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I have prescribed Menthol Plaster in a number of cases of neuralgic and rheumatic pains, and am very much pleased with the effects and pleasantness of its application.—W. H. CARPENTER, M.D., Hotel Oxford, Boston.

I have used Menthol Plasters in several cases of muscular rheumatism, and find in every case that it gave almost instant and permanent relief. —J. B. MOORE M.D., Washington, D.C.

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The Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, JAN. 17, 1896.

A PRETTYFAIR STORY.

Our story relates to the pleasant little town of Prettyfair. Where is the town located? Oh, well, that doesn't much matter. Say in south Australia. There are many towns like it all over Anglo-Saxondom.

Municipal matters were in a bad way in Prettyfair. It was the same old story; the same old complaints were made that we have all heard so often. Too much poor material in the town council. Hard to get the best men, the able men to run. General politics introduced into municipal matters. The hail-fellow-well-met style of politician gets the big pull always. Councillors spend more time in wrangling and jawing one another than in attending to town business in a business-like way. Result—slipshod methods and general inefficiency.

One day a few of the leading men of the town met in an informal way to talk the matter over, in view of a coming municipal election, and to try and find a remedy. The first proposition was the one that most of us are familiar with, namely: "Let us make a determined effort to get good men into the council, irrespective of party." Said one citizen: "Now here is our friend, Mr. Backbone, he would make a splendid councilman. Will you run in your ward, Mr. Backbone?"

"Not if I know it," replied Backbone. "That fellow Windigasser would be sure to run against me. He has got the pull with the Starry Knights and the Sons of the Morning, and has made himself solid in the ward generally. I am not going to put myself in the position of being the beaten opponent of a man like Windigasser."

"Oh, well," said another "but a man of your standing in the town could beat him if you made an active canvass."

"Possibly so," answered Backbone, "but I cannot spare the time or the energy from my business; and even if I could, I would not feel inclined to. If the people of Prettyfair want me to do work for them gratis, they will have to elect me without my going round begging and canvassing for permission to serve them."

"Well," suggested another of the party, "here is Mr. Tippelknot. He is a good executive man, of high standing in the town, and would have the temperance vote on his side. Why not run in your ward, Mr. Tippelknot?"

Tippelknot shook his head. "What good would the temperance vote do me there?" said he. "If I could get a fair proportion of the whole town, it would be all right; but the temperance vote in my own ward is not enough. You know that Goodbar, who is in the council now, has the whole liquor interest with him. Besides, he is on the other side of politics, and it would be made a political matter, and his side has a majority in our ward. No, it won't work."

Mr. Clearcut, Mr. Square, Mr. Footdown and Mr. Goodhead were successively appealed to, with a like result. None of them would become candidates.

"It seems to me," remarked Clearcut, "that no immediate remedy is possible. The root of the difficulty is in the ward system, along with our plan of nomination, which gives every facility for the introduction of party politics where they are only mischievous. You all know that it is not the better class of party men who introduce party politics. Some narrow-minded partizans nominate candidates of one political stripe all along the line, and the other side follow suit in self-defense; or perhaps each side nominates to head off the other side."

Square looked at him thoughtfully. "The ward system is a very poor one; but can you get anything better in its place? If you had voting at large all over the town, it would mean that the party which had even a narrow majority would put in all the councillors. They have tried that plan in the United States."

Goodhead now joined in the discussion. "You are right, Square; but voting at large is not the only way. We have about twelve hundred voters in the town—at least, that is the average number who vote—and we return twelve councillors; divide one by the other, and you get a hundred votes to each councillors. Now, suppose you had a system by which any hundred voters in any part of the town could elect a councilman to represent them, how would that work? Say, Backbone, couldn't you be dead sure of a hundred votes if you were running, and had the whole town to draw from?"

"He could get double that number without canvassing a single elector," broke in Footdown, with emphasis.

"And you, Tippelknot," pursued Goodhead, "couldn't you get considerable over a hundred votes if you were not pinned down to one ward for your temperance supporters?"

"No doubt of that," answered Tippelknot. "The idea looks well. But wouldn't you waste a great many votes? How could you fix it so that only about the hundred votes would be cast for your man, or, at any rate, only enough more to make sure of his election?"

