

The British Forces in South Africa.

Tremendous Preparations Made For the Contest With the Boers.

FLOWER OF THE ARMY IN THE FIELD.



THE whole of Europe is watching Great Britain at this crucial moment in her military affairs. Foreign statesmen and military experts regard the result of the war with the Boers as a foregone conclusion. What they scan with such anxious interest is her tremendous preparations for the contest.

By the result of these efforts will her strength be gauged. In assembling an army twice as large as that which she sent to the Crimea and considerably greater than Wellington's force at Waterloo, England is offering an illustration, for the first time in many decades, of her ability to fight on the land.

Although her naval strength has often been demonstrated to advantage, it has still been a matter of doubt whether her military arm would compare favorably with that of continental nations, and in the throes of such a test she has been engaged recently day and night.

Gangs of men are working incessantly at the ports on England's shores, transforming liners into troop ships. Largely augmented forces are ceaselessly turning out ammunition and ordnance stores.

Meanwhile the men for whom these implements of war are being made are pouring out of barracks to the ports, standing by to embark, drilling, manoeuvring and practising at targets every spare hour. The reserves are



GENERAL SIR REDVERS BULLER. (He commands the British forces in the field in South Africa.)

swarming into Aldershot in unheralded batches and reshouldering their rifles as if the transformation from civil to military life were merely an everyday occurrence.

The huge mobilization at Aldershot is now in charge of Major-General Thomas Kelly-Kenny, Inspector-General of Auxiliary Forces and Recruiting, who has succeeded General Sir Redvers Buller. All the work is new.

It is the first time that anything of the kind has been attempted since the short-service system went into effect. A visit to Aldershot produces the impression that everything is going like clockwork, but it is too early yet to express a definite opinion regarding the British mobilization.

For the reserves themselves, who are obliged to leave their wives and families on a pitiful pittance from the Government, much public sympathy has been aroused, exemplifying the truth of Rudyard Kipling's jeer, "A special train for Atkins when the band begins to play."

A number of reserves who were not called out have asked to be allowed to serve in South Africa, and a similar

Sir Redvers has been a soldier since he was nineteen. At that youthful age he was a commissioned officer of the Thirtieth Rifles, and on pure merit, combined with dogged determination, hard service and remarkable bravery, he forged his way ahead to the high position he now holds. In



TYPES OF THE BRITISH FORCES OPERATING AGAINST THE BOERS.

the war in Zululand he won the rare Victoria Cross in the retreat of Inhlo-bane. On that occasion he saved the life of a brother officer who was retiring on foot hotly pursued by the Zulus. This gallant deed was only a sample of his conduct. Since that time Buller has been a conspicuous figure in the fierce fighting of the British on land invaded by their forces. He took part in the actions of Tel-el-Keber and of Kassassin during the Egyptian war of 1882, and served with distinction under Wolseley in the Sudan expedition of 1884. It is the opinion of good judges that, with the exception of Wolseley and Roberts, Buller stands head and shoulders over any general now in the British army.

The excellent Boer marksmanship, combined with the fact that it is an unwritten rule in the British army that officers must always stand under fire even though the men are lying down, makes mourning probable in many a noble British house.

The Admiralty is perhaps more on trial than the army, especially as it is well known that General Lord Garnet Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief, does not approve a system which gives the navy such far-reaching power in transporting troops.

In 1882 Great Britain despatched fifteen thousand troops in three weeks to Alexandria, Egypt, a feat that elicited the intense admiration of Count von Moltke, but the task of shipping more than fifty-two thousand men has no parallel in the history of England.

Already two branches of the service are beginning to blame each other for various delays, but it is scarcely apparent that there has yet been any serious lack of facilities.

The ship brokers have undoubtedly worked something like a corner on the Admiralty, as they did during the Hispano-American War, and the recent breakdown of two transports is still the cause of considerable abuse of the Admiralty.

The most remarkable point in connection with the transport arrangements is that about eighty ships can be taken into the Government service without materially disturbing the shipping trade.

