

The British Forces in South Africa.

Tremendous Preparations Made For the Contest With the Boers.

FLOWER OF THE ARMY IN THE FIELD.

HE 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 see 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 that which she sent to the Crimea considerably greater than Wellington's force at Waterloo, England offering an illustration, for the 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 jibe, "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 Thirteenth 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 Inhlobane. On that occasion he saved the life of a brother officer who was retreating 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 maner 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

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

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 sealed 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 Marz, (Las, 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.

FOR WOMAN'S BENEFIT.

An Opportunity for Women.

In regard to the many women who wish to be self-supporting, here is a suggestion that appears in a periodical and that seems a plausible one. Of all the amateur photographers there are few who are really successful in developing their own negatives. The majority send them to the photographers, pay largely for the work, and wait as patiently as they can for their turn in the rush. A woman who would carefully train herself for the work should be able to make a respectable amount of money while the craze for amateur photography lasts.

Snowy Draperies for Winter Days.

Much white is to be worn this winter, and cloth gowns of pure white and cream color, trimmed with sable, will be among the smartest of the wealthy woman's gowns. Only a rich woman could afford to wear such costume, as, of course, it will be very perishable (as far as its spotless purity is concerned), and the woman who can have but one or two cloth costumes would be insane to invest in such a conspicuous luxury as a white costume. House dresses of white veiling, crepe and foulard, and of light-weight satin-dotted woolen goods are to be much used, and tea gowns of satin, cashmere and crepe de chine, which last year were lilac, yellow, blue, green or pink, will this year flaunt trailing draperies of purest white, in most instances unrelieved by a touch of color.

How to Tilt the Hat.

The arrangement of the hair at the nape of the neck is one which creates great difficulties in millinery matters. Nothing is more terrible or disfiguring to the contour of the face than a gap between the crown of the hat and the coils of the hair. Yet many, many girls are to be seen who allow themselves to be such objects.

A veil brought around thickly under the chin and tied above the brim sometimes mitigates the evil, but it exists, nevertheless, and another one attendant on it, viz., the angle at which the hat is worn, setting in absolutely a straight line across the forehead and coming low down on the forehead, with the result that becomingness is reduced to a minimum.

The angle for the hat when the coiffure is low is slightly off the forehead when the comb, now so much in vogue, is inserted at the base of the crown coils; then the hat tips slightly downward.

The New Street Costumes.

One of the smartest of women's tailors is making the simplest of street costumes this season, but manages to give each one a distinctive touch that stamps it as novel and individual. One of these costumes is of an odd shade of dark green, brightened with touches of creamy castor in the same material. The close-fitted skirt has a front panel which reaches to within a couple of inches of the ground and is outlined with a double row of heavy machine stitching. On either side of this panel is a narrow gleam of castor cloth, which also peeps out from beneath the green cloth skirt at the foot. The trim little jacket reaches a few inches below the waist all round, and the basque has scarcely any fullness. A vest of the castor cloth is flanked by the double rows of machine stitching, which also outline the basque. Rounded lapel revers of the castor come from the shoulders, where an odd yoke effect is obtained by a triangular piece of cloth being stitched from the base of the high collar to the shoulder seam and arm hole. Another costume created by this original tailor is of black rough cloth and has a vest of scarlet, braided with black and cuffs of white, braided with black.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Married Women at School.

If a girl in Russia wishes to study at any of the universities in that country, etiquette does not allow her to do so until she is married, so she goes through the civil ceremony of marriage with a man student, whom very probably she has never seen before, and this marriage is quite legal, though perhaps they may never speak to each other again. On the other hand, if they like each other and wish it, they are married for life; if they don't, the marriage is dissolved when their university course is finished, and they are free to marry some one else. The celebrated mathematician, Sonya Kovalovski, whose autobiography attracted considerable notice a few years ago, went through the marriage ceremony with a student whom she then saw for the first time and who afterwards became her husband. The education of women in Russia stands better than in most European countries, owing to the persistent efforts of the Russian women themselves. By 1886 they had managed to get four university colleges for women, with 1442 students; one medical academy with 500 students and numerous intermediate schools. There are over 700 women doctors in Russia, of whom nearly one-half are employed in the civil service, chiefly by the Zemstvos.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Mirror Drapery.

"I have a little scheme of making my visitors feel very well satisfied with themselves, hence they are very charming during their stay," said a young hostess, recently, with an amused twinkle in her eyes, as she displayed her dainty mirror arrangement in her guest room. The white draped mirror and the lace-covered toilet table made a very attractive spot, but she asserted that it served another purpose beside that of beauty

and convenience; and she hastened to explain the use of the white drapery. If one would see herself in the deceptive mirror as others see her with the eye, or as nearly as possible, let her hasten to a dry goods store and buy a quantity of soft, pure white material gauze, if possible; if not, Swiss or India muslin will answer very well. Be sure and have it pure white, and after polishing the surface of the mirror gather the material at the center of the top and bring it down softly on either side, framing the glass in folds of pure white. When this is done to artistic satisfaction peek in and see what a transformation. The true tints of the complexion, the expression of the countenance and eyes, the correct color of the hair, will be accurately reflected. This is one of the milliners' oldest secrets. Many of them drape the glasses on opening day in the softest drapery of pure white. It is done with the view of giving the fair patronesses the best view of themselves possible, administering in this way a little subtle flattery, thereby disposing more easily of the greater amount of goods.—Buffalo Enquirer.

