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FRENCH VIEW OF THE SITUATION

Eminent Writer Foretells England's Doom-Her Weakness is Shown by the Transvaal War-History of American Colonies May be Soon Repeated-Great American Britain's Terrible Losses Gain Her but Little Sympathy from the Civilized World.

is an epitome of of England's course of Henri Fonguier, draof the Figaro and head of of of Journalism. In an nding wide at-"Mene, mene, tekel England, and, pointing weakness of the great the British, are in ex-

For a people usuas ultra phlegmatic, they nervous and restless as The news from the Transhad effect on them. It is that in the end the Britthe valiant Boers, inexhaustible financial

proved on the ancient war engines of Crecy their land forces are insignifi-cant. They must acknowledge that they have not more than 20.000 regulars, which is as nothing compared with our European armies. These reflections, which cannot fall to come to the minds of the intelligent in England, must necessarily inspire bad humor, despite the everlasting

tion: that if the submarine vessel

should prove practicable the reign of the cruiser will be at an end. The bat-tle of Crecy reminds us how new arms

can decide the fate of war. With plenty of small cannon, causing more

noise than harm, the English over-powered the best cavalry in France. Though the English have greatly im-

clamoring that they fear nothing and defy the whole world. It is the ex-pression of patriotic anguish. The disrespectful creatures and offensive

ME MAN WHO HAS ASTONISHED THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE.





The bayonet has been used many times in the South African war, although it was said to be an obsciete weapon. In Buller's unsuccessful attempt to drive a wedge into the Boer lines north of the Tugela the stormclose quarters on more than one occasion. The illustration shows Lyttelton's Highlanders attacking a kopje on the Boer's flank.

PERSUASION OF **RECRUITING SERGEANTS**

Who Hand Queen's Shilling To Tommy Atkins - How the Raw Material Is Made Into Good Soldiers-Must First Drill Six Long Months in the "Awkward Squad"-In Times of Peace He Has No Caste, But War Makes Him a Popular Idol.

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ing system is the recruiting sergeant. While he is an institution of every bar-rack station, it is in London that he is rack station, it is in London that he is in his greatest glory. In London he may be seen to the number of twenty or thirty promenading up and down the streets in the neighborhood of Trafal-gar square, says the Cincinnati En-quirer, with a broad red band gracing his manly breast, sporting a little cane, florid of complexion--a living exemplifi-cation of the greatness and glory of the cation of the greatness and glory of the British nation. But this is not his sole occupation. Ostensibly it is his duty to give information to intending recruits as to the requirements and the advantages of the various branches of service. In practice he varies the ad-vantages according to the desirability of the applicant. If the latter is pal-

The backbone of the British enlist- | which is couched in the most pleasing personal terms with Victoria, as if she sat in the next room waiting to affly her own signature. When the recruit passes his medical examination he is turned over to another group of officers whose business is to make sure that he is not a deserter, criminal or runaway from home. At the end he makes a solemn oath to "honestly, faithfully de fend her majesty the Queen Victoria her heirs and successors in person crown and dignity against all enemies as well as observe and obey all order her majesty, her generals and officern set over me. So help me God!" This oath makes him a British soldier. I he tries to withdraw, he is a deserter. Then he receives the "queen's shill-ng." Just why he gets this quarter no ing. body knows. It is a custom, followed

www.www.www.www.www.www. THE FAMOUS DR. W. J. LEYDS.



The above is a particularly fine portrait of the president of the Trans-tal who is booked for Saint Helena if the British ever get hold of him, whisems extremely unlikely at this time. Whether the British win out in and or not President Kruger will live in history as the most remarkable

res, though they may be sadly pointed should military disaster from a general uprising of the nders and the proclamation of dependence of the Cape Colony. ver courageous the British may hey have been badly beaten thus The Transvaal war is not the military walk-over predicted by ends and financial associates of hamberlain, the Crispi of the It will be many moons before and's ambition will be satisfied, ed even then the terrible losses suf-ed will prevent them from boasting their prowess. The truth is ther The truth is that prowess. tiand has not a large enough army reate another Ireland.

