Of Interest to Lady Readers

THE BELLS OF NOTRE DAME.

(Eugene Field in Chicago News.)

What though the radiant thoroughfare
Teems with noisy throng?
What though men handy everywhere
The ribald jest and song?
Over the din of oaths and cries
Broodeth a wondrous calm,
And 'mid the solemn stillness rise
The bells of Notre Dame.

"Heed not, dear Lord," they seem to say,
"Thy weak and erring child;
And thou, Oh, gentle mother, pray
That God be reconciled;
And on mankind, Christ, our King,
Pour out thy precious balm"—
'Tis thus they plead and thus they sing,
Those bells of Notre Dame.

And so, methinks, God, bending down
To ken the things of earth,
Heeds not the mockery of the town
Or cries of ribald mirth;
For ever soundeth in His ears
A penitential psalm—
'Tis thy angelic voice He hears,
Oh, bells of Notre Dame!

Plead on, Oh, bells, that thy sweet voice
May still forever be
An intercession to rejoice
Benign divinity;
And that thy tuneful grace may fall,
Like dew, a quickening balm
Upon the arid hearts of all—
Oh, bells of Notre Dame!

UPON THE THRESHOLD.

Once more we stand with half reluctant feet
Upon the threshold of another year;
That line where Past and Present seem to meet
In stronger contrast than they do elsewhere.

Look back a moment. Does the prospect please,
Or does the weary heart but sigh regret?
Can Recollection smile, or, ill at ease
With what is past, wish only to forget?

Say, canst thou smile when Memory's lingering gaze
Once more recalls the dying year to sight?
Wouldst thou live o'er again those changing days,
Or bid them fade forever into night?

A solemn question, and the faltering heart
Scarce dare say, "Yes," yet will not quite say, "No;"
For Joy and Sadness both hath played their part
In making up the tale of "long ago."

Here Memory sees the golden sunlight gleam
Across the path of life, and shine awhile;
And now the picture changes like a dream,
And sorrow dims the eyes and kills the smile.

So—it has gone—where all has gone before;
The moaning wind has sung the dead year's dirge;
Time's waves roll on against the crumbling shore,
And sinks the worn-out bark beneath the surf.

Here ends the checkered page of prose and verse
Of simply words and lines writ all awry.
There they must stand for better or for worse;
So shut the book and lid the year good-bye!

HOW TO BE CHARMING.

Don't think—good sister—that to be charming you must be beautiful. Some of the most charming women of the world have been far from beautiful.

What, then, were their charms?

Those renowned women were first sympathetic. The iceberg can never charm. Not only to the rich and young, but to the poor and old, their sympathy extended.

They were good listeners, and this undoubtedly was a strong point, as many women are only too ready to talk, but few care to listen. The charming woman is a good conversationalist always—but she knows when to be silent. She changes her words and conversation to suit the people in whose company she happens to be, and her heart ever goes out to those in trouble. She is merry with the gay, and ready to do a fellow creature a good turn without thought of reward. But, above all—she is natural. She eschews gushing—which is ever the sign of insincerity.

The modern woman—if she is sensible—and she wouldn't be modern if she cares not, for good sense is the feature of these days—does not scorn the obvious advantage of pretty clothes, but always dresses as well as her income allows. She endeavors to appear her best, whether in public or in the privacy of her own home.

HOME POISONING.

It is very desirable that the conditions under which food may become poisonous should receive more practical consideration than they do. A well known physician has called attention to some glaring defects in the location of food store rooms, which are worthy of attention. In house construction the position of a pantry is too often treated as of minor importance. In some houses the space under the stairs or some equally unsuitable and inadequately lighted and ventilated place is thought good enough for the purpose. In a great number the pantry is a small offshoot from the house, the ceiling, floor and walls often being damp, owing to faulty construction; in some of these matters are rendered worse by the water taps being placed therein without any provision being made for carrying away the droppings from the tap or overflow, from vessels into which the water is run. One of the most frequent entries in his inspection book is "defective yard pavement," permitting of soakage of filth into the soil underneath. Not only is the soil thus rendered a good breeding ground for pathogenic microbes; it also supplies those conditions requisite for increased virulence.

TALL OR SHORT.

