80,000 able-bodied veterans would respond to a call for full military service, and they would furnish a force by no means to be despised.

"The German Emperor holds the opinion that three months' training or the same period of active service would make the British Volunteers the equal of any soldiers in the world, and probably most military experts would agree with him.

"Altogether there is warrant for the statement that if any European power should attempt to interfere in the struggle in South Africa England would respond by mobilizing the entire fleet and calling out the Volunteer forces, naval and military. As an experiment, this would be so deeply interesting that it is almost to be hoped that needful provocation will be given by somebody, so that the world may witness the spectacle of the British Lion in full battle array."

"POWDER MONKEYS" IN BATTLE.

How English Soldiers Are Served With Ammunition During a Battle.

From the London News.

If it were not that there is a very excellent and elaborate system of supplying soldiers with ammunition during the course of a fight it would be almost hopeless to attack any position.

Modern cartridges are very heavy things to carry. The long bullet, the heavy brasswork of the case, and the weight of the wads and powder, all combine to produce an article which though it is of small compass, is very weighty.

When our soldiers are attacking a Boer position, their operations require that each man shall have a large supply of ammunition. This must all be carried forward as the fight progresses. The Boer entrenched upon a hilltop may have the largest supply of his ammunition by his side, and he is not weighed down by it as our soldiers are when storming the position.

During a protracted fight the British soldier is, in most instances, compelled to fire away all the ammunition which he is personally able to carry. An ordinary private carries 100 rounds. Just before an action, when heavy firing is expected this 100 rounds is supplemented by 50 more from the battalion reserve of 77 rounds per man. Thus each private advances into battle carrying no less than 150 possible dealers of death.

Whenever a soldier falls or is wounded he is immediately stripped of his ammunition, and it is at once distributed among the men who are still capable of carrying on the fight. The reserve ammunition for each battalion is carried in four carts, and on the backs of two pack mules. When an action appears imminent, a temporary reserve, called a "brigade reserve" is formed.

This consists of two carts taken from each of the four battalions composing the brigade. This special reserve is placed under an officer selected for the occasion. In the event of any of the battalions becoming detached from the brigade, they receive their own carts back again.

In addition to the above there is always with the regular ammunition column 77 rounds for each man, and a further supply is carried in the "ammunition park" of 55 rounds per man. Accordingly the total amount carried in the field for each infantry soldier works out at 309 rounds.

The men who actually bring up the cartridges to their comrades of the fighting line are selected from each company for their strength and agility. The duty of bringing up supplies of ammunition during the engagement is a very arduous one, and only the most physically fit are able to attempt it.

The mules which accompany a battalion are supposed to get within 500 yards of the men in action, and the carts to within 1,000 yards.

FOUNDERED WITH ALL HANDS

Canadian Steamer Lost in Lake Erie in One of Worst Storms of Season.

Buffalo, Dec. 10.—The Canadian steamer Niagara, Capt. Henry McClory, foundered on Tuesday night about eight miles east of Long Point, Lake Erie, with all hands, numbering seven persons. The storm which destroyed the Niagara was one of the worst that ever raged over Lake Erie. The wind was blowing 45 miles an hour.

CAPTURED SCOUTS KILLED.

Boers Bound and Riddled Them with Bullets, then Left the Bodies for British.

Capetown, Dec. 10.—A despatch from Pietermaritzburg says: "Three bodies found after the Mooi River fight proved to be the remains of three scouts belonging to the Light Horse. They had been captured by the Boers and while bound had been riddled with bullets. The troops are indignant over this outrageous treatment."

Methuen For Bloemfontein

Suggestion That He May Surprise Enemy With Dash for Free State Capital.

More Profitable Than Attacking Boers at Chosen Position at Spytfontein.

The sick man knocking at the door of health gets in if he knocks the right way, and, stays out if he doesn't. There are thousands of ways of getting sick but only one way to get well. Do whatever you will if you do not put your digestion in good order, and make your blood rich and pure, you will not get well. Rich, pure blood is the only thing that can bring perfect health. Constipation is a disease of the blood. A large part of all diseases are traceable directly to impurities in the blood, and can be cured by eliminating them with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. The first thing it does is to put the whole digestive system into perfect order. It stimulates the appetite, excites a copious secretion of the digestive fluids and promotes assimilation. It searches out disease germs wherever they may be, kills them and forces them out of the system. The "Golden Medical Discovery" has been used with unvarying success for over 30 years.

IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

She—Don't you think dear, it would have been better to look up that cook's references

He—Dear me, no. They might not have been satisfactory.—Life.

