

# GEN. MILES' OPINION

## On The War in South Africa.

### MODERN GUNS NEEDED

#### Hostilities in South Africa Present Many New Military Features.

January 10.—In discussing the vital factors of the South African war, Major General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the United Army says: "In the present war in South Africa the British loss to Dec. 29 has been



GENERAL MILES

6,813 in killed, wounded and prisoners. From the reports this far received, however, it appears that in none of the engagements with the Boers have the British losses in killed and wounded exceeded 8 per cent.

"The two great battles of the age in point of point of loss are Waterloo and Gettysburg and between them there is a remarkable similarity both in numbers engaged and extent of casualties. At Waterloo the French numbered 80,000

men and 252 guns; the allies numbered 72,000 men and 186 guns. "At Gettysburg the union army numbered 82,000 men and 3000 guns; the confederates, 70,000 men and 250 guns. At Waterloo Wellington's army lost 23,185, or 32 per cent; at Gettysburg Meade's army lost 23,003, or 28 per cent.

#### LOSSES IN CIVIL WAR.

"During the great civil war, from 1861 to 1865, there were enlisted in the union army over 2,250,000 men, and there were killed in action 4,142 officers and 62,916 enlisted men [total 67,058]; died of wounds received in action, 2,223 officers and 40,789 enlisted men [total 43,012]; died of disease, 2,705 officers and 921,791 enlisted men [total 294,586].

"In South Africa at the present time the important British lines of communication are: For Lord Methuen's column, from Cape Town to De Aar Junction, upwards of 500 miles; for General Buller's command, Port Elizabeth to Colesberg, 270 miles; for General Gatacre's command, East London to Orange River, 225 miles; and for General Buller's army, Durban to Frere, 130 miles. These columns are still within the British colonies and have not yet reached the territory of the South African republics.

"From Pretoria Durban is more than 400 miles distant; Port Elizabeth and East London more than 600; and Cape Town 900. The territory of the Transvaal is as large as Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania combined, and from Pretoria it extends about 160 miles to the westward, 230 miles to the eastward, 250 to the northward, and eighty miles directly southward.

#### MODERN GUNS ARE ESSENTIAL.

"The use of long-range weapons gives the greatest advantage to the force acting on the defensive, and this advantage can only be overcome by overpowering numbers on the side of the opposing force.

"Modern artillery also is most important and essential. It is terrifying and demoralizing to the enemy, while it gives confidence and encouragement to troops of the army using it. The casualties, as a rule, are not so great in either the field artillery or cavalry as in the infantry arm which is the foundation of all armies of the present day as well as former times. Its movements are slower, but its fire is more destructive.

"The war in South Africa is extremely interesting from the military point of view, because of the test which it puts to the modern methods of transportation and the new weapons to which I have referred. Its result will throw new light upon many military problems. What that result will be depends upon so many possible developments, political as well as military, that prediction would be unsafe."

## THE EDITOR'S MAIL.

### Echoes From West Prince.

SIR,—I look upon your paper as far and away the best advocate of temperance principles of any paper on the Island. It has been a potential force along prohibition lines looked at more especially from a provincial point of view. Recent events in the relation of politics and prohibition to one another has taught us prohibitionists a lesson that I trust we will not be slow to profit by. It is in vain to look to the House of Commons as at present constituted for such a prohibitory law as will satisfy prohibitionists. It is evident that the majority of the Laurier Cabinet are opposed to prohibition, notwithstanding the fact that in connection with prohibition he promised that he would see to it that the will of the people was carried out and it now appears that in the opinion of the majority of the people of Canada he was not sincere and after the mandate of the electors was given in the rolling up of a large majority vote on the 29th of September in all of the Provinces and Territories except Quebec. The Government should at least have given a prohibitory law to those Provinces and Territories that gave such large majorities in favour of prohibition. The plebiscite cost the country upwards of \$250,000 and why in the name of all that is good did the Government go to so much expense if they did not intend that the mandate of the electors should be carried out? It is evident that we have been looking in vain to the Laurier Government for the enactment of any beneficial law for the eradication of the traffic in intoxicating drinks and probably we will not secure prohibition until the voters can be brought to realize that prohibition is a question of greater importance than mere party ties. In fact it is of the greatest importance to the carrying of prohibition that voters to a great extent sink their party differences and unite in sending prohibitionists to Parliament. The present movement on the part of the Temperance Alliance to secure 100,000 voters' pledges is a move in the right direction, leading up to the pledging of the candidates to the effect that if elected they will do all that they can to make a prohibition law in at least those Provinces and Territories that gave large majorities for prohibition in the plebiscite. In conclusion we may assert that prohibitionists in this Dominion did not ask for a plebiscite. A plebiscite had already been taken in many of the provinces which showed clearly the trend of public opinion. We asked for a prohibitory law, we asked for bread and they gave us a stone; and it appears that it is in vain we turn to the Opposition leaders for comfort, for it is evident that both political parties have a

dread of the liquor interest. They would rather please man than God and a very bad class of men at that.

