DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900.



Of have I heard borne on the breeze Faint echoes of sweet melodies, Sounding as if from distant times. From harps attuned in other climes, And strange to tell the place might be Where war once held wild revelry,

And where the furious cannonade Aroused the echoes in the glade, Where earth yawned wide at touch of shell, Where heroes fought and heroes fell, No trace remains this verdant May, But grassy mounds to tell of fray.

THE SOLDIER'S **RESTING PLACE.** A Memorial Day Poem

BY NEIL MACDONALD.

And where the weeping willows wave Their drooping branches o'er the grave Of one who fell in war's array, The soft winds sigh this summer's day As if the calm of peace had been For aye supreme mid such a scene.

And where the river to the sea Ran crimsoned past a verdant lea, Where riven trees and scarred hillsides Once told of war, now naught abides. Where death held court in battle's hours. But summer calm and bloom and flowers,

Q! may we with kind Nature vie And let old feuds and rancor die: Recall the strife-our heroes slain, Though not a trace of hate remain, And on this bright Memorial Day Strew woodland flowers for Blue and Gray,

Will Pretoria Be the Boers' "Last Ditch?"

Pretoria-Delagoa Bay road is keenly

the Boers from the very first, having their summits leveled and topped with of defense and tried to keep the English rounds of In view of the consistent attitude of equal to every emergency, neither ex- have been constructed everywhere, un- spies access to our antiquated guns, ating their opponents, exhibiting the frowning cannon. highest strategy and showing them-selves possessed of a remarkable re-been for 15 years engaged in making reports * * * and their cry 'On to Pre-triumph, long delayed, at length

213 miles, and to Pretoria 290 miles. most of which they succeeded Between the Vaal and Pretoria, and bringing off in their retreat. only 37 miles southwardly from the these, they say, are as nothing Boer capital, lies the real bone of con- compared with those they have in tention-the gold mines of the Rand, position on the hills around Prewhich have an output more than equal- toria. And as to ammunition and ing that of all other gold mines in the provisions-these also for years have world combined.

It is only 16 years since gold was stored away for the weeks, months-if found in South Africa, and 15 since the need be years-when Pretoria shall be first stamp mill was erected at Johan- isolated from the outside world. The nesburg, and yet from the comparative- great sleges of our century, particuly small area so far exploited gold to larly those of Plevna and of Paris, the amount of nearly \$400,000,000 has have shown what man can subsist upon been already taken out.

who have more than intimated | to attacking masses. that in event of the arrival of the British army all will be destroyed. The output of the Johannesburg mines can be

made to rise \$2,000,000 annually, and, if the Boers are unmolested, they can derive a revenue that will enable them to continue their defense for many years to come-in fact, so long as their courage holds out. But it has been asserted, and as often denied, that the mines are already charged with dynamite, and in case the British enter and take pos session they will ascend skyward in the grandest blaze of pyrotechnics ever conceived by man.

Speculation is rife as to the probability of the Boers doing this, for they could gain nothing by it but revenge and the satisfaction of saddling upon the foreign stockholders losses that would be almost inconcelvable. But Kruger and his burghers have already shown that patriotism is above everything in their estimation and freedom more to them than gold or gems.

Thirty-seven miles beyond Johannesburg, more than 1,000 miles from Cape Town, 511 miles from the British port of Durban and 349 miles from the Portuguese harbor of Delagoa Bay, lies the great objective of all Lord Roberts' efforts--Pretoria, capital city of the Transvaal, and the probable last important stand of the Boers. It has a population in time of peace of about 15,000, its streets are good, and it is lighted by electricity and traversed by surface cars. The most imposing building is the house of parliament, which cost \$1,000,000. On the opposite side of the central square on which it stands are the law courts, likewise grand and of modern design. There are also a pub lic library, a market building erected at a cost of \$150,000, a museum containing a fine collection of African curios and churches of various denominations. From natural springs three miles distant the city gets a never failing supply of pure water, and there is a good sewrage system.

