



"AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM."

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## FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA.

If two or three points are kept clearly in mind by our readers they will help to a more intelligent understanding of the news which comes from South Africa from day to day.

The first of these is that there is still a vast native population in all the territory affected by the present war. The blacks of Africa have not disappeared before the invading whites, as have the red men of America. In the British African colonies directly concerned in this struggle there are perhaps two and a half million blacks, and in the Orange Free State and Transvaal there are about three quarters of a million more. The total white population of all South Africa is under three-quarters of a million, of which about a quarter of a million is in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. This, then, is the first fact to be remembered—the preponderance of blacks over all the whites.

Another point to be kept in mind is that the first white population of practically all the disturbed territory was Dutch. Cape Colony was first settled by the Dutch in 1652, and did not become British territory until 1806. The Orange Free State and Transvaal were organized by Dutch (or Boers), who quitted Cape Colony because dissatisfied with British rule. Thus we find to day not only an almost solid Boer population in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, but a large Boer element in Cape Colony; and Natal, which was formerly a part of Cape Colony, as well The Transvaal to-day has a white population—now that the Uitlanders have left—of a little over 100,000, practically all Boer, or Dutch. The Orange Free State—there never were many Uitlanders there—holds about 100,000 Boers. In Cape Colony, according to the latest figures available, there are about 250,000 Dutch and 130,000 British, and in Natal there are 5,000 Boers and 45,000 British. The white population of Rhodesia and Bechuanaland is scarcely enough to count either way. Here, then, is the second important point to note: The Boers have an almost solid population in the Transvaal and Free State, and their blood relatives in Natal and Cape Colony largely outnumber the British population in those British colonies. Moreover, in all the colonies there has been a good deal of intermarriage between Dutch and British. It is thus really a civil war affecting all South Africa.

A few more facts of general interest may be added. The area of the Transvaal Republic is a little over 119,000 square miles, or about one-half of the Province of Ontario. The Orange Free State, which has entered into an alliance with the Transvaal, has an area of 48,000 square miles, or equal to that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick combined. The principal British colonies bordering on the allied republics are Natal, Rhodesia, Bechuanaland and Cape Colony. Cape Colony has an area of about 221,000 square miles, or a little more than that of the Province of Ontario. The area of Natal is a little over 20,000 square miles, or just equal to that of Nova Scotia. If the Dutch sym-

pathizers in Cape Colony actively assist their blood relations in the Orange Free State and Transvaal the situation will be exceedingly serious. If in addition to this about three and a quarter million blacks take a hand in the game the condition of affairs will be still much more serious.—Toronto Sun.

## FROM THE SASKATCHEWAN

St. Louis de Langevin, Sask., Oct. 31.—We are having lovely weather; it is really astonishing for this time of the year. The sun seems to have donned its summer brightness.

Rev. Father Gouin, agent of colonization, was here the greater part of the week. He visited the surrounding settlements and gave the sermon at St. Louis on Sunday. He expressed himself with his usual eloquence, comparing the settlers scattered on the shores of the Saskatchewan to those who 200 years ago left France to settle the valley of the majestic St. Lawrence, predicting for them, if they are true to their noble origin, to become as important and to play as great a part in the social world. He also complimented the choir on the harmony and correctness with which they manage the sublime Gregorian chant. The pretty little church was completely filled, people having driven in from the country a long distance. After Mass there was a meeting in the school house for the purpose of forming a committee for colonization. Mr. J. B. Boucher was elected president.

Rev. Father Barbier, parish priest of Crooked Lake, was here on a short visit last week.

Mr. Marion, agent of the Batoche Indian reserve, was also a guest at St. Louis, visiting his young daughter, who is boarding at the convent of the Sisters of Providence of St. Brieuc. These good nuns, two mothers and two lay sisters, have been here two years teaching in the parish school and doing every kind of good work. Their boarding school contains 12 pupils, of whom three are boys. They are assisted in their noble work by Miss Dubuc, who teaches the English subjects.