The weakest joint in the whole mobilization seems to be the Army Service Corps, corresponding to the United

to provide a second or third army corps for foreign service, these, or either of them, would have to go out without a full equipment. That this unpleasant discovery will form the subject of inquiry in Parliament goes without saying."

No matter what the general opinion may be as to the merits of the quarrel between England and the Transvaal, all the world believes that the former will freely spend both blood and treasure to establish her side of the argument. The troops which she will put into the field include many of the most famous regiments that have ever fought beneath English colors. This very fact should count for something in deciding the issue. The Boer, of course, will just as cheerfully shoot at a guardsman or a Gordon as at a meaner mark, but it should always be remembered, in measuring the relative value of the two armies, that while the burgher has no regimental traditions and morale to preserve, the Briton has both, coupled with a devotion to



PRIVATE OF THE EIGHTEENTH HUSSARS.

his Queen, which should pretty nearly match the patriotic ardor of his Dutch antagonist. Among the historic regiments already in South Africa or under orders to go there, are the First (Royal) Dragoons, the Royal Scots Greys, the Sixth Inniskillings, the Sixth Dragoon Guards, the Tenth Hussars, the Twelfth Lancers, the Royal Munster Regiment, the Gordon Highlanders, the Black Watch, the Highland Light Infantry, the Liverpool Regiment, the Eighteenth Hussars and the Northumberland Fusiliers. All of these have records which would tell the story of most of the victories and not



PRIVATE OF THE EIGHTEENTH HUSSARS.

a few of the defeats achieved and sustained by the British army since that organization became an established entity.

The Gordons, who are now in Natal, have an old score to settle with the Boers. In 1881 the regiment was attached to Sir Evelyn Wood's column, about 150 men being detailed to the small force operating under Sir George Colley's command. They were among the four hundred who scaled Majuba Hill and vainly endeavored to hold that position against the Boer attack. Majors Hay and Singleton and Lieutenant Hamilton were wounded, Singleton fatally and Captain Macgregor and Lieutenants Wright, Macdonald and Staunton taken prisoners.

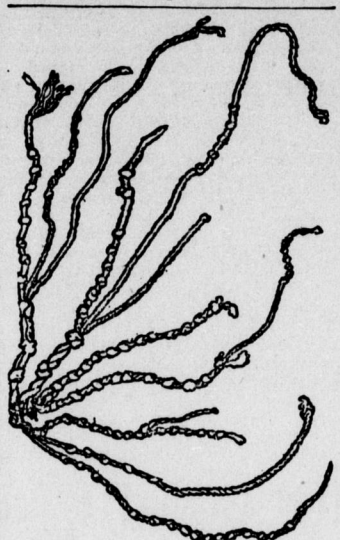
An Extraordinary Mountain.
Near the little station of Maravillas, Peru, which means "marvelous," on the Southern railway, there is a mountain of which the most extraordinary stories are told. It is claimed to be a solid mass of ores of all varieties indiscriminately mixed, and as one citizen declared, "all you have to do is to blindfold your eyes, turn around three times, throw a little salt over your left shoulder, then begin to dig where your spade strikes and you can get any kind of ore you want—gold, silver, copper, lead, tin, antimony or anything else—and it lies right on the surface like gravel." The fact that this extraordinary mineralogical phenomenon has not been utilized, however, rather detracts from the interest of the story.—Chicago Record.

Gave Them Fair Warning.
A Vienna paper relates that not long ago three soldiers were drowned in a military swimming school in that city. A few days later an officer harangued his soldiers as follows: "I want you all to be careful not to get drowned, because that creates no end of bother for the Colonel and the Captain. Besides, it is in your own interest, too!"

The railway mileage of Russia now amounts to 29,000 miles, which includes the great Siberian extension.

BOOKKEEPING BY KNOTS.
How the Natives of Peru Use the Kipu Instead of Figures.

