## VICTORIA TIMES, TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1900.



Charles E. Hands Tells of Scenes from every point of the compass. We in Wake of a Fighting Army.

Then-

theirs.'

believe their eyes.

at all. What is it, think you?"

and then the explanation struck him.

ultantly.

How Boers Prepare to Oppose port, and it all shall be ours, their the Forces of Lord Roberts.

Kimberley, March 18 .- Bloemfontein the captured capital, the city of ease into which after long marchings, and excitements you sank as into a feather bed, Boer leaders. Spare one sympathetic degenerated after three days into a mere provincial town. It was full of raptures at first. You ed their preparations, they climbed up to

sang "God Save the Queen" in it, and the top of their Spion Kop to watch the saw the old flag go up, and drank a long, English advance, and glorious drink of champagne and seltzer, moonlight listening to a band, and slept saw the British dust cloud sheer off away under a roof, and had a makeshift'menu card on the hotel table, and then-well,

that was all there was. You had exhausted Bloemfontein. You cannot go about singing "God Save the Queen" in a captured city for ever. After the first flush of triumph you disguise your exultation. When you have seen the flag break out over the principal government buildings you soon begin to resent the sight of a German hotel-keeper hoisting an imitation over his doctored stock. When you have once made yourself clean again a bath ceases to be a luxury and degenerates into a mere matter of ccurse. And as to the moonlit musicwell, hang it all, we have not come out here for an Earl's Court Saturday night. And as to sleeping in a bed-well, af-ter that first tired night when,

With Drowsy Satisfaction.

British general was ever known to pass a kopje upon which we had carefully you heard the rain pattering on the corentrenched ourselves. And he calls himrugated iron, what satisfaction was there self a field-marshal, and can't find his in lying awake under a tin roof being gnawed at by mosquitoes? None. The way to a range of kopjes you can see army was going to stay for ages in the twenty miles away. Don't you think we little place-a fortnight, perhaps three had better send somebody out to him to weeks-three weeks without a march, or tell him of his mistake before he has town was just running over with oats, an adventure, or an appetite, or an un- gone too far? Why, there's nothing but for instance. certainty, or the glorious satisfying sleep level ground-smooth open veldt-down of a tired man rolled in a blanket in there, over the south side of the town, the open air. "Come, brother," you said the way he is going." to yourself, "this is no longer any place I remember now that on the long

for you and me. The war here has reach- march from Aasvogel Kop to Venter's ed the stage of political discussion in Vlei we heard from the far kopies on hotel armchairs. our left a faint appealing cry, and I

"Come, brother, before we grow town- remember that with the assistance of softened, let us pack some bully beef a pair of good glasses I was able to and hard biscuits in the well of the cart. make out on the top of a hill what look-Let us inspan and push off somewhere d like a couple of men wildly waving where something is happening out in the their arms. I have no doubt now, havopen. Out there north of Kimberley on ing seen the position from the inside, the road to Mafeking there are still that the cry came from Delarey and De Boers in trenches and still the menace | Wet, who were endeavoring to attract of active rebellion. It is only a hundred our attention while they indicated by exmiles back to Kimberley, but it is a hun- cited gestures that we were taking the dred miles of glorious open veldt stud- wrong road. ded with battlefields and sites of camps

and laagers rich in the signs and the sad disappointment, too, that day at loads of forage, mealies, tobacco, orconsequences of war. Come, let us in. Driefontein. The road I followed took anges, vegetables, wood, or game. After A Wide Billiard-Table-Level Stretch

It is difficult to resist an appeal of Abraham's Kraal. They had prepared der through the medium of the market concare back of the hill were swarms lam trees, comes the sound of guns, which tells that our artillery is endeavor-It is difficult to resist an appeal of this kind, especially when it is backed by other interests and considerations. So fortified from top to bottom commanded in buying groceries, household require-tor the day of mounted infantry, and around a little house at the kopie's base the jaunty ing to hamper the retreat, while an al-

