THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

BUSINESS NO BETTER

According to Reports to Bradstreet's, But Dun & Co. Are Hopeful.

IRON PRODUCTS IN GOOD DEMAND.

A Couple of Extensive Failures Have a Disturbing Effect.

GENERAL REVIEW OF THE SITUATION

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, August 2.-Special telegrams to Bradstreet's do not point to any improvement in the distribution of general mer-chandise as compared with the preceding fortnight. Two or three large failures, apparently not due to conditions underlying the state of the trade, baving brought about a more careful scrutiny of credits and unusually prolonged wet weather has retarded business in Eastern and adjoining States. Wheat and tobacco in Kentucky have been injured by too much rain. In Louisiana wet weather had rendered the wagon roads beavy, but in Texas the crops need rain. The oats crop of the country promises an ex-

traordinarily large yield. New York merchante do not report special activity in any line. The iron markets are as firm as ever, and consumers are asking for early instead of delayed deliveries on contracts. Furnace stocks are decreasing. Steel is very firm, \$28 being asked for rails, with two months' business in the hands of mill owners. Anthracite coal is quiet, but an early revival of activity is

SPECULATIVE FIELDS.

Stock speculation displays a strong undertone on the crop and traffic outlook, but there is neither interest nor activity in the trading. Money at New York is firmer in tone. Call loans are 4@41/2 per cent. Foreign exchange is irregular and firmer at an advance, due to further absorption of gold at Paris and an advance of discount rates in London. Demand sterling, \$4 871/4/@ 4 873/4. Reports of bank clearings at 37 cities for seven months of 1889 aggregate \$31,697,923,955, about \$4,111,476,987 more than in a like period of 1888. The July, 1889, clearings amounted to \$4,608,442,911, or \$1 per cent more than either of the three

1889 clearings amounted to \$4,608,442,911,or 21 per cent more than either of the three preceding Julys.

News from the Northwest revives faith in a large domestic wheat crop. Wheat has been less active, with a bearish drift, notwithstanding stronger cables, and is off 34@1c. New wheat at New York fails to grade as well as had been anticipated, being too soft. Corn has been quite active reconstitutions and the second stronger to soft. too soft. Corn has been quite active specu-latively, but exports are slightly checked. Free movement depressed prices some. Oats fairly well sustained. Graded mixed op-tions are lower, but graded white are tions are lower, but graded white are higher. Hog products are more active, with land stronger and pork off a little. Hogs tend lower. Exports of wheat (and flour as wheat) both coasts, this week aggregate 1,572,397 bushels, as compared with 1,385,-330 last week, and 2,282,000 bushels for

A SHORT VISIBLE SUPPLY.

Reports to Bradstreet's show visible wheat stocks east of the Rocky Mountains, United States and Canada, amounting to 16,071,576 bushels, 4,312,973 bushels less than on July visible has increased 1,000,000 bushels during the past month. Flour stocks east of Rocky Mountains aggregate 1,372,724 barrels, a decrease of 68,843 barrels during July and about 276,000 barrels compared with

Holders of raw sugar have been ensied but owing to the protracted sluggishness of the demand for refined, refiners have not bought freely and sales were made 1/2 off on the week. Refined has been marked down 1/c both at New York and San Fran Speculation in Rio coffee has not been especially active yet prices have advanced about 4-8c per pound. The dis-tributive movement has improved. Weather conditions at New York and

elsewhere have not favored trade in dry commission men at Boston report increase wool dress goods and men's wear fabrica hardly equals the higher cost of raw

NOT MUCH CHANGE.

Cotton commission men report only moder all around. Print cloths stocks are smaller but spot quotations are unchanged. Raw wool holders evince more readiness to sell. but trade shows little enlargement. Prices are not changed. Raw cotton-Spots are quiet at unchanged prices at New York and 1-16d higher at Liverpool.

Business failures reported to Bradstreet's number 213 in the United States this week, against 221 last week and 180 this week last year. Canada had 23 this week, against 29 last week. The total of failure United States from January 1 to date is 6,859, against 6,091 in 1888

Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: The country begins to feel the stimusays: The country begins to teet the sumu-lus of good crops. New spring wheat began to arrive at Chicago on August 1, ten days earlier than last year. The St. Louis corn corner has no effect, an abundancy is expected, and business in all departments is gaining. St. Paul reports improvement in trade, and Milwaukee also, in all branches. At Omaha assurance of crops above average makes business excellent. In winter wheat regions the improvement consequent upon a good yield has now been steady for some weeks, though at Kansas City business is still quiet.

In the iron regions a distinct increase in demand is felt, and here orders for another 500 new locomotives have been placed during the week. The certainty of large traffic also has its effect upon railroad negotiations, which have made progress toward peace. The fact that, under such favoring circumstances, the stock market has gained during the week only 40 cents on \$100 on an average of prices may be attributed to monetary uncertainties and to the great volume of

securities awaiting buyers.

