



people governed by an oligarchy masquerading under the name of a republic. President Kruger and his hangers on pressed upon the well known tolerance of the British Government until their cup of iniquity was brimful, and if Britain at last took a firm stand on the matter it was only because it was forced upon her by the impertinence of a country which owes its very existence to British blood, British money and British fair mindedness. The contrast between the freedom and tolerance extended by Great Britain to the Boer population of Natal and Cape Colony where Britons and Boers have equal privileges and equal rights, is curiously suggestive when compared with the way in which these same rights and privileges have been trampled under foot by the Transvaal Government, and the British Government would have been recreant to its own honorable traditions and the duties it owes to civilization, had it not at last undertaken to vindicate the rights of its downtrodden subjects in South Africa.

We are loth to believe the statement of the editor of the *Manufacturing Jeweler* in regard to Senator Morgan's speech being a reflex of American opinion in regard to the South African war. If it is, it only shows how easily the masses of the people can be misled by political demagogues who are always willing to sacrifice truth for votes no matter what the consequences may be. We prefer rather to believe that the heart of the American people is with Great Britain in her struggle against oppression, and that their real sentiments are better expressed by such men as General Alger, late Secretary of War, or Captain A. T. Mahan, the foremost naval writer of the present day, than by such demagogues as Senator Mason, Colonel Bryant, or even Congressman Finnerty. In a recent number of the *North American Review*, Capt. Mahan has an article on the Transvaal war in which he examines Britain's course of action from the standpoints of rights, duty, and policy, and finds it justified on all these grounds. His concluding words as to Britain's imperative duty to take action in the interests of its citizens in South Africa are so pertinent and convincing that we reproduce them. "A government is not worthy to live that, having shown to all its subjects the impartiality and liberality which Great Britain has to British and Dutch alike throughout South Africa, should supinely acquiesce in the conditions of the Transvaal as depicted, or fail to take heed that the Dutch Africander, as a class, has so little learned the lessons of political justice and true liberty that his sympathies are with the Boer oppressor rather than with the Uitlander oppressed. Under such conditions it would have been Imperial suicide to have allowed the well known, though undervalued, military preparations of the Transvaal to pass unnoticed, defiant oppression to continue, and the disaffection to come to a head, until the formidable motive for revolt should be found in a day of Imperial embarrassment. To every subject of the Empire, the Government owed to settle at once the question, and to establish its own paramountcy on a basis that cannot be shaken lightly."

In regard to the concluding part of the *Manufacturing Jeweler's* article, making a comparison between the American Civil war and the British-Boer war, we will only say with Mrs. Malaprop, "comparisons are odorous." You can't compare

them, because they are thoroughly dissimilar in every particular. Although the United States ran up against what is probably the rottenest fighting nation on the face of the globe when they tackled Spain, we hold they were none the less justified in their war or deserving of credit on that account. And so it is in the case of the conquest of the Philippines. It's certainly like fighting fleas, but it's got to be done, and it will be thoroughly done before they stop; and civilization undoubtedly will be a gainer thereby in the long run.

In conclusion, we may be allowed to quote the last three sentences of the *Manufacturing Jeweler's* article, and substitute the words Boer and British for Filipino and American, with which changes they will be just as true and as pertinent to the South African situation as the original is to that of the Philippines: "The South African Boers themselves, outside of a few leaders who hoped to achieve distinction and wealth by founding an independent nation, are more than satisfied to have the protection of the British flag. Wherever the British flag goes, there also go education, civilization and increasing wealth. In ten years from now the people of South Africa will be as loyal adherents of Great Britain as are the citizens of Canada or Australia."

---

THE New York Standard Watch Co. recently filed in the office of the Secretary of State papers for a voluntary dissolution of the corporation under Section 57 of the Stock Corporation law. The business is now conducted by a corporation formed under the New Jersey laws.

TO GET MEDALS.—Washington, D.C., Feb. 28.—A joint resolution has been introduced in Congress authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to make arrangements to have bronze medals struck off, commemorative of the naval battle of Santiago, at an estimated cost of \$20,000; the medals to be distributed to the officers and men of the ships of the North Atlantic Squadron who participated in that battle on July 3, 1898.

ENGRAVERS' STRIKE SETTLED.—Sag Harbor, L.I., March 17.—The strike of the engravers of the Fahys Watch Case factory has been settled and all the employees who have not left town to seek employment in union shops resumed work in their department this morning. Executive Officer Hurling and the local strike committee conferred with manager H. F. Cook, and the outcome is that the men and the apprentice boys go back on the same time schedule and pay per week.

MOTION DENIED.—A motion to advance the case of the Elgin National Watch Co. versus the Illinois National Watch Co., now on the Supreme Court calendar, has been denied by the chief justice. This is a case that came from the Seventh United States Circuit of Illinois and is an issue over the right to the name "Elgin" as a trade mark. The question hung on the contention that the name of a town or city could not be an exclusive trade mark. The plaintiff company sued the defendant company for using that word in behalf of its trade, and the case has gone from the lower courts up to the Supreme Court of the United States for final adjudication. The denial of the motion for advance will postpone the hearing of the case for a long period.