Horses were cheap along the Modder Wet. "We wait till all of them have crossed the nek and the road behind is River The oxen were mostly dead. They blocked with their transport wagons. had dropped in their tracks when they were done as oxen do, and the following "Then, of course," says Delarey, exwagons had cut another road to clear "we seize the two kopjes on either side of the nek, and simultaneousthem. I only saw one ox that was not dead, and a large, over-fat vulture was "We open a murderous fire on them perched by his stretched out body,

watching and waiting for the just perceptible breathing to cease. will smite them hip and thigh. Not one With two exceptions every house I of them shall escape." passed was empty and desolate. One "And our burghers shall swoop round

was a store kept by an old Irishman from behind the hills to the north and not far from Bloemfontein. He had been the south upon their lumbering transthere for five and twenty years, he said, waiting for the railway to be built from horses, and their oxen, and their asses, and mules, and everything that is Kimberley to Bloemfontein. Now it was certain to come, and under enterprising

And with mutual congratulations no British rule he felt sure that he would at last get the liquor license he had all doubt they went off to dig a few more the time been vainly applying for, trenches by way of giving the finishing ouches to the position. Spare a little pity for the fate-befooled

dead animals, the greening veldt empty of life except for the broken, all but tear for their terrible disappointment a lifeless, horses. How long would it take day or two later, when, having completthe land to recover? How would British enterprise find means to apply itself?

To Their Astonishment and Dismay Outside 'Cronje's laager at Osfontein 4 found that British enterprise was alto the left, in a direction that led past ready alive to its opportunities. Incre ready alive to its opportunities. There no kopies, and led up to no trenches. The poor fellows must have been quite were stores which our dwindled transunable to understand it. It was against all the rules and all the precedents, They must have stared and stared, unable to "Thousand devils, Delarey," said De near the heap were stacks of 40-pound Wet, "whatever can be the matter with the verdomde Roberts? Here we go to all the trouble to pick out these beauti-

the bonfire. ful kopjes and dig all these lovely Well, and there was British enterprise trenches and he takes no notice of them Kimberley was close on thirty miles away, and was only just recovering from Delarey pondered a moment or two its long beleaguerment. But British "Why," said he, " the man must have Kimberley was already alive to its opportunities, and there, was an enterprislost his way. I always knew that those ing Kimberley Briton with a couple of inaccurate maps of the British intelliox-wagons looting the abandoned governgence department would cause some trouble sooner or later. That's it. No ment oats.

A business place, Kimberley, full of shrewd; acute, energetic business peo- came the grievous lowing of many oxen cloud is working round towards its rear, over them. We knew that he not only Spite of the long siege, and the ple. still imperfect railway service, and the know when the troops are moving. denuded state of the surrounding country, Kimberley had managed plentifully to supply itself with horse forage. The

Kimberley will be a disseminating centre of enterprise for the development of the Free State .- Charles E. Hands in the London Daily Mail.

A REAL DUTCH AUCTION. What Market Day is Like in a Trans-

vaal Town. In the centre of every Boer town is

the market square. It is always a great quadrangle of dusty veldt, more or less trampled by the ox teams that are continually outspanning or passing to and fro over it. Sometimes it is surrounded by trees, and in the larger towns the market house stands in the middle of the square.

Here the bartering and huckstering The Boer generals must have had a are done; the farmers bring in their selling their goods to the highest bid<sup>1</sup> of open veldt. About and behind the house shows against a dark ridge of pop-



Charles E. Hands Tells of How the Boers Fled at Poplar

"Not a Battle but a Running Match" -- Demoralized and

Grove.

## Disorganized.

Poplar Grove, O.F.S., March 8.