For the ill success of the inter-State agree ment and the recent legislation in Western States have inclined many holders to sell, while projects for 50,000 miles of new railroad, and for a vast number of industrial trusts, have caused an unusual body of ner stocks and bonds to be offered, of which but a small part has yet been placed. The money markets of the interior continue generally well supplied. At Chicago, while active, the market is easy, but at Boston rates varied in July from 3 to 9 and back to 2 per cent, and the market is 2 per cent, and the movement is now active at 3. Treasury operations have only added \$100,000 to the cash on hand for the week.

THE VOLUME LARGER. The volume of trade continues to exceed last year's at New York 12 per cent, and outside 121/2 per cent, according to clearings through banks. Exports for July from New York appear 14½ per cent larger than last year, with imports 5½ per cent larger, but the large offering of bills against products to be moved hereafter prevents apprehension. The prospect is the better for a decline of 23 cents in wheat derived hereafter. of 2% cents in wheat during the week, though corn, oats and cotton for Pork products have all declined a little nd hogs 20 cents per 10 pounds to \$4 50. Sales of wheat reached 18,000,000 bushels

for the week, of corn 7,000,000 and of cotton

191,000 bales. But coffee is 3/ cent stronger, with sales of 326,000 bags. In oil only 3,700,000 barrels have been sold, and the

3,700,000 barrels have been sold, and the price is about 1 cent lower.

The woolen industry still hesitates. If the drygoods market does not soon improve a general yielding in wool would seem inevitable. On the other hand more encouragement is felt in the iron business, the demand increasing.

STRONGER THROUGHOUT.

Bar iron is stronger, plates more active at full prices, and rails strong, though at present without considerable sales. The coal trade is still sluggish. Copper has not nominally changed, and tin has been weaker abroad, selling at \$19 65 here. Lead has been active in speculation, rising to 40

In boot and shoe and leather trades the feature is the importunate demand of buyers for speedy delivery of goods. No unsound-ness in the trade has been suspected. The general movement of prices in July was upward, averaging 1 per cent for the month. The business failures number 210, as com-pared with a total of 216 last week and 208 the week previous. For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 216.

THEY SCOUT THE IDEA.

Monongahela Navigation Company Unmoved -They Say Coke Men Could Not Dodge-

Tolls as West Virginians. The matter of the abolition of tolls in the Monongahela river was being discussed yesterday in a Second avenue wareroom and a suggestion was made that recom-mended itself to the anti-toll men. It is that coke manufacturers in the Connellsville region put their ovens in order for a rest and move to West Virginia, say to Wheeling, for instance, if the upper end of the Monongahela doesn't suit them for a residence. Then they could build ovens and coke the same vein of coal in West Virginia, where the drift of the vein makes it

easy of access. The object to be attained is that they could run their coke down the Monongahela in barges of two feet draft, and that the Monongahela Navigation Company, operating under a State charter, could not ob-struct a national highway, as against resi-dents of another State, unless those residents employed craft that could not be floated

employed crait that could not be floated except by artificial help. It is claimed that a barge drawing two feet when loaded would carry sufficient coke to make it profitable to ship in this manner, and that dams would not be necessary for such craft.

It is said that, years ago, some raftsmen refused to pay toll, holding that dams were an obstruction rather than a help to such craft, and that the Navigation Company, rather than have the question tested, compromised with the raftsmen.

Mr. Roseberg, one of the company, made light of the claim that tolls could not be collected from West Virginians, He said that people who used the river were not asked where they belonged.

R. B. Carnahan, Esq., said it was all nonsense to suppose that West Virginians could not be made to pay toll, though he appendixed the remark by a statement that he believed there was an act of Congress bearing on the matter.

bearing on the matter.

THE WATER PURE.

The Man Who Drills the Wells in Allegheny

Parks Tells Why. The statement made by a physician in last Thursday's DISPATCH, intimating that the water from some of the wells in the Alle-1, and 13,105,381 bushels less than on August 1, 1888. Pacific coast visible stocks show a net gain of visible wheat during July of 5,323,400 bushels, so that when stocks on both coasts are considered, the

All the water in the wells comes directly fro the rock. We have drilled every well until we got deep enough to strike the rock, and in every case we had to drill about 125 feet. When we arrive at the rock we take a piece of a steel pipe, which we call a steel shoe, and drive it into the rock. This shoe is attached to a wrought iron casing. The latter is led through the gravel and soft ground in order to prevent any water from this ground running into the pipe.

The same method is used by oil well drillers. who, by this means, prevent salt water from running into oil wells. We have now four wells in the parks, and one of them has a casing of 70 feet. It takes us about five days to drill a well.

BABY FARMERS WILL APPEAL.

