

A CORRESPONDENT'S VIEWS.

Sees End of British Empire if Old Lines Are Followed.

England Went Into Battle With Little Conception of Enemy's Fighting Qualities.

The London correspondent of the Toronto Globe in the course of a long article reviewing the events leading up to and the progress of the war thus far writes in part as follows:

"Once the fact was established that it had become a question whether the Boer ideal or the British ideal should dominate in South Africa, the British Government was obliged to see the matter through or retire from the country, for more by Dutch effort than by British wish it was impossible to restrict the area of the dispute to the Transvaal State alone. Those who cared to look the matter in the face knew, too, that if the British government had to confess their inability to maintain British ideals and to protect British subjects in their rights in South Africa, it was more than probable that of its own weakness the whole British empire would crumble to pieces. The British government therefore made that now familiar declaration: 'We have put our hands to the plow, and we will not turn back.' With their eyes open they definitely committed the nation for better or worse to the contest.

But it was here that the process of disillusionment began. The great bulk of the British people, the cabinet ministers among them, believed that a peaceful issue was possible. In other words, they did not consider it possible that the Boers would deliberately court a struggle to the death against the whole might of the British empire rather than concede that justice and those privileges which are the inalienable right of every man to a portion of the inhabitants of their country. In this they were mistaken. We now know that the great majority of the Boers and a good many of the Dutch in the other parts of South Africa fully believed that the Boer power was sufficient to defeat any force the British could bring to bear, and they were even anxious to begin the fray. But while our government believed the question could be peaceably settled, they believed at the same time that our military system was quite equal in every way to any demands that might be made upon it, and they also, doubtless, believed in common with the military authorities and with the great bulk of the public, that with 40,000 or 50,000 British troops at the most in South Africa the war would be short, sharp and decisive. Here has come our second disillusionment. It is the first time a war has ever been fought under modern conditions, with the most modern weapons, and we find our belief that the British army, though small, is the most efficient in the world, rudely shattered. The material is as good as ever, but the whole system is antiquated. We have not nearly enough mounted troops and artillery in proportion to our infantry. Our firemen have not been trained to make even a reasonably good use of the really good weapons with which they are armed, our traditional methods of fighting are entirely out of keeping against a foe armed with modern rifles and expert in their use, and our field artillery, though beautifully handled, is quite outranged by guns which, in the hands of the Boers, appear to be quite as mobile.

The result is that at the end of the year we find ourselves checked at every point, and practically only at the beginning of the task which we expected to have finished by this time. The ablest organizer we have, and our most popular and successful general, are now on their way to the Cape, and we are working practically night and day to repair the deficiencies which have become most manifest. But even when the army in the field is reorganized and provided with sufficient transports to give it freedom of movement, it will require all the pluck and all the luck that are proverbially British to see us through, for the very simple reason that while having more to defend than any other nation and more likelihood of having to defend it, we have neglected to learn how to use the rifle, and, as a people, have fallen into the habit of seeing nothing that is around us; while the Boer is a good shot, and on the veldt sees and notes everything.

Luckily, there is now no likelihood of outside complications during the South African war, and we are therefore likely to be left to work out the problem unhindered; but if we be successful there and allow ourselves to be lulled again into security, it is prob-

able that in the not very distant future the fall of the empire will be the result. Perhaps it has already done its work, but if the time has come to surrender the attributes of a first-class power a great weight of responsibility must pass to the younger and English speaking communities, Canada among them. In any event, a school of thought which had its rise in the nineteenth century, and which was in many ways admirable, has had its day and lost its usefulness and is rapidly passing away. The new century will find predominant a more practical school, with fewer kindly delusions and less trustfulness. Whether it be better than the old, time alone will tell."

Aggravating the Offense.

"You are charged, young man," the magistrate said, not unkindly, "with scaring the complaining witness nearly out of his senses by putting him through some mock ceremony of initiation. I can make allowance for exuberance of spirits among college students, but sometimes this exuberance is carried too far."

"It was this way, your honor," exclaimed the youth, who appeared to be the spokesman: "We were out for a little lark, and we caught a jay."

"The fine will be \$2 and costs each," said his honor, his face hardening. — Chicago Tribune.

POLICE COURT.

Ed. G. O'Neck, the Fortymile resident who was tried yesterday afternoon on the charge of stealing a watch from G. S. Driver was convicted and in court this morning was sentenced to perform hard labor for a period of two months.

A warrant was issued for William Cannon, charged with stealing a dog.

If Peter M. Williams was ever a schoolboy and ever studied Mr. McGuffey's eclectic second reader, he has evidently forgotten that certain verse which reads:

"Then I will never beat my dog,
Nor never give him pain;
Poor fellow, I will give him food,
And he will love me then."

Peter's lack of adhering to the sentiment couched in the above brought him into court this morning. He had, according to the evidence, beaten one of his dogs most brutally with a regular Simon Legree blacksnake whip which was also in court. Peter, in his defense, said he had to "giff dot dog some goot vippins to make him vork at all, at all." Major Perry in passing sentence said it is his intention to make dog beating so odious as to insure protection to the poor animals; that he will increase the fine for such offence to the limit, and then send offenders to the woodpile for a long period of time. Williams was fined \$50 and costs.