A collection is being taken up around here for the purpose of erecting a monument to the Métis who fell in the insurrection of 1885 at Batoche. FRIDA.

Freshly back from the country, in a region where muzzling orders are unknown, the dog of Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem strayed from his Long Acre home one day without its muzzle. Its mistress explained the dog's misconduct on Wednesday at Bow Street. "He forgot he was back in London, Sir. As a rule he always asks for his muzzle when he wants to go out." It seems a pity that the mistress of such a good dog should have been fined 5s. and costs.—Universe (Eng.).

The large new steam laundry attached to the St. Boniface Hospital is now bricked over and will be ready for work during the month of December. The new cottage for isolated patients, next to Mr. Pambrun's former residence, St. Boniface, used as an annex to St. Boniface Hospital, is now ready.

## THANKS FROM WINNER

OF THE PRIZE FOR LATIN TRANSLATION.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of the volume of poems you had the kindness to send me and accept my sincere thanks for this beautiful gift.

I have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servant,  
LUDWIG ERK.  
Rosenort P. O., Man.,  
Oct. 24, 1899.

## A DREYFUS AFTERCLAP.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—I notice in your issue of the 11th October the enclosed extract from the Midland Review, in reference to which I cannot but say: "This is the most unkindest cut of all." So it was the howling of the press, not any sense of justice which after all procured the condemnation of Dreyfus. Excuse me if I smile, I see this stated as a note of triumph, as it were. The immortal five, have they fallen so low as to be treated thus in the house of their friends?

However, one cannot forget what the great de Maistre says about the nations that fail to do justice. I need not quote to one so learned as you; his remarks are to be found in "Les Soirées de St. Petersburg." I was greatly struck by those terrible words: "The nation that shall fail in executing justice shall herself be punished for the sins she has failed to punish." God forbid. I should say, France is not more guilty in this respect than many another. We have only to glance at history to see the judicial murders of other countries, Lord Stafford's, for instance.

For my part, I have a tender feeling for the Jews. It is true, we are like Jacob, and have supplanted our elder brother, but Our Divine Lord Himself was a Jew, and to despise the Jews seems to me a personal insult to Him. His Immaculate Mother was a Jewish maiden; St. John the Baptist, dear to French Canadians; St. John the Evangelist and most of the other Apostles were Jews. Dear Sir,

Faithfully yours,  
M. T.

## A LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
OTTAWA, Oct. 30, 1899.

Editor NORTHWEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir—I note what you write in your kindly notice of the Year Book and also your criticism of the date 1777 in connection with the escheat of the Jesuits Estate in Canada.

The date 1777 is the correct one for the fact of the escheat. The memo I made and from which the date was taken is:

"The status of the Jesuits was made the subject of inquiry by King's order-in-council of 1786, the order being carried into effect in 1787. The report of the commission made in 1788 was to the effect that a law or ordinance would have to be enacted in order to effect a legal transfer of the property to the crown. The law officers of the crown in 1790 advised that 'no aid of law is required to give the crown possession, the estates having long ago fallen to the crown un-

der the decision of the Attorney-General of Canada in 1777.'"

It was the fact of the escheat, which was a Canadian matter, that I had in mind, rather than the fact of the suppression of the famous order.

I can see that the sentence is not well devised to bring out the fact of the escheat and will revise it for next issue.

Thanking you for your criticism, I remain,

Yours truly,  
GEORGE JOHNSON,  
Statistician.

## AN ENGLISH SOLICITOR-GENERAL ON THE WAR.

The Casket.

