

SOUTH AFRICA.

Present Condition of Mining in
that Country.Each Mine at Johannesburg Has Its
Own Guard of Soldiers—Crush-
ing Impossible as Yet.(Cor. of Engineering and Mining
Journal.)

To all interested in mining, the war that has been waged in South Africa for the past 18 months must have been watched with considerable attention on account of the commencement of hostilities that the mines would fare very badly at the hands of the Boers, and that in case of their defeat this great gold-field would be laid in ruins. It is my privilege to be here after an absence of many months; and as I belong to a body of men whose duty it is to see that no harm comes to the mines, perhaps a few lines from this great centre will be of interest.

To the credit of the Boers let me say that, take it all in all, the mines have been treated with considerable consideration. Some destruction, of course, has been done, but I feel sure the mine owners are jubilant that their immense possessions have escaped with so little damage. The greatest sufferers are the mines in the central district, which were worked for some months by the Boers. As the carefully prepared assay plans were handed over to them, they knew exactly where the richer ore was, and it is needless to say that they took it all, and much more besides, in one case having robbed the mine of all its reserves.

The danger to the mines is not over until peace is finally declared. Since the British occupation considerable damage has been done to the mines in the outlying districts by marauding Boers. After a large battery was burned down, permission was given by Lord Kitchener for the formation of a body of 1,000 men all belonging to the mines, to be called the "Mines Division of the Rand Rifles." The organization is a thoroughly military one, and we have the duties and responsibilities of regular soldiers. A private receives 5s. (\$1.25) per day, rates of course, being given, as well as all equipment; the whole expense of the raising of the regiment and its maintenance being met by the mining companies. As we are used by the military authorities, they, of course, score on the transaction. The men signed on for the mines, or to the aid of hostilities. It is rather difficult to get out of the service. Three months' notice must be given, and when the discharge is received the chances are, with it, you will receive a request to take a trip to the coast.

Almost the whole of the present population of Johannesburg is made up of regular soldiers and civilian soldiers. British subjects are not allowed to remain here unless they become members of the Rand Rifles, a military organization made up of civilian soldiers. They drill once a day and have considerable target practice. They are to be used only along the line of reef, in case of necessity. The mines are a part of this organization, but differ in that they are not allowed to do civil duties. Our territory of operations is also limited to the neighborhood of the mine.

Each mine has from 15 to 20 of the mine guards stationed on it, and at the most appropriate points forts have been made. The numerous sand and rock heaps every where, the deep trenches being dug all around the sand, and strongholds built on the rock dumps. From the top of the head-gears, which command a fine view of the surrounding undergirding country for miles around, a sentinel always keeps watch by day to see that the enemy does not take us by surprise. He is on duty for two hours a time, and out for four hours at night. Our men are out on picket duty, and sleep in the forts. We do not receive many visits from the Boers. Since I have been here the Boers have been here about three times, and as they had severe discouragements each time, having failed to capture any of our cattle or do any damage to the property, they stopped coming, after leaving a number of their Mauser bullets in some of us. Being hit by their bullets is not so bad as it sounds, provided you are not hit in a vital spot or by an explosive or explosive bullet, which rips a man terribly, for the regular Mauser bullet makes a clean wound, which quickly heals.

Needless to say, our life is a rough one, and each of us looks for the blessings of peace. All of us infinitely prefer the risks of mining to the dangers of soldiering. Considering that scarcely any of the men ever did military duty before, I think the regiment makes a very good showing. They do not seem to mind whatever danger there is, having become accustomed to it in the profession of mining. Fortunately drunkenness is impossible, as only a very small quantity of spirits is allowed each man, a wise precaution, I think.