Dr. Max Uhle, a distinguished German scientist, has been for many years engaged in archaeological explorations in Peru. Among other important discoveries



THE KIPU, USED FOR KEEPING ACCOUNTS

of Dr. Uhle is the kipu, a collection of knotted strings of different colors which were used by the peoples of the ancient civilizations of Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia for the purpose of keeping accounts. They had no written language and no system of figures. Their arithmetic consisted solely of little knotted strings. Among the primitive villages of the Andes, the descendants of the Incas depend upon the kipu for keeping accounts, and Dr. Uhle was so fortunate as to discover them in the hands of Indian herdsmen, who used them so skillfully that they are able to make a record for every animal, every bushel of feed and article of property that is entrusted to their care. The colors of the different strings represent different articles, such as barley, corn, sheep, rams, ewes, lambs, horses, etc., while the knots, by their size and distance from each other, express hundreds, tens and units, in such a manner as to accurately include the decimals.

Stole From Queen Wilhelmina.

An extraordinary case of theft is reported from The Hague, the victim being no less a personage than Queen Wilhelmina herself. The culprit appears to be the person to whom the safe custody of the young Queen's valuables was intrusted. The stolen articles consist of very valuable gold and silver toilet pieces, and seem to have been abstracted from Her Majesty's dressing room. Their disappearance was the cause of inquiries being made, and when the bulk of them were discovered in the possession of a silversmith, he stated that he had bought them from the official in question, who has now absconded.

Helpmeet of Senator Hanna.

Mrs. Augusta Rhodes Hanna, wife of Senator Hanna, of Ohio, was born at Kent, then called Franklin Mills, 153 miles from Cleveland, and is the daughter of Daniel P. Rhodes. When she was two years old her parents removed to Cleveland, where she has since resided. Miss Rhodes was sent to the Abbot Collegiate Institute, in New York City, for school training, and on her return met her father's young business partner, Mr. Hanna, and they were married in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna have three children, the son being Daniel R. Hanna, who is married and has a home on Euclid avenue, Cleveland. Miss Mabel is the elder daughter. She is fond of music, and devotes much time to the study of it. She is a charming and cultured young lady, and is a fine horsewoman. Ruth, the youngest child, is at school in Farmington, Connecticut.



MRS. MARK A. HANNA.

Mrs. Hanna is a stately, handsome woman, with an impressive manner and considerable hauteur. Her abundant white hair is dressed in the latest fashion, and her complexion is like wild roses in the snow. Mrs. Hanna has been the reigning queen of society in Cleveland before and since her marriage. Her gowns are made of the costliest fabrics, her jewels are worth a fortune, and she wears them with the dignity of a duchess. Senator and Mrs. Hanna are both fond of entertaining their friends, and they please themselves and all concerned by giving magnificent social affairs. Mrs. Hanna gives liberally of her bounty for charitable purposes, but her time and her endeavor are devoted to her family and her friends. She has no time for the executive duties of clubs or other organizations.

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Progressive Poultry Tests.
The houses at the Maine experiment farm have been provided with registered hens' nests, which enables the attendant to keep a complete record of the eggs laid by each hen. The best hens will be selected and their eggs used for hatching purposes. The old idea as to the influence of the shape of eggs in determining the sex has been tested with no definite results. Experiments on flocks of different sizes of from 15 to 30 resulted in the conclusion that the largest product of eggs was secured from the smallest pens, but considering the cost of handling and cost of coops the most profitable size of flock is 20 hens.

Shape of Pork Barrels.

It is about this time of the year that the pork barrel begins to give trouble, because the pork rises to the surface and can no longer be covered by the brine. Why does pork rise late in the season? An old farmer many years ago explained the reason. The pork barrel is made the same shape as any other barrel, that is, with its sides bulging in the middle and smaller above and below. The proper shape for any barrel to hold pork or beef is with straight staves and smaller at the top than at the bottom. It is somewhat harder to reach down into such a barrel to get out a piece of meat, but the pork will keep as good as at first until the last layer is reached. That should be kept down by putting a cover down as large as can be squeezed through the top, and weighing it down to the bottom layer with heavy stones.