Mr. Chamberlain and his war policy have received a staggering blow from the ranks of his own party. Flushed with his success in goading the Boers to hostilities, he arose in his place in Parliament on Thursday last to justify his conduct, and with all the flippancy and brazenness characteristic of him he "challenged any one to see a sign of provocation, blood-guiltiness, or desire of war in the negotiations." The challenge was promptly accepted, not by one from the Opposition benches, but by one of the ablest of the Government's own supporters, a leader of the English Bar, Sir Edward Clarke, Solicitor-General under Lord Salisbury's former Ministry, who said that "the more he read the correspondence the more convinced he had been of the blunders in the negotiations, and that this lamentable war was unnecessary. For any Minister to assert that we—since 1884—have had suzerainty over the Transvaal," continues the cabled report of Sir Edward's speech, "was certainly at variance with the facts, and a breach of national faith. President Kruger had had much difficulty with his Volksraad, and on many occasions he had shown himself moderate and an advocate of peace. There was no reason why the conditions which President Kruger attached to the franchise proposals should not have been accepted, seeing that suzerainty was dropped in 1884." Having asked Mr. Chamberlain whether he considered a certain one of his communications to the Transvaal conciliatory and having received an affirmative answer, Sir Edward rejoined: "Then I consider this amendment [Mr. Stanhope's amendment declaring Mr. Chamberlain's conduct of the negotiations responsible for the war] proved to the hilt;" and he proceeded to declare the war, what it undoubtedly is, a crime against civilization.

The speech of the ex-Solicitor-General will carry conviction home to the minds of many who have heretofore hesitated to believe in the nefariousness of this business. The condemnations pronounced by political opponents might be attributed to party exigencies, especially by people in Canada who fail to realize how readily patriotic statesmen in England sink party differences when questions of foreign policy arise. But here is this able lawyer among the Government's own supporters, whom the Prime Minister has honored with one of the highest offices to which a lawyer, remaining such, may aspire—a man who, when he speaks as to the construction

of a document, speaks with all the authority due to his high professional standing—declaring that this awful war has been brought about by the recklessness of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in stubbornly pressing a demand that has not a shadow of foundation. Yet it is for unwillingness to participate in this "crime against civilization," as it is characterized by Sir Edward Clarke, that people in Canada are being denounced through all the moods and tenses as traitors by the blood-sucking Jingoos of Canada! The hysterical Herald of Halifax would have had the Government of this Dominion dispatch a military contingent to South Africa while the negotiations were yet going on!

## MGR. DUHAMEL'S JUBILEE.

THE 'PRESENTATIONS TO HIS GRACE AMOUNT TO ABOUT \$10,000.

Special to the Montreal Star.

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—The total presentations in cash to Archbishop Duhamel amount to nearly \$10,000. The French laity give \$1,000, instead of \$500, as stated previously. Among the presentations to the Archbishop was a cheque for \$80 from the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, and \$100 from Mr. L. Gauthier, architect, of Montreal, who has designed many of the institutions in Ottawa. The relatives of Archbishop Duhamel presented him with a beautiful soutane, and the people of Pembroke gave a set of rich vestments.

Rev. Father Gendreau, late of Mattawa, now an Oblate missionary at Dawson, sent a magnificent large card embellished with the figures 25 in gold nuggets.

Much credit is due to Mgr. Routhier, vicar-general, who made all the arrangements for the celebration. He was highly complimented by the visiting clergy and others.

Yesterday Archbishop Duhamel visited St. Patrick's Asylum, and in the afternoon he was presented with the addresses of the ladies' sodalities of the city churches, afterwards holding a reception for ladies at the palace. On Sunday his visit to Hull, where an elaborate reception awaits him, closes the jubilee ceremonies.

Last Friday a High Mass of Requiem for the deceased members of the Congregation of the Oblates was celebrated in the cathedral by Rev. Father Guillet, O. M. I., with Rev. Dr. Béliveau, as deacon and Rev. Father Enck, O. M. I., as subdeacon. Were present in the chancel Very Rev. A. Dugas, V. G., Rev. Father Dorais, O. M. I., Rev. Fathers Gravel and Trudel.