"Oh, that is easy enough. Arrange it so that when the votes were counted, only enough to elect a man would be credited to him, and the remainder transferred to some other candidate indicated by the electors themselves, each on his own ballot."

Another of the party here remarked that there were too many councilmen anyhow; that nine would do the business better than twelve.

"I quite agree with you," replied Goodhead. "The experience of some cities that have lessened the number of wards goes that way. The abolition of our six wards would make it easy to reduce the number of councillors to nine. Then it would be well to change the nomination system, so that a candidate must be nominated in writing before a certain date by say twenty electors. By thus making the whole town one large constituency, electing nine councillors, and electing them by a good plan of proportional representation, any candidate who was a good enough man to command one-ninth of the votes of the whole electorate, would be elected. The better element of the community, scattered over the whole town, could unite freely to return really good men, in exact proportion to their voting strength. Men like our friends, Backbone and Tippelknot, would then be willing to run, because their election could be made reasonably certain."

"But," objected Mr. Goasloe, "is not the ward system necessary to prevent injustice being done to some sections of the town, in the matter of sidewalks or other public accommodations, by reason of its being unrepresented?"

Clearcut answered him. "Proportional representation of the whole town effects that very object better than the ward system does; because, if a sectional matter became very important, the people of that section could get a candidate specially to represent their interests, if they were strong enough in numbers; they would not be confined to any hard-and-fast ward boundaries, and they might draw scattering votes from sympathizers all over the town."

After an animated discussion of details, there appeared to be a general agreement with the ideas of Clearcut and Goodhead.

(In a future number we may tell the story of an election conducted in accordance with the principle outlined above.)

From the Toronto Globe, Sept. 5th.

Odoroma is the name of the latest thing for the teeth, introduced into Canada by the Aroma Chemical Co. It seems to be meeting with the appreciation of the elite of Toronto at any rate, owing, no doubt, to it having been endorsed by well-known professional experts as much as to recommendation from one to another. That it is a good thing is beyond question; that it will rapidly become popular is equally certain.—80-52.

Amendment to the Public Health Act.

It does not appear to be generally known that by an act of the provincial legislature, assented to on 16th April last, a radical change has been made in the manner of appointing health boards in cities and in towns containing more than four thousand inhabitants. Under the old law nine members were appointed yearly by the new council, to serve with the mayor. The revised section reads as follows:

(3) There shall be a local board of health for each city and for each town containing more than four thousand inhabitants, according to the municipal enumeration of the previous year, to consist of the mayor and six ratepayers, to be appointed by the municipal council as follows: Two members to be appointed for three years, two members for two years and one member for one year, the retiring members to be replaced by two members appointed for three years from date of appointment.

There can be no doubt but that the change is a wise one, as it ensures experienced men on the board.

Praises the W.C.T.U.

The Quebec Mercury, of a recent date, paid the following compliment to the Women's Temperance Union upon the occasion of the Dominion convention meeting in that city: "People who sympathize with suffering humanity cannot fail to appreciate the large-hearted and truly christian spirit of kindness which prompts the members of this noble association in their efforts to benefit those whose condition in life calls in any way for their generous intervention. From every city and town and hamlet, ladies, laying aside their own domestic cares and making a truce with the urgent calls upon their attention, meet in council to devise plans to relieve those who suffer and cannot help themselves. Not content with pecuniary assistance, these warm-hearted apostles of charity look ahead to the dangers which beset their wards, and the trials which lie in their path, and their powerful influence is exercised unceasingly and untiringly in the direction of removing obstacles from their way. It would be a tedious task to enumerate the long list of objects which receive their careful attention. In fact, wherever danger lurks, or morality is threatened, their assistance is forthcoming. People who do not follow these matters have no idea of the many pitfalls which are to be found, but nothing seems to escape the increasing vigilance of these deserving ladies. The amount of good they have already done is almost incalculable. Yet they are only getting down in earnest to their work, and their very earnestness is the best guarantee that in the future their usefulness will only be limited by the large field on which it will make itself felt. Christianity has reason to be proud of these workers, and this association is destined to exert an enormous influence for good and to contribute in no small degree to renew the face of the earth, in the way of improving the moral and social condition of many of its toil-worn and drooping millions, and its helpless and friendless sufferers."