The camp at Ossfontein-"Dead-'ossfontein" the soldiers called it, and curiously enough it was the next camp to Stinkfontein, a name \* which required no playful emendation-was astir so early in the morning that it could hardly be said to have gone to bed at all. Every one knew overnight that the troops were to go, forward before daybreak, and that the dotted curves of the treat. distance-blue kopjes, which seen from The Boers have escaped as far as this

long line of the Boer position, were to are still pursuing their course on the outport was insufficient to remove had been before the day was out. So side and longer curve, in the hope of get-burned rather than that they should be there had been electricity in the air, and ting aflank of the new position and of left to fall into the enemy's hands. And in much greater numbers than usual the being able to cut off the next bolt. men had gone down to the river to bathe Bresently the shells are seen bursting boxes of biscuits and a great rick of and wash their underclothing. 'If we've sacks of oats which somehow had es- got to die, chum, let's die clean," one cloud shows that the enemy are retreatcaped burning, or been rescued from of them said, and whatever virtue there

> at the last moment he is entitled to all credit for. Many noises cut the darkness. From down in the dip towards the river, be

ians, dashes out to occupy the vacated fore the camp fires went out, came a sudstronghold, and to take part in the atden burst of cheering. Bobs probably tack on the next. had been saying something to somebody

From behind where A Derby Day Crowd

of transport wagons crushed the yeldt

turn to be attacked. The cavalry dust -the transport ox has best reason to the mounted infantry are already begin-Wandering voices were heard continu- bursting white about the spot where swept him from his kopjes we swept ally calling for No. 2 company or C good glasses have located the tiny flash away also the personal authority of company. As you were falling asleep of a Boer gun. nebody would tread on you and ask if you could tell him where the 7th Division were or where he could find the transport officer of the Buffs. Then as the ridge the Boers have reached the prayed and prophesied to the burghers.

again you were suddenly awakened by a sort of wireless electrical intelligence. and heard the sound of marching feet filling the air like a swarm of locusts. There was no mistake about it this time

This was the beginning of a big day. It did not take long to wash and dress -that is one of the advantages of sleeping on the ground in your clothes-and the daylight was young when we had rounded the knoll and crossed the next idge, and the plain-greening from the thunderstorms that had made such uncomfortable sleeping-and following the ted men-are working round a big flat- rested he pressed on to Bloemfontein, deep ruts which showed where the heavy topped kopje, which forms the strong- and thence at once by the speedier railnaval guns had lately passed, came to hold of the Boer right. There is a big way back to Pretoria.

a hollow-backed kopje standing plump in gun up there, and our guns are shelling the middle of gone all along the line, and from fur

soldier who is after a man on a gallopwe could not see and whose position their distant booming was too vague and hol-low to indicate. But as they boomed ing horse. When the Boer Started Too Soon and Ran Too Hard we kept our eyes on the Seven Sisters, we kept our eyes on the Seven Sisters, and almost simultaneously with the booming came the sight of shell clouds the shells accomplished a great fast of real. He among the hills. And still, as the shells accomplished a great feat of pedestri were bursting the cavalry cloud was ever ism and that was all. But he had extending its circle, until now several been called on to storm entrenched miles out and beyond it was aflank of tions. The Boers had expected to the Boers' seven hills. a pleasant day's sport at infantry And now see the charm work! From a pleasant day's sport at infantry ting. The front of their central pleasant out under the shoulder of the kopje, they had elaborately laid out where the shells have been bursting, trenches and rifle pits. Upon the suddenly streams a line of black dots, you could see where they had piled They are horsemen moving quickly boulders into sangars for safe shoo across the plain in a line with the sweep And in those trenches and behind those of the Boer position towards the next boulders there was not to be seen kopje in the circle. The Boers have seen ! ingle spent Mauser cartings. The cavalry and artillery and the gen-hed done all the day's work single spent Mauser cartridge the flanking cavalry out on their left, and are vacating the Seven Sisters posieralship had done all the day's tion while their retreat is still open. The Probably on both sides the total casua line of dots thickens and thickens to a ties did not exceed sixty. It had no swarm, dwindles again to a line as the been a battle but a running match Last Stragglers Leave the Hill.