While the approach to Pretoria from limit of engineering ingenuity. avoided so far as possible acting on the domes of masonry. Rifle pits, bomb- in the dark as to our real preparations. offensive, but when pressed always proofs, intricate lines of fortifications To this purpose we gave their disguised heaven, round and bright and full

serve strength-in view of these facts Pretoria as nearly impregnable as pos- toria!' is on a level of intelligence with to dawn; a pale and sickly in

ECLIPSEOFTHESUN How the First Prediction of the Darkbeen quietly accumulating and are

at a pinch, and Sevastopol has furnisheen already taken out. These mines belong to the uitlanders, ed an example of what intrenched sol- a Babylonian who had given to the though at present in the clutches of the diers can do in the way of resistance

government who recently visited Pre- his achievement had come to be



following account of the first prediof an eclipse thousands of years agject a lifetime of study. The monu reared to his memory was unfortu-A late employee of the United States is so defaced before the important



The illustration shows the skeleton framework of the monster can which will be used to snap shot the eclipse of the sun as the area of to passes over Pinehurst, N. C. The framework, which is more than to high, was built at the Washington naval observatory

toria says: "I viewed the defenses and erally understood that his name a consider them impregnable. I do not lost to posterity. The following is believe English troops will ever pass account taken from "The Orbs of He the line of hills surrounding the town, en," a collection in book form of a se bristling as they are with high power Krupp and Creusot guns."

All who have had a glimpse of the Pretoria fortifications are agreed that the Boers are fully equipped for a se-Johannesburg and the south is compar- vere and protracted struggle and will atively level, over a vast and treeless be able to hold the British off for an inplateau, yet on the north, east and west definite period. So long ago as last Ocare rugged mountains, rising from 1,000 tober General Joubert declared: "Ever to 2,000 feet above the city, the general since the Jameson raid of 1896 our govlevel of which is 4,500 feet above the ernment was convinced that England ing hum rises on the still air and w sea. The contiguous hills and adjacent would be urged to war with us, and we mountains have been fortified to the were equally sure that we should have astronomer. The thousands below h The to depend upon our own resources. 'sides of the hills have been scarped, Knowing this, we improved our means aggerating their victories nor depreci- til there is not a kopje without its but were careful to conceal from them top all our modern parks of artillery. * * *

of lectures delivered by General by MacKnight Mitchel, the fa warrlor-astronomet

"This daring man, stern in his fait climbs alone to his rocky home greets the sun as he rises and m the heavens, scattering brightness glory in his path. Beneath him is a out the populous city, already ter with life and activity. The busy p unconscious his intense as buoyant with life, joyously pursue business, theirs eve begins to waver sternness of his faith as the mi

HE latest utterances of two base when it was stopped by an oppos- Has Great Britain, even no prominent men, one on either ing force of Boers, then allowed to go quate comprehension of the terrible

that the spirit of neither is crushed, there at the Boers' pleasure. and that the war will be pursued to the bitter end. Says President Steyn of the fighting.'

Safe within the guarded confines of at Stormberg, and for a long time it the "tight little island," thousands of was feared that his whole force would and the din of conflict, England's pro- Buller, all the world knows what hapmier, Lord Salisbury, oracularly deliv- pened to him; in brief, it was what ers himself as follows: "Under the bril- happened to all the others-he was outliant guidance of Lord Roberts 200,000 generaled, brought to a hait and only soldiers-a larger army than has ever allowed to fight whenever the Boers had before been sent across the same ex- him at a disadvantage and could panse of sea-are now engaged in re- slaughter his men without overexposducing to obediency to the queen those ing themselves. During the first two months of the territories which never ought to have war the Boers had a round half dozen been released and in restoring to South Africa the only chance it has of peace, of the British generals "bottled up." and there they were kept until the ardevelopment and tranquillity."

There is little doubt that these two rival of overwhelming re-enforcements voice the sentiments of either side, under Lords Roberts and Kitchener. With the coming of "Little Bobs" There is as yet no holding out of the ollve branch, and if any one thing could things took on a more roseate hue. By more enrage the sturdy Boers than an- the skillful use of the enormous forces other it is to be informed that they are at his command he flanked that reto be "reduced to obediency to the doubtable old lion Cronje out of his queen," which is only another way of lair and eventually caused his surrensaying that they will be expected to der, with several thousand of his men. contribute toward supporting the royal Another great loss to the Boers about family of Great Britain. It was just this time was the death by disease of because these Boers would not consent General Joubert and the capture of sevto become the slavish and servile adu- eral foreign auxiliaries who were servlators of royal puppets and refused ing in the federal army. All the be-"obediency" to a foreign sovereign that leaguered points were relieved but they "trekked" out from the Cape, and Mafeking, one after another, the Boers then again far beyond the veldt and sullenly retreating toward their great into the mountains, where their capital central base in the direction of Pretoria. This withdrawal, however, can hardly is now situated.

