# THE BLACK PERIL.

A HORRIBLE POSSIBILITY OF THE BOER-BRITISH WAR.

sion Atrocities that Would Appall the

One of the horrible possibilities of of the black population in South pathy, at any rate, if not by birth. Africa. The natives hate the Boers for the traditional cruelty of the latter, and if the British forces are unable to restrain them the blacks may work atrocities that will appall the world.

The disproportion between the black and white population in South Africa as enormous. In every case throughout this part of the continent the black population outnumbers the white to a greater or less extent; in some instances the disparity is stupendous, as in Natal, Rhodesia and British Central Africa. The two symbolic figures in the illustration indicate the total man power of the natives as compared with the total man power of the whites. But it will be observed that the black man carries a spear, the white a rifle. The following comparative table shows the numbers of the two races:

Black. White. Country. Cape Colony.... 1,600,000 400,000 Rhodesia .... 1,000,000 5,000 Transvaal.... 850,000 250,000 Natal.... 530,000 50,000 Basutoland..... 250,000 Orange Free State... 200,000 80,000 Swaziland... . . . . . 70,000 British Cent. Africa.. 850,000 Bechuanaland . . . . . 250,000 2,000

The centre of interest in the present juncture is naturally the Transvaal. where there are 850,000 natives and 250,000 whites. The natives are mostly confined to the northern portions of the republic, the Zoutpansperg, Spelonken and Letaba districts, and here they native commissioners scattered M'pefu, but, generally speaking, the shore, Transvaal natives are too downtrod- The whale turned as if to renew the authorities, and have over and over tions. What became of him after that again pleaded for direct British con- nobody knows.—San Francisco Post. trol. The Swazies are an offshoot of the Zulus, and a valiant fighting race. If they attack the Boers or come over the Transvaal border it will be a serious and not easily quelled affair.

In the Cape Colony there are 1,600,-000 natives and 400,000 whites. Between these two, it must be remembered there are several thousands of Malays and "Cape Boys," the latter of whom are practically half-castes and the former to all intents and purposes whites. The Malays form an integral, reliable, and considerable portion of the population of Cape Town and its suburbs. They are all Mohammedans, and have their own mosques and hadjies, or priests. Most law-abiding, thrifty, and honest, they make excellent and desirable citizens. They are, moreover, among the most loyal of her an opening in the back of the tent. majesty's subjects.

In Basutoland, which lies on the borders of the Orange Free State, there are 250,000 natives and barely 600 whites. The natives are excellent agriculturists, and, next to the Zulus, perhaps the best specimens of any of the black races of the subcontinent.

The most recent portion of South Africa to come under the British sway rably. is Rhodesia, which embraces the combined provinces of Matabeleland, Mashanaland, Manicaland, and also a considerable portion of what was formerly Linchwe's country. Naturally, being as yet barely colonized, the disproportion of races is enormous. in Rhodesia there are over a million natives and fewer than 5,000 whites. At the same time it may safely be taken for granted that it is to this portion of the continent that the tide of emigration will set during the next year. In British Central Africa there are 850,-000 natives and 500 whites. This huge tract of country, although under British influence, will take many years to colonize, and is now and bound to remain for a long while a "blackman's country." Bechuanaland, which is now formally annexed to the Cape Colony, and includes the vast tract of land at one time known as Khama's of sports, and have originated some country, numbers 250,000 natives and clever and unusual outdoor entertain-2,000 whites. The latter are mainly ments. Not long ago a race was got farmers, transport-riders, storekeepers, up in which a camel, an elephant, a and that section of the police formally horse, a bicycle and an automobile cart called the B. B. P., or Bechuanaland were the entries. The camel and the Border Police, a very fine body of men, elephant were ridden by their keepers to all intents and purposes a semi-mili. and the horse, bicycle and automobile tary corps of mounted infantry.