Two Witnesses!

Their Statement Very Important.

Each month hundreds of ladies write about their wonderful success with the popular Diamond Dyes.

Mrs. E. Chambers, Massey Station, Ont., says:

"Have used Diamond Dyes for years; they are excellent and make old things look new. I could not get along without them."

Mrs. P. Boudrot, Lennox Ferry, N.S., says:

"We use from thirty to thirty-five packages of Diamond Dyes every six months, and would go ten miles for them rather than use any other kind."

ENGLAND IS READY.

War Preparations Going On in the Old Land.

GERMANY'S CONDUCT THE CAUSE

Torpedo Destroyers Ordered to Join the Flying Squadron by Next Tuesday—The Feeling of the Country is With the Government—An Ominous Outlook.

London, Jan. 9.—The flying squadron, composed of the battleships Royal Oak and Revenge, and the cruisers Gibraltar, Hermoine, Charybdis and Theseus, which is now fitting out, will when all preparations are complete, assemble at Portland for final orders. The Admiralty have ordered the Devonport dockyard to put six of the swiftest torpedo destroyers into commission and get them in readiness to join the flying squadron at Portsmouth on Jan. 14.

In addition to the six fast torpedo destroyers ordered to be got in readiness at Davenport, the Admiralty have sent orders to other yards requiring six other boats of the same class to be put into commission as quickly as possible.

It is announced that the Admiralty have ordered 20 torpedo destroyers to be put into commission immediately.

ABOUT THE WARSHIPS.

Facts Relating to the British Squadron Now Getting Ready for Sea

The St. George, the flagship on board of which Rear Admiral Rawson is hastening from Cape Town to Delagoa Bay is a first-class steel cruiser, of 7700 tons. She carries 2 22-ton guns, ten 6-inch quick firing guns and 24 smaller guns, and her speed is 19 7-10 knots.

The flying squadron, which is to be ready for service on Tuesday next, and which will probably be ordered at once to Delagoa Bay, comprises the following vessels:

Revenge, first-class battleship, 14,150 tons; four 67-ton guns, ten 6-inch quick firing guns, 36 smaller rapid firing guns, 18 inches side armor, speed 17 1-2 knots.

Royal Oak, first-class battleship, 14,150 tons; four 67-ton guns, ten 6-inch quick firing guns, 36 smaller rapid firing guns, 18 inches of side armor; speed 17 1-2 knots.

Gibraltar, first-class steel cruiser, 7700 tons; two 22-ton guns, ten 6-inch quick firing guns, 24 smaller quick firing guns, speed 19 7-10 knots.

Theseus, first-class steel cruiser, 7350 tons; two 22-ton guns, ten 6-inch quick firing guns, 24 smaller quick firing guns; speed 20 knots.

Charybdis, second-class steel cruiser, 4360 tons; two 6-inch quick firing guns, eight 4.7 quick firing guns, 13 smaller quick firing guns; speed 19 5-10 knots.

Hermoine, second-class steel cruiser, 4360 tons; two 6-inch quick firing guns, eight 4.7 quick firing guns, 13 smaller quick firing guns; speed 19 5-10 knots.

England is Prepared.

New York, Jan. 9.—All England has learned in this last week that Great Britain may soon have to fight for existence. Even Portugal and Italy seem to have joined the combination of hate against the Island Empire.

The response of the British people has been brave and instant. There is no faltering note from any part of the Empire of readiness to respond to the call to battle with Germany or all Europe if need be.

England is prepared for war with Germany at a day's notice.

Ordered to Deliver Up Their Guns.

London, Jan. 9.—The British South Africa Company has ordered its officials in South Africa to deliver all the guns and amunition in their possession to the officers of the Imperial Government.

A WORD FOR ENGLAND.

Right and Justice Not All on the Side of the Boers.