James Brown, a man whose mind appears to be wholly uncontaminated with common worldly information any further than that which enables him to know not to touch a red hot stove, was in court with an account of \$63 against A. F. Herdman and Dr. Simpson for labor performed on a claim. Brown had no witnesses; he had left his time check in his "other" coat, and had nothing about him further than the desire to collect the \$63. Luckily for him, Herdman, the resident partner in the claim on which the work was done, heeded not the summons of the court to be present this morning. The foreman on the claim, David Jones, was in court and from him sufficient information was gleaned to warrant an order that the amount claimed be paid within ten days.

Ike Corriveau, with Attorney Robertson as the Moses to guide him out of the wilderness in which he is wandering, was in court on the charge of theft committed nearly a year ago, and for which Corriveau was then arrested and held in the sum of \$1000. The jewelry, principal of which was a diamond crescent, was stolen from Uncle Hoffman; later the crescent was found in the possession of a man named Spitzel who, when tried before Col. Steele on the charge of receiving stolen goods was acquitted. Corriveau was tried in the territorial court, but the jury disagreed and before further action was taken he "vamoosed" and went out on the creeks, returning to the city only last night when he was immediately arrested. Attorney Robertson asked that his client be permitted to give bond and go, but the court wished to examine the territorial court records of the case before acting on the request. In the meantime Ike Corriveau is in jail.

When the case of John Winters vs. H. Cameron for wages amounting to \$200 was called the plaintiff failed to respond. Constable Allmark testified having duly informed him of the case, being set for trial this morning. As a

lesson to him to be prompt in the future, Cameron's costs of coming down from his claim, amounting to \$11, were taxed to the derelict Winters and unless the latter can show to the court good cause for his non-appearance this morning, the case will be dismissed at his costs.

When court had been in progress an hour or more Stenographer Switzer had not materialized and Sergeant Wilson was dispatched to learn the cause of his absence. That officer reported the stenographer as not having at that time terminated his stumbers. The sergeant was instructed to put his report in writing, which was done.

Jas. White, for violating health ordinance, attempted to appear by proxy, but the proxy was informed that White must appear in person. The mistake James made is that he did not violate the ordinance by proxy.

It was announced in court that the claim, dump and other appurtenances of Hester, Hardwick & Waud have gone into the hands of an assignee and will be sold to pay the debts of the firm.

Rev. E. A. Hetherington, who furnishes spiritual advice to the Berge family, mention of whose appearance in court was made in yesterday's Nugget, has intervened in behalf of Horace Berge, who was held to give bonds for good behavior towards his wife, with the result that Berge has been allowed to go pending his good behavior. Rev. Hetherington has undertaken the humane task of pouring oil on the troubled waters which are rocking the domestic bark of the Berge family.

Oldtimer Enthusiastic.

Editor Daily Nugget: I see by a telegram published in your paper of yesterday that a company has been organized at Washington to raise and float the remains of the warship Maine. That is a scheme in which I would like to invest some money just a few dollars, \$5 or \$10, just to relieve the intense desire I have to see the plan carried to a successful finish. I was in Dawson when the Maine was so cowardly wrecked, and I have not since been upon American soil, but I am with the Washington proposition heart and soul. If they want to raise any more money to help the matter along, I believe I am safe in saying that \$1000 cash could be dug up in Dawson for that purpose in one day. OLD YANKEE.

Andy Young Did Write.

Andy Young is not to blame for his mother not having received news of her husband's death until informed of it two months later by Thos. Pike of this city. Andy says that he wrote a long letter to his mother the day following his father's death, and that he has since written her. It is with pleasure that the Nugget makes this statement for the young man, and the fact that his letters were delayed or lost entirely in transit can not at all be attributed to any oversight or seeming negligence on his part.

The choicest goods and the cheapest prices. Royal Grocery, 2d ave.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn.

Here's looking at you. The Rochester Bar, cor. 3d and 2d ave.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

The liquors are the best to be had, at the Regina.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Every room a miniature home. The Fairview.

The most popular house in town, the Fairview; new management.

Dominion Leads Them All.

The above heading will cause many claim owners in the district to say "it is not true," but in that they will be mistaken, for it is true. It is not Dominion creek that is meant, but the Dominion which is at the old stand on Front street and whose destinies are presided over by that clubhouse nag mate, Mr. Sam Bonfield. Everything in the new house is the best the city affords, the best that could be brought to Dawson last fall. Everybody gets a square "deal" at the Dominion, and by this method has it established the reputation it now enjoys. As a resort for gentlemen the headquarters for the boys when they come in from the creeks, the Dominion leads them all.

The best blend of Mocha and Java coffee in Dawson. Royal Grocery, 2d ave.

Imported French peas and mushrooms 50 cents per can. Royal Grocery, 2d ave.

Health is Wealth!

JOIN The Club Gymnasium, \$10 per month entitles you to all the uses and privileges of the Club. Baths free to members. Instructions in Boxing and Wrestling.

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C. J. Dumbolton ...TAXIDERMIST

FIRST CLASS WORK....
Hunters bring in your game. I will buy all the heads and birds you have.
CITY MARKET Opposite S.-Y. T. Co.

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We respectfully solicit the patronage of old-time customers in and out of town.

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MOHR & WILKENS,

DEALERS IN
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Re-Opened in Chisholm's Aurora Block....

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