And yet it seems to me that though de They disappear from view behind the ficient in gore and short of visible recorner of the ridge before us, but the sults, the battle of Poplar Grove was the heavy dust cloud follows and marks most important and decisive of the battle of the battl most important and decisive of the battheir course. And out there, still wide thes we have so far fought, to the right, the other moving dust cloud For the first time the Boer had been set running-not merely abandoning shows our cavalry. They are too far position to occupy another equally ad out, and the Boers have started too soon vantageous-but running, running for for them to be able to cut off the re-

dear life. The new tactics had established their value. The policy of the easy way round had proved itself practicable We had got a gun from the flat topped kopje across the water, we had a few prisoners, mere stragglers, we had killed and wounded a few Boers, and we had knocked off another fifteen miles or so of on the next kopje, and soon another dust the road

Between Us and Bloemfontein. But the Lancers looked at their unfleshed spear-heads, and the foot-weary infantry felt the weight of their unexpended ammunition, and some of us felt down in the mouth, and felt that it was rather an empty victory.

But we knew better later on. For we knew that the Boer learned that day that his policy of sitting tight was no longer of any avail against the generalship that went the easy way round his positions instead of the impossible way fled, but fled, demoralized and disorganning to threaten its flank, our shells are ized. And we knew later that when we Kruger himself.

Up to the ridge which lies between us For Kruger himself had been on the and the kopje other mounted infantry field. He had slept the night before in begin to move. By the time they gain the position we had carried, he had kopje, and soon the flash of the Boer From the pages of the Bible he had read gun on the kopje is seen no more, and out to them promises of victory, and the a dust dimness in the air tells that the blood of many rooineks if only they Boers have gone with it, And as our would stand firm.

cavalry dust-cloud still wide on the And then, in the morning, when a right shows, they have not made the shell from a naval gun went whistling mistake of waiting too long. The Lanc- over head, Kruger, jumping in his cart, ers have yet to wait for their chance. had cried out to his servant, "Futsak, Meanwhile out on the left, across the Abel, fut, fut," which is the Kaffir drivriver but still in the plain, the fighting er's direction for breakneck speed, and Ninth Division-the Highlanders, the had forthwith led the flight, never draw-Cornwalls, the Canadians, and the ing rein nor easing whip until he got to Shropshires, with their attached moun- Abrahams Kraal, whence after he had As a prophet of victory his record was

it. Soon that ceases. The Boers have broken, CHARLES E. HANDS.

KOPJE-BOOK MAXIMS.

You cannot argue with a Shell, a Mule,

. . .

The nearer to the Press Censor the fur-

. . .

\* \* \*

"A shell in time saves nine," as the 4.7

"Heaven helps those who help them-

selves," as ---'s Horse said when they

Providence and the Company Officer have

\* \* \*

It's always the next shell that will do

. . .

THE BAYONET IN WAR.

In rational modern tactics the bayonet

is rarely used in the sense of being

plunged into an enemy's body. Its value

is that it is the symbol of the resolve to

come to close quarters and get at the

enemy-a resolve without which a vic-

extract from the writing of one of the

Tacticians will recognize the following

"The advance with the bayonet is the

means of giving the enemy his final

overthrow; no soldier will wish to re-

nounce its use. The men's confidence in

cold steel cannot be too carefully awak-ened and cherished; but the use of the

bayonet must first be rendered possible

by the course of the fight, and must be

tory can never be completed.

Five under cover is fifty in the open.

Between two rivers, drink Moderietly.

It's a long front that has no turning.

said when it opened on the sniper.

found the poultry yard.

the trick.

a great deal to look after.

(From the Bloemfontein Friend.)

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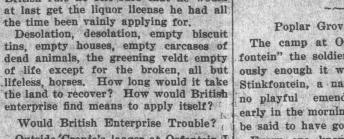
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a great black smouldering heap showed the top of the ridge ahead marked the position is concerned, but French's men may be in repentance for black iniquity

Bloemfontein and the spreading dawn But that day Kelly-Kenny, just when and

Retravelled the Victorious Road.