Boston, Jan. 9.—Rev. Francis W. Bates, a missionary of the American Board, connected with its east Central African mission, is in this country on furlough, and is now in Boston. His residence of seven years in the region where the present hostilities between the Dutch and the British are occurring, has made him familiar with the situation. When seen by a reporter of the press, he said:

"There seems to be a widespread opinion that the late invasion of Dr. Jameson, of the British South Africa Co., into the Transvaal, was the result of a deep-laid plot on the part of the British Government to seize upon the Transvaal, and make it her own. It seems to me however, that such an idea is not in accordance with the facts, nor with the position that that Government has always held to the Transvaal since the time when Gladstone put an end to the Boer war and granted them their independence. Their cause was a just one.

"The present difficulties are the outcome of the attempt on the part of the Transvaal Government to continue the Transvaal as a Boer Republic, giving no voice to those of any other than Dutch descent. The English by far outnumber the Boers, especially in the cities. They furnish the greater part of the revenue. The Boer has been content with his ignorance. The English have established schools, and have taken the lead in educational matters, in spite of the opposition of the older Boers. But in spite of the fact that English enterprise has done so much to build up the Government, which was a few years ago in the last stages of bankruptcy, the English have always been outside, with no rights as citizens. In other words, the Boers have attempted to force upon others the very system which led to their revolt against the English.

Dr. Jameson's raid was an ill-advised attempt to aid his fellow-countrymen in their revolt against this system. Mr. Rhodes may have encouraged it, he is a man of strong character, a forceful leader, but in no way a skilful diplomat.

President Kruger is a descendant of the old Vortrecker, those who were ever in revolt against progress in the olden times. His influence has ever been against advance in education and civilization, a man who was well described some tiem ago as one who "ads to the manners of a clown the morals of a hypocrite."

Too much is being said against the greed of England. She has done more for Africa than any other nation. She has a history in Africa extending over centuries. Her occupation has always resulted in the elevation of the natives. She alone of all nations forbids the sale of intoxicants to the natives; she aids in educating and civilization, she gives the native the rights of a man. It would mean a decided advance in civilization if England might have all of Africa instead of the small area that has fallen to her.

London, Jan 10.—Great Britain has determined to make the greatest display of fighting power the world has ever seen. The fleet, which will rendezvous at Portland Harbor on next Tuesday, will be the strongest ever assembled under one flag. Its full composition is not yet known, but already 17 battleships or cruisers and 15 torpedo boat catchers have been ordered to join it.

These vessels are all of the latest type and best equipment. They include the eastern and western squadrons of the Channel fleet and the new flying squadron.

The purpose of this demonstration may be to resent Emperor William's recent action, or may be a declaration of England's "Come one, come all" defiance against the world. It is a measure which may work for peace, or it may work for war. A good deal depends upon the destination of the fleet, which, of course, is a Government secret. Its composition is of some significance.

The ony point of superiority of the German navy is the large number of torpedo boats. The fact that half of the British fleet will be composed of torpedo boat catchers seems therefore to have an important meaning.

It is now known that orders have been given to the British naval stations for the instant equipment for sea of a large number of warships which would not otherwise be ready for service until spring. Every available man in the construction departments of the great naval stations at Devonport, Portsmouth, Chatham and Sheerness are employed every hour they are able to work. This, of course, indicates more than a mere intention to demonstrate by a naval display England's power and invulnerability.

ANTI-BRITISH ALLIANCE

Russia and France Said to Have Promised to Support Germany

London, Jan. 10.—A special despatch received here from Berlin this afternoon says that Russia's co-operation with Germany in the Transvaal matter has been assured, and that France will act with Russia. This, apparently, tends to confirm the report of an anti-British alliance, and that the action of Emperor William towards the Boer republic was a thoroughly weighed step.

Portugal, it is announced, will remain neutral in the dispute with Great Britain and Germany regarding the Transvaal, and will not permit the Germans or the British to land at Delagoa Bay or to traverse Portuguese territory in South Africa.

Full Enquiry by Royal Commission.

London, Jan. 10.—Mr. Chamberlain has cabled to Hofmeyer, the leader of the Afrikander Bund, a party having a large majority in the Cape Parliament, and a supporter of Cecil Rhodes and the British South Africa Company, informing him that there will be a full inquiry into the British South Africa Company's raid into the Transvaal, and that further violation of the territory of the South African Republic will be prevented.

