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t Factories

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War In Half an Hour

The London Daily Mail Tells How Germany Watches France.

Germany Is Marking Time--Sword Ever Hanging Over France.

As all the world knows, Metz and Strasburg, the outposts of the German rmy, face watchfully towards the west. From the gates of Metz the roads to Paris taper through wall after wall of entrenchments, which end in the heights bove the stricken field of Gravelotte.

Thence to the frontier of France is ony a short walk across the grave-covered ground, a walk that, in the course of some investigations for the Daily Mail. have lately made, says a Mail corres-

From Metz to France is just one long "glacis"-unassailable by the invader. Above it rise the five great sentinel forts which surround Metz; and from the high ground on which these stand you may early see, fifteen miles to your west, Verdun, the nearest French fortress-the breat of France.

When you have been half an hour in Metz and Strasburg you see that you are n the entrenched camp of an army ready or war. Infantry, cavalry, artillery and the rest of two complete army corps are Il equipped as if for instant active ser-What General Leboeuf untruthully said of France in 1870 is true of Fermany in 1899—

'Not a Shoe Lace is Wanting." nch the right button in Berlin, and in alf an hour 30,000 men will be marchng from Metz, and within twelve hours

00,000 men-the frontier field force of Alsace-Lorraine-will be crossing the order; while the system in accordance which the railroads tap all the great cantonments of Germany, and then converge on to the frontier, will land half a million men near Metz in

In a week two and a half million men will be on and beyond the frontier; in a week four million Germans will be un-

In Metz and Strasburg stores and food and fodder lie ready in magazines, the ransport animals stand harnessed by the wagons. All the appliances and muniions of modern war are to hand, and ould be on the road in a few minutes. When the troops go "route marching" they carry with them three days' food three days' ammunition; their dothes are in their knapsacks. They can carry no more in war.

The strategy of the Great Staff in Berin is offensive. The German army is ready for attack.

It is merely marking time. Metz and Strasburg are the impreg-nable "advanced bases" of the frontier which stands alert along the rim f France. Thence it can launch itself across the border, or stand and bar the

way to Germany. The German army is ready for defence, too. Metz and Strasburg are realthing more than comfortable European "zarebas." On three sides of both

Most Perfected of Entrenched Works, fourth side is a river; and in reserve, in rear of that all the organized resources the Fatherland stand unobstrusively

And, as a "zareba" is lined by the roops defending it, so the garrisons of man army marks time. Metz and Strasburg line their allotted arts of the entrenchments.

These are armed with none know how many heavy guns-for none

may enter but the great staff itself. This circle is three miles from the ity, its centre: the forts are about three nles apart, and so the fire from each will be the fault of the French themwould cover the space which lies beween them. That is to say, except you ass through the fire-zine, or smash one the links of the chain, you can assurnot enter to attack Metz itself. Each fort stands on a hill sloping moothly and gently downwards towards

No enemy can approach within four niles of the chain of forts, unless he first morshes the forts-and as these are lug from the inside of the hills, and ofno broader target than the muzzle their guns, you will conclude that proached one of these forts as close as sentry would allow me. The garrison two regiments of infantry and one egiment of artillery live in

An Excavated Barrack, which is entirely underneath the surface the ground, and completely hidden view. As seen from the French de, nothing whatever shows except one ng mound, from which protrude rows copholes of various sizes. Even as from the rear, you can get no more of what is within than you know hat are the contents of a coalmine you have only stood above the

All I knew was that there, within the were hidden nearly 3,000 men, 3.000 rifles and about 100 havy not to speak of machine-guns. All were mounds of smooth, green out of which stuck the tips of the des of their guns pointing westng entrenchments (to meet the ney of the fort being turned), and

of the earth just like an Egypposing that you are an invader. proclaim the independence of the Philipat you have passed this chain of pine islands, are almost without exception find yourself in a space of | descendants of either of these two mixed ground some two miles broad. Even races. Without such admixture it is on are only on an another glacis, hardly possible that the Tagales would are now within the fire-zone of ever have taken the initiative in the prebutteries in the first line of the en- sent campaign. works, which immediately sur- However, the Tagales are not hopelessly quirer.

heavy siege guns (I feared to ask how zetion in the archipelago, and all of their many); the guiners live within the natural power the fact bears witness that earthworks themselves; while on either they gradually progress from Central Luflank, and immediately in rear, are entrenchments, and the lines of cavalry and field artillery. Close to each are their several magazines, which contain all they need; while in rear of all are the engineers, with their depot and "park," the commissariat, and telegraph and hospital corps, with their depots:

The Artillery Workshops.