fewer than 530,000 natives, almost all | handicap, the elephant and camel being Zulus (Natal is reckoned as inclucing given half-a mile and the automobile Zululand proper), and 50,000 white an eighth of a mile. The elephant won folk. There are thus twelve natives to the race, the blcycle and the automoevery white inhabitant. The Zulus are bile finishing second and third. a fine, healthy upstanding race, and, when not contaminated by European influence, customs and vices (for the Zulu is very imitative), they are trust- clergyman after proclaiming the banns worthy, honorable, and, in short, a of matrimony between the young coutribe of nature's noblemen. Unfor ple concluded by saying: "If there be tunately, they easily deteriorate, but any objections they can now be stated." when isolated in their own locations | A fashionable youth, an old admirer they keep up all traditions of a fearless of the intended bride, noticing the eyes independence. They are loyal to Eng- of a portion of the congregation fixed years ago a house was built on the

land.

natives, according to their immemacial | custom, the Orange Free State presents the nearest approach to equality between the two races. Here there are 200,000 natives and 80,000 whites, or about two and one-half to one. What an Cutbreak of the Native Tribes of There is a lesson in this which may South Africa Would Mean May Occa. bear evil fruit in the near future. The total white population of the whole of South Africa is approximately 820,000 of which 432,000 may be classed as Dutch and 388,000 as English, in sym-

## PACIFIC COAST FISHING INCIDENT. Narrow Escape of a Small Boats Party from a Whale's Mad Rush.

The theory that whales refuse to at tack men unless they themselves are assailed was exploded a few days ago, At the hour stated a monster whale not less than sixty feet in length made a vicious charge at a boat anchored off Point Cavallo and badly frightened its occupants. But for the coolness of the man who had the boat in charge the result might have been disastrous,

The boat, containing the fisherman and his three children, was pulled to a point about 1,500 feet off Point Cavollo and dropped anchor.

The party were fishing industriously when a whale entered the Golden Gate and speeded toward them. The spectacle of the animal excited the curiosity of the young fisher folk, but caused no alarm. Suddenly his whaleship caught sight of the boat and he reared his majestic proportions aloft until he seemed to tower in the water like a six-story building. He was evidently getting his bearings and as he caught sight of the boat he spouted flercely. Then he sank with a huge splash, came up again and dashed for the boat.

Happily the aim of the leviathan was bad, for in his rush he missed the boat by some three or four feet and passed on like a whirlwind a considerable distance beyond. The rapid pas sage of the whale with half of his huge live and thrive in their thousands. body above the water-line threshed the The Witwatersrand mine labor is water into a miniature tidal wave, largely supplied from these districts, which swung the boat as though in and the Transvaal government has its an eddy and all but capsized it. The children screamed in terror and gave throughout the country. There is not themselves up for lost. The fisherman very much chance of any serious dan- did not lose his head, however, and by ger to the Transvaal from the natives a judicious use of his oars brought the within its borders. Small sporadic up- boat about and, minus some fishing risings might take place among the tackle which was purloined by the late Magato's men and tribes under whale in his passage, he headed for the

den, bullied and cowed to offer armed attack, but apparently thinking better interference. On the other hand, the of it, he flapped his fins and tail and Swazies constitute a serious menace dove out of sight. Later he was seen inasmuch as they bitterly resented the off Alcatraz, where he remained for handing over of their country to Boer an hour or two observing the fortifica-

## The Window in the Tent.

"I never pull down the window at the top to let in a little fresh air when teachers in these schools were ex-I go to bed," said the old soldier, amined in practical vocal music, and open the window in the tents in the in singing. army in war times. An A tent. seven feet square at the base and running up, wedge-shaped, to a ridge pole seven feet above the ground, made comfortable enough quarters for four men if you could leave the tent open, which was equivalent to leaving off the front of the house; but if it was cold or furnished valuable information conrainy, and the wind blew on the front of the tent so that you had to close it, why then you wanted ventilation somewhere, and you got it by making Africa,

"There was a seam, overlapped, running down the middle of the back of the tent from the ridge pole to tle ground, and we used to cut the stitches along that seam, up near the top of the tent, and spread the sides apart by being likely to terminate in the course into the street in wet weather instead putting in a stick six or eight inches of a couple of months, as has been of holding the water; the street aplong across the middle, making there a diamond-shaped opening, about a foot portation in the past, indications better screened from passers-by. long, which served the purpose admi-

"The men's guns stood at that end of the tent, butts resting on a piece of cracker box, the barrels held in some sort of a holder secured to the tent pole. If the wind changed on some rainy night and came around to blow against the back of the tent, the rain would come in on the guns and on us, and then somebody would get up and out and let the canvas come together again there, and then open the tent a little at the other and, at the front.