Mrs. Quillinn, Who Fainted, and Her

Daughter, Fined \$50 Each. Alderman Porter fined the defendants in the baby farm case \$50 each. Mrs. Quillan, principal defendant, was absent. She had fainted five times at the Union depot, however, as the result of the case, was quite a surprise to both defendants. They will ap-Mrs. Metler, Jr., said that there was gross

misrepresentation about the way her mother kept the baby farm. A document had been signed by 30 respectable residents in East Mansfield testifying to the decency of the

Superintendent Dean said it was strange that they should flaunt this document after the case had been concluded; they ought to have brought it when the ease was progress-ing. However, they will have a chance to do so when the case comes before the court

IN FAVOR OF THE FIRM. Arbitration Tried as the Means of Settling

Labor Dispute. CHICAGO, August 2 .- Judge Tuley appointed some time ago to arbitrate the differences existing between the brick manufacturing firm of Purington, Kimbell & Co. and their employes, who struck over a month ago for an eight-hour day without reduction of wages. The firm claimed that their men were bound to work under a con-tract previously entered upon, which was to remain in force until 1890, and which provided that wages should be graded accord-ing to the number of hours worked.

The decision of Judge Tuley in every point was favorable to the firm, and it is un-derstood that the strikers in all of the Bine Island and adjoining yards will resum

MORE EXCEPTIONS FILED.

The Graff, Bennett & Co. Matter to Get Further Airing.

The First National Bank of Pittsburg Allegheny National Bank and Chess, Cook & Co., yesterday filed further exceptions to the report of the assignee of Graff, Bennett & Co., ex-Judge Bailey. The same reasons, as already published, are given, and fur-ther, that the assignee used the funds of the estate to pay money on the mortgage on the mills, which were afterward purchased by the syndicate, no money being realized by the creditors. The amount in dispute in

It is alleged that the syndicate made \$300.

MISS TORLEY'S SUCCESSOR

Two Candidates for Cooking Teacher in the Miss Alice B. Campbell, of Toledo, O. and Mass Mary S. Young, Shelbyville, Ind., are candidates for the position of in-structor at the Grant Street Public Cooking School. The appointment will be made in the course of two weeks.

A MAGNETIC MAN, by Edward &

COPPER WILL BE KING. WHY CORNERS FAIL.

And It is Said to Exist in Robinson Township in Paying Volume.

IT IS NOT A SILVER MINE STORY.

The Metal Assayed, and Old Residents Remember the Result.

PUTURE USE OF COPPER IMMENSE

Nature seems to have stored her gifts genrously in Robinson township. There are coal, petroleum and natural gas there, and now they are talking about iron and copper. In coversation with Register Shafer it was learned that the knowledge of the existence of copper as nature left it, is notexactly new, but had excited considerable interest rather more than a generation ago. Mr. Shafer remarked that we were only apparently, at least, beginning to find out what is in Western Pennsylvania. A hundred years ago the State in its patents reserved one-fifth of the gold and silver, to be delivered at the pit mouth. Apparently the geologists of that day did not know that these metals were four miles under ground in this sec-tion. Had they reserved a share of the coal, petroleum and natural gas, our State debt would not now exist.

OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE.

Copper has been, as far back as history extends, an important metal. Job speaks of it, and it is probable that Tubal Cain worked it. The aborigines of this country worked it from time immemorial; but to-day its use is extending at a pace that promises to make it equal to iron in importance. The great copper syndicate that lately attempted to corner the production of the world caught on to its importance, but began operations too soon, and, after sending the price of Calumet and Heela stock to about 400. the crash came and sent it down again to about half these figures. There seems to be no doubt now that electricity will soon displace steam largely as a motive power, and

copper is the handmaiden of electricity.

Mr. Shafer stated that before the late war mining experts examined the lay of the land in the vicinity of Gibson station, P. & L. R. R., Robinson township, and finally leased the farm of James McFadden and prosecuted researches for some time, but subsequently got into financial straits, and the enterprise fell through and has been almost forgotten, except by a few old residents. mining experts examined the lay of the

HE THOUGHT IT GOLD.

Squire Ferree states that a man named Louis Baels found a nugget of copper on the farm of Adam Gibson and thought it was gold. It was given to Mr. Seaton, proprietor of the Seaton House, a celebrated hostelry of the olden time in the Pittsburg Diamond. Mr. Seaton had the nugget assayed, and it proved to be pure copper. This led to the leasing of ground in Robinson township. No one seen seemed to know exactly why the original mining venture was allowed to fall through, and two men supposed to be posted could not be found yesterday. The earth in that part of Robinson township, in fact in all of it, and a part of Moon, appears to have gone through great contortions in prehistoric times, and it is possible that copper may be come-atable with comparatively little exertion. There are weird traditions of the existence of precious metals in that section. Up Montour run there is a tradition that the Indians, when they left for the Land of the Setting Sun, buried a lot of gold not far from where Ewing's mills now

Land of the Setting Sun, buried a lot of gold not far from where Ewing's mills now are; but why they buried it is not explained. A genius who once run the coke ovens of the Imperial Coal Company some years ago attempted to make the world be-lieve that he had discovered a silver mine; but his pretensions withered when the rays of geological lore beamed on them. But the theory that copper may be found seems to be tenable.