Not quite the same road. For as we had approached Bloemfontein the judi-"Bobs" had brought us a long way cious round. There are mile-stones on the direct Bloemfontein road-mile-stones two and three hundred feet high of loosely piled boulders; kopjes, in fact, and, as is pretty generally recognized by this time, 'Bobs" is not out looking for kopjes to assault. We had gone the easy way round, but a longish way round.

the road along which if he had played

the game according to the previously ac-

Veined by Nullahs and Ditches,

and wherever there was a stretch of

infantry, brigade might be expected ac-

cording to precedent to advance in quar-

ter column you had not far to look to

discover the trenches which the Boers

passing over a nek between them.

ground and laying their plans.

road," Delarey no doubt said.

we are not there. But-"

grin.

cented rules he would have advanced.

red and

sight up there," he says, jerking his But though the kopjes were still there, thumb backwards at the ridges from steep and high and impregnable, there which the Essex and Yorks and Welsh was no longer any occasion for an Engdrove the enemy. "What was that?" I lishman to go round them. The straight way was the easiest way now. I came asked. "Sixteen dead Boers," he said, "all in a lovely heap." cut by the direct western road, which "Unburied?" I asked. "They'd buried wound between the kopjes where the

'em after a style," he said, "bundled 'em Boers had been, but where our cavalry were now, and all I saw of Venter's in a shallow hole and chucked some Vlei and Aasvogel Kop, and the land- stones over 'em. But I suppose, what marks of our southern detour, was a with one thing and another, they've no one is killed, for the rider charges zon. I was on the road along which the and now there's heads and toes and Boers had expected "Bobs" to advance-Bits of 'Em Sticking Out."

"You are sure they are Boers?" I ask- these weekly sales, for, in some parts of ed. "Lord," he said, "I could tell that newer South Africa, and particularly a mile off. Besides, I looked at their

It was a lovely road for a British adtrousers. vance according to Boer notions. There Behind every kopje was the straw and were ridges and hollows in it, and dry litter of a Boer laager. Our camps were watercourses, and broken ground, scar-

tle of Driefontein, although we dodged

the worst part of the ground that had

But the Boers lost more heavily than

we. Over a hundred of their dead were

buried on the morning after the fight.

And now a week later, as I pass, I en-

counter a Kimberley Light Horseman

who has come across country along the

line of the fighting. "Came on a pretty

been prepared for us.

marked by the hundreds of empty hiscuit tins, which shone like quicksilver in the bright, clear sunlight. And all along the road from Abraham's Kraal to Pop-

of fashion

the profession.

Cronje's laager drift, were horses-dead fact, than the value new. either side of it, and at the westward ptied, the horse's neck and eyeless head were stretched out always with a pathentrance to the plain the two ranges of hills came close together, with the road ctc sort of suggestion of the agony of

death. More pathetic than the sight of the I are not a tender-hearted man, but looking at that position I really could dead horses was the sight of the living ones. There were horses that had been not help feeling for the terrible disappointment the Boers must have experhit, horses that had broken down with lenced when, after confidently waiting, they realized that we were going in another direction. They must have been so cocksure about it. It was so perfect every conceivable defect, some horses for a position for a trap. I can imagine Delarey and De Wet looking over the

"The English will come along the tion, and all along by the line of the river where they found grazing and wa-"Having previously shelled the kopjes for half a day," says De Wet with a ter they were wandering about, helpless, forlorn, abandoned creatures, who look- bric-a-brac in the yard!"

more of glorious warfare; and then, see- furniture, after all .- London Daily Mail. "But we are," says De Wet. "Yoar ing you pass, turned listlessly away, and men on that side, and mine on this, and hanging down their heads Went On With Their Dejected Grazing.

Both of Us Lying Doggoh." "Until they are across the nek and | Every round Kaffir kraal had a dozen loyal Canadians not to lose their tempers inside the plain. And then-" "Not even then, brother," says De was mounted on some sort of a horse, side of the line.

inspanned and turned my back on every turn of the road along the river. ments, and the like for the "vrouw en turned-up brim of the always neat C. I. most imperceptible dust dimness above V.'s was numerous. But this is not the only business that From the top of the kopje-as was evi- the horizon ahead shows how far our he was beginning to get within range of the trap, turned off to the right. We lost heavily enough as it was in the bat-

goes on in the market square. It is dent from its position-a view of the the centre for the periodical sales of the greater part of the rest of the world was local auctioneer, who is willing to sell to be had. Up there we climbed, and (on commission) anything from a horse congratulated ourselves on good judgto a gold watch. His persuasive powers | ment, for Lord Roberts and Lord Kitare wonderful, and his chosen the same Spion Kop, and I have

Volubility Extraordinary.