About Baby's Hair.

In taking care of an infant's hair it is necessary to remember how delicate and sensitive the scalp of a child is, and also that the bones of the skull do not close till nearly the end of the second year. At first a baby's head should be washed every morning with some good soap. If scurf spots appear on it, they should be gently rubbed with a little vaseline or sandal oil before the head is washed, but they should not be touched with a fine tooth comb. It is a mistake not to soap the head well, for if this is not done the scalp is pretty sure to become scurfy; but it is an important matter to rinse the hair properly with clear water and to dry it with a soft towel. The very softest brush that can be obtained is the right one for baby, and no comb should be used. After two years it will be often enough if the child's head be washed once a week. Then a shampoo should be used, made of the yolk of an egg and soap beaten up in warm water to form a good lather. This should be well rubbed into the scalp and rinsed out with plenty of warm water. If the water is hard a little borax may be used to soften it. When children have long hair and are apt to catch cold, it is a good plan sometimes to apply a little eau-de-cologne to the scalp, but this must never be used in the case of infants. Opinions are divided as to whether cutting the hair tends to strengthen it, or whether it does equally well to grow as nature will. In any case it is a good plan to keep the hair fairly short for cleanliness' sake, and also because long hair is so often burdensome to children. It makes them hot and uncomfortable while romping about, and it also is apt to become badly tangled during play and to cause a good deal of trouble, and sometimes also pain when it is combed out afterwards by the nurse, who is not always as gentle as she ought to be.—Home Notes.

Fashion Notes.

Gray is the fashionable color just now.

Exquisite pearl and gold embroideries are again coming to the front.

Sterling silver is as popular as ever for the small articles for writing and toilet tables.

New models in tailor gowns have Persian or gold cloth colors, revers and vestings.

A dressy visiting gown is of cadet blue, with bolero waist, the bolero to be of heavy lace.

Openwork felt will be fashioned into hats, as well also white kid, embroidered in silver.

Put fastenings in the placket in two places to prevent gaping and showing the underclothing.

Changeable silks will be used a great deal this winter for evening wear. The shades most sought after will be the pinks, the new blues and delicate greens.

At the present moment tucks and folds are more fashionable on skirts than flounces (though the latter are also often seen), and the new models show a continuance of this style.

Thus far most of the new skirt models, both for utility and demi-dress uses, are absolutely untrimmed, unless the rows of silk machine stitching about the hem can be called trimming.

Fancy crepons, especially those with velvet appliques, cordings and chenille dottings on changeable grounds, are the prime favorites for winter wear. Better dressers have at last returned to the woolen family as the best fabric for continued service and high effect.

That New Young Man.

The old tradition that a man should cherish his wife, support her as something infinitely delicate and precious, shield her from the world, and regard her not as the pleasant companion of the hunting field and smoking rooms but as the being associated with the deepest and most enduring sentiment of his heart, has of course no significance for the new young man, and it is only just to say that the modern woman has given him every justification for his belief that she can push, trample and fight as successfully as the most insensitive male. The sisters and mother of the new young man, if they happen to belong to the old order of women, are not to be congratulated. They will find themselves one day sighing for the old-time young man, with his chivalrous ideas about women and his stupid, unenlightened conviction of his own inferiority in most things except force, which he delighted to use for their benefit and admiration.—Chicago Times-Herald.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

STRUCK BY A TRAIN.

Two Farmers Attempt to Cross a Railroad Track and Are Instantly Killed—Leave Large Families.

Two farmers, Patrick O'Rourke and Michael Cregan, of Windsor township, Broome county, N. Y., met death suddenly Friday night at Windsor crossing on the Erie railroad six miles from Susquehanna. Returning from Susquehanna, they were on the crossing when the wagon was struck by a train. Both men were hurled into the air and instantly killed. The horses were also killed and the wagon wrecked. O'Rourke leaves a wife and eight children, Cregan a wife and six children.