IT IS WIDELY DISTRIBUTED.

Copper is found in many strata. It is found in the crystaline schists of the ezoic age, frequently in the 'Appalachian chain. On Lake Superior it is found in a series of sandstones and conglomerates, interstratified with contemporaneous bedded 'trappean rocks which rest on the crystaline Huronian schists and as these are overlaid with the schists, and as these are overlaid with the upper Cambrian rocks of the New York upper Cambrian rocks of the New York system, they are regarded as of the lower Cambrian age. Copper is also found in the paisozoic and mesozoic ages.

Anyone, scientist or otherwise, who ex-

amines what can be seen in Robinson town-ship from the level of the river bed to the snip from the level of the river bed to the summit of the heights along the Steuben-ville pike will agree that earth in its infancy in that section was sufficiently contorted to make a pretty general distribution of copper and several other metals in the strata of those rock-ribbed hills.

strata of those rock-ribbed hills.

It is suggested that the Historical Society of Cornopolis might take up the subject with profit to itself and this section generally, and find it more interesting than the stories of time B. C., for unless the Rosetta stone give us considerably more light on ancient affairs than yet thrown, their histories of the rise and fall of dynasties are of but passing interest. People nat kings are but passing interest. People, not kings, are now interesting studies. It is also pertinent to remark that while our astronomers skip from world to world and address each as a familiar acquaintance, they yet know but little of our own home, little even of its crust, though it is to the average man more

crust, though it is to the average man more interesting than the starry host.

J. C. Young, Esq., is juclined to be skeptical on the subject of copper being found in paying quantities in the action; but he says he knows nothing of the geological structure of the earth there; that is, he hasn't regarded the subject from that standpoint. There is no doubt that there are conglomerate rocks scattered around there. Mr. erate rocks scattered around there. Mr. Young says that when boys he and his brother spent many days searching for the pot of gold said to be buried in the vicinity the mouth of Hall's run.

AN ADVENTUROUS CORRESPONDENT.

He is Penetracing Into the Cold Secrets of the Arctic Giaciers.

OMARA, NEB., August 2 .- The Bee this morning prints a letter from Minor W. Bruce, its Alaska correspondent, detailing his experience in Glacier Bay. For three days he was lost on aglacier, but was finally rescued by Indians in an exhausted con dition. During the time he witnessed the wonderful mirage of "The Silent City," which was first discovered by Prof. Wil-

Bruce will shortly start on another trip to Glacier Bay in company with Willoughby and an outfit of photographic apparatus. Bruce is the young man recently reported lost in a crevasse in Glacier Bay.

tiesling, full quarts.....40

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1889.

An American Consul's Report Shows How Russia Benefits by American Grain Corners - Artificial Prices

WASHINGTON, August 2.-The State Department is in receipt of exhaustive reports upon Russian agriculture and cereal trade from Charlton H. Way, United States Consul General to St. Petersburg. He says the export of cereals from Russia in the past two years show an abnormal increase to these causes: First, the enormous crops and the arable prairie; second, the depreciation of the paper ruble, and, third, the foolish practice of systems of "corners" in the United States.

"The arable lands of Russia in Europe," Mr. Way says, "excluding Poland, cover an area of 450,000 square miles. The wheat grower of Kansas and Dakota will see at a glance the area of that fertile territory which, with the cheap labor of Russia, will always prove to be a formidable rival, and the merchants of Chicago and New York, who imagine by cornering wheat that they will control the markets of the world, can will control the markets of the world, can always take into their calculations the product of this country as an effectual check to their operations. Every 'corner' engineered in the United States makes an opportunity for Russia. Not \$1 is added to the import of wealth in America; but exports from our country being stopped, Russia steps in and gets rid of her surplus at remunerative prices, but still far below the prohibitive values established in Chicago and New York. and New York.

and New York.

"As long as Russian wheat exists any attempt to force the Western nations of Europe to pay artificial prices for American grain can but result in absolpte failure. Perhaps if this fact were known corners would become rare and infrequent."

FOR ANOTHER ELECTRIC LINE.

The Pittsburg, Oakland and East Liberty

Ordinance Comes Next. A special meeting of Select Council was called yesterday by President Ford for next Monday afternoon to take action on Com-mon Council bill No. 474, and such other business as may need attention.

business as may need attention.

Bill No. 474 is a supplementary ordinance granting certain rights to the Pittsburg, Oakland and East Liberty Passenger Railway Company. The Committee on Corporations met yesterday afternoon, and affirmatively recommended it to Councils. The ordinance provides that the company shall have the right to erect poles, suspend wires and run their road with electricity for motive power. The time for the completion of the road is extended one year, and the route is changed from the plan marked out in the original ordinance.