It is an undeniable fact that the majority of men prefer short women to tall ones. Perhaps this is because they like to be looked up to—at all events, by the fair sex—and it is only natural for them to prefer the girl who, in her little caressings and fascinating lover-like ways, has, on account of her shortness, to look up at him for the purpose of peering into his love-lit eyes. Tall women are usually dignified, and appear to scorn kittenish ways, and although they manage to draw admiration, it is rather of the awe-inspiring kind. No doubt, owing to the smallness of stature and pretty, playful ways, men give to little women more petting than the tall, dignified woman demands. The lover's oft-repeated expression: "You little darling," could hardly be applied to the very tall girl without tickling the risibilities of those who overheard it. This is certainly very hard, and looks like a punishment for being tall, but who can help her stature?

But the tall woman has her charms; she is generally more stylish in her appearance than her short sister, and can wear to advantage "almost everything" except striped dress goods. She is dignified and of elegant carriage.

THOSE LONG ROOMS.

Long, narrow rooms are more difficult to furnish artistically than are rooms of better proportions. If furnishing such rooms the endeavor must constantly be made not to interfere with the little width they already have, but to cut off the length in effect. Where two long rooms open into each other, screens and portieres may be effectively employed to give them a shorter, and, therefore, a broader appearance. A sofa stood across a corner or a table so placed, especially with a screen behind it, helps to break up the length of an apartment.

Another way to break up length is to form a group of objects, such as a table with books on it and a jardiniere with a couple of chairs close to it, as if inviting guests to sit there; this group should stand three-quarters of the length of the room from its front or rear, and a little to one side, to break the length of the wall line. Another way to make a room look less long and narrow is to place a large rug over the carpet floor, and a lesser rug of another color effect just beyond it, placing a table on the smaller one.

DESERTS.

English Plum Pudding.—One pound finely chopped suit, one pint of sugar, one pound of stale grated bread, one pound of raisins, two of currants, one glass of brandy, two teaspoonfuls of ginger, two nutmegs, half a pint of milk, a little salt. Beat well and steam in tin pudding steamer five hours. Serve with rich sauce—which may be made by beating to a cream half a cup of butter and very gradually beat in one cup of sugar, one spoonful of cornstarch, one wineglass of wine and the white of one egg. When this is a perfect froth stir in one-third of a cup of water. Set this in warm water for two minutes, stirring all the while, and then serve.

Mince Pies.—Boil a shank of beef six hours; take up and set away to cool, saving the liquor for soup. When cold free from bones and cut off all the fat and gristle, then chop fine. To one quart of chopped meat add three of chopped apples, one pint of chopped suet, one quart of chopped stoned raisins, one quart of sugar, one of molasses, half a cup of cinnamon, one-quarter of a cup of cloves, one-quarter of a cup of allspice, the same of ground mace, six grated nutmegs, half a cup of salt. Mix all thoroughly with the hands, then turn on the mixture two quarts of good cider and let all stand over night. In the morning scald in a porcelain kettle one hour. When scalded stir in one pint of wine and of brandy. Put in stone pots and keep in cool, dry place and it will remain good for three months. Prepare the paste and plates as for apple pies and put in the meat; grate a little nutmeg and strew a few whole raisins in. Cover and bake one hour in a moderate oven. The sweetness of the meat must be determined by individual taste—adding more sugar if desired.

Pumpkin Pies.—Pare and cut the pumpkin into small pieces. Wash and put into the kettle with one quart of water; boil six hours, stirring to prevent burning, then run through a sieve; add one quart of the pumpkin, stir in two cups of sugar, two spoonfuls of salt, one of cinnamon, one of ginger, one grated nutmeg and five well beaten eggs. Line deep plates with plain paste, fill with the mixtures and bake one hour in a moderate oven. It is better to boil a stick of cinnamon in the milk rather than to use the ground. To make your pies perfectly delicious add a little Medford rum and less ginger.

Ham and Oyster Patties.—Scald as many oysters as you require, allowing two for each patty. Chop some ham fine (the lean part) and mix with the oysters. Now put two tablespoonfuls of flour in a saucepan; when melted put in two tablespoonfus of flour; stir well, and pour in on one cupful of oyster liquor and one of cream; add now the oysters and the ham and let simmer. When they attain the wanted consistency take off from fire, and when cold line the patty shells with mixture. Put in oven, bake for five minutes. Serve hot. Garnish the dish with parsley.