Of course, the military authorities would start crushing tomorrow if they possibly could, but at present many almost insurmountable difficulties are in the way, the principal ones being the remuneration to be given to the white employees, and the security of native labor. Lord Kitchener has given permission to several companies to start crushing, provided they give their employees 5s. per day, the same amount that is paid to the hundreds of men from Johannesburg who are fighting in his different regiments, and who cannot receive their discharge from their corps until peace is proclaimed. If the many mine workers at the coast towns were brought up and put to work at 4s. a day, as formerly, there would be a big howl from these men, so in justice to them Lord Kitchener will only allow crushing under these conditions. The mining companies will not reap any benefit from this reduced wage, for the difference is to go to a charitable fund for the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers. A little work is being done on each mine, such as pumping, repairing, etc., almost entirely by German, French, Scandinavian and

American workmen, who, of course, receive the regular pay. Those mines which have suffered most through the Boer operations have special permission from the authorities to do a certain amount of developing work. One mine has as many as 10 to 12 machines at work on the contract system, and a number of Kafirs sinking winzes. All these machines are driving, naturally, to open up some ground for the mill. The foreign mining population is undoubtedly doing well, the military authorities do not seem to care how much you pay them. It is only the unfortunate British subjects who are not allowed to receive the full wage if they return to work in any numbers. A strange state of affairs, truly!

If any mine starts crushing, then of course the wages of all will be the same, namely, 10s. per day. Naturally the labor on a mine that is now receiving 5s. per day does not wish to see crushing operations start. Enough of the labor force has been collected to run several of the mines, but as yet no start has been made, and I believe it is a mistake to go off half-cocked. They can hardly meet the demand for coal now, and the difficulty of transporting it, and if the demand was increased four or five-fold, I do not know what would happen. Far better, I believe, to bend all our energy to the attainment of peace, and then start off in full swing, on the old footing.

Few of the managers that I have talked to like the 5s. a day, and they think that a start of some kind is better than continued idleness. It remains to be seen if the idea is practicable.

LOYAL AUSTRALIA ACTS.

Victoria Assembly Resents an Attack
on the King.

MELBOURNE, June 25.—A local labor newspaper reproduced last week the attack on King Edward which was printed in the Dublin Irish People some time ago. The publication created much popular indignation and excitement, and the ministers have been in communication with Colonial Secretary Chamberlain on the subject. Today Mr. Peacock, the minister of labor, made a statement on the matter in the legislative assembly. He said the communication received from Mr. Chamberlain was of a confidential nature, and the position was such that the house must take its own course.

Mr. Peacock then invited Mr. Findlay, a member of the legislative assembly, who is also the publisher of the labor paper, to reproduce the article, to explain his action. Mr. Findlay disclaimed all responsibility for the publication, but declined to apologize.

Minister Peacock thereupon moved that Mr. Findlay be expelled from the house.

Attorney-General Gillott seconded this motion. A long debate followed. The government was defeated, and the article was being read.

Subsequently Mr. Findlay apologized for what he would say, his action with the paper. He had stopped the sale of the paper, he said, when his attention was called to the article. Mr. Findlay's friends tried to suppress the article, but the minister refused the session for the resolution of expulsion. The house, however, by a vote of 64 to 17 expelled the offending member. This occupies a large portion of the hour, and the speaker, cheerfully, the announcement of the vote.

EXCITING FLAG EPISODE.

VANCOUVER, June 25.—The str. Islander from Skegness, today brings news of an exciting flag episode at Skegness.

E. S. Busby, Canadian customs agent there, acting on instructions from Ottawa, ordered the British flag over his office. Several incendiary remarks followed, and on the following morning a tall, athletic looking man stopped at the foot of the staff, took out his pocket knife and cutting the rope, pulled down the flag and ran the balyards through the block, rolled up the colors and tossed them into a recess of the building. Customs Agent Busby went to the defence of the flag. Reaching the flag, he pulled the latter pulled a card from his pocket and after handing it to the astonished Canadian officer, turned on his heel and walked away. On the card was "George Miller, attorney at law, Eugene Ore." Miller is a brother of Joaquin Miller, the California poet, and is visiting friends in Skegness.

The Skegness News says: "This incident, which has caused no end of comment, has been brewing for several days. When the flagpole was put up on the building, the matter was called to the attention of C. I. Andrews, U. S. deputy collector of customs."

"Mr. Andrews investigated the matter and found nothing in his instructions. He was sure you get KUMFORT. Never accept a substitute. It is better to be safe than sorry and you may be sure that KUMFORT are the best. All Druggists in 10 and 25c. sizes.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION AT FAIRFIELD.