Nothing comes amiss to him, and he Kitchener to know that a look-out place talks glibly on any object which he may which is good enough for them is quite have to sell with the apparent famili- good enough for me.

arity of a specialist. We look down upon a great level circle, On the one day in the week which is devoted to horse sales, usually on Sat-ring of the horizon broken only by the urdays, the square is a seething, crowd- humps of kopjes. It was like looking ed mass of horses, sellers and buyers. down from the crow's nest of a becalmed The animals prance and kick as they ship upon an ocean dotted with single are led up to the rostrum and their mani- volcanic islands. Our look-out kopje fold beauties and points dilated upon. seemed to share the honor of being the Then a diminutive Hottentot or Cape centre of the universe, with another boy is hoisted on to the horse's back, kopje about a couple or three miles and takes a gallop round the square to ahead. That was the centre of the Boer show off its paces. It is a marvel that position.

dim outline peeping purple over the hori- moved and the stones have rolled off 'em, right through the crowd, which divides due south to almost due north, the hori- ponies, had legged it for dear life. right and left to let the infuriated ani- zon dots of kopjes were points of the mal through. Boer position. On the right

Furniture is also much in evidence at A Rolling Ridge of Kopjes, like the curved back of a purplish brown in the Transvaal, no one ever takes his sea-serpent, showed against the sky. This, from the number of the humps, furniture about with him. If he changes our men called the Seven Sisters. his abode from one town to another, all his household goods and chattels are put Between this and the next kopie a few level inches of horizon indicated a up for sale, and the extraordinary thing

about it is that, owing to some freaks kopje to kopje. Each one stood by it-Second-Hand Furniture, open level ground over which a British lar Grove, from Poplar Grove to Os- if in fair condition, often fetches very from kopje to kopje if each position were were clean and bright. fontein, where I crossed the river at good prices indeed-very little less, in separately attacked. But supposing we

borses, with their skin parchment dry with the sun, and big holes in their sides through which you could see emptiness— word of mouth, and by advertisement in the word of mouth, and by advertisement in could drive them all together, and suphad dug to command it. At one point through which you could see emptiness-near a place called Bains Viei the road emptiness of the carcases. But, though with a profusion of superfluous adjecti-with a profusion of superfluous adjectival redundancy that seems inherent in day.

And what an idea to cherish! That To begin with, the auctioneer anwide level plain of firm, perfect horsenounces himself as the "Premier Salesground, smooth veldt, firm but elastic at 2 o'clock in the morning, and had man of South Africa," and heads his to the hoof, drying tough from the recent galloped close on forty miles from posiadvertisement with the portentous anrains, going worthy of Newmarket in tion to position after an enemy who nouncements: "Reserve! There is none!" September, only to think of the scene run away at a range of 4,000 yards. And

-after which he prefaces his catalogue when all those overladen, pony-mounted as they had galloped the enemy's guns with the remark: "First: Walk into the marksmen, with their cumbrous furni- had been always on their flank. From hit, horses that had broken down with overwork and underfeeding, horses with hideous saddle sores hidden by clustering mounds of flies, horses abandoned for every conceivable defect, some horses for the dining-table with carved legs (quite control, big English horses, unshod Boer a feet in carving), and finishing up with What a day for the galloping R. H. A.! And now, what of the infantry. I do ponies, most of them with hip bones that the final paragraph: "Now to enumerate Why, we should bag the lot. I perched not remember that, with the exception myself on the highest boulder I could find of a passing mention of the position of

To See it Begin to Happen. to infantry.