In Strasburg lie the stores and impediment of two army corps for two years. Thus, in a sense, it is true to say that these great camps of the German army are laid out just exactly on the same principle as are the smaller camps of our own frontier field forces. In both cases the outside circle is lined by troops who have as open a range of fire as is possible. In both cases the garrison is face to face with the conditions of war. Change the climate, subtract the luxuries of civilization, add the reality of imminent danger, divide the numbers of men by a hundred, and you might, for all the world, be a non-combatant with a British force in Afghanistan or the Sudan, as in an hotel in Strasburg. In both cases you are in the midst of a ring of troops sleeping fully accoutred in their trenches, ever watchful for their enemy. Only, at Omdurman or in Tirah, the "zareba." or the "sangar," is hurriedly extemporised, while in Alsace and Lorthe entrenchments are the result of years of careful labor, directed by centuries of local experience and the most

specialised ingenuity. And thus, in the midst of the circle of rifles and cannon, the civilian element--pursues its life: the shopkeepers and our Indian and Egyptian frontiers. But if you, among the shops of Strasburg, are ever inclined to deny that you are in a camp of troops ready for in-

which you are. fence.

It is merely marking time.

Drilled and Drilled and Drilled. From six to twelve it is the "goose-step" sections, by companies, by battalions. Hour after hour, it is nothing but the raising of legs till they are at right angles to backs, erect as posts, while subalterns and captains direct, correct, repeat-do the work which our subalterns and captains leave to their drillsergeants.

But the German officers are the drillsergeants of their army: they are the schoolmasters of a people whose educawhose safety is her military supremacy of a country which is prepared for war because it wants peace.

In the afternoon, from one to six, there is an incessant musical drill: the men, leave!" keeping their feet firm, sway their bodies backwards and forwards, or to left and right, or else they advance or retire of prayer with rosaries. It lasts above water to enable the officer in comto their front or to their rear.

agreeable means has as yet been found bauch. The Taga'e in reality still be-submerged completely, sometimes in a dication of national character, the Proin Germany by which the bodily activity of her soldiers and the mobility of her spooks which often intermilitary "units" can be increased. Those of more than a year's service

shoot at the butts, and shoot and shoot tained a certain standard of markmanending everywhere in glacis, smooth and ship in every possible attitude; or else tended as a lawn, gently sloping down- they are drilled in less elementary forwards towards the west; while on the mations; or else they garrison the outpost forts. And in the evenings all are rear of both camps, is a third mobilized instructed by the non-commissioned offiarmy corps across the Rhine; and in cers out of the official manual of field service; and thus till nine, when the long day is done.

And so the great war machine is kept oiled and smooth-running, and the Ger-But yet, in spite of all this, Metz and arts of the entrenchments.

The outside circle of defence at Metz

Strasburg convey no threat: they seem merely to be reminding their neighbor of s a chain of forts, some of them all but what is past; they seem merely to be a recognition of French instability: they are just a proof that Germany cannot

> forget Bismarck's maxim: "Never trust The sword hangs over France, but it selves alone if the thread which upholds

it is cut.

MIXED BREEDS IN PHILIPINES. Tagales Are Naturally a Savage, Immoral

Agoncillo are the leaders, capable of becoming civilized? This question is just now of paramount interest. It is denied in the abstract by Metz is practically impregnable. I apler of some renown, but it is answered Karl Theodore Machert, a German travel

in the affirmative conditionally by the same authority. In the Munich Neueste Nachrichten Mr. Machert explains that the progressive element among the Tagales is the mixed breed. Of the latter the Chinese mixed breeds number probably 300,000, most of them living in Luzon, the principal Island, and it appears that the mixture of Chinese and Iagales blood results in an intelligent and industrious race, while the pure Tagales are indolen

and of limited intellect. The Chinese mixed breeds nearly mo nopolize native trade, and it is significant that the most important banking firm in Manila, that of Suason, is in the hands of such mixed breeds.