Lobster Sauce for Dressing.—Cut the claws of one good-sized boiled lobster into dice. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter into a saucepan; when melted add two tablespoonfuls of flour; mix without browning, add a half pint of milk, stir constantly until boiling; add the lobster, one even teaspoonful of salt, a dash of white pepper. If it is necessary to keep this warm for a few minutes cover the saucepan and stand it over hot water.

Oyster Sauce.—Into one-half cupful of butter rub well two tablespoonfus of flour. Add one pint of boiling water, and, placing saucepan on stove, stir constantly until thickened. Then add one-half dozen oysters, chopped fine, and a few drops of lemon. Let it just boil and serve.

HOME REMEDIES.

For sore throat try a compress of cold water.

For bilious colic try soda and ginger in hot water.

For sick headache rub peppermint oil on the temples.

For nervous headache bathe the back of the neck with hot water.

For cold in the head try snuffing powdered borax up the nostrils.

A hot bag wrung from hot vinegar is a quick relief for earache.

Snuffing tannic acid is one of the best remedies for a serious case of bleeding at the nose. Dissolve the acid in water.

If an artery is cut tie a small cord or a handkerchief tightly between it and the heart.

For legache and the "growing pains" of which the children complain wrap the leg in salt water and then in flannel.

For neuralgia try wet clothes of alcohol and water, or paregoric, or laudanum and water, laid on a hot water bottle and the affected part steamed over it.

Tincture of arnica is the best application for sprains and bruises, and equal parts of tincture of arnica and spirits of camphor make an excellent liniment for rheumatism.

KNACK OF ACCOMPLISHING.

(Written for the Inter-Mountain Catholic.)

If the time that of us waste in making up our minds over little matters could be employed in doing something really useful, how much more would we be able to accomplish! As with most bad habits, the habit of indecision in little every-day affairs, is the easiest thing in the world to acquire.

We think so much of the small duties of life that they come to assume the most formidable proportions; and in deciding what we shall do about them, we leave ourselves little time for greater and more serious things. How we envy those people who have the knack of accomplishing a great deal without apparent effort! We look at them in wonder and vainly wish that we might discover their secret. It does not appear difficult. Why, we ask ourselves, cannot we do as much as they? But, strive as we may, we never seem to succeed.

The secret is not a hard one to find, but it is a hard one for us to put in practice, at first, if we have been of the hesitating, undecided kind. They have learned to make up their minds quickly, and then move to permit themselves to have any doubt as to the wisdom of their recisions. They do their work systematically, and put into each working moment the best that is in them, without thinking of results. They are the people who rise at the same time each morning, not forgetting to raise their first thoughts to God and invoking His blessings for the day. They take up their daily tasks at the same hour every day. They are the creatures of habit, but their habits are nearly all good ones that lead them in the direct line of that which they are striving to do.

St. Sylvester.

On Sunday, Dec. 31, Holy Mother celebrates the feast of Saint Sylvester, Pope.

The Saint was born in Rome toward the close of the third century. He was a young priest when the persecution of the Christians broke out under the tyrant Diocletian. Idols were erected at the corners of the streets, in the market places, and over the public fountains, so that it was scarcely possible for a Christian to go abroad without being put to the ——— of offering sacrifice, with the alternative of apostasy or death. During this fiery trial, Sylvester strengthened the confessors and martyrs, God preserving his life from many dangers. In 312 a new era set in. Constantine, having triumphed under the "standard of the Cross," declared himself the protector of the Christians, and built them splendid churches. At this juncture Sylvester was elected to the chair of Peter, and was thus the first of the Roman Pontiffs to rule the flock of Christ in security and peace. He profited by these blessings to renew the discipline of the Church, and in two great councils confirmed her sacred truths. In the council of Arles he condemned the schism of the Donatists; and in that of Nicera, the first general council of the Church, he dealt Arianism its death-blow by declaring that Jesus Christ is the true and very God. The Saint died A. D. 335.

Reflection—Never forget to thank God daily for having made you a member of His undying Church, and grow daily in your attachment, devotion and loyalty to the Vicar of Christ.