The new route provides a double track on Atwood street, from Fifth avenue to Bates street. A single track will run along Bates street to Ward street, thence to Frazier street, to Boquet and back to Atwood and Bates streets. The style and location of the poles and wires will be under the supervision of Chief Bigelow.

Garden City Billiard Company such 101 \$500 more.

President George H. Williams entered the appearances of the club at once, and a practical confession of judgment followed. It was claimed that the opposing faction, having the largest number of votes, would refuse to permit the present board to pay its bills, and was practically determined upon freezing it out. This legal step was taken as an offset to this, to protect the present officers.

A BAND OF BURGLARS

And Considerable Boodle Captured by the Chicago Police After a Fight.

CHICAGO, August 2.- A deperate gang of burgiars were captured last night after hard fight. The gang is composed of John, alias Slug Peyton; James Burns, alias Skinney Ryan; John Reardon, alias Muchs; John P. Rodney, John Connelly and James Mitchell, alias Mulligan. They all came from St. Louis and have been entering houses on the Westside during the last six weeks. Peyton, who is leader of the gang, was recently released from the Joliet penitentiary, where he served a term for burg-lary. All the crooks were taken to the Central station and photographed this

The prisoners were recognized by the dif-ferent detectives as desperate characters. Rodney has served one term in the penitentiary, and some years ago shot a man in Texas. On searching the room considerable jewelry was found and also some St. Louis

A PUZZLE-MAKING CORPORATION. Men Who Stake Money on Something

Than Pigs in Clover. Articles for a limited partnership assocition, called the Briggs Novelty Company, were filed yesterday in the Recorder's office The company is formed for the purpose of manufacturing "Briggs' Magie Nine Puxzle." The managers are George E. Briggs, Chairman; W. B. Swearingen, Treasurer; J. H. Stevenson, Secretary; Frank Gibson, Wilfred Grace, George McKantz and W. M. Hagan. The capital is \$10,000.

For Stenling Tools and Dynamite. Larry O'Toole gave bail for court before Alderman Bupp, of the Eleventh ward, Allegheny, yesterday for the alleged theft of tools and 20 sticks of dynamite from Con-tractor W. E. Howley, of Woods' Run.

The employes of the Bureau of Health, Department of Charities, wharf employer and a few others were given their monthly pay yesterday. The market people will be paid to-day, firemen on Monday, Bureau of Streets and Sewers Tuesday, police Wednes-day, and Bureau of Water on Thursday.

For Picule Lunches The picnic season is now at its height, and the demand for those delightful little indis-pensables to the picnic lunch basket, Mar-vin's extra soda crackers and superior ginger snaps, is enormous.

Use "Una" flour—finest spring patent in the world. "Golden Wedding"—the best of bread flours. "Duquesne" has no equal as a pastry flour. Horning's "Ivory," gem of a pastry flour. It

Is pronounced by competent judges to be unexcelled for purity, excellent flavor and wholesomeness. Take no other. To be had at all first-class bars, or direct from the FRAUENHEIM & VILSACE.

Iron Ciry Rees

BAR HARBOR, its fashionable for ing hops are graphically described in an i-irated letter from Eamera in to-morrow's PATCE.

[NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.]

THE CURSE & CARNE'S HOLI

A TALE OF ADVENTURE.

By G. A. Henty,

gathered from the shores of the Black Sea Author of "Under Drake's Flag," "With Clive in India," etc., etc.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

CHAPTER VIII. It was in August, 1850. Some newly arived emigrants had just landed from their ship, and were walking through the streets of Cape Town, watching with great amusement the novel sights, the picturesque groups of swarthy Malays in huge beehiveshaped hats with red and yellow bandanas around their necks, and their women in dresses of the most gorgeous colors. Settlers from inland farms rode at a reckless pace through the streets, and the huge wagons drawn by eight or ten bullocks came creaking along, often at a trot. One of the party

stopped before a placard. "Active young men wanted for the Cape Mounted Rifles. For full particulars as to service and pay, enquire of the Adjutant at the Barracks of the Corps."

"I thought they were recruited in En-gland," he muttered to himself. "I will go round presently and see about it, but I will look at the papers first. If there is any trouble on with the natives it would suit me well, but I certainly will not enlist merely to dawdle about in the towns. I would rather carry out my idea of buying a farm and going in for stock raising." He went into a liquor shop, called for some of the native wine, and took up a newspaper. It contained numerous letters from settlers on the frontier, all saying, that the attitude of the natives had changed greatly within the last few weeks, and that all sorts of alarming rumors were current, and it was feared that in spite of the solemn treaties they had made two years before, the natives were again going to take up arms.

