THE LAWS OF WAR.

That austere historian, essayist and politician, the Right Honorable W. E. H. Lecky, M. P. for Dublin University, has just published a volume, "The map of life; conduct and character," which contains some reflections upon war that will be read with considerable interest at a time like the present. A better authority on the ethics of international polity than the Right Honorable Mr. Lecky is not readily to be found. Mr. Lecky has entitled one of his chapters: "Moral compromise in War," containing many very instructive thoughts upon the subject of modern war. After explaining that the slaying of prisoners and the wanton destruction of private property are no longer in accordance with the rules of civilized warfare, Mr. Lecky has the following pronouncement on the general body of such rules:

"Assassination and the encouragement of assassination, the use of poison or parole, the deceptive use of a flag of truce or of the red cross, the slaughter of the wounded, the infringement of terms of surrender or of other distinct agreements, are absolutely forbidden, and in 1868 the representatives of the European powers assembled at St. Petersburg agreed to abolish the use in war of explosive bullets below the weight of fourteen ounces, and to forbid the propagation in an enemy's country of contagious disease as an instrument of war. It laid down the general principle that the object of war is confined to disabling the enemy, and that weapons calculated to inflict unnecessary suffering beyond what is required for attaining that object should be prohibited. At the same time, explosive shells, concealed mines, torpedoes and ambuscades lie fully within the permitted agencies of war. Starvation may be employed, and the cutting off of the supply of water or the destruction of that supply by mixing with it something not absolutely poisonous, which renders it undrinkable. It is allowable to deceive an enemy by fabricated dispatches purporting to come from his own side, by tampering with telegraph messages, by spreading false intelligence in newspapers, by sending pretended spies and deserters to give him untrue reports of the numbers or movements of the troops; by employing false signals to lure him into an ambuscade. On the use of the flag and uniform of an enemy for purposes of deception there has been some controversy; but it is supported by high military authority. The use of spies is fully authorized, but the spy, if discovered, is excluded from the rights of war and liable to an ignominious death."

THE WAR IN AFRICA.

Latest news from the scene of hostilities is not so satisfactory as we hoped, but the public should remember a few salient facts about the conditions under which our brave soldiers are fighting in Natal.

It is the rainy season, that is, the heavens are opened and the floods descend in a fashion we seldom see in this favored land; every creek is a foaming brown torrent, every river a moving sea that sweeps wooden bridges away, makes fords impassable, overflows into the low lands, and converts square miles of territory into small oceans of black, sticky mud. The roads at the best of seasons are wretched, and just now simply unfit for the passage of commissariat, let alone ponderous artillery trains and caissons; the country itself is a sea of hills, not in general very high, but of the kind difficult to travel over; rocky, gashed with deep ravines and strewn with boulders and huge rocks, the ideal country for guerrilla bands to maintain successful contest with regular troops, and in spite of what has been said an extremely hard country for the operations of regular cavalry. It is right enough for wiry hill ponies, whose footing is sure as the goat's, and who can lope up the mountain side with ease, where the big, stranger, cavalry horse would be lamed or blown in a couple of hundred yards.

Then again, our men and horses are just off the troopers, where they have been cramped up for weeks; they are landed in a tropical country, straight from a zone whose ordinary temperature is colder than the winter of the southern country. Men and horses both need a rest, to be acclimated, but unfortunately the extreme activity of the Boers has made it necessary to hurry men and horses to the front before they have had a proper chance to become accustomed to the new air.

Add to these drawbacks the intimate knowledge the Boer commanders possess of this very territory, over which most of them have hunted the giraffe, the eland, the hartbeest and the lion years ago, after the great trek, and the unacquaintance of the British officers with the fighting zone, and one can see readily how very difficult a problem General Buller and his aides have to solve. It, is indeed, little wonder that the commander-in-chief is reported to have altered his entire plan of campaign, though it would be well to wait for a little more confirmation of so grave a bit of news.

One thing the Boers have undoubtedly succeeded in doing, namely, in concentrating the war upon a piece of ground selected by themselves. Had they failed to do this, and scattered their forces in several directions, the problem would have been easier, but General Joubert's plan of campaign, if it be his, is exactly what a strategist would have selected as the best for meeting a powerful enemy who was unprepared. It is not improbable that General Buller, if the report that he has changed his plans be correct, may have decided to accept the conditions Joubert has so well turned to his own advantage, and make the most decisive work of the campaign fall within the triangle of Natal.