RECENT CHANGES AT ROME.

"Innominato,' 'the New York Sun's correspondent at Rome, whose letters were once thoroughly reliable, but who is now given somewhat to guessing, is, nevertheless, generally interesting and always readable. He writes as follows under a recent date:

Christian democracy is flourishing in Rome. The appointment of His Eminence Cardinal Jacobini as vicar of His Holiness is announced as being certain. Broken down by night watches and fatigue, Cardinal Parocchi, the present vicar, who fell sick after his last retreat on the feast of St. John and St. Paul, will be made vice-chancellor of the holy Roman Church in place of the late Cardinal Mertel. He had supported the social movement with his universal knowledge. Though mistaken reactionaries looked upon him as their protector, he sent to Don Albertario advice, information and encouragement. Cardinal Jacobini, his successor, has been a socialist for some time.

A Roman of Rome, as they say in Trastevere, the future vicar of the Pope began his brilliant career by broad and successful public activity. While holding the office of secretary of the Propaganda for the Latin rite, Leo XIII selected him to be at the same time ecclesiastical councillor for the Unione Romana and for the workingmen's clubs.

At the beginning of his pontificate Leo XIII believed in the possibility of an agreement with the House of Savoy based on the restitution to the Pope of the patrimony of St. Peter. Under his protection the living forces of Rome created the network of an election organization at Rome whose like will be found nowhere else. This model of administrative action was to inaugurate the coming political campaign for the election of members of Parliament. It is from that early period of Leo XIII's reign that the Unione Romana dates. The Borghesi, the Ruoncompagni, the Pauili, were ready to take action, but on the Holy See's consulting them the bishops declared that it was necessary to stand by the programme of non-intervention, "neither elect nor electors." The Unione Romana continued thereganization.

It is through this gate that Cardinal Jacobini entered into the higher political life. On the model of the Unione were formed the clubs, the associations, the social organizations. Each local society, rallying around its parish church, depended upon the general organization. Rarely has any administrative machine been kept so strictly in balance. As councillor, Monsignor Jacobini consecrated his life and his pen to this movement. Early, long before the encyclical "Rerum Novarum," he scented the socialist and democratic tendency of the church. A Roman, full of piety, of learning and of faith, he has planted the associations under the direction of the Holy Father. Hence arises his popularity and his appointment to the vicariate. The Romans look upon him as their benefactor, their foster father. His selection will be acclaimed with enthusiasm by all Rome. May his strength, which has been drawn upon by a long illness, not fall below his good will or his devotion.

We learn at the same time of the promotion of His Eminence Cardinal Agliardi to the post of prefect of the Congregation of Sacred Indulgences. The Socialists and Democrats will soon hold the higher offices. Monsignor Agliardi received at Vienna, where he was nuncio, the sacrament of confirmation as protector of democracy. The Catholic party was springing up in Hungary in the shadow of the Kulturkampf. He succeeded in upholding the rights of the church and of the people against the government.

Three years later the court of Vienna, supported by the bishops and the aristocracy of Berlin, by the King of the Belgians and by many Catholic groups, tried to induce the Pope to take action against Dr. Lueger and the Christian socialists. In spite of this mobilization of forces Monsignor Agliardi covered with his ægis the forerunners of Christian democracy. He was risking his cardinal's hat, but trusting to the right, and proud of his ideas, he withstood the general attack. His solution was that accepted by Leo XIII against the rest. The greatest combination against the socialist Catholics was defeated.

Since those battles Cardinal Agliardi has fought under the socialist banner of the Pope. He is one of our most watchful protectors. Ideas expand, and soon no other manner of thought will be found in Rome. Though the German Kaiser marshaled all his troops against democracy, the sword will break against the tiara. Our only adversaries are a few groups of "intellectuals" and of men of systems. These cannot be won over, for they think that they are formed of a finer clay. The "intellectual elite," however, the "five hundred" of Renan, will never prevail against the impetuous onrush of history and the rights of the people.

