

TRUTH DENOUNCES THE WAR

Says Illusions About the Boers Are Dispelled.

London Paper Severely Handles the Men Who Brought on the War With Kruger.

The following taken from a recent issue of London Truth represents a side of British sentiment which has steadily opposed the war ever since the outbreak of hostilities:

"The last few weeks have dispelled two illusions. First. The Uitlanders who were wage earners are now known not to have wished for our interference to rid them of their political grievances. Many have come home, and have protested against the notion that they were not fairly satisfied with their lot. As for the capitalists and the stock exchange speculators, they at once betook themselves to havens of safety as soon as war was seriously contemplated. Some are enjoying their ill gotten wealth here and seeking to increase it by "bulling" or "bearing" the shares of their companies on the stock exchange; most of them are at Capetown lavishly squandering money at the hotels, whilst their wives, arrayed in costly vestments and weighted down with jewels, are feasting dancing and making merry. The Uitlander residuum is in the Cape Colony, in Natal, and in Portuguese South Africa, cursing the day when they were trapped into being made the jackals of Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Chamberlain and the capitalists, and more or less dependent on charity for their subsistence. A considerable number of them are at Durban, where, according to the press telegrams, soldiers and police have always to be on the watch to prevent these interesting exiles from marauding. As for fighting for their grievances, the idea seems to have occurred to a very few indeed of those who insisted that they were being treated as Hottentots. The fighting they have left to Tommy Atkins. The illusion of the gallant, down-trodden Uitlander has vanished into thin air. Whatever any one may think of the war, all agree that a more contemptible crew than these capitalists, speculators and loafers on behalf of whom we are shedding the blood of our brave soldiers, does not exist on the face of the globe.

Second. We had been told that the Boers were beings almost too vile for civilization to tolerate. Their religion was the most horrible hypocrisy. They were corrupt beyond anything ever known in the annals of corruption. They were more ignorant than the lowest of savages. Their conduct towards Englishmen was unmitigated ruffianism. They hated us, they despised us, and they rejoiced at every opportunity to give evidence of these sentiments. To conquer them would be an easy task, for they were cowards at heart, and they had so degenerated in the last few years that even their old skill in shooting was a thing of the past. And now? Their plan of campaign is extolled by our own experts. They fight so desperately that our soldiers pitted against them are the first to defend them against the calumnies of their civilian traducers. Our war correspondents, gone forth to curse, witness to their chivalrous conduct towards every Englishman who falls into their hands. Their official bulletins of the engagements in which they have taken part are temperate, remarkable for their accuracy, and for their absence of all boasting. When our captured officers were brought into Pretoria, not a voice of exultation was raised, but they were received in respectful silence. The members of the volksraad, who it was said were mere politicians, greedy of gold, and ready to let others incur the risks of war, are fighting in the forefront. Even those who reviled them and sought to give currency to the tales

told about them by the cosmopolitan crew of capitalists that had waxed rich by company mongering, are obliged to admit that they were deceived, whilst every Englishman recognizes that those ruffianly, corrupt, cowardly, swaggering Boers, are courteous and brave men. Illusion No. 2 has been dispelled, as has illusion No. 1.

And so will illusion No. 6 disappear. Englishmen are fair minded. They may be fooled, but it is seldom for long. What we are fighting for has been rendered more difficult than ever to understand since Mr. Chamberlain's speeches in the house of commons. All that can be distinguished is that President Kruger agreed to our demands, and that his agreement had come too late. All that is now urged as a ground for war is that there was some sort of secret conspiracy on the part of the majority of the inhabitants of Dutch origin in South Africa against the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon race there. Not one iota of proof is adduced. But we are assured that, as this conspiracy must have obliged us at some future time to crush it by war, it is better to meet it in this fashion at once. Although it is admitted by Mr. Chamberlain himself that our doing so will create racial strife for years, which can only be met by "fifteen or twenty thousand English troops being permanently stationed there." The slaughter has already been enormous, in view of the comparatively small number of the combatants. It is terrible to think what it will be, if this contest is to be fought out to the bitter end. In a just cause, while we should regret the death of so many gallant Englishmen, we should all find consolation in the thought that they had fallen in the defense of their country. In an unjust, unnecessary and impolitic war we have not this consolation."

His Name Is Dennis.

That man is of few days and full of trouble is a Biblical saying that cannot be successfully gainsayed, but if the man would put a little more lemon in his whisky much of his trouble would be obviated. The practice of drinking before breakfast is another thing that does not tend to promote happiness in man. A whisky toddy is all right, or a hot Scotch; but to pour a big drink of stark naked down the throat before breakfast is not recherche in the A. O. O. I.—Ancient Order of Imbibers—and it was lack of this knowledge that caused C. A. Dennis to be in Major Perry's court this morning on the charge of having indulged in a plain, unvariegated drunk. Dennis acknowledged the corn-rye, rather—and said that it all came from his taking a drink yesterday morning before breakfast. The first drink made him feel like another man, and then he thought it but courtesy to treat the other man, with the result that all thoughts of breakfast faded from his mind as fades the morning dew from a pumpkin vine. Other drinks were taken, and still the longfelt, hollow want of the inner man was not appeased. More drinks chased each other in rapid succession down the gullet of the man whose name is Dennis and by 7:30 last night that individual, wearing a bright red jag was relegated from the cruel gaze of the public to the seclusion of the guard house. This morning he paid \$10 and costs and went forth to meditate on the baneful practice of drinking before breakfast, at which time physiologists tell us it is not healthful to fill up on booze.

F. R. Knight swore to a complaint charging Edward Bartlett with taking on January 16 and unlawfully retaining a pair of bobs. A warrant was issued for Bartlett.

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