But here again Joubert will be fighting with considerable odds in his favor, for in the event of a reverse in a general engagement, he has a perfect line of retreat and a splendid rendezvous in the fortified passes of the Drakenberg. It may be argued that General Buller's cavalry will be used to outflank, and if possible get between the Boers and the mountains, but the reader must not forget the conformation of the country, the swarms of Boers scouring every part of it from the Orange River's southernmost bend to Charlestown, in the extreme north of the Natal angle, keeping the main body in constant acquaintance with every large movement of the enemy, to see that this outflanking and surrounding movement is much easier to talk about than to accomplish.

In brief, the Boers have made the best military use of the advantage they had at the start, and they seem to know quite enough not to commit themselves very badly in any of their manoeuvres. There seems no reason to doubt that the enemy may penetrate even as far as Pietermaritzburg, but by the time they reach that point, if they ever do, the British general will be fully ready for the offensive, and then, one can scarcely doubt, the tide of invasion will be steadily rolled back to the mountains.

It is amongst those fortified passes of the Drekenberg range that the bloodiest struggles will take place, for an enemy like the Boer, who has given abundant proof of his steady courage in the open field, will make a fight of it under such conditions that will require the most determined efforts on our army's part. The next fortnight will see great events.

British Columbia is likely to benefit to a considerable degree by the diversion of British capital from South Africa, owing to the suspension of all investment there. Our mines, especially, are likely to attract much of the idle capital. Some of the leading London papers speak very gloomily of the future of South Africa. They hold that the mining industry will be curtailed, as some portion of the cost of the war will surely fall upon it; and the outlook for a business revival is, they think, not encouraging. At any rate it can be said with safety that the capitalists of London will have nothing to regret if they put their money into British Columbia investments.

Well done Winston Churchill, will be the comment up and down the Empire when the story of his cool heroism is read. "He could not leave the wounded in the hands of the enemy, so he took a rifle and set off along toward the Boer stronghold." Worthy son of a great stock. But Sergeant Tod must share the glory equally with his aristocratic brother-in-arms. The narrative of his devotion to his officer will long thrill the British with just pride. That is the true British spirit, greatest when the outlook is most forlorn.

At this time it is rather interesting to learn from a scientific contemporary that when a first-class warship goes to the bottom of the sea she carries with her engines valued at seven hundred thousand dollars. Only one or two nations on earth can afford to play the war game; it is more the fear of the terrific cost than fear of spilling blood that keeps the others quiet.

Mr. R. C. Clute, Q. C., who has been appointed to look into the grievances of the Slocan miners, is well qualified for the task by a life-long interest in the toils and struggles of the workingman. He made a record for himself in the Crow's Nest scandal investigation, and he can be trusted to get at all the facts in the Slocan alien labor question.

No wonder France has no desire to enter upon war; her public debt is six times as great as that of the United States; that is $600,000,000. How such a monstrous load can be called "a national blessing," as some economists declare, is more than many a plain man will be able to see.

Weight Increased

To.... 140 lbs
From 126 lbs
GAIN OF 14 lbs

Due to B.B.B.

Can't expect the health to be good if the blood is impure and the system clogged with poisonous products.

Sound health and pure blood are inseparably associated.

Burdock Blood Bitters is the greatest blood purifying, blood enriching remedy known to modern science.

It expels all foul and poisonous materials from the system—the blood is made pure—you put on flesh and regain health.

Read what Mrs. H. J. Croft, West Dublin, N. S., says:

"A year or two ago I was a constant sufferer from nervous headache which caused great loss of sleep. My appetite was poor, and I always seemed tired, more especially in the mornings. I tried a number of kinds of medicines without receiving much benefit, until reading of the good effects of B.B.B. I resolved to try it. It did me so much good that I used a second bottle which cured me completely. I then weighed 126 lbs., but I now weigh 140 lbs., and feel strong and well in every way, all of which I attribute to the good effects of B.B.B."

First Fight At Mafeking

How the Men on the Armored Train Fought the Boers.

Detailed Account of the First Engagement in Cape Colony.

The following detailed account of the first engagement at Mafeking is taken from the Irish Times. The dispatch is dated Mafeking, October 14th, (via Kurumna, October 19th, by dispatch rider):

At daybreak this morning the whole garrison stood to arms, and the Boers were reported to be advancing from the south. At 5.25 a sharp rifle fire was heard from the north, and a gakoper reported that the patrol under Lord Charles Cavendish Bentinck was in action.

The firing lasted only a few minutes, and then the armored train, under Captain Williams, of the British South African Police, and Lieutenant Nore, of the Railway Section, was ordered to move out and engage the enemy.