"I think that's good enough," he said to himself. "There are likely to be stirring times again here. Nothing would suit my

times again here. Nothing would suit my case better than an active life, hard work, and plenty of excitement."

Having finished his wine, he inquired the way to the barracks of the detachment of the corpe stationed at Cape Town, and being directed to it, entered the gates. He smiled to himself at his momentary feeling of surprise at the sentry on the gate neglecting to salute him, and then inquiring for the orderly room, he went across the little barracks yard and entered. The Adjutant looked up from the table at which he was writing. writing. "I see a notice that you want men, sir,"

the new comer said.
"Yes, we are raising two fresh troops. What age are you?"
"Twenty-eight."
"You have served before, have you not?"
the Adjutant said, looking at the well-knit

figure standing before him.
"Yes, I have served before." "Infantry or Cavalry?"
"The Infantry, but I can ride." "Have you your papers of discharge?"

"Have you anyone to speak to your char-No one here I only landed this ing by the Thalis, which came in from En-gland last night. "That is awkward," the officer said You know that as a rule we only enlist in

England, and only take applicants of good "I am aware of that, sir; but as just at present you are likely to want men who can ight, character is not of so much import-

The Adjutant smiled and again scrutinized the applicant closely.
"The man has been an officer," he said to himself. "Well, that is nothing to me; he has the cut of a soldier all over." "Do you know the conditions of service? You provide your own horse and uniform.
Government provides arms. In the event of your not being able to find your borse and uniform—Government will, as it is anxious to fill up the ranks as soon as possible—provide them, and stop the money from your raw."

from your pay."
"I can provide horse and uniform."
"Very well, then, I will take you," the
officer said.
"I enlist as Harry Blunt. I may say, sir,

I that I should feel very greatly obliged it, as I know my duty, you could post me to a troop already up the country instead of to one of those you are raising, and who will have to learn their drill and how to sit a horse before they can be sent up on active duty."
"I can do that," the officer said; "It is

only yesterday that we called for recruits and we have only had two or three applications at present; there is a draft going on to Port Elizabeth next week, and if I find that you are, as you say, up in your drill, I will send you up with them." "Thank you, sir, I am very much obliged

to you."
"The Major will be here at 4 o'clock," the Adjutant said, "come in at that time and you can be attested and sworn in." "After all," Ronald Mervyn said to him self, as he strode away, "there's nothing like soldiering. I know I should have fretted for the old work if I had settled down on a farm, or even if I had gone in, as I half thought of doing, for shooting for a year or so before settling down. If these natives really mean to make trouble we shall have an exciting time of it, for the men I have talked with who fought in the last war here say that they have any amount of pluck, and are enemies not to be despised. Now I will be off and look for a norse. I'd better not order my uniform until I am sworn in; the Major may, perhaps, refuse me on the ground of want of character." He went up to two or three young farmers who were standing talking in the street.

"I am a stranger, gentlemen, and have just landed. I want to buy a good horse; can you tell me what is the best way to set 'You will have no difficulty about that.'

one of them replied, "for there's been a no-tice up that Government wants to buy horses, and at 2 o'clock this afternoon, those who have animals to dispose of fit for cavalry service, are to bring them into the parade ground in front of the infantry barracks. Government have only asked for 50 horses, and there will probably be two or horses, and there will probably be two or three times that number brought in; we have each brought in a horse or two, but they are rather expensive animals. I be-lieve the horses are intended for mounts for staff officers. They want more bone and strength than is general in the horses here."

"I don't much mind what I pay," Ronald said carelessly. "However, gartlemen! said carelessly. "However, gentlemen, I may see you down there, and it Government

may see you down there, and if Government does not take your horses, perhaps I may make a deal with one of you."

At the appointed hour Ronald strolled down to the parade. There were a good many officers assembled there, and a large number of young Boer farmers, each with one or more horses, led by natives. The Major and Adjutant of the Cape Mounted Rifles were examining the horses, which were ridden up and down before them by their owners, and the Adjutant himself sometimes mounting and taking them a turn. Presently his eyes tell upon Ronald, who was closely scrutinising the horses.

"That is the young fellow I was speaking

and saddled his new purchase. The horse was fidgetty and nervous from its new surroundings, and refused for some time to let him mount; but he patted and soothed it, and then, putting one hand on the saddle, sprang into it at a bound. He rode at a walk through the streets, and, when he got beyond the limits of the town, touched the horse with his spur. The animal reared up, lashed out behind once or twice, and then went off at a gallep. Ronald kept along the road until he was beyond the patches of land cultivated by the natives. When once in the open country he left the road and allowed the horse to gallop across country until its speed abated, by which time he was nearly ten miles from Cape Town; then he turned its head, and at a quiet pace rode back to the town.

turned its head, and at a quiet pace rode back to the town.