W. T. C.

### Concerning Mixed Marriages.

OTTAWA, Jan. 10.—Archbishop Duhamel has not received a decree from Rome preventing the marriage of Catholics with Protestants during the present year, known as the holy year. It is reported that Archbishop O'Connor, of Toronto, has decided, in view of a recent degree from the Papal authorities, that no mixed marriages can take place within his diocese this year. It is still permissible in Ottawa diocese for Catholics to become united in wedlock with Protestants under certain conditions.

### Smokers Alternative.

"What's good for heartburn," asked Mr. Johnson from his chair by the self feeder where, feet on the rail and pipe in mouth, he was "taking his comfort" to the best of his ability.

"Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets," said Mrs. Johnson.

"Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets are for indigestion, aren't they?" said Mr. Johnson.

"That's what heartburn is caused by," said Mr. Johnson.

"I thought it was caused by smoking too much," said Mrs. Johnson.

"Well, smoking spoils the digestion," said Mrs. Johnson, "and heartburn is one of the results."

"Then there are only two ways for a fellow to get ever heartburn—give up smoking or take Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets."

"Yes," said his wife. "They are the only alternatives I know."

"Well, I can guess which one I'm going to take," said he putting his pipe back into his mouth.

"Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets," said his wife.

"Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets; exactly," repeated Mr. Johnson. "How much are they?"

"Fifty cents a box."

"All the druggist, I suppose?"

"Oh, yes, any store that handles medicines at all carries Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets."

"Take them after meals, don't you?"

"Yes, one after each meal unless you are very bad when two are recommended."

"Well, I must get some. A man's certain got to have his pipe, but it's hard lines to lose his health for it."

"You're picking on a reliable article in Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets," said Mrs. Johnson.

### Special Services This Week.

Tues., Baptist Church; Speaker—Rev. J. J. Teasdale.  
Wed., Zion Church; Speaker—Rev. R. F. Wiston.  
Thur., Central Christian (Kindergarten Hall)—Rev. J. W. McConnell.  
Friday, Methodist Church; Speaker—Rev. D. B. McLeod.  
Meetings to commence promptly at 7.30.

### FOUL BREATH ... FROM CATARRH

#### Tells of the Decay of the Mucous Lining of the Nose and Throat...

No symptom of catarrh causes more annoyance than foul breath. This offensive odor comes from the ulceration of the membranes and is an indication of the decay which is taking place in the linings of the nose and throat. To the victim of catarrh as well as to his associates this foulness of the breath is disgusting.

To counteract bad breath and to eradicate catarrh from the system no treatment is more successful than Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure, the only remedy that can be relied upon to entirely cure chronic catarrh.

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure is sent direct to the diseased parts by the improved blower which accompanies each box, heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, relieves the pressure which causes headache, stops the decay which causes foul breath, and absolutely cures catarrh and prevents consumption. 25c. a box, blower free, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

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## BOERS' SUPPLIES

### No Person Is Allowed to Visit The

### BOER POWDER FACTORY

#### The Ammunition Taken Away During the Dead of Night.

Most of the ammunition used by the Boers is of German or French manufacture. A comparatively very small quantity was made in England, and an equally small proportion was manufactured at the Transvaal Government works, near Pretoria.

A vast amount of secrecy and mystery surrounded the Government powder factory, as it was called, and no one was allowed to visit or even to approach within half a mile of the inclosed buildings without a very extra special permit.

The factory was entirely run by Germans, and, curiously enough, the head thereof was a Mr. Kruger, who was always careful to assert that he was no relation whatsoever to the President. This seems quite likely, as he was a very decent sort of a fellow.