"This all used to seem kind o' strange, then somehow, though practically it was just what I would have done in the old house at home and just what I'd do here now."-New York Sun.

A Novel Race. Anglo-Indians are passionately fond were managed by experts. The course Natal contains within its borders no was three miles, and the race was a

# He Gave His Consent.

It was at a society wedding. The

upon him, rose up and exclaimed: "I By a curious concatenation of events have no objections for my own part." which is not without its bearing upon and then quietly resumed his seat as if the manner in which the Boers treat he had attended to a mere formality.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It will cost \$250,000 to make the necessary repairs on the Olympia. But they would be made all the same, even if it cost four times that sum.

While spectacles may not always improve an individual's appearance, it cannot be denied that many people look better through them.

The Sultan of Turkey denies the report that he drowned a number of the harem ladies suspected of conspiracy. The Sultan evidently does not desire to furnish the basis for an aggressive equal rights movement in his domain.

a somewhat backward country in insafety appliances for railroads.

The latest educational novelty at Chicago is a school just opened under university auspices. It is designed as a home for abnormal pupils or defectives who will receive special instruction under supervision of mind

A century ago Adam Smith, noted as a remarkable accomplishment the manufacture of 48,000 pins by ten men in a day. In these times it is considered an ordinary achievement for three men to make 7,500,000 pins in the same time.

when all things will be utilized. Pencils, from state dust, are now being molded in large quantities in Tennessee, one concern having turned out 25,000,000 last year. Hydraulic in 1898. The insurance loss in the pressure is the power used in the

According to tables made by sporting men, over \$250,000,000 is lost on the turf every year. Of this \$50,000,-000 is lost on English race courses, and, strange to say, about \$100,000,-000 on Australian courses. The remainder is chiefly distributed between France, the United States and British

to prevent any of them stealing a ride, sions, and 5 by the sun's rays passare hustled out through a turnstile fires had no assignable cause. and held up for tickets.

According to the Blue Booy of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, the percentage of National schools in which vocal music is taught is 14.48 per cent, In 1898, for the adoption. At his prompting, it is first time, candidates for places as held by the city officials that the law "without thinking how we used to were marked according to their skill

> Newspaper readers are now beginning another extensive course in geography. Just as the war with Spain street shade-trees hereafter be set out made them familiar with the geo- along the outer edge of the abutters' graphy of Cuba and Porto Rico and lawns, instead of, as formerly, bethe insurrection in the Philippines tween the sidewalk and the gutter. cerning those faraway islands, the connection is that the trees shall not Boer-British war will give them geo- be planted exactly opposite one angraphical instruction regarding South other on both sides of the street, but

> that the car famine from which the old plan. The tees are out of the railroads are suffering at the present reach of horses; the roots are not known, and, what is worse, instead of and walks, the sidewalk drains freely the experience with such lack of trans- pears wider, and front verandas are point to a strong probability of its This plan is urged upon persons cutasting all winter.

The flag of the Red Cross Associaan appreciation of modern ideas.

What becomes of all the pennies? A superficial answer might be that we spend them, as in truth we do; but did you ever stop to consider the enormous quantities of the little copper coins turned out by the Philadelphia Mint every year? The figures are really appalling in their magnitude. There are at present about doing so encountered one of the light 1,000,000,000 cents in circulation, and house men, who touched his cap, and yet the mint is compelled to turn out said, in an undertone, "thank you, nearly 4,000,000 a month to keep up sir." the supply. It seems as though this The man, seeing the coin coming tomost common coin must in some mys- ward him, had procured it, thinking it terious fashion vanish in thin air, for was meant for a tip. surely nobody hoards them.

A queer Brazilian custom is menthose most directly concerned-he the girl securely and religiously keeps enough to buy the absolute necessaries to begin the married state,

Judge Van Sickel in the Supreme Court of Union county, N. J., has rendered an opinion as to the validity of a lease on a novel claim, Several dividing line between the farms owned croached twelve feet on the property the roads, as required by the Kentucky of Schomp. To overcome the diffi. road law.

culty without removing the house, Schomp issued a lease to Maire for the part of the property occupied by the structure. Some time ago the house burned down and Schomp then declared the lease at an end; but this was contested by Maire, who said that the cellar under the house that burned still maintained the lease. The two men engaged lawyers, and, after a hard-fought suit on both sides, the constitute a valid claim for continuing | to crime.