"Of course," says Delarey, "and as we d at you dubiously, as though they Not so bad for a Boer auctioneer—and first note of the overture. The shell that there were two other divisions of the ared you were bringing them some it was only a very ordinary hous ful of burst in a cloud over by the shoulder of infantry—Kelly-Kenny's Sixth, and Genthe Seven Sisters, just where a dot of eral Tucker's Seventh Divisions-enwhite indicated the position of one of gaged, if engaged be the right word. the Boer wagons. At the same time dim And so far as I have been able to learn, and distant above the horizon, wide and they never fired a shot. Among the far on the right, a floating mist of dust whole five-and-twenty thousand of them,

showed where the cavalry were moving. not a single cartridge was expended, and It is reported that Then other instruments began to take not a single bullet-whizz was heard. It is reported that part in the overture; distant guns which A stern chase is a long chase to a foot Haussas were killed.

ol a Press Censor. cavalry have managed to pursue the chance they have been longing and wait-

ing from that before the cavalry have

time to get round them, and as they va-

cate each position, from behind my look-

out hill a swarm of our mounted infan

try, Kitchener's Horse, C.I.V.'s, Austral-

And now the central kopje ahead of

us, the advanced kopje upon which the

two curves of the Boer line rest, has its

ther from the Truth. (N.B.-The the Press Censor.) (N.B.-This is personally guaranteed by ing for. But, alas, it was A Chance That Never Came It's a wise Field Marshal that knows his chener and the headquarters staff had to them. The Boer when he is holding own Generals.

a position holds it with all his might; seen enough of Lord Roberts and Lord when he retreats from it he retreats with all the speed which sjambok and spurs can give him. We had seen him before as a fighter. Now we had been impressed with his capacity as a runner. On the way forward I rode through several of the Boer positions. They had

been vacated in such a hurry that in more than one camp meat was still frizzling over wood fires still smouldering. As soon as they had seen the cavalry beginning to outflank them they had left their blankets and their belongings, their

their kettles and empty tins, tramp furnitures,

Over at Poplar Grove, where a pleasant but decaying garden above the steep

perity which Webb's store, the name of the white house, used to enjoy in the days when it was a sort of halfway resting place on the Kimberley and Bloemfontein road, I came upon the panting, done cavalry. There were some

few level miles of plain, and so on from of the 12th Lancers leading their horses down to water at the river. The horses' self, but to well-mounted men all were in heads were down, and their nostrels best judges that ever lived: connected series. The Boers could get were still distended. The lance-heads

"What luck?" I asked a Lancer, pointing to his lance. He shook his head. "No chance," he said sadly; "the beggars! It wouldn't have mattered their running so - hard if they hadn't started so early. We could never get near them till

prepared for by the action of the firearm. The leaders should bear in mind The Horses Were Not Up to It." that the most splendid courage is wreck-Poor Lancers! The cavalry had started ed upon an insurmountable obstacle, and should look upon the bayonet charge not as the first but as the last act of each of the local engagements of which the sum total is the conquest of the battlefield, the victory." That was written in 1865, when the breechloader was at the beginning of its career.

The successful bayonet charges by our roops prove their courage and their liscipline and the comparative lack of discipline among the Boers. But though the reports of the first battles made one for a time wonder whether the bayonet was not more effective than the above opinion allows, the later evidence points the other way. Well, I may as well record the fact

The adherence to close order formations in daylight shows in the minds of the generals an inadequate faith in the illet and misplaced trust in the bayonet. The passage quoted from Moltke's paper of 1865 is still the last word on the subject .- Spenser Wilkinson, in the London Morning Post.

It is reported that the Haussa quarters at Kumassi have been burned and many

ASKING TOO MUCH. Brooklyn Eagle. It would be asking too much to expect horses around it. Every Kuffir you met over the pro-Boer demonstrations on this

take too much space, but suffice it that at the very top of the kopje, and waited the Ninth Brigade I have so far referred some rare, and all useful. Also, all the

One of the 4.7 naval guns sounded the

biscuit boxes and their tobacco, From the left to right, from almost and, jumping on their ready-saddled

bank of the mud river spoke of the pros-