

REGARDING THE BOER WAR.

A London Correspondent Thinks It Is Mismanaged.

Says British Soldiers Have Lost None of Their Bravery, But Are Disheartened at Leaders' Actions.

The New York Sun has the following special cable from its London correspondent:

London, Jan. 25.—The critical situation in South Africa is by far the most important subject in the world's attention, for upon its development depends the policy of several powers in regard to the Chinese and other international questions. This fact is so seriously felt by the British government that it causes the greatest anxiety in Downing. The sacrifice of British interests in other parts of the world, which will undoubtedly be forced upon this country by rival powers, especially Russia, if England's military arm is crippled in another twelve month, is too great to contemplate.

Moreover, it is impossible to expect that the British public, marvelous though its patience has been, will tolerate an indefinite prolongation of the ruinous and rewardless war. The government is still free of public pressure of this nature, because the majority of the English people are still being systematically and completely deceived in regard to the grave crisis at the Cape. It is impossible to get the truth by cable, and nine-tenths of the press would refrain from publishing it if it were available. The inexorable facts are coming in increasing volume by mail and messenger, and they are sure to prevail even among unwilling believers when they are more widely disseminated.

The members of the government are not fools. They realize what the inevitable effect will be upon public opinion in England and the world at large, and they have therefore wisely moderated their whole South African policy. They are ready to go to considerable lengths in granting substantial concessions if they can accomplish their earnest desire to stop the war. There will be no more talk about "unconditional surrender." That demand has been definitely abandoned. On the other hand, there has been distinct modification of the position taken by the Boer representatives in Europe. They have adopted, in discussing possible terms of settlement, the contradictory phrase of "restricted independence." This peculiar term has not been defined and signifies thus far nothing more than their possible willingness to discuss heretofore irreconcilable positions.

It is quite premature to say that anything has occurred which could be described as negotiations. The truth is that it is doubtful if there is anyone in Europe, even Kruger himself, who could make concessions which the Boers could accept. Peace can only be made now in South Africa itself, and with the leaders of the men in the field. I have no desire to encourage vain hopes of an early settlement. The only definite fact bearing in that direction is that both sides now earnestly desire peace, and each is willing to moderate in some slight degree its demand of the early days of the war.

There are facts about the South African situation which the British public do not realize, or which have not been allowed to transpire. Among these are that British operations have in many cases failed on account of jealousies between officers, such as is now exposed in the Gen. Sir Henry Colville scandal. It is true that the rank and file of the British troops are tired and disgusted with the present style of warfare, having grown to respect the Boers as brave fighters, while they have learned to utterly despise the Outlanders and colonists, in whose behalf the war is being nominally waged. There is no lack of courage in the British troops and no actual mutiny, but unnecessary hardships and bad leadership have deprived them of all heart in the campaign. Every military man will recognize how seriously this condition will affect the efficiency of any army.

The Boers can keep up the present operations indefinitely in a vast country where they range almost at will despite an army several times their size. They care nothing for British occupation of their towns, and therein the war differs from all other modern contests, as the Boer population of cities is always small. The question of supplies is easy unless the British abandon the country with the exception of the principal towns, for the

Boers are able to replenish their stores almost at will by capturing British posts.

These facts and others confirming the reports of the widespread sedition in Cape Colony are not realized by the English public, and they constitute as a whole an almost hopeless military situation by the British. In other words, it is virtually established that only a vast expenditure of men and treasure, vast even in comparison with the great sacrifices in the past sixteen months, can crush all resistance in South Africa. The only motive for making such expenditure is to save British prestige, but it is obvious to an outsider that such an operation will have the reverse effect of re-establishing British prestige. To send a fresh army in addition to the present 200,000 men to conquer a tenth of that number would be a more pitiful confession of weakness and efficiency than to make terms under present conditions. Such at least is the problem that the British government is now considering and there is reason to believe that it will be only too glad to find a peaceful solution of the question, based on conciliation on both sides.

Tomorrow Mr. Henry William Massingham, who was dismissed from the editorship of the Daily Chronicle a year ago on account of his pro-Boer proclivities, will replace Mr. Cook as editor of the Daily News. A partial change in the proprietorship of the Daily News will also occur. The policy of the paper, which was formerly edited by Charles Dickens, and which is the best known Liberal journal in Great Britain, has not yet been announced, but it will be of a stop-the-war description. It will be highly significant to watch the effect of the change upon the fortunes of the paper and on public opinion. Mr. Massingham is inclined to extreme views, and often succeeds in prejudicing his readers against causes which he advocates, but if he refrains from sobbing daily, a practice which is intensely exasperating to the English public, the paper will probably become the leader in a strong peace movement.