A change for the better in the character of Italian immigration is noticed by the Pittsburgh Dispatch among the Italians arriving in the city. Until recently the immigration was com-We are apt to look upon Russia as posed principally of men, who came with the intention of remaining only dustrial enterprise, but it is a fact that until they had accumulated enough Russia leads all the countries of Eu- money to make their condition easier rope in the use of air brakes and other on their return to their native land. The persons now arriving are mainly farm-laborers and mechanics. In nearly every instance the immigrant is accompanied by his family, and has come with the intention of never returning to Italy. The families are usually possessed of a little means, and their first business, after securing work, is to invest their money in property. A number of these people have secured permanent homes lately and those who have children attending school show a disposition to buy residence property outside of the various Italian colonies.

The Chronicle Fire Tables which are published annually by the organ of fire underwriters give some curi-The time is rapidly approaching ous details regarding the fire losses in the United States during the past year. They show that the average loss by fire has been reduced in ten years from \$6,922 in 1888 to \$1,860 same period was reduced from \$3,-993 to \$1,056. The extended use of increase in the way of fires due to electric wires and lights. Ten years ago there were only sixty-six such fires, but in 1898 there were no less than 958. Defective flues are responsible for 11.23 per cent of the the next largest cause of conflagrations. No less than 6,891 incendiary fires are shown to have occurred in The railroads of Australia have 1898. 3,479 fires were caused by never discovered that it is possible to lightning; 1,179 by spontaneous comtake up tickets on the train, hence bustion; 295 by friction in machinery; the passengers are locked in the cars | 94 by natural gas; 14 by dust explo and when they arrive at their station ing through window glass. 12,204

In the application of scientific forestry within city limits, Springfield Mass., occupies an advanced position. The city employs a forester, who has ideas and the tact to secure their which forbids the mutilation of trees applies to the roots as much as to any other portion of the tree, and they have so notified all builders, excavators, and contractors in the city. Another move on the part of the City Forester is the recommendation that A further recommendation in this be placed alternately. By laying out the tree planting space along the front Facts multiplying daily go to prove of lawns, the gains are many over the ting new streets.

# Waiting for the Coin.

tion now floats over a fully equipped | On one occasion, whilst examining hospital in China, where from fifty to the mechanism of the monster revolv-100 patients are treated daily. The ing lamp belonging to a light house, a Cross has accomplished, perhaps, visitor wishing to see how many secmore than any other one factor in onds would elapse before it completed givilizing the world, and the advance a revolution, took a half crown piece of the Red Cross in China will do from his pocket and placed it on the much towards bringing that nation to revolving frame work. Watch in hand, he patiently waited for the coin to come round again to where he was standing, but no half-crown appeared. The seconds lengthened into minutes, still no half crown.

"Strange!" be exclaimed. "What can

be the reason of it?" In order to ascertain he walked round to the other side of the lamp, and in

# Big Trees in the Tarheel State.

Mr. Thomas Garrison has given the tioned in the Anglo-American. When News some valuable information in rea young man of the poorer classes be- gard to another very large poplar comes engaged to a girl-and all the tree. The tree is 26 feet and 10 inches courting among the parties in this in circumference. Mr. Garrison also country is done by the parents of tells of another very large tree in the same township that is 24 feet and 6 each week earns and saves some inches in circumference. This tree is money, if it is but a few cents, which a hollow poplar, and is split open on one side. Mr. Garrison, who is 6 feet with her own savings until they have 2 inches tall, got into the tree and lay down crosswise without touching the sides of the tree. The opening is large enough on the inside for a horse to be turned around in. Mr. Garrison says the hollow is large enough for a good stable.-Charlotte (N. C.) News.

Nearly every citizen in Springville by Victor D. Schomp and John Maire, District, Greenup County, Ky., was arat Dog Corner.. The structure en rested recently for refusing to work on

# TINY DE.TH MESSENGER.

Terrible Opportunities of Secret Murder Lurk in a Late Device.

a noval weapon, perhaps the most dangerous ever taken from a prisoner. The origin of this deadly implement was an ordinary hypodermic syringe.

speedy unconsciousness or death itself. calm.