But it is one thing for Lord Salisbury be called a retreat, since it had been to declare what his intentions are and anticipated in the Boer scheme of opquite another to force the Boers to erations and was expected by them in terms. It is now seven months since case the British came upon them in war was declared and Generals Gatacre overwhelming numbers. But they conand Buller landed in Africa, with their tinued to harass the British lines of baggage marked "Pretoria, via the communication by sudden dashes at ex-Cape," seven long months since the posed points and by gathering in small warcry was raised-"On to Pretoria"- detached bodies of infantry or cavalry, and whenever the van of the English and what has been accomplished?

At the very outset the British were columns came up with the rear guard taken by surprise, and the bodies of of their enemies they discovered that troops they had at different points ready the snarling boar had teeth, which it for invasion of the Transvaal instead of used to good advantage upon the too being allowed to march forth to ravage | sanguine foe. and conquer found themselves, much to After the inevitable capture of the their disgust, surrounded by over- Free State capital, Bloemfontein, Robwhelming forces of the enemy. Then erts halted awhile to rest and recuperensued that long period of humiliation ate-to perfect his line of communicato which the British were forced, when thon with the Cape, nearly 700 miles in one after another their ablest generals length; to replenish his exhausted walked meekly into the little traps the stores, and to fill the gaps in the caval-Hoers had prepared and were brought ry ranks. to a standstill.

The first engagement of the war was were all of two to one against the Brits at Mafeking Oct. 15, 1899, when the British were driven behind their in-gregating over 4,000, have become a setrenchments. General Yule was forced vere tax upon the hospitality of the to seek refuge in Ladysmith, his men Boers, notwithstanding the almost naked and demoralized, and amounts of provisions of all kinds they there his superior, General White, after have been accumulating for years. relief of Ladysmith. The first, under has come to the conclusion that he is sity is felt for a more direct line of tance from Bioemfontein to the Zand Much has been written of the great

PERTINENT PERSONALITIES.

side of the Boer-British contro- on until, at Modder River, it lost more task before her brave fellows, and does versy, would seem to indicate than 600 men, and was obliged to stay she realize that what has already been

Up to this point the respective losses

vast

done, vast as it may appear, is in a General Buller had intended to assail sense merely preparatory to what is to the Free State, but he was alarmed at come? "Bobs" has marched his army the Free State, but he was alarmed at | come? Orange Free State: "We will fight at the reports from Ladysmith and gave hundreds of miles from his real base the Vaal river, at Pretoria and after- the command of the army of invasion of supplies. With the retreat of the ward in the mountains. We have noth- over to Gatacre, himself going to the Boers from the Drakenberg mountain ing to gain from peace-everything by relief of General White. But General passes, the release of General Buller Gatacre walked right into a Boer trap miles distant from the roar of battle either be captured or destroyed. As for Ladysmith, at Durban on the coast and

the world awaits anxiously the next sible, and the result is not all evident the Parisian cry of 1870, 'A Berlin!' A over the face of nature. The su move in their elaborate scheme of debeen kept secret. More than \$10,000,000 greater advantages than an offensive dor is dimmed, his light is feele Opposed to Lord Roberts are the best has admittedly been expended, and war, for we are perfectly at home in last it comes! Blackness is eating w fense.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF PRETORIA, SHOWING DEFENSES.

several disastrous cogagements with Great Britain new has 200,000 men in thus reduce the distance by 200 or 300 Boer commanders-Generals Botha and when the fire of the big cannon mountslege that has passed into history. Meanwhile three large expeditions had with dismay. At last, but Johannesburg or Elandsfontein will se-