American ideas, it will be seen, are spreading over Europe. Each pilgrimage of Monsignor Ireland to Rome is marked by an advance in social and political questions. The further on we go the closer we come to the day when the transformation of things American into the patrimony of Europe as well will take place, surely and successfully. During the last three years European writers have hampered the work of appropriation, but today the rocks have been removed and the starry flags floats, proud and free, above all attacks, bearing in its folds the future of the world.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS OF THE DAY

The South African War

Gen. Joubert Has Recovered and is Again There at Head of His Troops—British Prisoners at Pretoria.

London, Dec. 27.—Dispatches from South Africa are still greatly delayed, but they are arriving more freely, which shows that the censorship has been relaxed.

There appears to be no great change in the situation. A dispatch from Lourenzo Marquez dated Thursday, Dec. 21, gives the following from the Boer laager, dated Tuesday, Dec. 19: "The British naval guns at Colenso have been cannonading Bulwer bridge, over Tugela river, with a view of smashing it.

"The bombardment of Ladysmith is proceeding slowly. General Joubert has arrived here and has been accorded a hearty welcome. He addressed the burghers on Dec. 18.

"More British prisoners have been sent to Pretoria, including Colonel Buller, Major Walters, Major Bailwark, Major Foster, Captain Dick, Captain Norticin, Captain Fitzherbert, Captain Ford, Captain Hutchinson, Lieutenant Bonham, Lieutenant Smithers, Lieutenant Thourne, Lieutenant O'Conneyghey, Lieutenant Kaunbald, Lieutenant Charistian, Lieutenant Brigg, Lieutenant Birch, Lieutenant Halford, Lieutenant Tarbull and Lieutenant Jones."

A dispatch to the Daily News from Ladysmith, dated Friday, Dec. 15, by heliograph, says: "Another sortie last night. General Hunter, with 500 volunteers, destroying one six-inch creusot gun, one howitzer and one Maxim. One Briton killed. The Boer gunners fled."

Will Wait For Roberts.

There is an idea in some quarters that General Buller's destruction of the Tugela bridge heralds an attempt to cut off the Boers now south of the river, but the general opinion is that the British will not make any serious move pending the arrival of Lord Roberts.

The newspapers continue actively discussing and criticising the management, or rather mismanagement of the campaign. The advent of horse sickness draws increased attention to the question of transports and the want of wagons, which may tie the British forces to the railways. The Daily Chronicle says:

"Plenty of wagons could be obtained from the United States, but the government authorities with very indiscreet patriotism have refused to avail themselves of the opportunity. It would have been better if the authorities had followed Lord Kitchener's example at Atbara bridge. Will they ever now apply to the American factories?"

The Times editorially attacks the administration of the war office, calling attention to the correspondence disclosing "glaring defects" and declaring that the British army is being managed for the benefit of the war office and not of the nation.

Growth of Dutch Disaffection.

Dispatches from various points indicate the steady growth of the Dutch disaffection. The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Chronicle reports the discovery of a plot to connive at the escape of Boer prisoners. The Times advises stern treatment of the disaffected Dutch colonists and the enforcement of the penalties of treason against persons and property.

The Sixteenth Lancers will go to South Africa from India at the special request of Lord Roberts, even after the government had decided that no more troops should be withdrawn from India. The war office has nominated Sir William Stokes as consulting surgeon to the South African forces. He will leave Dublin for the cape in a few days.

Lord Somerset writes to the Times urging the seizure of Lourenzo Marquez and its retention, if necessary, until the end of the war, in order to prevent the landing of war material for the Boers.

The transport Tantalon Castle has arrived at Cape Town with a number of howitzers and quick fires, which General Buller urgently needs. The government has chartered the Lake Erie of the New Elder, Dempster & Co. line, which was built for the Canadian mail service. She is a vessel of 12,000 tons.

Recruits For British.

The recruiting of British colonists in Cape Colony is actively proceeding. Thirty thousand are already under arms, and several thousand will be addressed. Those now in the field in Rhodesian and Natal forces and the colonial troops beleaguered at Kimberley and other points.

Dispatches from Modder river, dated Thursday, Dec. 21, report that intermittent firing was continued on both sides, although the Boer shells fell short. A number of Free State burghers had surrendered. There is an unconfirmed report that a Canadian picket was cut off near Belmont. It is also asserted that fever is raging among the Boers.

The tests of wireless telegraphy at Modder river have been highly successful, communication over a distance of seventy miles being perfectly established. Six Marconi instruments, intended for the Boers, have been seized at Cape Town.

