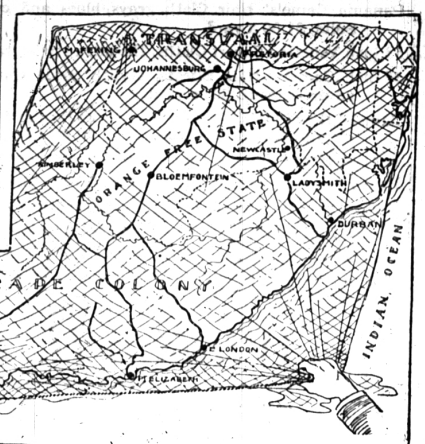
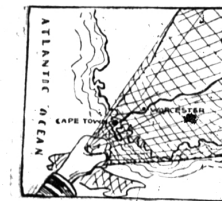


Gen. Sir Redvers Buller's plan of campaign is now known in detail and has been in the possession of the Boer commanders for some time. When Buller's forces make debarcation they will be divided into three columns under Gen. Lord Methuen, Sir Corneilus Clermont and Sir W. F. Gatacre. Lord Methuen's division will have its base at Cape Town, Sir Corneilus Clermont's at East London, and Sir W. F. Gatacre's at East London, and of course, Sir George White's base is at Durban. Hence it may be inferred that the first division will operate on the western frontier of the two republics with an advanced base at De Aar Junction, the second against the central part of the Orange Free State direct on Bloemfontein, with its advanced base at Colesberg or Nauw Poort, which places there are four-fifths of the distance two days' lines of rails. The third division will have an independent line of communication with an advanced base probably at Stormberg Junction, near Monto, whence it can strike either for Allwal North or to join Clermont's division at Beethale. The movement may be described as an ex-

Orange river, and so on to Mafeking and Bulawayo. Practically, the gradients cease to trouble from De Aar Junction northward, but from about eighty miles beyond De Aar the line is exposed for hundreds of miles to very small parties of Boers from the republic. The two lines of Sir Corneilus Clermont are also mountain-climbing railways as far as Norval's



ma. The line from Sir William Gatacre's base at East London is another climbing railroad, but beyond Stormberg Junction, down to the Orange river there is a fine piece of marching ground, and Gatacre will be able to strike northeast or northwest from his railway wagon as circumstances may arise. Basuto land will prevent him joining hands with White



ended net, the hauling rope of one end of which is at Cape Town, while the other end is at Durban. Very heavy gradients will delay the advance of Lord Methuen's first division along the valley of the Berg river, and round the Drakenschein mountains to Worcester, where the line passes northeastward over the great Karroo to the

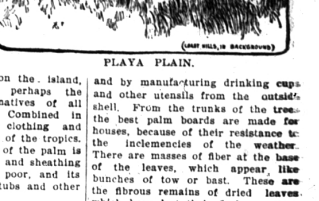
Pont on the Orange river, and thereafter through the Orange Free State it is open up to a hundred miles beyond Bloemfontein, nor are the gradients there of much importance until the Vaal river is passed, when the troops will be too near their objective to make railroads of much importance, even for provisioning the men and ani-

mal. In Natal—and it is obviously highly desirable to leave the Basuto territory severely alone—but then on the other hand the Basutos act as a wedge which prevents the Boers from making any attempt to cut in between Gatacre and White. The net will be gradually closed up to Johannesburg and Pretoria.

# Some Facts About Our New Sister State.

Your Uncle Samuel is an inquisitive fellow. No sooner does he get a new country to play with than, figuratively speaking, he takes it apart to see what it is made of. While he is so busy the boy who pulled up his seeds after they had been planted a week to see why they didn't begin to show above ground, still he likes to see a man who buys horse manure for his new possessions. That's one way the Anglo-Saxon differs from the Latin. When did Spain ever bother herself about the natural and scientific aspects of her far-away islands?