VERY COLD.

Hicks—I understand that that new cold storage company is making a lot of money. You are in it on the ground floor, aren't you

Wicks (mournfully)—No. They froze me out.—Somerville Journal.

Coal Damp Kills Sixty.

Awful Result of Explosion at Mines Forty Miles From Tacoma.

All the Men Below Trapped and Hours Before Relief Party Could Enter.

Victims About Leaving for Noonday Rest When the Terrible Accident Occurred.

By Associated Press.

Tacoma, Dec. 9.—At 1:30 this afternoon a brief telegram received from Carbonado, a mining town 40 miles from this city, said 60 miners were killed by an explosion of coal damp in a mine belonging to the Southern Pacific Railway Co. A special relief train will be sent as soon as possible.

The explosion occurred just as the men were preparing to leave the shaft at noon. About eighty men were in the mine at the time. As the mine filled with fire damp at once, it was supposed that all were dead. Several hours elapsed before efforts could be made to enter the mine. The surviving relatives at once flocked around the shaft, creating a terrible scene with their loud laments.

The mines are owned by the Carbon Hill Coal Col. They gave work to 400 men and had an output of 300,000 tons annually. They are situated 40 miles from Tacoma, on the Cascade division of the Northern Pacific. The mines are in a deep ravine, through which the Carbon river flows. It is a glacial river.

The mines are supplied with every appliance for safety. They are largely tunnelled and the tunnels are so big that locomotives run into them.

A special from Wilkeson to the Ledger says: "It is reported that 15 men have been taken out of the Carbonado mine alive, and 60 bodies recovered."

Tacoma, Dec. 10.—There were 76 men at work in the mine at Carbonado when the explosion reported yesterday occurred. Of this number 44 were rescued alive, the dead numbering 33.

MONTREAL'S DESTINY.

Buffalo Enterprise Helping to Make It the Grain Exporting Centre for the Continent.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—The Tribune says: "William J. Conners, of Buffalo, has been in consultation here with some of the largest grain shippers of Chicago regarding an all-water route for grain to the seaboard. Montreal is to be the seaboard terminal of the route, and a Chicago architect is now working on plans for the erection of three elevators at Montreal, with an aggregate capacity of 9,000,000 bushels.

"Mr. Conners expressed the opinion that the project would be in operation by July, 1900. He said: "Naturally I feel much gratified at the successful conclusion of my labors. The Montreal route will afford an all-waterway to the sea, which can compete with the railroads. Montreal is 300 miles nearer Liverpool than is New York, a decided advantage. It will simply be a contest between rail and water, and I am confident water will win."

WAR GUESSING BY CABLE.

Sage Conclusions as to Lines of Communication and Boer Defeat Before Ladysmith Relief.

London, Dec. 9.—Military critics have been very busy during the past week pointing out what mistakes, in their opinion, have been made in Natal and Cape Colony and what should have been done. Many of these faultfinders observe that if it is necessary to preserve Gen. Methuen's and Gen. Buller's lines of communication, with such large forces when operating in British territory, how much harder it will be to do so when the head columns shall have entered an avowedly hostile country.

That Ladysmith will be relieved and shortly, is now taken as a matter of course, though it is admitted that one of the most decisive engagements must be fought before this is accomplished. Nothing has been more prominently brought out during the two months of war than the fact that the Boers never attack. With their mobility, the Boers are enabled to take up one after another carefully selected position, alluring the British to attack them, and retiring after inflicting as well as receiving severe loss, to occupy another previously prepared position. If such tactics continue, it seems possible that the relieving force will reach Ladysmith so crippled that an advance into the Transvaal will be considerably delayed. In fact, the most optimistic see no chance of the British forces making serious headway upon an aggressive campaign for two or three months, while numbers who confidently prophesied that Gen. Buller would eat his Christmas dinner in Pretoria are trying to find excuses in the slowness of the transports and the incapability of the war office.

THE WHEELING ORDEAL.

Winning Team in Six Day Round Covered Twenty-Seven Hundred Miles.