The school examination held in district No. 23, Fairfield, St. John Co., on the 26th June was a decided success. The afternoon was fully occupied with the various exercises, elementary and advanced classes doing splendid work. The trustees and pupils regret that their teacher, Miss Mary Kirkpatrick, has decided to resign after a four term service in the district. A very pretty ending was the presentation of a magnificent spring rooster by her scholars, an original address being read by Miss Jane McWhinney. The teacher responded in her usual happy manner.

To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain cure for every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles, the manufacturer has guaranteed a refund of the money paid for the ointment if you do not get a cure. Send a box, at once, to Dr. Chase's Ointment, 100 N. 2nd St., St. John, N. B.

OUR BIG GAME.

Becomes a Nuisance to Farmers
of the North Shore.A Complaint of Their Ravages—A
Remedy Suggested—A Novel
Race.

(Newcastle Union Advocate.)

Since some of our exchanges appear to be somewhat skeptical as to the genuineness of a letter, purporting to come from a farmer in Maine and addressed to the Game Commissioner of that state complaining of the depredations of large game on the crops, etc. One of our staff waited upon John Robinson, game overseer of this county, a man whose name is the synonyme of veracity and who according to the Advance, is the best overseer New Brunswick ever had, and that gentleman when shown the letter and some of its contents thereon, said that he carried the Maine officer before him, and he was not at all surprised at its contents, and as it was accompanied with a claim for damages may be regarded as public property.

Barnaby River, Miramichi, N. B., June 1st, 1901.

Mr. J. Robinson, Game Overseer,

Dear Sir:—

I write to inform you that deer and caribou are devouring my vegetables and also that moose are serving my oats and other grains in the same manner. They have consumed all of my potatoes and destroyed my raspberries. My farm is located on what was once "hant" or resort of these animals before I cleared it, I infer from the fact that when doing chopping we found antlers in great varieties and numbers. Let me say here that these wastes of yours served me as if the hands of the destroying angel had passed over them. It is said by many that the great numbers are to be attributed to your extraordinary vigilance; be this as it may, something will have to be done to compensate me for the damages I have sustained and some arrangements devised to protect me in the future.

I would of course like to remain here in the same respect and not migrate to the primeval forests at the approach of winter we would find ways and means to lessen their numbers by raising a mob of rangers or left val-
Now I had made preparations for the summer and have been deprived of making a living in this way. I have had ten acres of raspberries and various other fruits, which is a great loss to me and for which I hope to have an allowance made.

Mr. Robinson continued by saying that "The grievance complained of would remedy itself for just as soon as the deer and caribou are exterminated by the large game sportsmen would resort here from all parts. It seems pitiful to hear so many complaints like that of Mr. Marston and realize the ignorance of sportsmen generally as to the resources of the Miramichi and its environs for their gratification. The town of Newcastle because of its geographical position and its natural de-
not for sportsmen and if mileage rates on the railroads was reduced and literature disseminated I think the farmers and myself would doubtless begin to feel that after all life is worth living."

In a recent conversation with a railroad engineer the writer was told that the superabundance of big game was a menace to railroad men. They were a source of danger as they did not seem to realize the danger of a locomotive and were frequently killed. They broke down fences along the line and made extra work for the section men. John Williamson recently had an exciting race with the monarch of the forest. He is engineer of the night freight and one morning recently, while taking his train up the grade north of Newcastle he saw a large moose trotting along the railway track about 100 yards ahead of him, he lighted out and gradually caught up to his majesty until he was running neck and neck. The moose kept up for some time when he came to a low place in the fence over which he was able to get. Mr. Williamson says it was an exciting race and that the moose seemed to enter into the contest with spirit and showed no fear.

Children Cry for

CASTORIA.

SUSSEX NEWS.

SUSSEX, June 25.—A drinking fountain will be erected in front of the post office when the water works are completed.

G. Harold Brown has been engaged to play the organ for the oratorio, The Holy City, which is to be given in the Presbyterian church, Moncton, on July 2nd. The oratorio is the work of Prof. Gordon H. Perry.

Hon. A. S. White and Mrs. White have gone to St. Martin's to spend the summer. Miss Maria Magers, a recent graduate from King's Business College, St. John, has secured a position as stenographer in the Record office here.