Meanwhile three large expeditions had were sent forward, one to relieve Kimberley, another to in-by repeated thrashings, she has taken one to relieve Kimberley, another to in-vade the Free State and another for the the real measure of her antagonist and It is at this juncture that the neces-interval in the real measure of her antagonist and it is at this juncture that the neces-

nunication with the coast, and the river, reached on May 10, is 90 miles; to be Vaal river on the bills of the Boers had mounted their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace their elaborate fortifications and fiee to is very seldom back at the palace the back at t General Lord Methuen, had not pul-wanced more than two days from its but the kernel of the matter is this: inability of the British to control the Kroonstad 127 miles, to the Vaal river on the hills about Ladysmith, and the hills.

highness might yet visit the Paris ex-hibition. Italian papers, commenting on the outrage, say that it proves how theroughly Belgium has become infect. hibition. Italian papers, commenting on the outrage, say that it proves how thoroughly Belgium has become infect. Alter General Grindi A. Steaman, Jr., St. tion were making its innucles tert in Ship's crew of the Illinois naval milli-Henry Labouchere is described as ing the war of the rebellion. The statue the battie of Fredericksburg, Va., dues of his sons to attend a course of lec-tion of Great Britain, having won that

his round disk; onward with slow h steady pace the dark yell m blacker than a thousand nights th gloom deepens, the ghastly hus of de covers the universe, the last ray is got and horror begins! A wail of terror the murky air, the clangor of ba trumpets resounds, an agony of design dashes the stricken millions to ground, while that lone man, erect his rocky summit, with arms outst ed to heaven, pours forth the grate gushings of his heart to God, who h crowned his efforts with triumph victory. Search the records of our m and point me, if you can to a se more grand, more beautiful. It is to m the proudest victory that genius en won. It was the conquering of natu of ignorance, of superstition, of te all at one blow, and that blow struck by a single arm. And now you demand the name of this wood ful man? Alas, what a lesson of t instability of earthly fame ate taught by this simple recital! He had raised himself immeasurably abo his race, who must have been rep by his fellows as little less than a go who had inseribed his fame on the v heavens and had written it in the with a 'pen of iron and the point of diamond,' even this one has period from the earth. Name, age, could all are swept into oblivion; but proud achievement stands. The mil ament reared to his honor stands a although the touch of time has effant the lettering of his name, it is pown less and cannot destroy the fruits of victory."

BRITAIN'S BIT OF ROCK.

They have an interesting ceremon Gibraltar. The town and fortress is the end of a peninsula about a miles a half long, the mainland being Sp ish territory. The gate leading to Sp is every evening locked at sunset every morning unlocked at sum Each day a company from one of regiments performs one of these fur tions. In the morning the comp fully officered, with colors flying a accompanied by a band, marches tot commandant's house. The common comes to attention, and the common dant hands out the keys on a " cushion. These are received by the s tain's orderly, the band strikes up. the procession marches to the s which is unlocked with great cerem In the evening the same cerem the reverse order is gone through suspicious characters are put out d town before the gates are locked in

MILAN'S LAZY LIFE.

evening.

The laziest of all the royalties ex-King Milan of Servia, afoot before 12 o'clock. When he he sits down half dressed to I Meanwhile there sits that sphinxlike he sits down half dressed to heavy meats and i solid repart of heavy meats and a solid repart of heavy me heart of his web at Pretoria and spin- dings and wines. After lunches smokes a couple of clears-bf "last ditch" of the Boers or whether, as o'clock he is up again, and gene an ultimate resort, they will blow up goes out in search of amusement

smoker of poor cigarettes. He is fond is to be mounted on a granite pedestal nessee, and it is said that a large num- honor by his achievements in original coin farm near Evansville, Ind. with light waves. He is a graduate of erected there, and the 16 acre farm Governor Wells of Utah is an a

The attempt on the life of the Prince jed with the Anglophobia raging in daughter. of Wales had the effect of immediately France and the dangers that will await Frederick Moynihan, the sculptor, has departure for the seat of war.

of home life and devoted to his wife and is to be mounted on a granite pedestal nessee, and it is said that a large num-daughter. Is soldier frequently drilled prior to his follow them

University of Chicago, who has been Annapolis and served in the navy for be converted into a public park be converted into a p

cious indeed who will venture to refute

the great strategist's conclusions.