"A month's schooling," he said, "and it will be an almost perfect horse; its pace is very easy, and there's no doubt about its strength and wind. You are a beauty, old boy," he went ou, as he patted the animal's neck, "we shall soon be capital friends."

The uniform was delivered punctually, and after saying good-by to his fellow-passesses who were staying at the hotel.

sengers who were staying at the hotel, Ronald put on his uniform, filled the value he had that afternoon purchased with a useful kit, took out an excellent sporting rifle that would earry Government ammuni-tion, and a brace of revolvers, and, packing up his other clothes and ordering all the baggage to be put away in a store until re-quired, he mounted and rode into barracks. "Where shall I find Sergeant Menzies?" he asked one of the men at the guardroom. "His quarters are overthere, the last door

to you about, Major, the man in the tweed suit examining that horse's mouth."

"Yes, I have no doubt you are right, Lawson; he has the cut of a military man all over, and beyond all question a gentleman. Outran the constable at home, I suppose. Well, we will take him anyhow for rough work; men of that stamp make the very best soldiers. I fancy we have more than one in our ranks now."

"No, you must not bring that horse up," he broke off, addressing the young farmer, whose horse Ronald had just been examining. "He's got some vice about him, or you would not be offering him at our prices."

"He's as good a horse as there is in the Colony," the young Dutchman said; "but I am not offering him at your price. I thought that some young officer might be inclined to buy him, and I have brought him down to show. There is no vice about him that I know of, but he has only been mounted twice, and, as he has never been off the farm before he is a hit fidner." in that corner."

Ronald rode over to the door indicated, and then dismounted. He entered the passage. The Sergeant's name was written on a piece of paper fastened on the first door. He came out when Ronald knocked. "I was ordered by the Adjutant to report myself

was ordered by the Adjutant to report myself to you, Sergeant," Ronald said, saluting.
"He told me that a recruit was coming, but how did you get your uniform? Why, you only enlisted yesterday."
"I hurried them up a bit," Rouald said. "Where shall I put my horse?"
The Sergeant went into his quarters due came out with a lantern. He held it up and examined the horse.
"Well, lad, you have got a bonny beast, a downright beauty. You will have to get before, he is a bit fidgety."

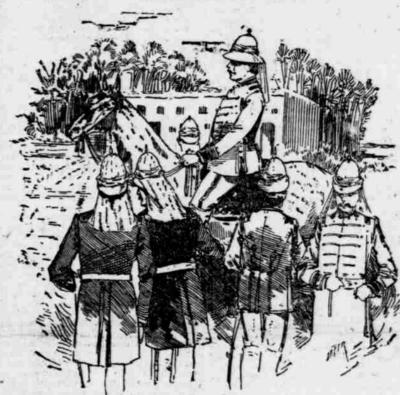
"What do you want for him?" the Major asked, examining the horse closely.

"I want £120 for him."

"A hundred and twenty fiddlesticks," the Major said. "My man, there are not ten horses in the Colony worth £120."
"Perhaps not," the young Dutchman said, coolly, "but this is one of the ten."
Several of the other officers now came up and examined the horses and examined. "Well, iad, you make go will have to get a downright beauty. You will have to get the regulation bridle, and then you will be complete. Let me look at you." He held and examined the horse, and they were unanimous in their approval of him.

"He would be worth 300 as a hunter at home," one of them remarked, "but nobody's going to give such a price as that out here, when you can get a deceat runner for "He would be worth 300 as a hunter at home," one of them remarked, "but no-body's going to give such a price as that out here, when you can get a decent runner for 20; but he is certainly the handsomest horse."

The regulation bridle, and then you will be complete. Let me look at you." He held up the lantern. "You will do, lad," he said, "if you make as good a soldier as you look. You only want the sword and belt to be complete. You will get them given to 20; but he is certainly the handsomest horse."



I have seen since I have been in the colony, and I have seen some good ones, too.

The farmer moved off with the horse. As he left the ground, Ronald again walked up

"Very well," the Dutchman said, "I will take it, but I wouldn't take a penny under. Have you the money here?"
"I have not got it in my pocket," Ronald replied, "but I have letters of credit on the bank. Walk round with me there, and I

will give you the cash.' In ten minutes the money was obtained and handed to the farmer, who gave Ronald a receipt for it. Ronald took the halter a receipt for it. Ronald took the halter from the hands of the native, and at once led the horse to the stable of the hotel at which he had already left his luggage. Then he ordered one of the cases to be opened, and took out a saddle and bridle which he had brought out with him in view of rough Colonial work.

"I did not expect to be suited so soon," he said to himself, "and certainly did not expect to find such a mount here. I like him better than either of my old hunters, and will back him, after a couple of months' good handling, to win any military steeple-chase. That's money well laid out; when a man may have to ride for his life, money in horseflesh is a good investment."

He went down at 4 o'clock, and was attested and sworn in tested and aworn in.