Pressed against a person's arm or leg | Sometimes specimens are washed or body in a crowd and the piston upon the northwestern coast of France. shoved hard the deadly dose would go and when they are handled they give through any ordinary thickness of out a violent dye. clothing and carry its fatal dose deep into the flesh.

Commissioner Lantry, Dr. Campbell, of the prison# medical corps, and a number of experts in criminal devices have examined the weapon, and all pronounced it not only something new in the implements of crime, but something more deadly in its possibilities than they have ever seen.

"We found the thing hidden away in the coat-lining of a notorious criminal of New York," said Warden Hagan, "He was arrested for highway robbery, and is now serving a sentence. It showed evidence of recent use."

The Warden, by way of illustration, barely touched the end of the piston, and the dart shot out and remained sticking in the coat of the reporter, seated fully four feet away.

"All the autopsies in the world would electricity has brought about a large not be likely to reveal the cause of death in a person killed with this thing," he said.

"The implement was made for criminal purposes. Not long after the prisoner who had it was sent to prison York City, on the crest of the Palia villainous looking scoundrel came fires. Incendiarism is accredited as here and asked for the syringe. He had an order from the convict for it but I would not let him have it."

The syringe, two long, slender phials, a number of needles and a small extension tube were compactly stowed away in a little aluminum case that could be slipped into the waistcoat pocket.

The extension tube is made to fit into the end of the syringe, thereby extending it and making of it a miniature rifle barrel from which the deadly darts could be thrown to a much greater distance than from the syringe it-

This particular outfit Commissioner Lantry says is clearly of foreign make.

Grape Seed and Appendicitis. The bobinar impress on that appear dicitis is always caused by some small foreign body which sets up an inflammation in the vermiform appendix is a popular delusion," remarked an experienced surgeon the other day. "Most people are afraid to eat grapes on that account, imagining that a stray seed may find its way into the appendix and bowl them over. Of course, such a thing is in the realms of possibility. but the chances are almost too remote to talk about. Appendicitis is very rarely caused by a foreign body of any kind. The inflammation seems to be of catarrhal nature, and I am inclined to believe that the disease is in some way associated with la grippe. At any rate, it is a significant fact that a have suffered from an attack of grip a short time before the seizure. The old 'grape seed' theory caused a great deal of unnecessary anxiety to early operators. When they used the knife and failed to find anything unusual in the sac of the appendix they were disposed to fear that they had made a mistake in the diagnosis and that the case was, after all, not one of appendicitis. To be frank, I dare say many a surgeon reported the discovery of grape seeds or something else in the same line when the sac was really as know better now, and there is no occasion for subterfuge. The time to operate for appendicitis is between attacks, when the patient is in good health. The death rate in such cases is very small-really trifling.-New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Going to the Dogs!

A young wife who lives at Edgewater came to her mother-in-law with a heartbroken expression recently and threw herself on the floor in the abandonment of grief.

"Why, what is the matter, Mary?" the elderly lady exclaimed. "Has anything happened to Will?"

"Oh, mother, he's taken to staying out nights!" wailed the unhappy young woman.

my dear? It doesn't seem possible! I linen trousers to half-way down his used to know all about my boy's hab- calf. Over this he wears a belt of foldits, and he never went anywhere he ed linen, and, as a rule, a "shamma," shouldn't. How late does he stay or white cotton sheet, draped round away?"

fice at 5 o'clock, mother. Night before embroidery, leopard skins, sheepskins last he never got home until 6, and last and even lion skins are worn on special night he didn't set foot in the house occasions by the officers and small until 20 minutes after 6. Oh, what chiefs, and the army then presents a shall I do!"-Chicago News.

# A Floating Snail.

in perfect safety.

and is therefore called Ianthina. It mented with gold and silver.

has a small shell and there projects from the under part of the body a long tongue-like piece of flesh. This is the raft, and it is built upon most scien-Warden Hagen, of the Tombs Prison, tific principles, for it has compart-New York City, has in his possession ments in it for air. It is broad and the air compartments are underneath, so that it cannot capsize.