The works were near Dapport, about four miles outside of Pretoria, and in the immediate vicinity of the cement works, where so-called Transvaal Portland cement was very badly made. The powder factory is most jealously guarded from intruders, and even the Italians from the dynamite factory, not many miles away, know nothing of its internal economy. It is thought questionable by many whether any actual manufacture takes place here, or whether, as in the case of dynamite works ("Mantel-schapp voor Ontplofbaar Stoffen" in the "Taal") the important ingredients are just put up in cartridges on the spot, so as to appear to carry out the requirements of the exclusive concession.

The ammunition is taken away at dead of night on mule wagons to one or other of the forts around Pretoria, and a proportion is often sent over to the Johannesburg fort, but not by rail, as the jolting might be dangerous in the case of very carelessly put together explosive. An escort of artillery rides with the wagons and reports the due delivery of the ammunition.

In the case of foreign-imported ammunition—Lee-Metford, Mauser and heavy gun shells—it comes by German, French or Dutch steamers to Delagoa Bay, and is there unshipped, stored for a longer or shorter period in the wretched tin shanties on the wharf, which do duty for bonded warehouses, and then, when all the extraordinary Portuguese formalities are complete, it is forwarded by train, via Komati-Poort, to Pretoria, where it is taken again at the dead of night, from the railway station to one of the forts or to the Government magazine out on the veldt, beyond the racecourse. Now and again, as indeed happened just before the present war broke out, the Portuguese officials at Lorenzo Marquez (Delagoa Bay), for some reason best known to themselves, refuse to pass the ammunition, and then there is an angry and heated exchange of letters in a queer mixture of Portuguese Dutch and English, and, after a long delay, the goods may arrive at their destination, or they may not.

In at least one instance an amusing contretemps occurred. A large lot of ammunition, some 1200 boxes, went astray at the port and could not be found. The port authorities were sure that they had been landed, but the railway officials could not account for them in any way.

At last, after the lapse of many months, it turned out that by some unaccountable error the whole lot had been reshipped to Beira, and had got through to Bulawayo, and was comfortably reposing in the magazines of the Chartered Company of British South Africa. The Boers indignantly claimed their ammunition. Mr Rhodes' officials said: "Very well, come and fetch it; but, as we happen to want some of this particular brand ourselves, you had better let us pay for it and say no more on the

subject." This actually happened, but it was never found out whether the mistake occurred on purpose or by accident. On the whole, it has been found that the French ammunition is more reliable than that made in Germany, and there has also been less palm oil, less bribery and corruption in its purchase, shipment and delivery. In the case of one particular lot of German cartridges it was reckoned that the original cost was quadrupled by the time they reached Pretoria, owing to the number of hands through which they passed, and the number of officials who had to be "insulted" before they were passed. Not only that but when these cartridges were unpacked and distributed among the farmers it was found that they were faulty and dangerous, so that the whole transaction was eminently unsatisfactory from every point of view. These were Mauser cartridges.

The quantity of ammunition stored in the Transvaal is absolutely colossal, and would suffice for a ten years' war, even at the present rate of usage.

Ever notice that about the first thing the doctor does when called to see a patient is to feel the pulse. It's of the utmost importance to know how the heart—the most vital organ of the body—is performing its functions. We would advise people to try their own pulse now and then—see if it is beating strong, steady and regular, or if it is weak, skips beats, or beats irregularly and intermittently. If the pulse beats the least bit out of tune, do not hesitate a moment in procuring Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. Irregularity or weakness of the heart beat is too serious and dangerous to trifle with. Abundant experience has proved that this remedy can cure the severest and most distressing cases. Here is the statement of Mr. Dennis Bolden, Hurontario St., Collingwood, Ont.: "My heart and nervous system have been weak for some two years. It was impossible for me to get restful sleep because of violent palpitation and fluttering of the heart. A short time ago I procured a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. After taking that box I felt so much better that I continued their use, taking in all four boxes. I am now completely cured, have no heart or nerve troubles of any kind and can sleep as peacefully as a child." Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box or 3 boxes for \$1.25, at all druggists or sent by mail by addressing T. MILBURN & Co., Toronto, Ont. Laxative Pills cure constipation, sick headache and dyspepsia

## City of Charlottetown TENDERS

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed, "Tenders for City Weigh Scales" will be received at this office until noon on Wednesday, the 31st inst. from parties willing to contract for the

Lease of the City Weight Scales. For a term of three years, according to specification and schedule of tolls to be seen at the City Clerk's office. The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

By order  
H. M. DAVISON,  
City Clerk.  
City Clerk's Office,  
City Hall,  
January, 12th, 1899. 1331ed.

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