Work of renovating and improving the interior of St. John's church at Upper Corner will commence next week.

JUNE BRIDES.

GILLMORE-MILLS.

At St. Luke's church, Annapolis

Royal, on Wednesday, the 26th inst.,

Jean Louise Mills, daughter of John

B. Mills, K. C., was united in marriage

to Charles Reginald Gillmore of Bos-

ton, son of Capt. Gillmore of Wolf-

ville, the groomsmen, which took

place at noon, was conducted by Rev.

Henry Holt, rector, assisted by Rev.

H. O. deBois, rural dean, and Rev. J.

Warner, rector of Granville. The

bride, who was dressed in white, veil

de sole, en princess, carried a

veil and tiles of the valley, carrying

a white prayer book, entered the

church on the arm of her father, at-

tended by Mr. J. H. Corbitt,

made of honor, whose costume was

white organdie, white chignon picture

hat, having a large bouquet of white

roses and maiden-hair fern, her gift

from the groom, both of which were

of turquoise ring. The bridemaids were

Miss Gertrude Trevelly of Wolfville,

and Miss Ruth, sister of the bride,

who wore white organdie, large leg-

ged hats, carried white bouquets, and

carried bunches of the same June

flowers. Their gifts from the groom

were gold chains and lockets, contain-

ing miniature photos of the bride and

groom, and a gold watch, presented

by his brother Stanley, while Messrs.

Jack Savary and Harold Mills per-

formed the duties of ushers. The

church was beautifully trimmed by

the young ladies of the town, includ-

ing the Pickwick Club, to which the

bride belonged. A striking feature

of the decorations was one of two bells

inside the chancel rails, constructed

under the supervision of Mr. Wm. A.

Malcolm. At the moment the happy

couple were pronounced man and

wife, the "bell rope" of ribbon was

pulled, which precipitated flowers in

profusion over the bride and groom.

Tombolay beautiful wedding music was

provided, with Miss Chipman at the

organ, while Miss Hindon did herself

great credit, and delighted all with

her solo. After the ceremony the re-

dill party, and immediate relatives

drove to "The Oaks," where the wed-

ding breakfast was served. Thence

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gillmore departed

on the eastern express, and Mr. Wm.

Malcolm, who was the officiating

clerk, was accompanied by Mr. J. H.

Corbitt, who was the officiating

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SAW THE MAYA

HOLY CITY.

Yucatan Traditions Disproved

by an American Visit.

He Found None of the Arts Which

Legend Put in Chan Santa Cruz—

Little Evidence of Civilization of

the Mayas—The Mexican Conquest

Nearly Complete.

AUSTIN, Tex., June 8.—Thomas H. Laskell is probably the first and only American who has ever visited Chan Santa Cruz, the holy city of the Mayas Indians, which was recently captured by the Mexican troops in Yucatan and is now occupied by the army of Gen. Bravo. He reports a big coffee plantation in Guatemala and obtained permission from the Mexican military authorities to go to the front. In a letter to his father he says:

"While the Mayas Indians are good fighters they are not of the high order of intelligence that I had expected to find there, judging from the accounts of the tradition of their tribe. There is little to interest one in Chan Santa Cruz, which the Indians had guarded from the eyes of all except members of their own tribe for these many long years.

"It had been reported by visionary archaeologists that at Chan Santa Cruz would be found many evidences of arts which had been lost to all except the Mayas. No such discoveries were made, and all traces of the copper and iron forces which were said to exist in the holy city were obliterated if they did exist, which I think is doubtful. There is little evidence to be seen in Chan Santa Cruz of the former high civilization of the Mayas, and I am inclined to believe that many of the traditions concerning this tribe are unfounded.

"The town of Chan Santa Cruz is a dirty, unsightly little hamlet of probably 1,000 people. Most of the huts in the place were evidently occupied by chiefs or men who occupied some official position in the tribe. There are not a half dozen stone buildings in the town and the sacrificial temple, which was reported by archaeologists to be located there, does not exist, and there is no evidence that it ever did exist.