Second Growth Clover.

It is quite the practice with some farmers to pasture down the late or second growth clover. It is valuable for pasturage; nothing better for the cows. But if not used for grazing it will pay well to cut and cure it. The objection with some is the difficulty of curing. With the heavy dews of the lengthening nights it is found that the cut clover scarcely gets dried through during the day and it is almost invariably of dark color and appears to be unfit for stacking or stowing away in the barn. As a matter of fact the dark-looking clover is dryer than it looks and with reasonably good weather it may be sufficiently cured. This second-growth clover is in reality richer in nutritive qualities than the earlier crop. Often this later clover is better for seed and it is the custom of some good farmers to take their clover seed from the second growth.

Sowing the Grain.

It is preferable to sow wheat during a dry spell rather than when the land is heavy. On fertile soil well manured three pecks of good, sound wheat are sufficient for one acre if properly sown. On thinner land, use a bushel of seed. A great many farmers go into a field, spread fertilizers, sow grain and plow all in without any previous preparation of the land. Good crops are quite often harvested in this way, but it is owing more to the kindness of nature in presenting unusually favorable conditions than from any other cause. Every farmer knows that thorough preparation of his land before planting any crop is two-thirds of the battle won. The garden presents a miniature object-lesson of just what should be done with our fields. If the fields were handled as nicely as the gardens a vast difference would be realized in favor of increased yields from the field crops. Now it may appear to some that the plan of procedure suggested in this article with regard to sowing a few acres in wheat may be too expensive and laborious. Many may decide that the quickest and cheapest method is well enough. As a matter of fact, the results of past experiences have proven that the farmer who does well and thoroughly that which he does at all will more rapidly win success in his farming operations. Do not allow a little extra labor and fertilization to stand between you and the future breeding of your family. Determine that whatever the cost you will make an earnest effort to cut down the heavy supply bills which have heretofore taken all the profit out of your business, and avoid farming in the past few years an avocation of drudgery, from which you have derived but little pleasure or comfort for yourself and family.—Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution.

Benefits of Subsoiling.

Subsoiling should be practiced on every farm, judging from our own experience. The best way we have found is to use an arrow-point-shaped shovel, running flat down, having centre bowed up enough to admit a steel post which is riveted to shovel and curved upright directly behind it, being sharp on front side to cut the dirt, and which can be attached to any plow, behind the share, says W. I. Short in Mississippi Valley Democrat. This, with one extra horse to plow, can be run five or six inches deep in the bottom of the furrow, breaking subsoil thoroughly as it passes over the shovel, thus loosening the ground so that water leaves quickly before it has time to bake as ordinary plowed land, allowing less water to run off, wasting less soil away, and storing rain below to rise to surface in dry weather.

We plowed a week sooner this spring on land we subsoiled a year ago than we could in same field not subsoiled, and both drained about alike. We used the above attachment (which any good blacksmith can make) on gang behind the plow, at-

taching a lever to top of post to raise subsoil up even with bottom of plow in turning, working five horses to gang, three on plow and two in the lead. You would be surprised to see how this little shovel, cutting seven inches, will loosen the soil on each side in adjoining furrows as just alternate furrows were subsoiled. We know of land being subsoiled by following breaking plow with one horse mould-board plow, but this was a failure, as the bottom furrow wants to be loosened, but not thrown out. Every farmer can imagine what an advantage it would be to get to farming several days sooner in spring, and, after corn is planted, to get to cultivating so much sooner after heavy rains, with only about twenty-five cents additional cost to plowing.

We expect to try it some on meadow sown a year ago, as it will not be affected so much by wet and dry weather, and the grasses in wet seasons will not be so bad, such as wire, tickle and foxtail. We also expect to have it tried on wheat land, beside some not subsoiled. In '98 we had wheat killed last of March, when the surface was full of water, and we are confident subsoiling would have saved it; and if it will save wheat it will do the same for clover.

