

shock. The man on the
by the one on the ground
can easily slide up a large
smooth, wide hardwood
this will be surprised what
can be handled in this way.

FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

thousand Men Will Soon be
around—Corps Selected.

ated that 70,000 British sol-
be employed in the Trans-
the estimated expenditure
from seven to ten million
ring. The following bat-
either there or under or-
outh Africa:—

Queen's Royal West
ment—Lieut.-Col. E. O. F.
From Portsmouth.

ion Royal Fusiliers, 7th-
G. C. Donald. From Alder-

ion Devonshire Regiment,
-Col. G. M. Bullock. From

ion West Yorkshire Regi-
-Lieut.-Col. E. W. Kitchener

ion Royal Irish Regiment
-Lieut.-Col. H. W. N. Guinness. From

ion Royal Scots Fusiliers
-Col. E. E. Carr. From

ion Royal Welsh Fusiliers
-Col. C. C. H. Thorold.
From Dork.

ion Cameronians, Scottish
-Lieut.-Col. E. Cook. From

ion Royal Inniskilling
-Lieut.-Col. T. M. G.
From Mullingar.

ion the Black Watch
-Lieut.-Col. R. G. Buchanan.
From Kilkenny.

ion Durham Light Infan-
-Lieut.-Col. A. L. Woodland.
From

ion Highland Light Infan-
-Lieut.-Col. M. F. Reid. From Dev-

ion Seaforth Highlanders,
-Col. J. W. Hughes-Hallett,
From Fort George.

ion Royal Irish Fusiliers,
-Col. J. Reeves. From

ion Connaught Rangers,
-Col. G. Brooke. From Ath-

ion Argyll and Sutherland
-Lieut.-Col. J. H.
From Dublin.

ion Royal Dublin Fusiliers,
-Col. G. A. Mills. From

ion the above the South
be under Sir Redvers Bul-
clude four of the Guards'
and one of the Rifle Bri-

wing battalions are either
Africa or on route there—
ion Northumberland Fusili-
-Lieut.-Col. C. G. O. Money.

ion King's Liverpool Regi-
-Lieut.-Col. S. L. Millar.

ion Devonshire Regiment,
H. Yule.

ion Leicestershire Regi-
-Lieut.-Col. G. D. Carleton.

ion Gloucestershire Regi-
-Lieut.-Col. E. P. Wilford.

ion Border Regiment,
H. E. Hinde.

ion Loyal North Lancashire
-Lieut.-Col. R. G. Keke-
-Lieut.-Col. R. G.

ion Royal Berkshire Regi-
-Lieut.-Col. C. Evans-Gor-

ion King's Royal Rifle
-Lieut.-Col. R. H. Gun-

ion King's Royal Rifle
-Lieut.-Col. H. Gore.

ion Manchester Regiment
-Col. A. E. R. Curran.

ion Gordon Highlanders
-Col. W. H. Dick-Cunyngh-

ion Royal Irish Fusiliers
-Col. F. R. C. Carleton.

ion Royal Munster Fusili-
-Lieut.-Col. E. S. Evans.

ion Royal Dublin Fusiliers
-Col. C. D. Cooper.

ion Rifle Brigade—Lieut-
-Metcalfe.

VOYAGE OF LIFE.

the ocean wide,
tant ebb and flow;
ships upon its tide,
to and fro;
for some lovely isle
a setting sun,
pathway seems to smile
our course we run.

all well from first to last
winds all the way,
anchorage is cast
me tranquil bay;
scarcely leave the shore
clouds hover high,
the angry tempests roar,
nings rend the sky.

im our sails afloat,
shall overwhelm,
ave and do the right,
direct our helm;
the waves, though moun-
high,
our triumph-song,
the haven nigh
our ships belong!

Toronto.

RIE.

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS

THE STORY OF THE TROUBLE FROM THE COMMENCEMENT.

Review of the Causes Which Have Led Up to the Present Unfortunate State of Affairs.

In the year 1836 an Act of Parliament carried the jurisdiction of the colonial laws of the Cape Colony as far north as the 25th degree of latitude, and in 1842 this Act was followed by a proclamation of actual sovereignty over the whole of the territory up to the same limit. The Home Government, however, took alarm, and cancelled the proclamation, but at the same time asserted that all white men residing within the limits were to be regarded as British subjects. Had not the proclamation of 1842 been cancelled, many difficulties by which we have since been confronted could never have arisen. British territory now extends far north of latitude 25, but instead of a complete section of the African continent being solely our own, we are obliged to recognize the rights of Germany and of Portugal, as well as of the Boer Republics.

In 1848 the territories now known as the Orange Free State and the Transvaal were annexed, in accordance with a fresh political idea, and the result was a war,

in which Sir Harry Smith inflicted a decisive defeat upon the Boer forces at Boomplaatz, and the annexation was then submitted to. In 1852, however, the political countenance developed yet another change of expediency, and against the wishes of its population, the Orange Free State was compelled to become an independent Republic, whilst a separate Convention, known as the Sand River Convention, was concluded with the Transvaal settlers, under which they also, subject to a few trifling reservations, became an independent State.

The annexation of the Orange Free State was not finally cancelled until 1864, but to all intents and purposes the undesired freedom was granted from 1852, when the determination of the British Government was announced. From this time until 1877 matters were permitted to "drift," and indeed, there was little reason for any other policy. Independence having been granted to the two Boer Republics, resumption of sovereignty could scarcely have been justified, except under very extraordinary circumstances or in accordance with the express desire of the inhabitants.