Children of white people and Tagales, according to Mr. Machert, are more numerous than the official census admits. Many of those who are classed as Indios belong to this class of natives. In those parts of the Philippines where the Spariards are numerous the natives are generand outside wall upon wall of ally of a lighter color, and the Tagales girls even evince a certain pride to be mothers of mixed breeds of this class. The of each fort magazine after Spanish mixed breeds, as a rule, are farmme of shells, each magazine being ers on a small scale or enter the official

career as subalterns. The leaders of the Tagales, who to-day

round the city itself. In the front line unfit for self-government. They are unof these works are, at Strasburg, the doubtedly the principal pioneers of civilizon, their original home, to other parts of the Philippines at the cost of the other rative tribes. Some of the islands were undoubtedly originally inhabited by other Malay tribes, but they are to-day complete-

ly "Tagalized," so to speak. Since the Catholic clergy dropped their opposition the teaching of the Spanish language to the Tagales the intellectual status of the latter has been perceptibly raised. and among the subordinate officials under the Spanish regime there were not a few Taome priests, and besides numerous memers of the clergy who are mixed breeds

there are some native Tagales. But these examples are seldom, for the native Tagale has two enemies which are worse than Spaniards and Americans. These are his indolence and his sensual-When the Spaniards conquered the islands they found the Tagales in smail and scattered settlements, because an solated idling away of time was their ideal of life. The united efforts of the Spanish officials and clergy, who understood how to interest the native aristocracy, succeeded in gathering the natives larger settlements, known as pueblos or barries, but even to-day numerous Tagales escape from their villages into the impenetrable wilderness, where they are safe from the intrusion of the European police. For in the Tagale race the natural man is still strong, and the thin varnish applied by European culture to natural depravity is frequently shaken off.

The Tagales do not deny the aborigin of the forest and of nature generally in their physique. The enormous flexibility of the'r toes, which enables them to use considerable at Strasburg, small at Metz their feet almost as well as their hands, reminds one of the times when they saved merchants go about their work in the old | themselves from pursuit by climbing trees French cities as do the camp-followers with the dexterity of monkeys, and their -marvelously developed sense of smell also recalls their aborigine state.

The Tagale is an inveterate chewer of the betel-nut and a passionate lover of stant war, then walk far enough in any cock fighting. It appears that the natives one direction, and you will soon come up knew th's form or sport even before the to the grey and blue circle of soldiers in Spaniards came into the islands. He is also a card player and gambler generally. The German army is ready for de- This vice, no doubt, was introduced by the Spaniards.

The Tagales have a sort of native In the barracks, even in winter, every man is up at four, and from dawn to have great open air performances, which sundown the recruit of the first year is almost invariably have the fight between Christianity and Mohammedanism as a subject. Such performances last days and experts believed that they had gained nights, and the mimic battles frequently various evolutions-singly, by fours, become realities, greatly to the enjoyment of the spectators.

The Tagales are Catholics, and they are particularly apt in outward demonstrations of their confession, in the shape of images, processions, and the like. However, beneath the cover of a form of Christian'ty paganism still lives and frequently is nonstrated in a native manner. Thus, when the Tagale, in case of a marriage, obtains incense from his priest he burns tion is war; the guardians of a Germany the "nonos," the spirits of his ancestors, for, according to the idea of the Tagale these nonos still live upon trees, and no native will pass the particular tree of his