Within seven minutes of Bentinck's engagement all the outposts had reported having heard his firing, and at 20 minutes to 6 o'clock Captain Wilson was dispatched to ascertain what had actually happened. It was found that the

Enemy Had Retreated,

and the alarm flag was then hauled down, and the town guard retired.

The armored train came into action at 6.09. The scene inside it was perhaps unique in the annals of modern warfare.

The crew of the leading truck, "Firefly," consisted of a detachment of the British South African police and the Railway volunteers, Captain Ashley Williams himself being in command, Mr. Swayne being the driver of the engine, and Mr. A. Moffat acting as stoker. The second truck was in charge of lieutenant Nore, an engineer on the Bechuanaland Railway.

Number one truck was armed with a Maxim, and its crew, mostly with Lee-Metfords. Truck No. 2, which carried another Maxim, rejoiced in the name of "Wash." A third truck, the "Gun," carried a Hotchkiss. The crew of the trucks numbered barely 15 in each.

As the trucks steamed past Lord Charles Bentinck's squadron they were received with a cheer, someone shouting, "They can't shoot for nuts; go ahead." About two miles beyond Bentinck's men the enemy, about 500 strong were sighted to the right front of the trucks, and the leading truck immediately opened fire with the Maxims at 300 yards. The enemy replied with quick-firing guns and their pounder Maxim, and in a minute or two both sides were gaining bullets. Our men manned every loophole, and as they manned their guns passed more than one amusing and sarcastic remark, especially when the enemy retired gradually before them.

The train advanced steadily, and as the Dutchmen now and again discovered the range and began to drop shells too close, it kept on the move up and down the line, to the discomfiture of the Boer gunners. Meanwhile the Mauser bullets rattled merrily, but impotently on the armor, each new discharge or volley being greeted with what our fellows called "gun laughter." After the engagement had lasted some time Colonel Baden-Powell decided that the armored train should return, and he dispatched Captain Fitzclarence with a squadron of men to cover the retreat. The train then retired to meet Fitzclarence. The troopers moved away to the right of the line.

At first his advance was not opposed, but after occupying a Kaffir kraal, the enemy attempted to outflank him, and a heavy and

Determined Engagement

ensued. The armored train at this juncture was quite unable to assist Fitzclarence, as the enemy were attacking his front and still trying to turn his flank, so that the crew of the train were unable to fire for fear of hitting our own men.

Captain Fitzclarence was then ordered to retire on Mafeking, but he sent to the train (which formed a sort of base) to say that being hampered with his wounded he could not return without reinforcements. The phonophone having been connected with the railway telegraph line, this message was wired to headquarters, and in response Capt. Lord Charles Bentinck was ordered to take his squadron and endeavor to disengage Fitzclarence.

Meanwhile our men were behaving splendidly and pressing the Dutch hard. As a result of this the enemy abandoned their position a little before midday, thus allowing Fitzclarence, who was unquestionably outnumbered, to commence a

Retreat In Good Order.

At this moment the detachment of British South African Police, about 12 strong, under Captain Williams, disembarked from the train and proceeded unarmed, with two stretchers, to the spot where the wounded had been collected, and brought in those who had been rendered absolutely helpless. Those who were in the least able hardily mounted horses and rode to the armored train. Among them was Lieutenant Braby, of Queenstown, who, though severely hit in the side, rode up to the train.

At this juncture a newspaper correspondent galloped up to the detachment under Williams and informed that officer that more wounded were lying further out. The detachment then endeavored to get hold of these wounded, but the enemy opened a heavy fire upon them. The correspondent's report turned out to be unfounded, and all the wounded were safely got into the train without further casualties.

Fitzclarence, who had the enemy well in hand during the whole engagement, then commenced his retirement on the town, and the armored train triumphantly returned with the wounded at full speed to Mafeking, its crew doing what they could in the way of first aid to relieve those hurt.

By luncheon time the red flag was hauled down in the town, and

Our First Scrimmage

with the Dutch was over. Of the crew of the train only three were struck, one a man of the British South African Police, in the leading truck, named Corporal Taylor, and J. H. Hodge, a railway man, both of whom were struck by splinters from a bullet which struck an iron upright, having come through the port hole of the Maxim gun in the rear truck. A man named Kennedy was also scratched by a splinter.

The efficacy of the train proved most thorough, and its crew must have done great execution amongst the enemy. They had the advantage of being able to fire with perfect confidence, feeling themselves secure. The men of the Protectorate Regiment behaved remarkably well under a heavy and well-directed fire. The townsmen stood to their defences all the morning, and there was never a sign of flinching on the part of anyone.