A dispatch from Chieveley camp, dated Thursday, Dec. 21, says: "Lyddite shells are daily thrown into the Boer camp to prevent them working at the trenches. The firing of big guns is heard daily from the direction of Ladysmith."

Boer Commandant Recaptured.

Commandant Demeillon, who was captured at Elanslaagte and brought to Simonsntown, where he succeeded in making his escape from the British cruiser Penelope, has been recaptured.

The Times, in a special article, discussing the international law aspect of Boer importantions through Delagoa bay, says: "Were we to adopt either with or without the consent of Portugal, the drastic measures which are so easily suggested in some quarters, we might find ourselves suddenly confronted with international complications far more serious and injurious to the successful prosecution of the South African war than the evils of which it was sought to secure an abatement."

BOMBARDMENT KEPT UP.

Boers Continue to Throw Shells Into Ladysmith Without Effect.

London, Dec. 26.—The Boers heavily bombarded Ladysmith for a couple of hours Dec. 16, the day after the battle of Tugela river, but little damage was done. They killed one man and wounded two men of the garrison.

Advices from Cape Town say the New Zealanders with General French at Naauwpoort were in a tight corner Dec. 18. They were nearly surrounded by Boers, and retired under a hail of bullets fired at short range, but sustained only little loss.

Among the Boers killed at Stormberg were many of that locality who had joined the Orange Free State forces. Several newspaper correspondents have returned to Cape Town from the Modder river, apparently confirming the belief that an immediate advance of the British is projected. The war office has received the following dispatch from Cape Town, dated Dec. 25:

"There is no change in the situation at Modder river. General Methuen is well entrenched, and the Boers have not disturbed him. General Gatacre reports that a force of 150 police have occupied Dodrecht, the Boers retreating with no loss."

The war office has received a dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, dated Sunday, Dec. 24, announcing that in an engagement at Ladysmith, Dec. 22, Major A. C. King, Captains Wathens and Oaks and Lieutenant Hulz and Lieutenant Colonel Fawcett were wounded, and that nine non-commissioned officers and men were killed and ten wounded. This battle had not been recorded before this.

Three members of the Cape parliament are alleged to be implicated, and one of them is said to have presented a Free State flag to a Boer commander, at the same time expressing the hope that he would carry it to glory and victory. Another member of parliament is said to be recruiting for the Boers. In addition, the wealthy farmers are now aiding the invaders.

HIS LAST GREAT EFFORT.

Buller Will Try to Retrieve His Loss Before Roberts Arrives.

New York, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

Ten days after Long's artillery was lost, it is clear that General Buller will renew the attempt to relieve Ladysmith while Lord Roberts is on the sea. He is receiving reinforcements and fresh batteries and ought to be in a position to reopen hostilities in a week or ten days, unless he waits for the siege train.

The movements of the battalions arriving at Cape Town are now concealed by the authorities, but General Buller is evidently taking the fresh troops and replacing his lost artillery, while General Methuen is forced to stand by and watch the Boers while they extend their rifle trenches and strengthen their position in front of Modder river.

General Buller is justified in this course if Ladysmith, as is generally believed, is in a more critical condition than Kimberley. About 11,500 troops will arrive during the next eighteen days at Cape Town before Lord Roberts assumes command. With this body of reinforcements General Buller will not have the facilities for setting every column again on the offensive, but he will at least have sufficient strength for maneuvering against Colenso and attempting to turn the enemy's position there. This is what military men in London are now expecting him to do within a fortnight.

One reassuring sign is the publication of mail letters from Ladysmith, Estcourt and other points in Natal which evidently have not been submitted to the military censor. This budget of correspondence deals in a critical spirit with the blunders made by the staff and the irritating fussiness of the martinets in repeatedly changing camp and exhausting the patience of the soldiers. The letters also contain evidence that the British field artillery is distinctly inferior not only to the Boer guns in range, but to the guns of almost every important European power. This campaign is bringing out many unpleasant revelations of which full political use will be made when the liberal opposition learns the true points of attack.

THE BRITISH WERE FOOLED.

Grossly Misinformed as to the Strength of the Boers.