The history of the United States and America is on the eve of repeat-issue it is an well aware that Brit-issue it is a state of the s elf love is prodigiously exultant ow; but the English are a practi-They know how to suit them-to circumstances and how to everything, even defeat, to their

ISH WEAKNESS REVEALED. the Transvaal war has at least had first to reveal to Europe the mess of Great Britain. She has he soft clay limbs of the Coloss tase of a war between Great Britain a say one of the great European and John Bull will have to confine meil to naval warfare. Naval war-re is hazardous and problematic. It ive that the British fleet is the most ous and powerful in the world. could not conquer England on the the But neither Linguand on the methods be the all-important fac-in a hostilities on the sea. An un-insert tempest, strandings and other member mishaps, or the well-directed bounts of a score well-directed address of a score of torpedo boats a is done for, as was the case ceniso with the Spanish fleet.

sisteman wrote "The Battle of "While in his description of ana: While in his description the antional drama he foresaw the Europe's mability of a landing of Europe's res is England, he did not dream of a uny of 100,000 Russians forcing the land of Mathematica Statistics of Afghanistan and seizing He did not think of another avading China, of the reorgani-of an army of liberators in Irean of a Franco-Canadian movement that of the Afrikanders, of or three European regiments sent

d England be at war with conare with Carthage without the genia of a Hannibal. Kwerful African, Spanish and Besides, Carthage and alles who could vie with the analysides who could vie with the analysides while the English merce-trainest shold their own for an hour drains the national troops of France, Germany or Bussia tranny or Russia.

DANGER IN INVENTIONS. Let us further consider that the em-

verses in French and German papers aave greatly increased the anger of our stolid neighbors. To them Queen Vic-toria is almost a sacred personage, and and I regret that there are French writers and artists who will sacrifice their talents to such ribald satire. They do not represent the French people.

We caution more discretion in public criticism of England and her rulers. But how have the English acted in the past in this respect? Have they a right to complain, to even menace us on this account? Before the breaking out of the French revolution the most ignoble pamphlets, directed against Marie Antoinette, the Count d'Artols and the Countess de Polignac, were scattered broadcast. I have some of them in my library. Their perusal would suffuse the cheeks of the modern correspondents with shame. Later the most frightful libels against Napoleon and the French were edited and propagated in London. Even during the reign of their useful ally, Napoleon III,

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BLACK MEN WHO WANT TO FIGHT THE BOERS.



Photograph of a village headman of the Zulu tribe. There are 750,000 of these warriors in Natal. They are said to be among the fin-est specimens of manhood in the world and fearless fighters. Their hatred of the Boers is intense. One big chief has of-ferred to put 20,000° men in the field against the burghers and it has been all that the British could do to restrain them from going on the war path without the sanction of the imperial authorities. The Boers have earned the hatred of the Zulus by their alleged brutal treatment of servants of this race and h numberless feuds which resulted in terrible punishment for the black men.

they refused to pursue, to deliver or to expel the notorious accomplices of the men who attempted to assassinate the emperor. ANTI-BRITISH SENTIMENT.

It was no better after the Commune. Even in 1879 the anti-French caricaturists in the English papers knew no bounds. If the English now assert that three-fourth of the French people sympathize with the Boers, they are not deceived. They might add that the entire civilized world sympathizes with the Boers, though international politics may render the expression of that sympathy less open in this or that country

Should this surprise the English, or have they a right to complain? Rich and powerful, the British empire has attacked a modest, thrifty and brave people, which asks for little more than left in peace in the Transvaal, and which seeks quarrel with nobody. It has presumed to interfere with the internal politics of a free country. It would not permit a nation to defend itself against those who menace its na-tional existence. It wanted to force an indeependent republic to thoroughly change its laws which are less drastic than those which were imposed upon Ireland. What has happened? The people

attacked in this unjust manner are defending themselves with the energy of men who know that they are in the right. England has been forced to hurl a power against the Boers which is new in international politics-a moral It ill becomes the English to power. power. If it becomes the English to preach morality in politics. They in-voked this international influence against Napoleon, who wanted to be master on the continent. Now we in-voke against them this same moral. when they seek to be master of the seas. With the words of the good gospel forever on their lips they went out to conquer the savages, ruining the French and Spanish free colonies. Let them turn to the Gospel, where they will find the words of Jesus: "All who live by the sword shall perish by the

To me the anti-British sentiment all To me the anti-British sentiment all over the civilized world is more than an incident. It is a historical phenom-enon, and a hopeful sign. Like the "Mene, mene, tekel upharsin" on the wall of Babylon, I discern on the hori-zon of the future the promise that force will eventually cease to suppress the right, and will serve the weak and

LYDDITE SHELLS.