So keen is the spirit in Mafeking that amongst the railway detachment who help to man the defence limits to the north of the town are two ladies, the wife and daughter of a railway employee. They absolutely declined to go to the women's laager, and as both are good shots and have their own Lee-Metfords, they are capable of taking care of themselves.

DEROULEDE SENT TO PRISON.

Three Months for Insulting the President of France.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, Nov. 18.—Before the senate, sitting as the high court to-day, M. Deroulede was examined in the conspiracy cases. He began by affirming his love for the Republic, and attacked President Loubet, but was checked by M. Failiers, president of the senate, who refused to listen to his tirade and demanded a withdrawal of his allegations. This M. Deroulede, amidst the applause of the other accused persons, refused to do. He denied all desire to agitate the country, explaining he merely wishes to assure respect for the fatherland and the army.

The public prosecutor said Mr. Deroulede should be prosecuted under the law of 1881, punishing persons who insult the president of the Republic.

M. Deroulede, while admitting the honesty of M. Loubet in his private capacity, maintained his former observations, and the court retired to consider the matter.

Later M. Fulliers read the decision of the court condemning M. Deroulede to three months' imprisonment for insulting the president.

WEARY OF EXPERIMENTING.

With salves, suppositories and ointments and dreading a surgical operation, scores and hundreds have turned to Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment and found in it an absolute cure for piles. The first application brings relief from the terrible itching, and it is very seldom that more than one box is required to effect a permanent cure.

INCENDIARY AND ROBBERY.

Kitamat Indian Gets Seven Years—Raid on a Chinese Gambling Den.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, Nov. 18.—Herbert McMillan, the Kitamat siwash, confessed before Judge Irving this morning the theft of $500 and the burning of a house at his village in the north was sentenced to seven years imprisonment. He may be sent east to Kingston penitentiary.

Last night the police raided a Chinese gambling house on Dupont street, arresting eight celestials. The three tyhees escaped through a trap in the floor. Some difficulty was experienced in rushing the dive.

Gambling in the saloons is now about stopped, and the dealers generally have left town.

DON'T RUN CHANCES by taking whiskey or brandy to settle the stomach or stop a chill. Pain-Killer in hot water sweetened will do you more good. Avoid substitutes, there's but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c.

SAILED FOR ENGLAND.

Kiel, Nov. 18.—The Imperial yacht Hohenzollern, with the Emperor and Empress of Germany and two of their sons on board, sailed for England at 9 o'clock this morning.

That tired, languid feeling and dull headache is very disagreeable. Take two of Carter's Little Liver Pills before retiring, and you will find relief. They never fail to do good.

KAISER'S TRIP TO ENGLAND.

Berlin, Nov. 17.—Emperor William, the Empress and two sons, Auguste William and Oscar, left Potsdam at 8 o'clock this morning for Kiel on their way to England.

YOU CAN'T BLUFF IT OFF

Wasting Diseases Exhaust Nerve Force and Must End in Nervous Prostration, Paralysis or Death.

Men hate to admit that there is anything wrong with their health. They "feel tough," are weak, nervous, tired and unable to sleep, but they hope soon to be better and will not give in.

Some ailments pass away of themselves. Not so with nervous disorders. Whether the cause is found in overwork, worry, the follies of youth or over-indulgence, the wasting process continues, until there comes nervous prostration, locomotor ataxia, paralysis and death.

Weeks or months of suffering, loss of time from business and huge doctor bills then teach again the lesson that prevention is better than cure. They teach how much better it is to keep the system in health and vigor, to restore and revitalize the nervous system by using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

This great restorative stops the wasting process, and by creating new nerve fluid—the vital force of the body—builds up new flesh and muscles, and gives new energy and vitality. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

Mothers consider Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine indispensable as a cure for coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, and asthma.

A Handsome Jewellery Catalogue.

That Christmas Gift problem is at hand. Birks' beautiful jewellery catalogue will help you solve the pleasant difficulty.

Birks' catalogue is a work of art, it describes and illustrates Birks' jewellery, the highest quality and most moderately priced in Canada.

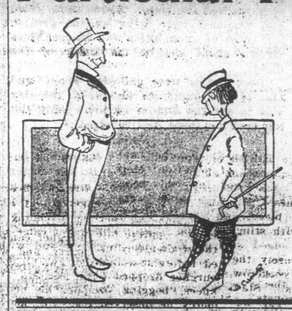
The catalogue illustrates all sorts of jewellery, silver and plate. It shows gold rings, with all sorts of settings, as exact as colors and paper can show them.