As the year 1876 drew to its close the Transvaal was gradually drifting into a condition of **HOPELESS CHAOS.** The Republic was at war with Sekukuni, but had failed to achieve any success whatever. All fighting worthy of the name had been done by Volunteers, or, as they were irreverently termed "Filibusters,"—men belonging to almost any nation, but probably English and American for the most part.

The Boer "Commandos" declined to take any part in storming rocky fastnesses, and the Volunteers were not sufficiently numerous to make good any advantages that they temporarily gained. To mount a hill held by so contemptible a foe as the Maccatees was comparatively easy, but to remain on the hill without water or supplies was impossible, and the inevitable retreat that followed in every case was always attended by heavy loss.

This matters came to a standstill. The Treasury became insolvent, and the pay of the "Volunteers," as well as the subsistence of all the forces alike, could no longer be provided. The Boers dispersed to their homes, and the Volunteers would probably have done the same as a body, but that so many of them had no homes to which they could betake themselves. At this juncture Sir Theophilus Shepstone was sent to Pretoria, escorted by a small detachment of the Natal Mounted Police, and had instructions to **DEVISE SOME REMEDY** for a state of affairs which constituted a danger to all South Africa, owing to the unrest created amongst the native populations by the successes of a petty chief, for such Sekukuni actually was in comparison with the many powerful native States.

The annexation of the Transvaal was to be arranged as a preliminary step to British action against Sekukuni, provided that a majority of the inhabitants should be found to favour such a step. The column employed in order to give effect to this determination was under the command of Colonel C. K. Pearson, the Commandant of Natal, and consisted of the 1st Battalion 13th Prince Albert's Light Infantry, about 750 strong with two 7-pounder guns, and half-a-dozen sappers. All sorts of warlike rumours were bruited about, but the column nevertheless reached Pretoria without encountering anything more formidable than deputations with addresses of welcome.

Indeed, the only incident of any interest was the arrival in the camp near Laing's Nek of a **GRAND OLD ENGLISHWOMAN,** aged over eighty years, who was driving some fifty miles in order that she might see the Union Jack once more before she died. This was an affecting spectacle. The old lady was a very embodiment of patriotism, and those who witnessed her genuine enthusiasm, are unlikely ever to forget her. Of her ability, open or veiled, there was no single indication nor is it

THE SOLE RESOURCE,

therefore, seems to be the chemical discovery of fixing nitrogen, and to this end the electrical process seems best adapted, and probably the vast energy of the Niagara water power might be devoted to this purpose.

Between the dark picture of a starving world whose only hope is in Niagara Falls, as set forth by Sir William Crookes, and that fascinating picture portrayed by Berthelot, are the great nitrate beds of Chili, and who shall say how many more yet undiscovered, and more than all this, new and rapidly developing knowledge of inoculation, which practical chemistry is now getting in working order.

For years and years the farmer has inoculated his fields, without knowing it, when he planted in a growth of clover, peas, beans or other plants of the kind known as leguminous. He knew that by raising such crops and plowing them in the fertility of his field was increased, and now the scientist comes along and tells him why. It seems that these plants are infested with little animals so small as to require a microscope to see them, that they are busy night and day putting the nitrogen of the air into such shape that it can be used by plant life. Dr. Wiley says of these little workers: "In so far as is definitely known the leguminosae, that is, the family to which clover, peas, beans and similar plants belong, are the only plants capable of sustaining the parasitic life of the nitrifying bacteria. From time immemorial it had been noticed that such plants often had small nodules on their roots from the size of a shot to the size of a pea. These were formerly supposed to be evidences of

THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

Further disasters followed, and the British Government, convinced that the Boers really desired independence, proceeded to grant it. It may safely be predicted that had self-government been granted simultaneously with the annexation, there would have been no such present crisis has arisen not so much in consequence of the franchise question as of the refusal of the Boers to recognize British suzerainty. There is an obvious difference between the existence of vassal States having internal independence within our sphere of influence in South Africa, and the assumption of sovereign power by those States in rivalry with the paramount power. It is in order to remove any doubt as to which is to be the ruling race in South Africa that British forces are now being despatched.

THE MIDDLE OF NOVEMBER.

As it happens, we are hastening to meet the Leonids, and as a result of the combination of their speed with ours, which is 19 miles a second, that of the Leonids is equivalent to 40 or 50 miles a second. They make their presence known to us by means of vivid and persistent flashes of light, as they dash recklessly into the air surrounding our planet and bombard us with their celestial artillery. Thus we are "pelted with star dust, with meteor balls."

THE MOST COSTLY DRESS.

Of course it comes from Paris—the home of strangely extravagant ideas. A young lady of noble family is determined to get up a costume far more gorgeous than any ever before worn by woman. She is now having the designs made according to her notions. She was acquainted with the theory that added brilliancy is given to jewels by the sheen of a healthy skin, having often noticed the fact that diamonds and pearls flash most brightly on shining necks and shoulders. She has therefore given orders for an entire costume to be made of nothing but precious stones and precious metals.

WHERE SHE HEARD IT.

He.—Miss Clara, I have a question to ask you; although of ancient origin it is ever new, and—
She.—Oh, never mind asking it, I was at a minstrel show last week.

NOT DEAD.

Crimsonbeak.—You never hear any one speak of the white horse and the red-headed girl now.
Yeast.—No; I guess the white horse have all died.
Perhaps, it's the girls who have died.

GETTING AT THE FACTS.

My sweetheart gave me a pair of silver-backed brushes that cost \$25.
Were you mean enough to go and pawn them?
No; but I had to pawn them.

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