Despite Stories to the Contrary, Do Not Expel Poisonous Gases.

It is very frequently stated that the lyddite shells contain a certain compressed poisonous gas, which, when ex-ploding means death to any living crea-ture within a radius of 100 yards (some even say 400). This is an additional lifedevouring agent to the ordinary des-tructive powers of the shell. This state-ment is no doubt an exaggration, as the use of such shells would be in viola-tion of the rules of civilized warfars. The composition of lyddite is held se-cret, and it is therefore impossible to give any details regarding it. Competent authorities, however, have no doubt that it is only a modification of mellnite, the authorized explosive used in the French and German armies This much is known, that lyddite stands between that explosive and stands between that explosive and thorite, a newly invented compound, of which the secret has been purchased by the United States government. They are all compounds of picric acid or trinitro-phenol, a pale, yellow, crystaline powder, with an intensely bitter taste, and possessing marked toxic qualities. Picric acid is an old com-pound, having been discovered in 1783 by the German chemist Hausman, who obtained it by acting on indigo with dilute nitric acid. At present it is largely manufactured by treating car-bolic acid with strong nitric acid. Since bolic acid with strong nitric acid. Since the early fifties chemists have been ex-perimenting with this substance, in the Collier's Weekly. the early fifties chemists have been ex-

hope of producing an ideal explosive Boilinette's famous powder, compound-ed of the ammonium salt and potassic chromate, was made in 1869, but found to be too sensitive. Fontain's mixture 1869, caused a lamentable explosion which led to its being discarded as a military explosive. Designolle was more successful, producing a mixture which was favorably received, and is still in use in the French army, though largely supplanted by melinite. This last famous explosive was invented by M. Eugene Turpin, and consists of a mixture of fused picric acid and nitrocellulose dissolved in ether and alcohol. M. Turpin has produced many patent M. Turpin has produced many patent modifications of this mixture, of which lyddite is one. The alleged fabulous properties of the English explosive are probably only imaginary. When me-linite was first put forward, equally astonishing powers were claimed for it by General Boulanger, but these have not been justified. Lyddite has been effectually tried in warfare, and authorities declare it to be liftle different from melinite, with which the Boers are well supplied. By the decomposition of the pieric compounds by ex-plosion carbonic acld gas, not per se a poisonous gas, is evolved. In a small and inclosed space this gas will proba-bly suffocate animals, but it is difficult to see how it can have any death-deal-ing properties in the open veldt. Owing to the terrific explosive force of the compound the shells will have a wide range, certainly a radius of 100 yards further particulars about these high explosives there is no better work which one can refer than Lieutenant Walker's "Lectures on Explosives," official text-book on the subject in the United States military academies.



I can see that battle all over again the British skirting the nearer empty hills, with only whispers among the men, all halting and dropping on their knees at every few paces-a stealthy force creeping on its prey. I see the first purple flush of daybreak in the east. It reveals our men spread out in lines two miles long, line behind line each man five paces from his nearest comrade. As they stalk forward, rifles ready, stock held with one hand and barrel with the other, they look like sportsmen flushing birds. Suddenly a line of flame bursts out on the crest of the largest hill. We are discovered, and the Boers are attacking us. We rush them, and with bullet and bayonet slay all who withstand the shock-but these are few; the majority have followed Boer tactics and are running down the further sides of their strongholds to mount their horses and enter their light carts and fice. Having done us what harm they can, they avoid what we might do to them and "live to fight another day." Had we possessed more cavalry and had our horses been native like those of the enemy, their favorite tactics would not have succeeded.