The catalogue is sent free to any one writing for it.

With it you will readily dispose of the difficulty of selecting suitable holiday gifts.

Henry Birks & Sons
JEWELLERS AND SILVERSMITHS
MONTREAL.

Particular People.



People who insist on knowing all about an article before buying it; who demand that price and quality must be exactly right; who form their opinions of dealers by goods they have sold in the past—these are the customers we like to do business with.

We are rather particular ourselves in buying—you be the same.

Beardsley's Shredded Codfish	15c tin
Armour's Pork and Beans	10c tin
Our Blend Tea	20c lb
Golden Blend Tea	40c lb

Our new cleaned Currants and chopped Peel cannot be equalled.

Dixi H. Ross & Co.

To Dealers in Fancy Goods

We have in stock and are now offering a large and complete stock of TOYS, DOLLS and FANCY GOODS for the Christmas Trade

J. PIERCY & Co. {Wholesale Dry Goods, 21-29 Yates Street,} VICTORIA

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Correspondent Says There are No Grounds for Rumors of a Possible Rupture.

(Associated Press.)

New York, Nov. 17.—The correspondent of the Herald telegraphing from Shanghai says he just returned from a trip through Japan and China, where he went to investigate the rumors of a possible rupture between Russia and Japan. He says he can state authoritatively that these rumors of an approaching war find no corroboration whatever among Japanese officials.

IMPORTANT TO PROSPECTORS.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—An order in council has been passed providing that those who prospected for hydraulic mining leases in Yukon prior to December 3rd, 1898, may make application for the same without competition on showing that they had prospected the same prior to the issue of the regulations on December 3rd, 1898, when they were really not in positions to know what action they should take. Under the present regulations application should have been made as well as prospecting done before December 3rd, 1898.

STRUCK BY A METEOR.

(Associated Press.)

Crescent, Ill., Nov. 17.—By the falling of an aerolite, seven miles south of Crescent City, the residence of John Meyers was partially wrecked, and people in the neighborhood were thrown into a panic. The meteor came from a point in the sky a little east of south, and struck the north end of the house, tearing away part of the upper story. The aerolite buried itself in the ground about three feet from the foundation of the house.

A FATAL QUARREL.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Nov. 18.—The coroner's jury at Hull in connection with the death of William Reid of Ironsides, who was fatally injured by Albert Latourelle in a quarrel on September 20, brought in a verdict that Latourelle was guilty of feloniously assaulting Reid. The former is under arrest and will be tried for murder.

CHAMBERS RESIGNS.

(Associated Press.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—Chief justice Chambers of Samoa has resigned and his resignation has been accepted for the United States, one of the three parties to the Berlin treaty by the President. The resignation will be made to Great Britain and Germany also.

ATHENS FLOODED.

(Associated Press.)

Athens, Nov. 18.—A violent storm yesterday evening inundated the low lying quarters of this city. A number of houses collapsed and the railroad was partly washed away. A number of persons were drowned, and an enormous amount of damage done.

CANCERS AND TUMORS.

A PAINLESS METHOD OF TREATMENT. The knife and plaster are not now necessary in order to cure these diseases. If you are interested send your address to STOTT & JURY, Box 9, Bowmanville, Ont.

THE EMPRESS DISPLEASED.

(Associated Press.)

Berlin, Nov. 18.—A great sensation has been caused by the Empress's letter to the municipality acknowledging the congratulations sent to her on her birthday, which takes occasion to express pain at the fact that a teacher of the Royal University ridiculed the Bible "in a manner which will most deeply injure all morality, and, above all, Christian feeling."

This refers to a speech by Dr. Preuss, a Jewish tutor, who paraphrased a passage of Job, "His Excellency gave and His Excellency taketh away, blessed be the name of His Excellency."

It appears the Empress is displeased at the hostile attitude of the municipality in regard to the levying of taxes to support Lutheran churches, as the councillors, mostly Radicals and Royalists, opposed the measure.

It is certain the council will not send the Empress any more congratulations.

SCHOOL GIRLS' NERVES.

Many a pale, weak school girl, suffering the evil effects of an exhausted nervous system, and thin, watery blood, has been fully restored to the vigor and buoyancy of robust health, by using Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food. The healthful glow on the cheek and the brightness in the eye tell of the building up process which is taking place in the body.

THE PLAGUE.

(Associated Press.)

Oporto, Nov. 17.—Two new cases of bubonic plague and three deaths from the disease were reported to the health authorities yesterday.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.