"The most substantial stone building in the town is the church, and it is fast falling into decay. The headquarters, or barracks, occupied by the Mayas soldiers are built of stone, and two or three small houses are also built of the same material. The other buildings are small thatched huts. The town shows neglect, many parts of it being overgrown with weeds and shrubbery.

"There is no furniture to be seen in the houses and the inhabitants must have lived in the simplest kind of style. In place of beds, hammocks made of branches of trees were used for sleeping places. Surrounding each house and hut is a small inclosure, which was used as private burial ground by the family occupying the house. When the assault on the town was made by the government troops the bodies of the dead were disinterred and removed to places of safety by the Indians.

"So far as I was able to discover, there is nothing whatever to be seen at Chan Santa Cruz to interest those who are seeking knowledge concerning the early history of the Mayas. If there were any records bearing on the subject at Chan Santa Cruz they were carried off by the Indians when they evacuated the town.

"The Mayas are not the agricultural people that they have been pictured. Although the country around Chan Santa Cruz is capable of producing abundant crops of all kinds of tropical products it has been cultivated but very little. There are occasional patches of ground which have been planted in corn, but otherwise there is no indication that any effort has been made by the Indians to cultivate the soil. Orange trees grow wild in great profusion and produce an abundance of fruit.

"I was surprised from what I saw during my visit to the so-called holy city that the government troops have not been able to conquer the Indians long before this. The greatest obstacle met with by the government forces has been the heavy forests of timber and thick undergrowth which cover the country and through which the troops cannot move until a way has been cleared. The Indians are now cornered, and unless they take refuge across the border in British Honduras, they will be captured in the course of a few weeks."

BOWMAN'S HEADACHE POWDER cures quickly all headaches arising from nervousness, sleeplessness, biliousness and other causes. Bowman's is safe and reliable and the kind that cures promptly. 10 cents and 25 cents.

DENTON-SMITH.

A very pretty event took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sydney W. Smith, Upper Wicklow, N. B., on Wednesday, June 19th, at 4 o'clock, when their daughter Josephine M. was united in marriage to Rev. S. Greenlaw of Carleton Place, Rev. S. Greenlaw performed the ceremony. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Evelyn Smith. The best man was Robert O. Denton, brother of the groom.

The bride was dressed in white satin with trimmings of white satin ribbons, and wore a wreath of lilacs of the valley and carried a bouquet of the same. The bridegroom wore a suit of steel grey with trimmings of pink silk, and carried pink and white roses. The house was tastefully decorated with evergreens and cut flowers. The wedding march was played by Mrs. Phillips, a friend of the bride. After congratulations the bride couple, with about eighty relatives and friends, partook of a delicious supper. The secretaries were on hand at an early hour and were a joyful hostess for a few minutes, when they were invited to partake of a present and see the bride and groom. The presents were numerous and useful.

MONCTON.

Two Very Old Residents—A Pair of

June Brides.

MONCTON, June 27.—This city has two residents who have passed four score years and ten—Mrs. Mary Beatty, who celebrated her 92nd birthday on Tuesday, and Mrs. John Wood, who will be 96 next November. Both are quite smart. Mrs. Wood retains all her faculties except for a slight deafness, the after effects of a gripe, and spends most of her time knitting, of which she is very fond.

Last evening Miss Maud T., eldest daughter of A. H. Miller, was married at her home to William G. McAlister. The ceremony, which was confined to members of the families, was performed by Rev. E. S. Coley. A pretty home wedding took place at the residence of Mrs. Nehemiah Steeves, Hillsboro, last evening, when her daughter, Miss Millicent, was united in marriage with Percy Steeves. About one hundred friends of the families were present to witness the ceremony, which was performed on the lawn by Rev. C. W. Townsend, pastor of the First Hillsboro Baptist church. The bride was becomingly gowned in white silk with chignon trimmings and carried a beautiful bouquet of roses. Mr. and Mrs. Steeves left this morning on a wedding trip to P. B. Island, and their return will reside in Hillsboro.

NOTICE.

TENDERS will be received up to 6th JULY next for the purchase of a mill, containing two runs of stones and a shingle machine, also 90 acres of land attached, situate in the Parish of Lorne, Victoria County, N. B., belonging to Martin M. Watson estate.