The following pensions were granted last week: William H. Belgie, Sandy Ridge, \$8; Baptist H. Scott, Shady Plain, \$6; Andrew J. Smith, Pine Ridge, \$8 to \$14; Oliver W. Van Vels, Johnsonburg, \$8 to \$10; George F. Walker, Elkland, \$6 to \$8; Samuel Todd, Youngstown, \$6 to \$8; Margaret O. Pyle, Franklin, \$8; Christina Steinbock, Allegheny, \$8; Mary Graham, Braddock, \$8; Elizabeth Weaver, Khatlve, \$8; Catharine Shaver, Huntington, \$8; Virginia B. McCoy, Pittsburg, \$2; Joseph Randall, Soldiers' Home, Erie, \$6; Alexander Woods, Uniontown, \$6; George W. Burnett, Sharon, \$2; Samuel M. Henderson, New City, \$6; Newton H. Phillips, Carnegie, \$8; George Fry, Soldiers' Home, Erie, \$6 to \$10; Oliver K. Simpson, Florence, \$6 to \$10; William D. Haskill, Margrav, Clearfield, \$10 to \$12; Adam Kunkle, Monaca, Heaver, \$8 to \$10; Samuel S. Motton, Connellsville, \$4 to \$10; Elias H. Little, Saxton, \$6 to \$8; H. W. Ballitzen, \$6 to \$12; Jacob M. Conrad, Silverly, \$5 to \$10; James Simons, Pittsburg, \$8; Louisa M. Eischlager, Clarion, \$8; Elizabeth Kelly, McNeill, Huntington, \$8; Sarah J. Lydick, Tab, \$7; Annie Cooper, Allegheny, \$8; William P. Hufty, Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Erie, \$6; William McKay, Lenfeld, \$8 to \$10; Isaac Howard, Lander, \$6 to \$10; Thomas M. Myers, Erwin, \$8 to \$12; Joseph Martin, Irwin, \$8 to \$12; Samuel Hovsen, Nor-manville, \$6 to \$8; Thompson McElfresh, Millington, \$6 to \$12.

The Butler accommodation train on the Pittsburgh & Western railroad ran into a freight train at Undercliff, Pa., a few days ago. Four trainmen were seriously injured. Their names are: William McChristian, baggage-master; William Shriver, engineer; William French, conductor; S. M. Mitchell, fireman. The two first named are injured internally and may die. Both engines were badly damaged and a number of freight cars were demolished. The accident was due to the heavy fog and a misunderstanding of signals.

Mrs. Lucinda Dorey, the oldest colored woman in Fayette county, and a fortune teller whose predictions were consulted by hundreds of people from all parts of the county, died last week in her 96th year. She had a wonderful command of beautiful and strange language, which she used with effect, oftentimes developing climaxes in her readings which were startling. She had a good memory and a keen insight, as many learned who attempted to fool her.

President Crawford, of Allegheny College, announced recently that Mrs. Mary Newton, of Batavia, Ill., had presented money for an observatory building. The gift is in honor of her husband, Captain D. C. Newton, a former student. The building will be of stone and will cost about \$10,000, and will be known as Newton Observatory. The college has an excellent 7½-inch Clark telescope and other observatory equipment.

Train No. 6, fast mail, went into an open switch at Morgantown a few days ago and crashed into a loaded box car, demolishing both car and engine. Two women were injured, one unknown and the other Miss Isoline Smith of Salisbury, Pa., who had an ankle badly sprained. Negligence on the part of a railway employe in leaving the switch open caused the accident.

W. H. Schank, who owns a stone quarry near the paper mill at New Castle, received injuries the other morning that will more than likely result in his death. He was working in the quarry when the derrick fell, and one of the beams struck him on the head, crushing his skull. Several pieces of bone have been removed and the skull has been trepanned. He is 25 years old and single.

Daniel Stambaugh, the oldest child of Philip Stambaugh, who was accidentally killed near Washington, recently, died Thursday of diphtheria, after a short illness. John Williams, father of Mrs. Stambaugh, who has been ill for some time, is again reported seriously sick, the result of the calamities which have befallen his daughter's family.

Death has claimed another follower of the "faith cure" cult. Mrs. Lizzie Barnes, wife of Emmet Barnes, of Bridgewater, was taken ill with typhoid pneumonia four weeks ago, but would not allow a physician to be called until three days before her death, when it was too late to do any good.

At a meeting of the Beaver Falls Library Association last week, a committee was appointed to make a draft of the charter and submit it to Andrew Carnegie for his approval. A constitution and by-laws were adopted, and it was decided to make the membership of the association unlimited.

George Daily of Altoona, a brakeman on the Pennsylvania railroad, was killed at Huntingdon by being run over by his own train. He attempted to board the train, slipped, and fell under the wheels. An arm was cut off and his head crushed. He leaves a wife and three children.

Word has been received by relatives of Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Lee, who left Vienna, near Sharon about a month ago for India, of the death of their five children by an earthquake at Calcutta. Rev. Mr. Lee and wife are missionaries and their children were attending school when killed.

Charles P. Kerr, a member of Company D, Tenth regiment, accidentally shot himself through the heart at Connellsville. He was 21 years of age, and before the Spanish war broke out was a student in the University of West Virginia.

Alexander Erhart, a coal miner, was jailed at Somerset, Thursday night, charged with the murder of Augustus Glessner at Berlin.

Gov. Stone has appointed John Fulton of Johnstown a member of the state forestry reservation committee.

W. H. Orndorff has been appointed postmaster at Hunters Cove, Greene county, vice S. C. Corwin, resigned.

The New Brighton board of health has resigned, owing to a disagreement with the borough council.

Vaccination killed 8-year-old Frank Swalesky at Spring Garden, Westmoreland county.

Schrader, the "divine healer," was fined \$5 in Hazelton and ordered out of town.

Hogs near Export, Westmoreland county, are dying of hydrophobia.



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