New York, Dec. 9.—Charles W. Miller of Chicago, the long distance champion of the world, and Frank Waller, the "Dutchman," won the six day bicycle race which began at midnight last Sunday, at Madison Square Garden. They finished at 10 o'clock first by two laps with 2,723 2-5 miles to their credit, with Otto Mayo of Erie, Pa., and McEachern, the Canaidan, second. Louis Gimm of Pittsburg and Burns Piecre of Boston were third, one lap behind the second men. Fischer and Chevallier, the Frenchmen, were fourth, only two laps behind and Earl Stevens of Buffalo and Carley Turville were fifth, separated from the Frenchmen also by two laps. For their week of nerve-wrecking and record-breaking ride, Miller and Waller, exclusive of individual prizes, will receive $1,000, Mayo and McEachern $700, Gimm and Pierce $400 and the others $300, $200 and $100.

LESSONS OF ELANDSLAAGTE.

Boers Well Impressed With Valor of Their Opponents—Endeavor to Conceal Their Great Loss.

From the London Daily Telegraph.

Maritzburg, Oct. 27.—We have had a fortnight of war invasion, and the foremost social effect of it has been to convert every other man you meet into a tactician and strategist. Juvenal found it difficult not to write satires. It is impossible not to indulge in military criticism when your life and property are depending upon the movements. No silver streak parts us from the Boers. They occupy, probably, a fifth of the country. So fleet and stealthy are their movements that if a commando can evade our troops a few thousand of them may pounce upon Maritzburg or Durban. Let me admit that many of our colonial friends are entitled to have opinions on colonial fighting. They understand Boer methods of warfare; they have fought with them against Kaffirs, and against them in the war of 1881. Memories of Laing's Nek, Ingogo, and Majuba were burnt deeply into their minds; they know why our generals were beaten; and they are as anxious as any home-keeping Englishman that we shall emerge from this struggle with honor as well as with success. I am afraid it is a nearly universal conviction in South Africa that English generals are unfitted, by European training, and even, as a rule, by Indian experience, to cope in the best manner with the Boers. I am hearing every hour that the British officer is still mastered by the idea that bravery is everything in war; that he is too fond of dash and rush, of splendid assaults and brilliant charges, and of carrying impregnable positions, without counting the cost. Each report that comes in of our various successes is accompanied by a running fire of this sort of criticism, and with illustrations to demonstrate, after the event, that our commanders, like miserable sinners, have done what they ought not to have done, and left undone what they ought to have done.

These comments I may leave to your correspondent, who unites in himself the experience of a veteran, the knowledge of an expert, and the skill of the journalist. Two points only of colonial animadversion may be here noted. The war has confessedly begun with heavy sacrifices. I can scarcely convey an impression of the profound distress when the Elandslaagte death-roll was made known. The charge of the Gordon Highlanders and the Imperial Light Horse eclipsed Dargai; but the glory of it seemed to be dimmed when one read in the long list the names of the officers, privates, and troopers, brave men, with whom one had just parted in all the flush of life, hope, and patriotism. The whole sum and substance of public opinion was embodied in the Queen's message of sympathy: "It was a great success, but I fear it was very dearly bought." Victory may be purchased at too high a price. It was General Steinmitz, I believe, who was censured for waste of men on the heights of Spicheren, though Von Moltke sacrificed far more, in proportion, at Gravelotte; but Gravelotte was the prelude to Metz and Sedan. Only a competent strategist can say whether a given outlay of officers and men is really too high a price to pay for the object gained. Our figures are certainly high. At Dargai the grand total of casualties, killed and wounded, was 199; here at Dundee they amounted to 215, and at Elandslaagte to 247. In the whole Tirah campaign, lasting five months, we had 23 officers killed and 56 wounded; in Northern Natal in three engagements, within five days, 16 officers have been slain and 59 suffered injuries. The second point which colonial comment makes against our leadership is put in the question: How was it that the Boers were able to place a force of 2,000 or 3,000 men between our Glencoe and Ladysmith camps, only 42 miles apart, without its being known? What was the intelligence department doing? Where were the scouts? Elandslaagte (or the Eland's Hollow) is a railway station some 16 miles from Ladysmith. The country all round is mostly occupied by Boers and Amakolwa, Christian Kaffirs. Through this terrain for at least 30 miles on this side the Biggarsberg, the Boer horsemen rode, bringing guns with them, and, apparently, it was easily when they had seized the station, made prisoners of the officials, and captured a train with supplies, that Ladysmith became aware of their existence in that neighborhood. I grant you they paid the price of their temerity; the slaughter among them was terrible. It was two or three Amajubas rolled into one. Still, it would have been better to have administered the punishment before the railway was cut. The Boer farmers were helping the enemy; but the Amakolwa would have been only too glad to bring us the warning, if they had been engaged to do so. Our trusty Kaffir makes a splendid scout. Loyal Natalians tell you that had their officers been conducting the campaign such a feat as this of the Boers, thrusting a commando between two camps, would have been impossible. In such a country, every square mile of which offers some natural rampart for the Boers, the first, second, and third essential of leadership is intelligence.