His Grace Archbishop Langevin, of St. Boniface, officiated pontifically at the imposing All Saints' day service in Notre Dame Church, Montreal. There was a large congregation. He alluded to the fact that 40 years ago the late Archbishop Taché had conducted a service at Notre Dame and there were people present who had heard him on that occasion.

The Oblate Fathers hope to be able to occupy their new presbytery next month.

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**Northwest Review.**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1899

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Our subscribers will be pleased to learn that we are reducing the subscription price. Henceforth, all who pay IN ADVANCE will be charged only ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. Those who do not pay in advance will have to pay the old price, two dollars a year. These latter need reminding that the Holy Father and the Bishops of the Church are continually inculcating on the faithful the duty of supporting the Catholic press. And no careful reader of our columns can fail to observe how many things they contain which, though vitally interesting, are purposely ignored by the secular press.

**CURRENT COMMENT**

The American yellow journals drove McKinley into war with Spain, and now the English popular press, not content with bringing about this bitter South African war, is daily adding fresh fuel to the fires of national revenge. This is virtually dechristianizing a people that deem themselves model Christians. Nothing is so thoroughly heathen, so contemptible to the true Christian as the bestial spirit of revenge.

Cardinal Mathieu, when recently taking possession of his cardinalial title of Saint Sabina in Rome, drew a forceful picture of Christian France, saying: "France is worth far more than the reputation she is daily making for herself by her polemics and what her continual agitation leads to suppose. We must not judge her by the surface. As the depths of the ocean conceal inexhaustible treasures of life, so she holds in reserve an extraordinary amount of good sense, of capability for work, and of active and generous piety. This gives her a place apart among Christian nations. What other country maintains an army of more than 40,000 priests, presents to the eyes of angels an ornament of more than 1,000,000 nuns, spends yearly several million francs for the propagation of the faith, sends missionaries to spread the Gospel from the Black Continent to the Polar re-

gions, and this often at the expense of their lives?"

Look out for a grand display of celestial fireworks during the nights of the 13th, 14th and 15th of this month. The famous shower of falling stars through which our earth passes once in thirty-three years is due this year, 1899, about the middle of November. The last time this gorgeous sight appeared was Nov. 13-14, 1866. Sir Robert S. Ball, who witnessed it, says the meteors were distinguished not only by their enormous multitude—several thousands in two hours—but by their intrinsic magnificence. The best time to observe is between midnight and the sunrise twilight. Clouded skies can shut out the view, and as the moon will be very nearly full on Nov. 14 (full moon occurs on Nov. 17) her light will certainly obscure the faint trails of many shooting stars. But, as the moon sets on Nov. 14 at 4.19 a.m., and on Nov. 15 at 5.38, there will be on the former date a couple hours of moonless starlight and in the latter almost an hour, before the dawn; so that early risers will catch the show. These shooting stars are cold dark bodies which, dashing into the earth's atmosphere at the rate of 25 miles a second, instantly become heated to a temperature of many thousand degrees, blaze out for a few moments and then evaporate completely. "There are several elements of uncertainty," writes Prof. J. J. Ross, of Columbia University, in the N. Y. Sun, "about the time of the coming of the shower. It may come a little earlier or later than Nov. 14-15, and some unknown effect of the planetary pulls may so disturb the motion of the swarm that it may decline to put in an appearance at all this year. If so, the astronomer is quite certain that he will see the display in the last year of the present century, November, 1900. When one sees the grand shower the words of the Psalmist will come to mind: 'The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork.'"

A noble example of practical piety was given the other day by the relatives of the late Miss Margaret Mary Josephine Purcell, sister of Mr. Justice Purcell, "whose name," says the True Witness, "is a household word in almost every Irish Catholic family in Montreal." The obituary notice which announced the death and the day of the burial, contained the following truly Catholic request: "No flowers, but prayers and Masses." This is real Christian charity, and the lesson is all the more timely as it was given on the eve of the month of November, consecrated to prayer for the souls in Purgatory.