The ancient pagan festival in case of a death in the family is still extant; though They began with short trips between Tounine days and with its gluttony and mand to see his course. She answered her privileges of greatness. I think You wonder, as you look, that no more dances frequently becomes a complete de- steering gear admirably. Then she was judging by past experiences, by the infere disastrously with the life of man. Thus, for instance, if the squaw is about to become a mother, the male Tagale asagain all the morning till they have at- cends to the roof of h's hut and fights imaginary evil spirits in the air to prevent them from approaching mother and child Pagan and Christian views are often strangely mixed in the Tagale. He has adopted the Spanish idea that the death of an innocent ch'ld, which, being without sin, is certain of eternal life, is an object of joy, and such children are buried with all demonstration of joy and feasts. The history of the Tagales is not without interest. They were already in a state of some cultural development when the Spaniards captured the islands, and it is a demonstration of national feeling that the natives during the last decades have taken much interest in researches into their own history. The character of this civilization may be judged from the Ygorottos, who played a cons'derable part n the recent fights around Manila, and who are, to all appearances, nothing else but heathen Tagales. At any rate, they

are closely related to the Tagales. These Ygorottos live in quite pretentious hamlets, in which each house is fortified brought otherwise inaccessible mountain slopes under cultivation by terraces of ock gathered and piled into walls. The Viscavas, who also fight under Aguinaldo, Philippines, of which Aguinaldo and are another relation to the Tagales, but all these various tribes are treacherous, indolent, and sensual, and an easy prey

which Aguinaldo is one. A swallow on the wing was killed by a golf ball in England and in the summer of 1894 a player on the Nairn links, which lie along the seashore, brought down a gull so badly injured that it had to be destroyed, but one never supcosed that a body-blow from the hardest driven ball could kill so large an animal as a sheep. This actually happened on September 9 on the Kinghorn links. sheep was struck just behind the shoulder, above the spot sportsman selects, when he can, in shooting any large game, and fell on the spot. bruise, such as one might expect, the healthy.

printers. The government has come to natural scenery.

Pisek, Bohemia, is probably the only dogless town in the world. In consequence of a death from hydrophobia. place-killed.

with that raw Swede girl you hired?". "She is not raw now. My wife's mother

For the Zede

A Remarkable French Submarine Steamer-Some Experiments.

Under Water and Torpedo Her,

London, Feb. 23.-The navy department ible torpedo boats. Once make them practicable, its experts have reasoned, and the colon'es against the strongest fleets would be assured. With this view they have European admiralties, and two or three years ago they even arranged an official competition in designs for them. Two of offensive purposes, is well under way. Without waiting to test these in tr'als at sea, M. Lockroy, the minister of marine, has now made provision for the beginning

chambers for the current year.

appropriation that he is asking of the

A Remarkable Vessel. confidence in submarine boats petition than from those of recent exwhich French naval experts and engineers have spent years of work. The Gustave Zede, a torpedo boat of 236 tons, is really hanker after. a cons'derable-sized steamer, an enlargement and improvement of the Gymnote, a little submarine craft of 30 tons, designed twelve years ago by the naval constructor, now dead, whose name the larger vessel bears. Four or five months ago the enough of the ends they sought to warrant official tests, and since they have been going actively forward off Toulon, Hyeres and Marseilles. Comparatively few details of the results and still less of the means that achieved them have been publ'shed; but it is no secret that the navy department regards them as highly successful; while they have so touched French pride and imagination that the Matin, a widely circulated newspaper of Paris, has set afcot a promising subscription for the under a tree which is consecrated to building of a second Zede, as the gift of French citizens to the fatherland.

Successful Navigation. ings Again her steering gear worked successfully and she held her course truly. in a disturbed sea and with her cupola fulfilled expectations-the more as enough speed, six knots an hour, that she had made on the way to Marseilles. Moreover, the sea was so turbulent that all her apertive submarine service, vet all the mawent about their duties without hindrance

or unexpected discomfort. . . Likely to be Deadly. her accumulators must be frequently recomparatively narrow range of activity. What torpedo boats are intended to do

by night against a threatening or block- the other race, and to promote their coading fleet, it is believed that she can do by earth works. They have had a system by day. With her cupola above water, of irrigation for centuries, and they have she will not be visible until she is within a mile of the ship that she seeks to destroy. Then she will plunge below the surface, influences of m'xed breeds, of culated before the submersion, but, in all weal or woe to maintain common ob-

