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NEW BOOKS
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THE DAILY EXAMINER
 SEPTEMBER 18, 1899.
 NOTES OF THE TRANSVAAL.

The Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says that when Mr. Conyngham Green, the British diplomatic agent suggested 48 hours as the period within which the South African Republic's reply was expected, the Transvaal representative replied: "If your suggestion is serious, the reply will be ready in forty-eight minutes." This is interesting as showing the tone of feeling among the Boers.

A Montreal gentleman lately returned from South Africa says: "This Transvaal matter has been a trouble from the beginning. The Boers have worked themselves and have been worked up to the idea that they are an independent nation, and simply because the word suzerainty is not printed in alphabetical letters in the convention of 1884, they have had the audacity to imagine that the suzerainty was given up. The mere fact that they are not permitted to make treaties outside without the approval of the Imperial Government should show the utter absurdity of their contention."

It is thought that whatever the nature of President Kruger's reply, it is probable that several more stages of diplomatic processes will be gone through before there is definite war or peace, unless, of course, President Kruger takes the initiative and raids Natal.

A correspondent remarks that concentration of the British forces on the edge of Natal is a wise precaution in anticipation of war, and is also a safeguard for the maintenance of peace. It secures to the English the possession of Rocky tunnel where the Boers could fight to the best advantage, and exposes the Transvaal to invasion in a quarter where their usual tactics would be least successful.

The feeling of the British in South Africa is indicated by a despatch to the Home Government from the British High Commissioner, Sir Alfred Milner, dated August 31, reporting: "I am receiving representations from many quarters to urge the Imperial Government to terminate the suspense. British South Africa is prepared for extreme measures and is ready to suffer much more in order to see the vindication of British authority. It is the prolongation of the negotiations, endless and indecisive, that is dreaded. I fear seriously that there will be a strong reaction of feeling against the policy of the Imperial Government if matters drag. Please understand that I invariably preach confidence and patience, and not without effect. But if I did not inform you of the increasing difficulty of doing this and of the unmistakable growth of uneasiness about the present situation and of the desire to see it terminated at any cost, I should be failing in my duty."

The enormous wealth of the Transvaal mines may be understood from the following figures, showing the dividends paid on the capital invested in 1898:

Mines.	P. C.
City and Suburban.....	15
May Consolidated.....	15
Windsor.....	20
Rietfontein.....	22½
Drievontein.....	25
Glencairn.....	25
Knights.....	30
Rose Deep.....	40
Griesberg.....	40
Roodeport United.....	40
Langlaagte Estate.....	45
Angelo.....	50
Crown Deep.....	50
Primrose.....	55
Village Main Reef.....	60
Meyer and Charlton.....	60
Worcester.....	60
Geldenhuis Deep.....	75

Durban Roadport.....	80
Jumpers.....	80
Bonanza.....	100
Jubilee.....	100
Heriot.....	100
Henry Nourse.....	125
Geldenhuis Estate.....	147½
V.....	150
Crown Reef.....	240
Ferreira.....	300
Johannesburg Pioneer.....	375

The total amount paid in dividends by the gold producing mines was, in 1896, \$7,450,000; in 1897, \$13,500,000; and in 1898, \$24,450,000. The figures are taken from the London Stock Exchange Year Book, and the probability of the destruction of a vast amount of this wealth in the event of war is what England has to count upon.

POLICY FOR THE PHILIPPINES

The United States have to thank a P. E. Island boy for a sane policy of procedure in the Philippines. Dr. Schurman points out that in the Philippines the United States Government has acquired, not a single colony or dependency, but a small empire, inhabited by men of different languages, religions and degrees of civilization. Some are Christians, others are Mahomedans, and others again are heathen and uncivilized. The United States are in honour bound to bring these people under the better influences of American civilization and freedom. President Schurman does not conceal his opinion that this will be a difficult undertaking, and will require delicate handling. The solution of the problem seems to him to lie in the direction of granting to each island the measure of home rule for which it is fitted, under the guiding hand of a government at Manila. This, it is hoped, will reassure the natives, whose experience of Spanish rule has made them suspicious of external interference, and it will also enable the republic to approach the task of governing the islands with something like an appearance of consistency. If a measure of self-government is granted, and a larger one promised, the Americans will be able to fairly claim that their mission is really not one of conquest but of liberation. We congratulate Dr. Schurman on his plan of campaign, and hope that Uncle Sam will be able to see his way clear to carry it out.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Candidates for the Dominion election in West Huron and North Ontario have been selected.

—Every time they talk about the "growing time," the Liberal organs throw a bouquet at the N. P. But they really ought to second the Georgetown friend, who advises the Ministers to "Alter Their Course," in regard to expenditures and other matters.

—"A Reader," of the Patriot says that the Opposition has no policy. In that case they will not be open to the charge preferred against the Liberals who had a policy which they have failed to carry out. The Liberal policy is "to make ends meet," and they have instead added upwards of \$800,000 to the public debt and liabilities of the Province.

—Under British rule, acts of lawlessness, even when committed by white men, are not allowed to go unpunished. In a remote corner of Nyassaland a trader named Liekl has been heavily fined and sent to prison for six months with hard labor for acts of violence and cruelty to the natives. This must impress both the natives and the traders with a wholesome respect for British justice.

Montreal Gazette: Conservative candidates are being selected for the general election to the House of Commons in several provinces, and signs of political activity are becoming evident. When Mr. Tarte returns he will find the enemy's skirmish line out.

Toronto Globe: The wheat crop of the whole United States is calculated at 535,150,000 bushels. The little Province of Manitoba alone produced 50,000,000 bushels.

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