It is reported that the inquiry will be conducted by a Royal Commission, which will investigate the origin and circumstances of the whole affair.

Jameson to be Tried in England.

London, Jan. 10.—It is reported that Dr. Jameson will be taken to Natal, where he will be embarked for England, to be tried upon charges of violating the Foreign Englistment Act, which declares it a punishable offence to prepare a warlike expedition against a friendly state.

Rhodes Was Aware of the Plot.

London, Jan. 10.—A despatch from Cape Town to The Pall Mall Gazette, under date of January 8, says it is asserted there that Cecil Rhodes was aware of the whole plot which led up to and included Dr. Jameson's raid into the Transvaal. Rhodes is ill at Cape Town.

ACTIVITY AT VICTORIA, B.C.

Work Going on Day and Night at the Esquimalt Dock.

Victoria, B.C., Jan. 10.—The greatest activity is being shown by the naval authorities at this station. The officers have been taking a great deal of interest in the despatches regarding the trouble between England and Germany, and more official despatches than usual have been going between Admiral Stephenson and the Admiralty officials.

It is stated that two large ships will come out to join the Pacific fleet, besides the one which is intended to relieve the Royal Arthur.

Work on Her Majesty's ship Satellite, now in the Esquimalt dock, is being rushed night and day.

HATE TO GIVE UP.

The Uitlanders Very Slow in Surrendering Their Guns.

London, Jan. 10.—A despatch from Pretoria says the Transvaal Government are greatly displeased at the slowness of the Uitlanders in delivering up their arms. They are said to have had in their possession 30,000 rifles, whereas only 2000 have been handed over to the authorities. In consequence of this the Government have issued a proclamation declaring that unless all the arms are delivered up to 6 o'clock on the evening of Jan. 10, the defaulters will be dealt with according to law. Those who comply with the demands of the Government will be pardoned, with the exception of the leaders of the revolt, who will have to suffer the penalty of their acts.

A German Threat.

London, Jan. 10.—A despatch to The Central News from Berlin says that unless Great Britain satisfies the demands of President Kruger, which include the abrogation of the convention of 1884, by the terms of which England exercises suzerainty over the Transvaal Republic, Germany will urge Kruger to appeal to the European powers to support him in his demands.

10,000 Boers Under Arms.

A despatch from Pretoria, dated Jan. 8, says that prior to the issuance of the Transvaal Government's proclamation, commanding the Uitlanders to deliver up their arms by 6 o'clock on the evening of Jan. 10, Sir Jacobus A. Dewet, the British Agent at Pretoria, went to Johannesburg to hasten the work of disarming the revolutionists. A Government Commission was sitting at Johannesburg with the object of ensuring the execution of conditions of surrender. Sir J. A. Dewet was to attend the sittings of this commission and render it all the assistance possible.

New York, Jan. 12.—Mr. George W. Smalley, the American resident representative of The London Times, contributes an article to The New York Herald on the chances for war against England. He ridicules the idea of a general European coalition against England, giving reasons why France, Austria and Italy would not participate in such an arrangement.

An attempt by Germany and Russia upon England would mean simply a European war, in which Europe would be divided into two not unequal camps. There is not a statesman on the continent who would put his hand to a bargain for such a contest as that, save under the direst necessity. It is ridiculous to say that any such necessity exists to-day, or that the Transvaal business affords even a pretext for European interference.

There remains, however, one incalculable factor, and that is the German Emperor. Him Europe has long believed, as Voltaire said of Habakkuk, capable of anything. His telegram to President Kruger has been commonly discussed, as if it were a mere ebullition of personal feeling. It is that, first of all, and is probaby something more.

Germany and England have long been rivals in the scramble for Africa. England began first and obtained the lion's share. She has got, in truth, almost everything in South Africa. Germany has not even a foothold on the southeast coast. She talked of sending marines to the Transvaal. There is not a port where she could land them, execept by permission of Portugal. There is not a foot of land over which they would have a right of way. Germany's nearest possessions to the Transvaal are on the west coast, many hundreds of miles distant, with British Bechuanaland between them and the Boers.