butcher's examination revealed a black and of what is happening above him. victim being otherwise sound and by day upon the battlesh'p Magenta and animated by the same aspirations, and Not only the German post office has she was in motion. Moreover, if the final within the range of practical politics, benefited by the mania of picture postal rising of the torpedo boat betrayed her and which will have the most beneficient cards, which has prevailed for some sufficiently for the enemy to bring their ant far reaching results in promoting the years, but the painters, paper makers and rapid-fire guns into play upon her, there peace and prosperity of the world. the conclusion, too, that it stimulates the missile effectively. Moreover, if both she to meet our colonies at least half way, tourist business, and in Saxony a prize and the battleship were destroyed the gain and at the same time have pressed forhas been offered for the best 20 views of would compensate many fold for the loss, ward every measure which seemed likeabout one-fourth of the sum necessary for

a second Magenta. Tom Thumb's successor, according to the authorities ordered every dog in the veracious authorities, is a Russian dwarf that I have been in office the Colonial "How are you really getting along height of a two-foot rule. He is 18 something like 800 miles of new railhas been roasting her three times a day midgets, and beside him even the re- on British trade, our primary object is ever since she came."—Cincinnati En- nowned Tom Thumb was a very Colos- the effect on the populations that have What terrible creatures these Congo Sus.

EDMONTON ROUTE.

The Viscount of Avonmore Considers It Unpracticable and Dangerous.

William Algernon Yelverton, sixth Viscount of Avonmore, has arrived in Winnipeg last week from Edmonton, N. W. T. His Lordship is returning to his country seat in the county of Mayo, Ireland, after spending the greater portion of the past year in the gold fields of the Canadian Northwest.

The Viscount has visited India, South Africa, Australia, the United States, Japan, China and the gold fields of the Spanish regime there were not a few Tagales. Their principal ambition is to bedesert, and was one of the first to successfully undertake the perilous journey. The distance traversed was about 2,300 miles. In India, he passed through a number of remarkable adventures, and on more than one occasion his life was in danger. Last spring he undertook a in France has long dabbled in costly and trip to the Klondike, going by way of ususual abortive experiments in submerg. Education by the Klondike, going by way of Edmonton. From this "outing," as he

terms it, he is now returning. defense of the coast of France and of her His Lordship spoke of the immense re-When interviewed by a Star reporter, sources of the Canadian Northwest and the prospect of their development. This, given a more friendly and patient hearing he said, would be slow as the topography to enthusiastic inventors of submergible of the country and the climate were craft than they often receive in other against it. The land was rough and bushy and there were little indications that it could maintain a large population. For this reason His Lordship did these were so promising that the department was willing to undertake them, and the Morse, a submarine torpedo boat for be formed in the neighborhood of the defensive purposes, is now nearing com-pletion, while a second, the Narval, for mining claims. Speaking of the different mediums of reaching the Yukon, the Viscount said he regarded the Edmonton route as impracticable and dangerous. In his opinion it would take an ordinary party two years at least to of six further submergible boats in the

reach the Yukon by this route. Asked if he took any interest in British politics, His Lordship said: "Well, not to any great extent. I have a seat omewhere in the House of Lords, but I have not bothered myself, very much springs less from the results of the com- about it. It is there when I want to use it. I suppose I'll have to settle periments in the Mediterranean with the down and do my share of political talk-Gustave Zede, a submergible vessel upon ing some day, but for the present I am satisfied with this roaming life. It suits my disposition; I like it, and it's all I I am going home for a short visit, and then will be off again to some other quarter of the globe.

BRITAIN'S IMPERIAL POLICE

Hon. Jos. Chamberlain Contends That the Colonies Have Been of Great Value in Development of Britain's Trade.

The following is from the London Times report of an important speech made by the Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain, in the House of Commons. Regarding the Imperial policy he said:

"What do we mean by an Imperial policy? I am not going to engage in the contest of definitions which has been going on so briskly between certain leading members of the opposition. I will not attempt to draw the line between To navigate the Zede successfully has a jingo and an imperialist, and between ancestors without the words: "By your been the problem that most vexed her de- an imperialist and a Little Englander, signer and the engineers that have been but I will say this-that the idea of an experimenting with her in the recent tests. imperial policy includes the idea of duties and interests outside these islands, seconds to gain a glimpse of her surround- quering, yes, conquering, but conquering and to develop vast areas of the world's Finally she essayed the longer voyage of surface primarily for their advantage, fifty-one miles from Toulon to Marseilles but no doubt for our own advantage as well. What has been the result of this ficers. He is at the same time Commishigh enough above water to perceive and mission hitherto? I call an impartial direct her course. Once more the Zede witness, Admiral Dewey, to testify. Admiral Dewey said that one of the might- his government. electricity, her motive power, remained in lest factors of the civilization of the her accumulators to have carried her back world is the imperial policy of England. world is the imperial policy of England. to Toulon without recharging at the same It will not be any longer the imperial policy of England alone. All the na- friend the Commissaire de District goes tions that have sprung from our lions tures were closed as they would be in ac- has hitherto fallen on our shoulders alone. We have the sympathy and the chinery worked well and officers and crew ever-growing power of our great colonies always at our backs, and now we see ed States of America, entering the lists The Zede is intended purely for coast and sharing the task which might have hear.) Under these circumstances, the of modern times"-(laughter)-is to draw closer the bonds which unite us to operation in the great work of civiliza-

> the Anglo-Saxon race. (Cheers.) The Colonies. Speaking for the colonies as well as her progress is so smooth that there should that at no period has the sentiment it in you bring in seventeen this week. be neither noise nor disturbance of the ity been more deeply implanted in all sea to attract attention. Her course to- our hearts, nor the resolution been about your ears.' ward her mark will have been closely cal- stronger to stand shoulder to shoulder in probability she will have to lift her cupola jects and interests. (Hear, hear.) We sprouting beard he knows that there are once and again to enable her commander, have seen the great Dominion of Canada risings, much too little time to enable the seen the unanimous contribution of the seventeen pounds of rubber. gunners of the threatened ship to get the Cape Parliament towards the support of | range and train their guns upon her. Be- the imperial navy. (Cheers.) We have the experts call the "blindness" of sub- made in Australia to the federation mar'ne vessels, the French engineers have which will make the group of colonies touches the surface of the sea, and a word, and we have seen the marvellous mechanism on the principal of a camera display of loyalty to the British crown commissaire comes along again.
> obscura, by which the commander of the which characterized the wonderful pro"What! no more rubber? Zede can gain a little notion of his position ceedings of the Jubilee year. (Hear, hear.) These things prove conclusively Twice the boat has made a sham attack that Britons throughout the world are twice has successfully torpedoed her, once that they are preparing the way for the when she was at anchor and once when greater federation which I believe is should yet be time for her to launch her (Cheers.) We at home have endeavored A second Zede, for example, would cost ly to develop the resources of those crown colonies which more especially look to us for guidance and for initiative in order that their prosperity may be secured. In little more than three years named Great Peter. He is said to be Office alone, not speaking of the India just 22 inches high, a little under the and Foreign Offices, has sanctioned years old, and weighs only 61 lbs. At ways in tropical colonies, and though this rate Peter is the smallest of all in so doing we are conferring benefits under pressure, as in the two cases ob- natives are!"

been entrusted by Providence to our charge.

Not Too Sanguine,

Some people say I am over-sanguine, but I confess I do not believe it is possible to exaggerate the prosperity which in the course of a few years may be anticipated in those countries which for centuries past have been desolated by slavery and by inter-tribal war. (Cheers.) As an example. In less than ten years the trade of the Lagos and the Gold Coast has increased more than twofold, and we have been only touching the coast; and the whole of that vast interior is still to be developed. The West Indies have been unfortunite; they have been hampered by causes which are certainly not within their own control, and their credit has been almost destroyed by the bounty system. opinion of the bounty system I have never concealed, and I think that those free traders are very imprudent who contrive to identify the doctrine of free trade with the support of this abominable bounty system. (Hear, hear.) The bounty system is inconsistent with free trade and hostile to free trade, and it ought to be, I think it must be, I think it will be, soon abolished.