On the contrary, individual trees are abundant and well distributed everywhere. Along the roadsides, around every bit and throughout the coffee plantations are many trees, a few of which are remnants of the aboriginal forest, while most of them have been planted for shade or fruit. Orange trees, mangoes, guavas, breadfruit, mameys and other stately trees are common, while, as in our own deforested region, there are a few timber-making trees like the "Palma de gravia" (or grass), the Royal palm. Growing to 100 feet or more, its slender trunk is crowned near its



summit by leaves. A green, delicate and pointed, from ten to twenty feet in length, constitutes the upper end of the trunk. At the base of this terminal portion a fruit cluster from three to four hands in length, divided into different branches, grows out about once a month. This cluster is made of green, olive-shaped fruit, larger than the filbert, the interior being covered with a green substance. This fruit of the Royal palm is useful in fattening swine, which is the only use made of it. In the other islands they extract an oil from the fruit which is used for lights and other uses. The central part (the heart) of this palm is cooked and eaten like cabbage, and in some preparations as a salad. The leaves call it the "Palma de gravia" (or grass). In Porto Rico it is used rarely, although it is a very agreeable taste.

## OPPOSING POPULATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

In South Africa the Dutch and the British are not divided as sharply as are the geographical limits. Indeed, in many sections of the country the two races are mixed so thoroughly that the map hardly can give an idea of the relative numbers of either race. In the map herewith the shading refers

to the British, the Dutch and the Boers. The Dutch numerically are superior are shown by the ruled portions. It will be seen that in Cape Colony, the western, which is the older settled part, is Dutch predominantly. The British are in the majority only in the southeast, from Algoa Bay eastward, the diamond-mining country

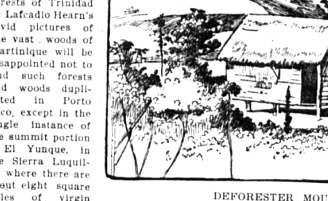
is in Natal—and it is obviously highly desirable to leave the Basuto territory severely alone—but then on the other hand the Basutos act as a wedge which prevents the Boers from making any attempt to cut in between Gatacre and White. The net will be gradually closed up to Johannesburg and Pretoria.



Queen Hortense's Manse. One of the old Parisian landmarks which will soon be leveled to the ground is the historic mansion occupied by Queen Hortense. Queen Hortense was so unhappy in her marriage to Louis Bonaparte that she spent but little of her time in the royal palace chiefly in Paris at No. 11 in the Rue La Fayette, where she occupied the mansion which has since been redolent with the memories of her life. Of her reign it has been the residence of

PLAYA PLAIN. and by manufacturing drinking cups and other utensils from the outside shell. From the trunks of the tree, the best palm boards are made for houses, because of their resistance to the inclemencies of the weather. There are masses of fiber at the base of the leaves, which appear like bunches of tow or hair. These are the fibrous remains of dried leaves which have lost their fleshy portions and appear like pieces of cloth woven from thick wool. This is used for filtering and straining. Hardly secondary to the palms in its usefulness is the bamboo cane,

DEFORESTER MOUNTAIN, SOUTH OF ABINTO. This beautiful plant may be seen everywhere growing in graceful, feathery clumps. Its stem is used for fence posts, telegraph posts, and construction of the huts of the peasant. The areolar joints are also used for utensils, flower pots, and for propagating the coconut seed.



MAILED SHAD. Few persons know that there are more than 500 species of shad, chiefly in the waters of North and South America, Asia and Africa, but the most interesting of all of these is the mailed shad (collichthys callitrypa) of South America. It is covered on both sides with a double row of thick scales, and the head is also hard and bony. On account of this coat of mail the fish has the strangest appearance of all of the shad species. Only ichthyologists would recognize it as a shad at all, and most people would think it was some strange creature that had survived from prehistoric times. It plays havoc with the other fish, being so well protected from their jaws that only a shark, with its powerful jaws, can crush it. The mailed shad sometimes grows to an enormous size, and makes a brave struggle for life when it is hooked. Only lately a German naturalist, Herr P. Mathe, has succeeded in catching one alive in a wire net and taking it to Europe alive. Where it swims around in its own tank in the Berlin aquarium. An attempt is now being made to raise some spawn of this fish so as to get them for various aquariums. It is not a good fish for food, being tough and dry, unlike the juicy specimens of the species which are found in the North river or the Susquehanna.