"I saw you down on the parade ground, Blunt," the Adjutant said. "We have bought a score of horses for the use of re-cruits. You can have one of them at the Government price if you choose."

"I am much obliged to you, sir," Ronald replied, "but I picked one up myself."

"He will have to pass inspection you know, Blunt?"

Ronald said, quietly. "I am considered a pretty good judge of a horse."
"There is the address of a tailor," the Adjutant said, handing him a card; "he has got a supply of the right cloth, and has contracted to supply uniforms at a very reasonable price. You need not come o barracks until to-morrow, unless you

"I think he's good enough to pass, sir."

"I thank you, sir. I have a few things to get, and I would rather not report myself until to-morrow afternoon, if you will give me leave." "Very well, then I will not ration you to-morrow: Report yourself to Sergeant Menzies any time before 9 o'clock in the

evening."

Ronald gave the military salute, turned on his heel, and went out of the barracks. to be measured for a uniform for the Mounted Rifles," he said. "How much do you charge?"
"We supply tunic, jacket, and two pairs of breeches and cap for £9."

of breeches and cap for £9."
"When can you let me have them?"
"In three days." "I must have them by to-morrow after-noon by 6 o'clock, and I will pay you £2 extra to get them done by then. But mind, I want good fitting clothes. Do you under-

"You will pay £11 pounds for them if I get them ready by 6 o'clock. Very well then, I will try and do them."

"Of course you can do them if you choose," Ronald said. "If you get them cut out and stitched together, I will come in at 9 o'clock in the morning to try them cut out and stitched together, I will come in at 9 o'clock in the morning to try them on. Now where can I get jack-boots?"

"The last shop down the end of this street. Moens is the name. He always keeps a lot by him, and the Mounted Rifles here mostly deal with him."

Ronald was fortunate enough to obtain a pair of boots that fitted him well, and he now strolled back to his hetel. The next morning, after trying on his antiform, which was of dark green, he went to the stables

I will show you the stable." He made his way to the stable, where there was a vacant stall, and stood by while Ronald removed the saddle and bridle and put on the head stall. "You can take an armful of hay from that rack yonder. I can't get him a ration of grain to-night, it's too late."
"He's just had a good feed," Ronald said,

"and will not want any more, but I may as well give him the hay to amuse himself with. It will accustom him to his new quarters. What shall I do with my rifle "Bring them with you, lad; but there was no occasion for you to have brought them. Government find arms."

"I happened to have them with me," Ronald said, "and as the rifle carries Government ammunition, I thought that they would let me use it." "If it's about the right length I have no doubt they will be glad to do so, for we have no very great store of arms, and we are not no very great store of arms, and we are not quite so particular about having everything exactly uniform, as they are in a crack corps at home. As for the pistols, there is no doubt about them, as being in the holsters, they don't show. Several of the men have got them, and most of the officers.

Now, I will take you up to your quarters." The room to which he had led Ronald con-

tained about a dozen men. Some had already gone to bed, others were rubbing

reading. "Here's a new comrade, lads," the Sergeant said; "Blunt's his name. He

up bits and accoutrements, one or two we

is a new arrival from home, and you won't find him a greenhorn, for he has served Ronald had the knack of making himself at home, and was, before he turned in an hour later, on terms of good fellowship with

In the morning after grooming his borse, he went in the barrack yard, when the troop formed up for dismounted drill. "Will you take your place at once in the ranks?" Sergeant Menzies asked. "Do you

"Yes; I have not grown rusty," Ronald replied as he fell in.

An hour's work sufficed to show Sergeant Menzies, who was drilling the troop, that the new recruit needed no instruction on drill as anyone in the troop.
"Are you as well up in your cavalry drill as in the infantry?" he asked Ronald as the

troop fell out, "No." Ronald said, "but when one knows one, he soon gets well at home in the other. At any rate, for simple work the system is exactly the same, and I think with two or

three drills I shall be able to keep my After breakfast the former formed up again in their saddles, and the officers took their places in the ranks. ' As the Sergeant handed to the Adjutant some returns he had been compiling, the latter asked:
"By the way, Sergeant, did the recruit
Blunt join last night?"

"Yes, sir, and he is in his place now in the rear rank. He was in his uniform when he came, and I found this morning that he

he came, and I found this morning that he is thoroughly well up in his drill. A smart soldier all over, I should say. I don't know that he will do so well mounted, but I don't think you will see him make many blunders. He is evidently a sharp fellow."

"He ought not to have taken his place until I had passed his horse, Sergeant. Still I can do that atter caradedrill is over."

The Adjutant then proceeded to put the troop through a number of easy movements, such as forming from line to column, and back into line, and wheeling. There was no room for anything else in the barrack-yard, which was a small one, as the barrack-yard, which was a small one to column, and back into line, and wheeling, the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and wheeling the barrack-yard, which was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard was a small one to column, and back into line, and the barrack-yard w