New York, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Herald from London says: It appears that a storm is brewing on the subject of the course of the government toward General Sir William Butler, whose conduct at the outset of the war met with much criticism.

It is said that General Butler, previous to the war, sent a series of dispatches warning the government against attacking the Boers, giving details of their condition for war, which have been verified by recent events. But his dispatches were very distasteful to the government, and were put away out of sight, and General Butler was harshly criticised.

General Butler, it seems, drew attention to the way in which the English were misled by the blindness of the intelligence department, which, from what has taken place, was totally unaware of, or purposely misinformed by the Boers as to their arms and numerical strength.

It is well known here that British agents of the intelligence department were sent from time to time to find out what the Boers were doing in the way of armament. The Boers knew all about it, but simulated naivete, and conducted the visitors around forts which they chose for their own purposes, where old guns were set up and shown with an affectation of pride by President Kruger's men, who were cunning enough to inspire strangers by their plausibility.

Thus the British intelligence department received the most minute reports of the calibre, range and number of the cannon possessed by the Boers, but were merely gulled by the wily burghers. The real guns, with which the war is conducted, the creusots and Krupps, were so carefully hidden that scarce a soul outside of the immediate circle of the government knew of them.

The English government sent out guns equal in calibre to what the agents had been allowed to see. In the same view it is thought that the Boers understated their numerical forces and small arms.

It is understood that all these things were told to the home government by General Butler, with the result that Butler was called disloyal and pro-Boer, and rabid papers demanded his degradation.

But since war began, people who know the contents of General Butler's dispatches have come forward and ask that they be published. The attention of members of parliament has been called to the matter, and when the commons are assembled in six weeks' time, demands will be made for the publication of the dispatches.

If it be asked why General Butler did not speak out, it must be remembered that he is a military man in a high position, and says: "My lips are sealed," but the subject is now occupying the club gossips. One very clever club man remarked that the question really amounts to this: "Is he a traitor or a martyr?"

Another said: "Is General Butler the Dreyfus of this war, and has he been snubbed by the queen? For it will be remembered that when the queen visited Bristol he was withdrawn from the chief command of the western district, and it was stated that he would have been hooted had he appeared. Has he been insulted by the press in order to shield the war office, which believed the intelligence department rather than the chief of the South African forces?"

Some one else said: "Remember Lord Wolseley's recent speech: 'We have been grossly misinformed as to the strength and resources of the Boers.' The public naturally asks: 'Deceived by whom?'"

SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE

Smoke Blue Point Cigars. Co-operative Cigar Company, makers, 50 West Second South Street, Salt Lake City.

The Canadian Invasion

Movement is Active in New England and Hundreds of Irish Men Are Said to be Enlisting.

Boston, Dec. 26.—A movement looking to the invasion of Canada by the Fenians and the advanced Irish Nationalists had been agitated for some time by leaders of these organizations in and around Boston. Colonel Roger F. Scannel, who has been identified with Irish agitations for many years, said today that there was to be a meeting of prominent Irish Nationalists in Philadelphia next Sunday or Monday, to discuss the question of invading Canada.

"This meeting," Colonel Scannel says, "will be followed by another in Boston, when reports from the Philadelphia meeting will be made by Boston delegates."

Colonel Scannel says the present would be a good time for the invasion, as the troops of Canada are being sent away to take part in the African war.

"It has been agitated for years," continued the colonel, "that Canada should either be annexed to the United States or should have an independent government of its own. The present African war will, in my opinion, see the first break in the British empire. With an army of 100,000 Irish Nationalists engaged in the invasion of Canada, it would make things interesting for the English government."

Referring to the Fenian invasion of Canada of many years ago, Colonel Scannel said that it was a failure because there were too many generals and colonels and no discipline. This would not happen now, he said, since the men are well organized all over the country, and have confidence in their leaders.

IGNORED AT WASHINGTON.

No Credence Whatever Given to Proposed Fenian Raid Story.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The alleged attempts in different parts of the country to organize Fenians for a raid into Canada have not, as yet, been drawn to the attention of the state department, and nothing is known upon the subject beyond the matters set out in the newspaper publications. The officials do not give the smallest credence to the stories, and are of the opinion that the purpose in setting them afloat is to frighten the Canadians into keeping their soldiers at home, and failing to answer the appeal of England for volunteers for the African campaign.

Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador, is too well experienced in American matters to make this the basis of official representations at this stage, and instead, it is said at the state department that he has not even found it necessary to remonstrate against the alleged violation of neutrality in the reported recruiting of soldiers for the Boers within the limits of the United States. It is suggested that the explanation for this attitude is a preference on the part of the British to deal with such persons as may enlist here for the Boer army after they leave the boundaries of the United States.

And it is not doubted that all of these movements that really promise to amount to anything, are being carefully watched, with a view to catching the volunteers at some convenient point by a fleet cruiser.

Should it turn out that a Fenian movement of this kind alleged to exist is actually discovered and brought to the attention of the United States government, sharp and prompt repressive action will be taken, not only to prevent the violation of the neutrality laws, but also to save the raiders themselves from such consequences of their actions as befell the unfortunate Fenian raiders of 1866.

The talk of a Fenian raid is well calculated to cause alarm on the Candian side of the border, as the people of that section were greatly agitated during the former Fenian excitement. Although an actual movement occurred then, the chief trouble occurred over alarming reports of invasions which never took place. Something of a panic took possession of the Canadians on the border, and many women buried their valuables on the islands of the border river.

On the American side the excitement was intensified by local Fenian organizations, which drilled in apparent anticipation of a movement, although these proved to be purely local bodies, more or less sympathizing with the movement, but wholly without systematic connection with the head organization.

FENIANS ARE RECRUITING.

Efforts to Raise 125,00 Men for Canadian Expedition.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A special from Dunkirk says: The Fenians are said to be organizing here for an invasion of Canada. A man known to have knowledge of the condition of Fenian affairs in Dunkirk says this city has been called upon to raise 600 men to form a part of New York's quota for the 125,000 men that are to be enrolled throughout the country.

At the present time 500 men are known to be mustered with the Fenians here, the remaining 100 will be obtained with little difficulty. It is currently reported and extensively credited that the Fenians have two carloads of arms and munitions of war in concealment in or near this city.

This material is said to have been in the possession of the Dunkirk Fenians for some years.

WOULD BE HOPELESS TASK.

Prominent Irishmen Discourage the Proposed Invasion.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—John T. Keating, national president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, declared tonight that he knew nothing of the rumored armed invasion of Canada by four columns of Irishmen.

"There are many enthusiastic Irishmen who would be willing to attack Canada, now that England's attention is concentrated in South Africa," said Mr. Keating, "but to my mind I think the present moment requires active and substantial aid to the Boers.

"I have not heard of anything in connection with an invasion of Canada. There are plenty of able-bodied men who are willing to fight the English anywhere, as hundreds of letters sent me within the last month will testify. I think, however, the Ancient Order of Hibernians will gladly welcome an assessment in favor of ambulance corps or hard cash for the Boers. I shall call a meeting of the national directors of the Ancient Order of Hibernians tomorrow. The directors will probably meet in Washington or Pittsburg, and the question of an assessment will be settled.

"Irish-Americans who long to see their mother country free from English shackles will, I think, recognize that the best way to hurt or cripple England will be to do it in South Africa by aiding the Boers, rather than by an invasion of Canada. If Canada were in a state of revolt or on the verge of it, as in India, matters would be different. Or if Irishmen could reach India during this crisis as easily as they could reach Canada, then I should not be at all surprised to see an invading army marching on India. I do not think there is anything in the report, however, of an organization to invade Canada."

Laughed at In Ottawa.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 26.—The stories regarding a Fenian invasion of Canada telegraphed here from the United States are laughed at by the militia department, the government and the people here generally.

Weather and Human Conduct.

Dr. Edwin G. Dexter, according to Tit-Bits, has made a study of the effects of the weather on human conduct, the results of which are rather surprising. He shows by a system of tabulation that misdemeanors involving violence, such as assaults, are more common in bright weather, and that the same is true of suicides. On the other hand, mental errors, such as mistakes in bank figures, are more common in damp, rainy weather. His inference is that the excess of energy produced by a bracing condition of the air is responsible for more violence than is the "ugly temper" caused by bad weather, because the latter, while lowering the spirits, diminishes the activity of men.

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