AMERICANS HAD TO LEAVE. Vaqua Spared Their Lives, But Nothing Else. John Rogers, a Denver prospector, who went into the Yaqui gold country of Sonora a year ago, has reached El Paso, Texas, from the northeast branch of the Yaqui river, where he and Peter Vaqua were hunting for the veins of Qualey Brothers of Chicago. He tells a thrilling tale of his experience with the Indians and counts himself fortunate in escaping with his life. A few days ago a band of forty Indians, all armed with Winchester and old-fashioned Mexican weapons, appeared at the Qualey claim and robbed the two miners of everything they possessed, including their arms and ammunition, and ordered them to leave the mine. Rogers and Vaqua refused to preserve their lives. When the Indians appeared Rogers and Burgess were at work at the bottom of a fortification which they had dug. They were told to come out, and then the natives filled a portion of the shaft with loose dirt and stones. The mine was so full that the nearest camp was a few feet from the entrance.

only to the British and the Dutch, although both races combined are far outnumbered everywhere by the natives. The dotted areas show where

settled Rhodesia and Bechuanaland are British, but their white population is too insignificant to play a great part in the solution of the difficulty.

Vanderbilt in the Philippines. Among the members of the First Washington volunteers who have recently returned from the Philippines is Howard Vanderbilt, a son of Jacob Vanderbilt and a cousin of William K. Vanderbilt. Mr. Vanderbilt says that he is not ashamed of his eastern connections, nor is he particularly proud of them. He went out as a private in Company C and won promotion, as he himself says, not as the result of regular course of events.

To Keep Lines Smooth. Locomotive centers, girdles, and even tablecloths are not things of real beauty from folding them. Any small piece of wood, covered with flannel, or a roll of paper, around which the pieces may be carefully rolled, will be found invaluable as a means of keeping linen in good order. In fact, a tablecloth ironed with only two lengths of wire folds, and they rolled, will look far better on the table than one with criss-cross lines from too much folding.

Telegraph Lines in South Africa. The popular idea that all of south Africa is not far removed from savagery is contradicted by the fact that in Cape Colony alone there are 6,609 miles of telegraph lines, carrying many times that number of miles of wire.

She Knows. Squid-like—"Yankee Doodle" is an absurd song. Who on earth was Macaroni, anyway? Mrs. Squid-like—"Why, my dear, don't you know? He was the man that invented that wireless telegraphy."—New York Press.

Clear Understanding at Start. Newly wed (after the ceremony)—"Do you really think I shall make a good mate, darling?" Mrs. Newlywed—"Oh, you're all right. How do you like your captain?"—Philadelphia Record.

The Deepest Wells. The deepest wells in the world are as follows: In Europe, one at Passy, France, depth 2,900 feet; at La Chapelle, Paris, depth 2,700 feet; at Grenelle, Paris, depth 1,738 feet; at the work, near Minden, depth 2,338 feet; at Kissingen, Bavaria, depth 1,737 feet; at St. Leon, Prussia, depth 1,675 feet; at 150 feet, which is said to be the deepest in the world; at Pesth, Hungary, depth 3,182 feet. In the United States there are the wells at Lead in St. Louis, depth 2,843 feet; at Lead in St. Louis, depth 2,086 feet; at Columbus, O., depth 2,754 feet; at Charleston, S. C., depth 1,850 feet.

A Doubtful Compliment. "What is the price of this holder?" inquired a young man in a small store, taking up a photograph album which contained several pictures. "Twenty-five cents," replied the attendant. "Does that include the pictures?" "There!" responded the salesman in an affected manner. "I was saying this morning that some bright person would be asking that, but I did not think it would be you, Mr. Steward!"

Horrible Examinations. "Yes, my hearers," said a temperance lecturer. "I used to be a terrible drinker. I once slept in a young cucumber bed and the patch yielded nothing but whisky pickles for two weeks." "Humph!" said one of the rowdies. "That's nothing. I once spoke my name to my wife through our front door, and my breath etched a monogram in the glass."—New York World.