There are only two dogmas taught by the Catholic Church on Purgatory, as the Council of Trent (Sess. 25) tells us. The first is that there is a state called Purgatory; the second is that the souls detained therein are helped by the prayers of the faithful and especially by the "acceptable sacrifice of the altar." Thus the Church solemnly teaches that the best way to assist our departed friends and relatives is the offering of the Holy

Sacrifice. And yet how many well-to-do Catholics allow the whole month of November to slip by without getting one Mass said for their nearest and dearest? Those who are too poor to pay the required stipend should at least strive to hear Mass on week days at least once a week and, if possible, every day. In this respect our cathedral town of St. Boniface sets a fine example to the rest of the diocese. The week day Masses are regularly attended by the best people of St. Boniface, who seem fully to realize that the faithful who are present at Mass really offer this acceptable sacrifice in union with the priest, according to those words of the Memento of the Living: "Be mindful, O Lord... of all here present... for whom we offer or who offer up to Thee this Sacrifice of praise."

"The Lounger" in *Towu Topics* does not quite understand our note on the absence of religious prejudice in "Richard Carvel." On re-reading that note we confess that our idea may not have been expressed with sufficient clearness for a reader who had never perused Mr. Winston Churchill's beautiful story. For the benefit of such a one we should have premised that the tale purports to be told by its hero, who is therefore supposed to be impregnated with the atmosphere of his time, 1770-1780. Mr. Churchill has indeed caught that atmosphere admirably, but he has purposely eliminated therefrom its odious element of religious prejudice against Catholics. He is careful to speak of them as they like to be spoken of, not as "Roman Catholics," but as "Catholics" pure and simple, there being but one religion which everybody recognizes under that one name, although others try to appropriate it by tacking on modifiers. This, taken in connection with the great popularity of "Richard Carvel," we called "a hopeful sign of a growing disposition to be fair to Catholicism." Common courtesy to Catholics is, of course, not rare in our own day, but it was extremely rare in 1780.

The contrast between the Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick's sketch of Transvaal history and Mr. W. T. Stead's "South Africa Catechism" in the October "Review of Reviews" is certainly very striking. The former sees but one side of the question and sees that in a distorted way. The latter, being an Englishman, can afford to be honest without fearing to be suspected of disloyalty, and he gives both sides with statistics and dates which are either wanting or wrong in Mr. Fitzpatrick's special plea. Mr. Stead's sketch is a record of broken promises, hypocrisy, bungling and greed on the one hand and of a fierce and occasionally brutal fight for independence on the other. His statistics are somewhat startling. He says there are in South Africa about 400,000 people who speak Cape Dutch and only about 300,000 who speak English. The majority of the Boers, about a quarter of a million, live in the Cape Colony; less than 100,000 in the Transvaal; 50,000 are in the Orange Free State.

The promptness and courtesy

with which Mr. George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, has replied, in a letter published in this issue, to our recent criticism of a date in the Statistical Year-Book for 1898 shows how well he manages the affairs of his department and emboldens us to submit another little perplexity to him. From page 555 of the same book we gather the following figures founded upon the census of 1891:

	Per thousand.	
	Birth rate.	Death rate.
British Columbia	23.16	13.04
Manitoba.....	32.53	19.36
New Brunswick	27.70	13.36
Nova Scotia.....	25.41	14.57
Ontario.....	24.50	11.30
Quebec.....	36.86	18.91
P. E. Island.....	24.45	12.26
N.W. Territories	24.98	7.32

And, immediately after these figures we come across this inexplicable assertion: "Manitoba is the banner province, having the second largest birth rate and the second lowest death rate, the result being that the prairie province has the largest excess of births over deaths." According to the figures on which this assertion seems to be based Manitoba has indeed the second largest birth rate, but it has the highest death rate of all the eight divisions of the Dominion; and, far from having the largest excess of births over deaths it is surpassed in this respect by New Brunswick, Ontario, the N. W. Territories and especially by Quebec, whose excess of births over deaths surpasses that of the best of the other provinces by about 35 per cent, so that it is incomparably above them. True, the N. W. Territories' excess of births over deaths approaches that of Quebec, but the immense increase in Northwest population nullifies statistics of the territories taken almost ten years ago. We should like Mr. Johnson to explain the assertion about Manitoba. Much as we love our province, we want to see her credentials all right.