There are no German interests in the South African Republic save commercial interests. The immense majority of the population are Dutch, or of Dutch origin, and British. What business has Germany there? It is a question no one can answer any more than they can say what a Boer agent is doing in Berlin, while the covention of 1884, providing for an English suzerainty, is in full force.

It is through England, and England alone, that the republic must transact her business with the outer world. But the imperial and imperious ruler of Germany wishes this state of things altered, and seems to have supposed that an expression of his will would alter it.

The response of England has undeceived him. The Kaiser knows now that if he wants to champion the Boers or remake the may of South Africa he will have to fight for it. To retreat is disagreeable, perhaps humiliating. To go on would be to give the signal for a war of which no man can see the extent or the ending. I think most of us Americans, whatever may be our quarrel with England, have seen with pleasure her readiness to fight on a point of honor.

We could hardly wish to see the nation from which we ourselves are sprung flinch from a conflict. Be that as it may, she sprung to arms at once. There went up from all England a roar of which there could be no mistaking the meaning. It has cleared the air. It has shown Europe the old England—the England of Elizabeth and of Pitt.

The Jameson raid is half forgotten already. The English Government, it is now conceded, was not aware of it nor responsible for it. The Transvaal itself is half forgotten, much as we all admire the shrewd ability and courage she has shown. The Queen and President Kruger exchange civil telegrams and much business has yet to be settled between the two Governments.

Even Mr. Cecil Rhodes is half forgotten, or remembered because he has gone down before the stronger will and better head of Mr. Chamberlain, who has won in this business the greatest laurels of an honorable life. But for the moment what we all see is that angry figure on the German throne, so astonished at his own act, and the people of the great power to whom he flung a careless challenge accepting it with one voice.

We see England arming, with a celerity and with a display of overwhelming naval force, all ready for instant action, which restores to her whatever European prestige she has lost. We see the wisest and greatest of Germans, Prince Bismarck—himself no lover of England—warning Emperor and people that this is no quarrel for them, and that German interests are not to be sacrificed to a spirit of Imperial temper. That, of course, is not his phrase, but it is his meaning. To-day's Berlin telegrams all make for peace. There were four or five days when war seemed almost inevitable; at least in the newspapers.

But there are wise counsellers in Berlin, to whom even an Imperial Majesty sometimes listens.

ANTIPODES WITH HER.

Australia and Tasmania Cable Sympathy to Lord Salisbury.

London, Jan. 12.—Hon. George H. Reid, Prime Minister of New South Wales, has sent the following cable despatch to Lord Salisbury:

"The Governments of Australia and Tasmania view with satisfaction the prompt and fearless measures adopted by Her Majesty's Government in defence of integrity of the Empire. We desire to convey our united assurances of loyal support. The people of Australia are in full sympathy with the determination of the Mother Country to resent foreign interference in matters of British and colonial concern.

"Signed in behalf of and at the request of the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia.) G. H. REID."

The Laureate Scored.

New York, Jan. 12.—The Sun's London says: The Transvaal situation has now only a spectacular interest. It matters little what the Boer Government may or may not demand, the decision of the Continental powers, if asked to assist the Transvaal in asserting its independence, will depend upon other motives than sympathy with the Boer cause. Hence the reports that the British Commissioner and President Kruger are unable to agree are of little importance compared with the crisis in Europe.

It is impossible to overlook, even in this hour of crisis, the crowning disgrace inflicted on this long-suffering country to-day by its official versifier. The poet laureate's effort in The Times, entitled "Jameson's Ride," has broken the spirit of all Englishmen who have seen it, and if Parliament were in session might easily have caused a vote of no confidence in the Government which appointed this successor of Tennyson. Here are three stanzas:

Wrong—is it wrong? Well, maybe;
But I'm going, boys, all the same.
Do they think me a Burgher's baby,
To be scared by a scolding name?
They may argue and parley and order.
Go tell them to save their breath.
Then over the Transvaal border,
And gallop for life or death.

Right sweet is the marksman's rattle,
And sweeter the cannon's roar,
But 'tis bitterly hard to battle,
Beleaguered, and one of four.
I can tell you it was a trifle,
To swarm over Krugersdorp glen,
As they plied us with round and rifle,
And ploughed us again and again.