I went over the whole battleground later in the day and saw how the enemy fought us-saw that each man knelt in his own little fort of boulders built breast-high along the edge of each hill summit, and that behind these, higher above them, were inner bastians of rocks with which these men had walled themselves around. They had been awaiting us for weeks, and, apparently, They had been the men of humbler station had been obliged to live in their rocky nests. Teapots, unleavened bread, jerked beef, and tins of prepared food were lying about, together with the sacks in which these things had been brought, and the overcoats with which they kept off the chill of the nights when they slept. The dead whom I saw in these tiny fortress-es were nearly all of this farmhand and laborer class; left there by the farmers, traders and men of better station, who rode away on their horses and in their wagons when disaster was foreseen These gentlemen-Boers come to battle on a poor horse which they are willing to tose, and send al 1 d, or lead with

The British claim that before Dr. Leyds' advent in the Transvaal everything was lovely. The Boers were satisfied and the outlanders had no cause for complaint. It was Dr. Leyds, say the British, who sowed the seeds of discontend, pursuaded President Kruger to buy artillery and send for German experts to teach the burghers the art of war, and in due time to launch the lightning bolt. Dr. Leyds may be getting credit for deeds that he did not perform in this accusation of the British, but he certainly is succeeding in stirring up the mud in Europe just now. When one door is closed against him he tries another and keeps the contineni in a continual ferment by his efforts to get some nation to break the laws of international courtesy during a war in which they are supposed to be neutrals.

pably unfit the sergeant paints a pic- | from time immemorial, probably originture of life in the service that would make the veins of the most bloodthirsty Briton that ever shirked honest toil run cold, "It's fightin' all day and marchin' all night, with nothing over-head but the burnin' sun and under foot the scorchin' sand, and nagurs popping at ye from behint bushes that ye cannot see, etc.," until the would-be Tommy Atkins slinks hurriedly away. TEMPTATIONS TO JOIN.

The English youth who enlists in the army usually passes through certain well defined states of mind in relation to the subject. He sees a regiment go marching past to the stirring music of the band and the cheers of people. He sees Tommy Atkins walking complacently with the nurse-maid on whom he himself lavishes smiles in vain. Or he is out of a job and hungry. "It's a fine life for a lad with spirits," says the sergeant who has spotted his man. The outh is surprised that the great hero has read his thoughts so easily. H becomes confident. The sergeant is en-couraging, sweeps away his doubts. presently he lugs him off to the station. just to see for himself. Once inside the machine carries him on resistlessly. He He is weighed and measured and examined very thoroughly. If he is an inch or so below the required chest measure-ment, it is not considered an obstacle, as he is expected to make it up presated at a time when one could get a good deal more liquor for the amount than possible at present. Afterward he is hustled off to the station, where he is exercised in gymnastics, learns a little how to hold himself, how to use his muscles, to move his hands and feet with ease. After seven weeks' training he is consigned to the "awkward squad." Here he spends six months in incessant drilling. At the end of six months he is drafted to Aldershot, where he learns how to use his gun. It appears that the instruction in this particular is not up to the standard of Pretoria Arsenal. Six months' rifle practice here completes h s education as Tommy Atkins. Not until he has left Aldershot is a Briton considered a full fledged soldier, worthy to rank as such and with the privilege of being shot in battle.

Except in times of war the great B. P. (British public) look down upon Tommy Atkins. Quite two-thirds of London saloons do not serve soldiers. Some people do not consider being excluded from these popular resorts a curse, but it is mighty inconvenient to persons gifted with the prodigious thirst of Tommy Atkins, Of course, when the empire is in danger every-thing is changed. The Parlah of yes-terday becomes the hero of today. The sober citizen, who would at other times scorn to be seen within five yards of a as he is expected to make it ap provide soldier, cheers himself noarse, and ently. Then he answers a very lengthy list of questions as to his birthplace, share speculators carry him on their list of questions as to his birthplace, share speculators carry him on their the signs a contract shoulders

RESIDNECE SECTION OF BELEAGURED LADYSMITH.