Moreover, the snail knows how to stow away its cargo, for the oldest Court decided that the cellar did not It is the hypodermic syringe adapted eggs and those which hatch the soonest are placed in the center and the The slender, hollow needle with lightest and newest on the side of the which the puncture is made and the raft. The Ianthina fills it own air comdrug injected in ordinary use is made partments by getting a globule of air into a sort of tiny blow-pipe dart underneath its head, the body is then which, when the piston is pressed, will curved downward beneath the raft, fly for a distance of several feet with and, the head being tilted on one side, sufficient force to puncture the fiesh the air rushes in and fills the spaces. and remain buried in the almost im- It feeds on a beautiful little jelly fish. perceptible wound it makes. Its hol- which has a flat, raft-like form with a low core is large enough to carry suffi- pretty little sail upon it, and they concient quantity of a drug to cause gregate in multitudes when the sea is

## REPORTER WORTH A MILLION,

## Now Editor and Proprietor of the Jersey City Journal.

Col. Sheffield Phelps, owner of the Jersey City Journal, was the richest newspaper man in America several years ago. From his father, the late William Walter Phelps, he inherited a fortune of several millions, and under his active and practical management he made his newspaper the foremost

journal of the State. At the end of his first year he was bitterly attacked by his political enemies, who brought libel suits for many hundreds of thousands of dollars against him, but he won easily in the courts. Since then he has been a powerful political factor in Hulson County, and his course has been signally indorsed by Gov. Voorhees.

The Colonel, whose title comes from appointment on the staff of Gov. Griggs, lives in one of the showy places of the State, directly opposite New sades. The family estate comprises more than 3,000 acres. It is probably the costlicst farm in America. The land is worth in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000 for building purposes.

After his graduation from Yale, in 1886, Col. Phelps began active newspaper work as a reporter on the World at New York. Later he became an editorial writer on the Mail and Express, and afterward filled the position of acting managing editor on the same paper. Once, while on the World staff, he was sent to report the wedding of the daughter of a Wall street man recently from the West. The reporters were met at the front door by a trained servant, who quickly separated them from the guests and led them to the host's private room, where the banker met them in person, and gave them typewritten slips containing the information they were sent for. Then champagne was opened, and the banker took some cigars from a drawer in his desk.

"Have one," he said to Phelps. "They're genuine conchas. I import them myself."

"Thanks," said Phelps pleasantly, as he took the cigar. "Have one of mine, They're real ascura maduras."-Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

# A Singular Friendship.

That the lion and the lamb will never lie down together is a matter on which the most optimistic can have little doubt. One is not surprised when time is the most widespread 'ever likely to be cut when laying curbs large percentage of those who have it such noble animals as the dog and horse affiliate, nor the equally interesting cat and monkey, for they have much in common, and many of them, but that Tabby and a chicken should fraternize with the utmost good will is surely worthy of remark.

A suburbanite had a pet hen, who, mounting into her lap, with cackles and delight, would deposit its morning offering in the improvised nest. The creature was finally set in a special box in the carriage house, and the famlly waited with interest for the coming brood. One morning they noticed empty as a drum. The poor fellow had the hen at breakfast, and again, half to do it to escape censure. But we an hour later, the fowl was strutting about, in apparent indifference to her cooling eggs.

"She'll make no setter," was the disgusting comment. "She's been too pampered."

Following her to the carriage house, the woman was just in time to see a fluffy mass leap from the box and the hen serenely take its place on the nest. This continued throughout the three weeks. When Madam Hen took her morning constitutional Tabby would obligingly keep house and look after her interests, leaving the moment the little lady returned,-New York Herald.

# Light and Airy.

The Abyssinian soldier's ordinary dress is not very attractive. It consists, it is said, of a white linen shirt "How long has this been going on. down to his knees and a pair of light him. Cloaks of blue, red, green, yel-"You know he usually leaves the of- low or violet, ornamented with rough noble show.

Any man who has killed a lion or an elephant, or has distinguished himself There is a small snail which is so much in battle, wears an aureole, or fond of the sea that it never comes to lion's mane, on his head. For each land, and it builds such a capital boat five men he has killed he wears a silfor itself and its eggs that while large ver band on his sword scabbard. The ships are sinking and steamers are un- highest recompense for valor is a sort able to face the storm it tosses about of velvet top hat ornamented with silver, and great officers are given The little snail is of a violet color shields covered with velvet and orna-