I suppose we were wrong—we're mad men.
Still I think at the judgment day,
When God sifts the good from the bad men,
There'll be something more to say.
We were wrong, but we ar'n't half sorry,
And as one of the baffled band,
I would rather have had that foray
Than the crushings of all the Rand.

BRITON AND TEUTON.

The Trouble in South Africa and in Europe—Orange Free Staters Indignant Because of Jameson's Raid.

London, Jan. 11.—A despatch from the Bloemfontien, the capital of the Orange Free State, South Africa, says that at a special session of the Volksraad to consider the crisis growing out of Jameson's raid into the Transvaal Republic, the acting president delivered an address, in which he expressed indignation at the reckless and arrogant presumption with which the territory of the Transvaal was violated by the chief officer of a friendly state, and the peace of all Africa disturbed. He expressed great satisfaction, however, at the action of Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of Cape Colony, and that of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, in promptly repudiating Dr. Jameson's act and said he hoped that Sir Hercules Robinson's efforts to adjust the matter would be crowned with a peaceful and reasonable solution.

Czar Will Support Kaiser.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 12.—The autograph letter of the Emperor William to the Czar was brought to this city by Prince von Radolin, the German Ambassador to Russia. The letter reviews the general situations, especially the Transvaal and Egyptian questions. The Czar told Prince von Radolin that he entirely concurred in the views and aims of Emperor William, who was taking the lead against England's arrogance, and added that the German Emperor could firmly rely on his support and the support of the states friendly to Russia, namely France and the United States.

Prince Lobanoff Rostovski, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who was present at the interview between the Czar and Prince von Radolin, commended an anti-English policy.

Alleged Embezzler Arrested.

Boston, Jan. 11.—Allen Z. Mason, president of the Globe Investment Co., was arrested this afternoon on an indictment warrant for embezzlement. The treasurer of the company, J. L. Moore, was arrested some time ago on a similar charge. The company, which dealt largely in western mortgages, has been in charge of a receiver [illegible]

THE DRAWING ROOM.

State Reception by Lord and Lady Aberdeen.

GRAND SCENE IN THE RED CHAMBER

Procession of the Vice-Regal Party—The Retiring Ministers Pay Their Respects—Gorgeous Dress of the Countess of Aberdeen—Some of the Mistakes Made.

Ottawa, Jan. 12.—The annual drawing room or official reception, of Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen was held on Saturday evening in the Senate Chamber. The attendance was quite up to the usual number, over 500 ladies and gentlemen in evening dress making their little bows to the representatives of Royalty.

Their Excellencies were escorted from Rideau Hall by a detachment of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards.

The scene inside the corridors was a lively one, ladies in evening dress were to be seen hurrying to their dressing rooms and officers of the different corps finding their way to their different posts.

At 8.30 the officers on duty took up their position in the Senate Chamber, the band of the Governor-General's Foot Guards being stationed outside. At twenty minutes past nine Their Excellencies entered the Senate Chamber to the strains of the National Anthem. They walked through the long lines of officers, taking up their position on the dais. The A.D.C. in waiting walked first, then the ladies of the household, which on this occasion included Mrs. Gascoigne and Mrs. Smith, wife of Lieut.-Col. Smith, A.D.C.; then the staff, six officers in Highland costume being much admired by the spectators.

On the right of the dais were Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. T. M. Daly, Sir Frank Smith, Hon. John Costigan, Hon. Donald Ferguson, and on the left were Sir Adolphe Caron, Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick and Lieut.-Governor Mackintosh.

His Excellency the Governor-General wore his court uniform and Their Honors the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario and the Lieut.-Governor of the North-west Territories and the members of the Cabinet their official uniforms.

Immediately after the Lieut.-Govs. were presented, the ex-Ministers entered by one of the back entrances to the chamber and made their bows to the Governor-General in their regular order, as members of the Privy Council, not members of the Cabinet. Hon. George E. Foster led the way, and he was followed by Hon. John Haggart, Hon. Dr. Montague, Sir Charles H. Tupper, Hon. W. B. Ives and Hon. John Wood. Those who wore their Privy Councillors' uniform were Sir Charles H. Tupper, Hon. George E. Foster and Hon. John Haggart. Hon. Dr. Montague, Hon. W. B. Ives and Hon. John F. Wood were in evening dress.