The campaign has opened with victories and surprises. It has been demonstrated to the Boer whom he affected to despise, that to despise is immeasurably his superior in skill and courage. Our losses have been in no degree due to any special military quality of the Boer, beyond that high self-regarding virtue of choosing the hill-top for his battle-ground. In fact, they were not due to any grand stubborn resistance of theirs, but to nature. It was bravery pitted against precipices. At Dundee and Elandslaagte the enemy went on firing while we climbed the heights, and they hoisted the white flag as soon as we reached the summit. I am not impugning their valor. On the contrary, it has been one of the greatest surprises of the war that, if the young Boer does not shoot as well as his father, he fights better. I only expressed the general belief in saying that when two or three hundred of them were killed the cry would be raised "Huis toe" ("To home") and all would be over. That aspersion must be withdrawn. Considering that nine out of ten had never seen shell fire, much less been exposed to it, the way in which they kept their ground was wonderful. Most of their shells never exploded and thereby hangs a mystery of which sundry solutions are forthcoming. One is that the shells were manufactured in England and particularly filled with sawdust. Oom Paul's affection for Britannia would no doubt tempt him to place an order for shells in British hands! A second explanation is that they were "made in Germany"; a third that they were a contract executed by the Explosives Company, and, therefore, like every other transaction with the Pretoria government, corruptly obtained and dishonestly carled out. The most probable account is one which I have from an English resident of Pretoria, who states that his Christmas dinner in Pretoria are trying to find excuses in the slowness of the transports and the incapability of the war office. cannot conceal, that the foremost Englishhaters and war champions are among the 138 prisoners who at his moment are on their way in the Pattala to Simon's Bay, there to be transferred to the old Penelope. Among these are Col. Schiel, the Deutscher, "the mysterious Dutchman" of twenty years ago, on whose head the government of that day set a price; Captain De Witt-Hamer, member of the Second Raad; Captain Dorey, Captain de Villiers, and many more; while at Ladysmith Fighting-General (Vecht-General) Kock, member of the Executive, and a special favorite of the President's; his son, Judge Kock, who tried the Edgar case, and approved the murder; Ben Viljoen, the famous fire-eater; and Hans Bodenstein, the Judicial Commissioner of Krugersdorp, are among the dead or dying. Of these, the public knew best Ben Viljoen. He leapt into popularity by his fiery and defiant diatribes against the British, and by his invention of the formula "Trust in God and the Mauser." He really believed in the feebleness of Tommy Atkins and the diminutiveness of the British army. In his paper, the Voortrekker, appeared an article penned in all seriousness, wherein it was proved conclusively that the statistics of the strength of Great Britain's armaments were the outcome of an organized attempt on the part of the English to overawe their enemies by bluff. As commandant of Johannesburg he was credited with the humane desire to shoot all its Uitlander population. But poor Viljoen wore his worser nature outside. That reputable organ, the Diggers' News, which fills the position of "liar-in-ordinary" to Mr. Kruger, has proclaimed brilliant victories at Johannesburg. It outdid itself the other day by announcing the capture of seven train-loads of British soldiers by the Boers without firing a shot. Even General Kock, reporting an actual capture, magnified thirty-two head of cattle into 800; but all this falsification will not avail. The terrible awakening has begun. A party of some fourteen of our people were leaving Dundee for Ladysmith; on the way they encountered seventeen Boers fleeing from Elandslaagte, having with them a wagon drawn by six mules, and in the wagon four wounded men. Not more than two or three of our people were armed. Nevertheless, one of them, a dauntless German, Schwarkard by name, called upon the Boers to surrender, pretending that there was a large patrol of the Border Police within call. They obeyed, and were marched back to Elandslaagte. Among the number was Captain De Witt-Hames.