Rich Cream and Milk.

The value of milk is not in the quantity produced so much as in the richness of the cream found therein. This is not always apparent where dairymen are paid for their milk according to the quart, without much reference to the quality. All that the dairymen try to do is to have their milk come up to the required standard. There is no reason why they should attempt to go above this, for nothing is gained thereby. Not until customers appreciate the value of good, rich milk and cream will quality tell. When the dairymen supplies to the general market very rich milk he simply enriches the middleman or retailer, who deftly dilutes it, increasing the quantity for his own pecuniary advantage. It is all right in a way to preach better feeding and better milkers, but there are cases when it does not apply. The average dairymen needs a cow whose milk supply is measured by the quantity and not the quality. High bred cows that give very rich milk, but a limited amount, are not the most profitable for him. This sounds like heresy from an old dairymen, but it is not. We must raise what we can get the most for, and so long as milk dealers and milk exchangers give most of the profits to the dealers and not to the producers we need to look at matters from a common sense point of view, and supply what is best for our interests.

I believe in good cows, well-bred ones, and those that give rich cream and milk; but these cows are not as a rule adapted to the use required of them by the average dairymen. I keep such a herd, and the milk obtained from this is so much richer and better than that given by the dairy herd that I sometimes feel ashamed of the latter. I reserve the milk and cream from these choice animals for private customers who want extra rich milk and are willing to pay for value received. If I should turn these cows into the general herd and sell their milk to the dealers by the gallon or can, I would lose money thereby unless I diluted it, which, I believe is beneath the notice of every reputable milkman. It is better to have cows that give quantity, therefore, than quality, for there is more money in such herds, unless you are so located that private customers can consume all the rich milk you provide, or you need it for butter making. There is considerable money in raising a fine breed of Jerseys or other rich milkers if one can work up a set of customers to take the milk. There is a steady market the year round, and one can calculate the profits down to a penny. Breeding and caring for such a herd brings its reward in another way. One is conscious of doing good work for the whole business of cattle breeding, and incidentally a great deal of personal pride is enlisted in the cause.—E. P. Smith in American Cultivator.

One of Dewey's Victories.

On one occasion Admiral Dewey spoke of his victory of May day as the simple proposition of escaping the mines at the entrance to the bay, if there were any, and then of destroying or being destroyed by the enemy. But to be destroyed would have been disobeying orders. He had been told to destroy the enemy; and obedience, as the admiral will tell you smilingly, is the first law of the navy.

This done, he was soon confronted by another simple proposition. Fourteen foreign men of war lay menacingly outside his line of blockade. One power, whose lust for land-grabbing is that of the neophyte, sent to Manila a fleet quite equal in strength to our own to watch for an opportunity to make an embarrassment of our its advantage. Behind Von Diederich was an emperor whose peculiar style of diplomacy, in many instances, has won the success which is somewhat temporarily the reward of audacity. It was trying to the ordinary mortal simply to be a witness of the calm patience of Admiral Dewey, who had the force of character to bide his time. When the hour for candor came he was candid, and he won a victory without firing a gun, while the admiral whom the emperor had chosen for his great enterprise became a scapegoat of the new protestations of friendship which characterized the emperor's new policy toward us.—Collier's Weekly.

One of the latest fashions in Berlin is for mothers of the wealthiest families, including officers' wives and members of the aristocracy, to take out their own infants in baby-carriages for airing in the parks.



BRITISH FIELD ARTILLERY ON THE NATAL BORDER.

spirit of spontaneous, practical patriotism is seen on all sides. Sir Redvers Buller's force includes the flower of the English nobility.

Sir Redvers Henry Buller is an old campaigner, who has served his time in the country to which he is going, and who is regarded in London as the most capable man for the command

States Commissary. The various stations have been gutted to obtain the necessary officers and men, yet many line officers assure the Associated Press that the arrangements are gravely inadequate for such a corps. In this connection the Naval and Military Record says: "It is quite clear that, if England had