It is a startling, an almost astounding fact that these three groups of the Brit ish colonies, with a population all told of not much more than thirteen millions, are taking from us every year very nearly as much as the three greatest European States-Russia, Germany and France-combined, with a population all told of 220 millions. (Cheers.) And then, gentlemen, Lord Farrer writes long letters to the Times to prove that trade does not follow the flag. I have said enough to justify me in taking a sanguine view of the future of our colonial empire, but remember that empire is the fruit of the policy of expansion which is the bugbear of some politicians. (Laughter.) No doubt it carries with it grave responsibilities and increases our anxieties, but what was greatness given to us for if we are not to confront difficulties and overcome obstacles? (Cheers.) Let us be worthy of our ancestors and take our share of the duty which they left us. I hope you will not fall into the mistake of supposing that I am arguing for empire simply ecause it contributes to the material interests of the United Kingdom. It does that, no doubt. It is this policy which has developed the national character, and I firmly believe that, in spite of many faults by which it has been acomplished, in spite even of the crimes sometimes laid to its charge, it has made on the whole for peace and good government and for the happiness of many hundreds of millions of the human race. (Cheers.)

SLAVERY AND MASSACRE.

The Vicious Methods of the Belgians of Getting Rubber on the Congo.

It has long since been demonstrated that the whole system of administration the Congo Free State is vicious to the core, and while the capacity and enterprise of individual Belgians cannot fail to evoke admiration, the policy of the government is one which deserves hearty condemnation, says the London Daily Mail. It has been a policy of making money, and the unfortunate natives have been cruelly oppressed in

the process. A correspondent who knows the Congo thoroughly thus describes the system of rubber collecting in the Free State. Al mpartial critics acquainted with the subject will be able to endorse the account; "An individual, generally second or third rate, is appointed Commissaire de District for some place or another.

generally has about forty or fifty native soldiers under his command, and a couple of non-commissioned Belgian of saire de District-that is, District Commissioner, and also trader on behalf of "His instruction are to get as much

rubber as he can out of the natives The more rubber the more pay. Our out to the Congo with the sole idea of will take their share in the task which making a good turn-over, and acquiring it as rapidly as he can. not exactly a garden of Eden. "When he left Belgium he may have

been a small clerk in an accountant of. our cousins across the Atlantic, the Unit- | fice or something of that sort. When he gets out to the Congo he wears a broadbrimmed sombrero, slings a rifle round defense, with a slow speed, and, since proved too heavy for us alone. (Hear, his shoulders, and becomes a little tingod in the particular God-forsaken dis charged and she can carry few supplies, a first business of this "worst government trict to which he has been appointed. He can do just as he pleases, and he does that amply.

"One fine day our friend calls at a village with his escort, and summe tion which appears to be the mission of the miserable, cowering chief, holds forth in the following strain: "'Look here! you don't bring in enough

rubber to the station. You only brought and her machinery works so quietly and for the mother country, I may say in seven pounds last week-just see that you don't I will burn your village down "The chief cannot but comply. Behind the dirty-looking white man with the

other white men, and that he has no as the technical dialect has it, to con his endeavoring to cultivate more fully trade, chance of resistance. So he grinds his surroundings. In the runs between Toulon with the mother country by giving us people down and makes them work like and Hyeres a few seconds sufficed for these the most favorable terms. We have slaves. He manages to send down slaves. He manages to send down "Then the commissaire makes another round of the villages. He calls out the

sides, to lessen so far as possible what seen the approach which is rapidly being chief again, and tells him that next week he will want twenty-seven pounds. The usual threats are repeated. devised a tube only the lip of which there a nation in every sense of the so the system goes on until the miserable village can produce no more. The "'What! no more rubber? You pes-

tiferous dog-you sacre canaille! I said forty pounds. Why have you not got forty pounds? chief trembling expostulates "The You first wanted seventeen pounds, and

now you want forty pounds. I can

produce no more.' "Violent scene. Commissaire retires, threatening that he will come back next day, and raze the village to the ground. I will teach you to refuse the com-mands of the State. Well, the next day, sure enough, the commissaire comes along, and the thing is done. The cannibal soldiery are let loose on the village, which is fired: men, women and

children are shot and bayoneted. The authority of the State is reaffirmed. "Sometimes it does not quite end like that. The natives, knowing the fate in camp, and attack it just before dawn breaks. That, no doubt, is pened in the Mongalla district. The in so doing we are conferring benefits Belgian papers then trot out the cannihalistic yarns, and all the world says,