One feature of the war is that relatives are often against their will engaged on opposite sides, and some hundreds have been compelled to fight against their own country. We have a prisoner at Maritzburg, one of three brothers named Impey, who have a sister married to a Natal merchant. They were commandeered, and one of them was killed in action at Elandslaagte, another severely wounded, and the third captured. An Irishman who was one of the Boer mercenaries cleverly changed sides before the battle. A body of the Imperial Light Horse were approaching a railway station. Pat might have escaped, but he thought better of it. "Why," said he, "there's my brother in the squadron. I'm off. I'm hanged if I am going to fight against my own relations." The readiness with which he discovered a brother at a distance—a really distant relation—was equalled by the nimbleness with which he exchanged his own scraggy pony for a good horse that was standing by, and then rode o" to join the Light Horse. The station incident was accompanied by several curious episodes. First, the Boers captured the train, with a few officials and passengers, and some thirty oxen. At first they thought they would murder the prisoners, but on second thoughts relented and treated them very well. Next day the British force came up, and, as a signal planted a shell in the goods depot. Instantly the burghers cleared, abandoning their prisoners. One man was left in charge, with instructions to shoot the stationmaster if necessary. As the roolnecks were evidently getting nearer the stationmaster confided to the stationmaster that he was commissioned to kill him, that he had no wish to do it, and frankly asked his advice. "My advice," said the good fellow, "is this: You put away that stuff, or else you'll be made prisoner, and come in with me and have some dinner." The invitation was accepted, and when the British prisoners were released the Boer made off, without attracting atention.

Against these incidents are to be placed some sad scenes. The Boers are accused in many cases of killing the wounded. I was present in the office of the Times of Natal when two young officers made the following statement:

During the progress of the engagement at Elandslaagte one of the British Medical Staff was attending to two wounded soldiers, when a burgher, armed with a pistol, came along, and stopped in front of a little party. Without saying anything, he deliberately drew his pistol and fired at the two wounded men, killing both. Probably the doctor would have made a third victim, but at that moment two British soldiers made their appearance and were on the spot before the assassin could escape. A few words from the doctor and the position was explained. The burgher dropped his pistol and fell on his knees, begging for mercy. He got the mercy he deserved for so inhuman an act. Parties who were sent out in search of the dead and wounded were at first fired on by the Boers, under the Red Cross, and then under a flag of truce.

In part this revolting narration is corroborated by the following extracts from a letter written by Lieutenant Clem Webb, who took part with the Imperial Light Horse, by the side of the Gordon Highlanders, in that famous charge up the precipitous steep at Elandslaagte. Mr. Webb is well known at Johannesburg, and he was one of the men who raised the storm after the Edgar murder. He writes:

The battle was a terrible one, and he slaughter too awful for the victor, and yet it had to be won. Our men fought splendidly, and led most of the charges. The artillery shells burst within ten yards of us all round, and yet some of our men had to sit on horses at attention under the fire for an hour. I saw some terrible sights, and yet one must expect these things. One Gordon got a shell right in the face, knocking his head clean off. We charged up to the cannon's mouth and took their guns. the Gordons using the bayonet. The Boers were very plucky—shouted for us to come on, and stood to the last. I saw Ben Viljoen badly wounded and Captain Schiel. I saw Kock and Plennar, both dead, and Dr. Coster with a bullet in his head. There are heaps of the Johannesburg, Krugersdorp, and Boksburg officials dead and wounded, and others prisoners, several Irish and English amongst them. The Lancers made a charge into those who ran. Some went down on their knees and prayed for mercy, and were let off; others did this, and then shot at our men as they went away. One cur killed a Gordon officer who let him off. Some fine fellows were killed and died bravely. I asked Schurman of Johannesburg, what he now thought of the Johannesburg white slaves, and he replied, "By heaven, you're a brave lot of men." He is a prisoner. Captain Schiel played the part of a man when badly wounded, refusing help until our men had been attended to, and ordering his crowd to discontinue shooting at our wounded. We killed and wounded all their officers. Our artillery shooting is very accurate, and the men splendid, brave, and cheerful. We were right beside them for an hour.

It seems clear that many of the Boers came prepared to give no quarter, and they expected none. When they took to flight and the pursuing cavalry were among them several of them cried out: "The English don't kill their prisoners," and not a few "I'm English; don't kill." Most Dutch-speaking South Africans know more or less English, and many of these who thus appealed for mercy were spared. Talk with the prisoners and the wounded shows that this unstrained quality of mercy had its effect. Strange as it may seem, the two races learnt to respect each other on this bloody field. The Briton learnt that the Boer was not a coward; and the Boer that the Briton could fight and win, and yet be magnanimous. May the lessons not be lost! Beneath the British flag the two peoples must live together, and it will be some redemption for desecrating these lovely scenes with slaughter if the struggle engenders mutual respect. I have passed through this same region when in the full glory of summer. If two words could describe it then they would be "beauty and serenity." To stain these fair fields with human blood is next to impious; but, as Lieutenant Webb says, the position had to be won—for British supremacy, by British valor.

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