Our correspondent "M. T." misinterprets our quotation of Oct. 11th from the "Midland Review." The "howling of the press" may have simply intensified the "sense of justice" of the judges, just as the very absurdity of some calumnies against the Church has led many Protestants first to examine her claims and then to admit them.

One of the most remarkable instances of a head turned by the Dreyfusard heroics is that of Mr. St. George Mivart. He writes a long letter to the Times blaming the Pope for not having issued a pronouncement in favor of Dreyfus; he calls the latter the Galileo of the 19th century and speaks of the stupidity of the Roman congregations. Mr. Mivart, though the author of some of the most uncompromisingly and fearlessly Catholic statements ever uttered in the English language, is subject to these fits of temporary aberration. This time he needs praying for that he may not make shipwreck of the faith. But how ridiculous it is thus to fly off into a passion as if there were but one possible view of the Dreyfus case when that ablest of newspaper correspondents, Mr. G. W. Stevens, was converted to the opposite view by being a spectator of the Rennes trial.

**LIP-FIGHTERS.**

There is a vast deal of humbug about enlisting for real war. The immense majority of the men who volunteered in and around Winnipeg were physically unfit and many of them probably knew they were before they presented themselves for examination. It was a cheap way of getting the glory of a desire to fight. On the other hand, shrewd observers of the great crowd assembled to bid good-bye to the contingent noticed that quite a number of young broad-chested six-footers prudently confined themselves to shouting lustily for the Manitoba Transvaal boys, while not one of the latter had the average height or chest development of our city police. But it appears that in staid, matter-of-fact, Nova Scotia they did not even keep up appearances in our western way. This is what The Observer in the Casket tells us of their slowness in enlisting:

After the expressions of lip-loyalty in the Montreal Star from so many of the mayors of Canada we were hardly prepared for the complaints in two or three numbers of the Halifax Herald last week, of the slowness in enlisting. In fact, we thought that, as there was only a limited number of men required, the mayors would have a monopoly of the whole regiment. Imagine, then, our surprise, when, on the names of the volunteers being printed in the Herald, not one appeared from the town whose mayor had declared in the Star that he voiced the sentiments of the people of eastern Nova Scotia. The patriotism of these officials bears a striking resemblance to that of the late lamented Artemus Ward, who expressed his willingness to sacrifice all his wife's relations upon the altar of his country.

**THE OBLATES IN SOUTH AFRICA.**

There are 89 and soon will be 96 Oblate Fathers (seven having recently embarked) in South Africa. In the vicariate of Natal there are 34, of whom 8, Bishop Jolivet and 7 Fathers, reside in Pietermaritzburg, six at Durban and two at Ladysmith. In the vicariate of Orange Free State there are 17, of whom six, Bishop Gaughren and five Fathers reside at Kimberley and one at Mafeking. In the vicariate of Transvaal there are 16, of whom six, Rev. Father De Lacy and five other Fathers, reside in Johannesburg, and four in Pretoria. In the vicariate of Basutoland there are 21, of whom Rev. Father Cenez and eleven other Fathers reside at Roma. In the prefecture of Cimbebasia, chief residence Windhoek, there are 10 Fathers under the Prefect, Rev. Father Hermann, O. M. I.

**NOTES BY THE WAY.**

A local paragraph in the daily papers last week conveyed to the public the information that another dead body had been fished out of the Red River, this making the sixth case of infanticide reported in the city during the past few months. This means that there have been at least six murders committed within our boundaries and we should like to know where this thing is going to stop, and are the authorities taking any step to stop it? When Jack the Ripper was carrying on his infernal