The scene in the chamber was a most brilliant one, and was not marred, as it used to be, by ladies appearing in semi-evening dress, short, high-necked silk frocks, linen collars and cuffs, which the wearers fancied were the orthodox thing. The awkwardness seen some years ago in courtsies and bows has now almost disappeared, and though there were some amusing and awkward attempts, the hurried nod and rush past Their Excellencies that used to be seen at drawing-rooms was on this occasion not noticed. Veils were much worn, and on some wearers in the correct manner, but some young girls wore the three feathers, only used by married women, while the matrons passed themselves as single and wore two feathers. Some veils were also worn quite on the side, with one feather, or no feather at all, but on the whole they were properly and prettily worn and added much to the general effect of the costumes.

At the conclusion of the drawing-room, which lasted for over an hour, Their Excellencies remained in the Senate Chamber for about ten minutes, then formed in procession, the A.D.C.'s leading the way, followed by Their Excellencies, the pages, ladies of the household and staff. After 20 minutes' rest in the rooms set apart for their use, Lord and Lady Aberdeen, preceded by their A.D.C., started for the rooms of the Speaker of the House of Commons and Mrs. White.

Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen wore an exquisite costume of brocade. The color looked like peach in some lights and in others heliotrope. The petticoat and train were of this rich material; also the bodice trimmed with claret velvet and rare point lace. Attached to the back of the gown was a court train of claret-colored velvet, beginning very narrow at the waist and getting wider as it fell in heavy folds. This train was lined with satin of the same shade as the gown, and trimmed around the edge with ermine. Her Excellency wore a tiara of magnificent diamonds, white feathers and veil, diamond necklace and pendant, and various diamond ornaments clasping the laces in her bodice.

Hon. Dudley and Archie Gordon acted as pages, and moved after Her Excellency, their brother carrying her train wherever she went, the effect being most picturesque.

Among Toronto ladies present were Lady Howland, Mrs. Harry Darling, Miss Darling, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, Mrs. Roden Kingsmill, Miss Foy, Miss O'Hara and Miss Wright.

The many friends of Sir William and Lady Howland crowded round them after the drawing-room was over. Sir William has not been in Ottawa for a number of years and few have had an opportunity of congratulating him on his recent marriage.

Lady Howland wore a gown of rich slate colored satin, petticoat train and bodice all of the same material. The latter was trimmed with some exquisite point lace, clasped here and there with diamonds.

Gazette Announcements.

The Ontario Gazette announces that the following companies have been incorporated: The North Toronto Floral Co., Limited; The Citizens' Gas Control Co. of London, Ltd.; The Berlin Publishing Co., Ltd.; and The Niagara Falls Metal Works Co., Ltd.

Alex McFarlane of Otterville and William D. Beubaur of Essex have been appointed Police Magistrates.

John A. Love has been made Clerk of the Third Division Court of the County of Dufferin, and Lawrence Brennan, Bailiff of the Third Division Court of the District of Nipissing.

Joseph Fowler is now a solicitor and notary public for Ontario.

J. Cranstoun, an Hawaiian Exile, Fails to Secure Damages.

Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 11.—A non-suit was granted to defendant to-day in the case of J. Cranstoun, one of the Hawaiian exiles, who sued the Canadian-Australian Steamship Company for $50,000 damages in connection with his deportation from Honolulu. Cranstoun is an American citizen who was charged by the Dole Government with complicity in the late Hawaiian rebellion and deported with others on the Canadian-Australian steamship Warrimoo by order of the chief executive. The court held that the steamship merely acted as an agent with Hawaii, and that it was an act of the State, and therefore the steamship should not be held liable for damages.

The St George on Her Mission.

Cape Town, Jan. 12.—Rear-Admiral Harry S. Rawson, commanding the Cape and West Africa squadron, who was recently ordered to take his flagship, the St. George, to Delagoa Bay, arrived here to-day and at once proceeded for that place. The St. George is a twin-screw cruiser of the first-class. She mounts 12 gung.

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