The war office has issued a table of the war losses to the end of 1900. The total casualties of every kind were 51,687 but owing to the fact that a majority of the men-invalidd home have recovered and rejoined their commands the total reduction of the forces was 14,830. There are also missing and prisoners 7 officers and 208 men. The number of invalids who left the service and are unfit for duty is 1570.

It is reported from Rome that the delay in the reception of English pilgrims by the pope was due to an exception taken by the vatican department of state to certain references to the war in South Africa in the address which it was proposed to present to his holiness. It is certain that the feeling among the British Catholic colony in Rome is bitter at the strong pro-Boer sentiments which actuate the vatican. Some time ago the newspaper L'Italie announced on what purported to be vatican authority that there was no truth in the report that the pope had sent a gracious letter and a handsome present to Mr. Kruger, but neither of the recognized organs of the vatican confirmed the denial.

Wouldn't Be Fooled Again.

A shepherd once, to prove the quickness of his dog, which was lying before the fire in the house where we were talking, said to me in the middle of a sentence concerning something else, "I'm thinking, sir, the cow is in the potatoes."

Though he purposely laid no stress on these words and said them in a quiet, unconcerned tone of voice, the dog, who appeared to be asleep, immediately jumped up and, leaping through the open window, scrambled up to the turf roof of the house, from which he could see the potato field. He then, not seeing the cow there, ran and looked into the barn where she was and, finding that all was right, came back to the house.

After a short time the shepherd said the same words again, and the dog repeated his lookout, but on the false alarm being the third time given the dog got up and, wagging his tail, looked his master in the face with so comical an expression of interrogation that he could not help laughing aloud at him, on which, with a slight growl, he laid himself down in his warm corner with an offended air, as if determined not to be made a fool of again.

—Exchange.

Mrs. Thompson has received new ladies' furnishings over the ice. Second street.

Brewitt makes five pants. crt

Fine fresh meats at Murphy Bros., Third street. c75

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

HEIRS TO BRITISH THRONE.

Upward of Fifty Persons in Direct Line.

Among Them Is Emperor William of Germany—Many Princes and Princesses.

There are more than fifty heirs to the British crown, claiming through the queen. Among these is the emperor of Germany, between whom and the British throne there are about twenty lives. Foreign nationality, or the possession of a foreign crown, does not vitiate his claim, but it is obvious that from motives of public policy he would never be allowed to succeed. Parliament could, and undoubtedly would, bar his claim. Similarly the Prince of Wales was heir to the duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, but renounced his rights in favor of his next brother. Among other heirs to the British crown is the Princess May, as a descendant of King George III, but in her own right she stands seventy-fourth in the list.

The principle upon which the crown descends is that of following one branch of the family until that is exhausted, when the next collateral and so on, until all the descendants of the sovereign are exhausted, when the crown reverts still further back. The descendants of Queen Victoria are so numerous that it is extremely unlikely that any other branch of the family of King George II will inherit it. The descendants of Queen Victoria, in order in which they stood in succession to the throne on January 1, 1901, were as follows:

- The Prince of Wales, son.
- Duke of York, grandson.
- Prince Edward, son of the Duke of York, great-grandson.
- Lady Alexandra Duff, great-granddaughter.
- Princess Victoria of Wales, granddaughter.
- Princess Maud of Wales, granddaughter.
- Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, son.
- Prince Alfred of Edinburgh, grandson.
- Crown Princess of Roumania, granddaughter.
- Prince of Roumania, great-grandson.
- Princess Victoria Melita of Edinburgh, granddaughter.
- Princess Beatrice of Edinburgh, granddaughter.
- Duke of Connaught, son.
- Prince Arthur of Connaught, grandson.
- Princess Margaret of Connaught, granddaughter.
- Princess Victoria Patricia of Connaught, granddaughter.
- Duke of Albany, grandson.
- Princess Alice of Albany, granddaughter.
- Dowager Empress Frederick of Germany, daughter.
- The emperor of Germany, grandson.
- The Crown Prince of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Prince William Frederick of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Prince Adelbert of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Prince August of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Prince Oscar of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Prince Joachim Franz Humbert of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Princess Victoria Louise of Prussia, great-granddaughter.
- Prince Henry of Prussia, grandson.
- Prince Waldemar of Prussia, great-grandson.
- Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, granddaughter.
- Princess Fedora of Saxe-Meiningen, great-granddaughter.
- Princess Frederika of Prussia, granddaughter.
- The Crown Princess of Greece, granddaughter.
- Prince George of Greece, great-grandson.
- Princess Margareta of Prussia, granddaughter.
- Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse, grandson.
- Princess Louise of Battenberg, granddaughter.
- Prince of Battenberg, great-grandson.
- Princess Victoria Alice of Battenberg, great-granddaughter.
- Princess Louise Alexandra of Battenberg, great-granddaughter.
- The Grand Duchess Sergius of Prussia, granddaughter.
- Princess Henry of Prussia, granddaughter.
- Princess Victoria Alice Helens of Hesse, granddaughter.

- Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, daughter.
- Prince Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, grandson.
- Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, grandson.
- Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, granddaughter.
- Princess Franziska of Schleswig-Holstein, granddaughter.
- Marchioness of Lorne, daughter.
- Princess Beatrice, Princess Henry of Battenberg, daughter.
- Prince Alexander Albert of Battenburg, grandson.
- Prince Leopold of Battenburg, grandson.
- Prince Donald of Battenburg, grandson.
- Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenburg, granddaughter.

Wife Gets a Divorce.

Minnie Burke was yesterday granted a divorce from Herman R. Burke, in Judge Tallman's department of the superior court. Mrs. Burke alleged in her complaint, filed yesterday, that for the past four years her husband had not contributed to her support.

The defendant admitted the truth of this allegation and did not contest the case. He was directed by the court to pay the plaintiff \$50 per month alimony for the next 24 months—P. I., Feb. 12.

The couple above referred to formerly resided here, the woman being interested in a small dry goods store on Second avenue. They went outside together, leaving here sometime in December; but before starting it was understood that the wife was to apply for a divorce on reaching Seattle.

A Cold Weather Joke.

A business man came down to his office on a winter morning when it was bitterly cold.

"Whew, how cold it is!" he said to one of the clerks. "Just shut that safe, if you please."

The clerk obeyed, with a puzzled look. Then when he could restrain his curiosity no longer he asked:

"Excuse me, sir, but why did you tell me to shut the safe?"

"Why," replied his employer, with a sly chuckle, "there are a good many drafts in that safe."

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BURRITT & McKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc.; Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. Aurora No. 2 Building, Front street, Dawson. Telephone No. 28.

MACKINNON & NOEL, Advocates, Second st., near Bank of B. N. A.

HENRY BLECKER FERNAND DE JOURNEL BLECKER & DE JOURNEL Attorneys at Law, Offices—Second street, in the Joslin Building Residence—Third avenue, opp. Metropole hotel Dawson.

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building.

N. F. HAGEL, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc. Office McLennan, McFeely & Co., hardware store, First avenue.

PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Offices, Rooms 7 and 8 A. C. Office Bldg.

BELECOURT, McDOUGAL & SMITH—Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, Etc. Offices at Dawson and Ottawa, Rooms 1 and 2 Chisholm's block, Dawson. Special attention given to Parliamentary work. N. A. Belecourt, Q. C. M. P., Frank J. McDougal, John F. Smith.

MINING ENGINEERS.

J. B. TYRRELL—Mining Engineer—Mines laid out or managed. Properties valued. Mission St., next door to public school, and 41 below discovery, Hunker Creek.

SOCIETIES.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION of Yukon Lodge, U. D. Y. F. & A. M., will be held at Masonic hall, Mission street, monthly, Thursday on or before full moon at 8:30 p. m. C. H. Wells, W. M. J. A. Donald, Sec'y

Fresh halibut at the Denver Market.

Kodaks bought and sold. Goetzman.

We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store.

At the present rate of consumption, the white fish the Pacific Cold Storage Co. brought in for the winter season will all be gone long before Easter.

Mumm's Pomeroy or Perinet champagnes \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that on and after March 1st, 1901, grants for all applications for relocation will be issued at the time the application is made, wherever the claim applied for appears open for relocation upon the records. The allowance of two weeks which has hitherto been made for holders of claims to take out a certificate of work will cease on and after March 1st. Holders of claims are warned, in order to avoid trouble with relocators, to take out a renewal of their claims on or before the expiration of their former lease.

(Signed) J. LANGLOIS BELL, c28 Assistant Gold Commissioner.

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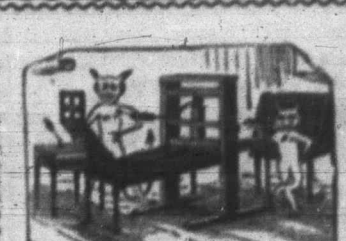
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