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Butcher's stock	2 00@2 50
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#### THE TRANSVAAL

President Krager Is a Brave Old Dutchman, Who Knows No Frare. Although the Transvaal is in name a

republic, it is really governed by a despotic oligarchy. Indeed, it might be said to be ruled by a triumvirate, consisting of President Kruger, Gen. Joubert and Gen. Smit. The chief and best known of these is President Kruger, or "Oom Paul," as he is almost universally called by the Boers. He is a robust old man of something more than 70 years. In early life he was physically the strongest man in the whole Transvaal, and he is even now by no means decrepit. He has a long, narrow head, with small, cunning eyes deeply set under furrowed brows, a large and rather coarse nose and mouth and a straggling beard. There is little of the phlegmatic Dutchman in his manner and conversation; on the contrary, he is voluble, excitable and given to a profusion of gestures.

In religion he is "Dopper"-that is, a member of the most conservative and bigoted sect among the Boers. He used to be a great fighter and leader of raids ngainst the natives. When he was a mere lad he distinguished himself in a campaign against the Zulus. A Boer expedition on the upper waters of the Vanl river received tidings at the close of a day's fighting that a Zulu impi was advancing to attack them. The Boers, all excepting young Kruger, refused to believe it and lay down to sleep, but Kruger believed the news, determined to keep watch all night and persuaded one comrade to sit up with him.

Sitting on wagons on opposite sides of the camp, their rifles in their hands, they watched all night. At length, just before daybreak, Kruger's keen ear caught the sound of approaching feet. He had just time to give the alarm when a thousand or more Zulus charged full upon the camp. There was a desperate struggle, but the Boers were at last successful and the Zulus were repulsed. But had it not been for Kruger's watchfulness there is little doubt that every one of the Boers would have been slaughtered.

Kruger bears upon his body many sears of bullets and spearheads. His left hand is minus a thumb, which he lost many years ago. He was out hunting when his gun burst and terribly mangled the thumb. He was afraid lockjaw would set in, and so entreated his comrades to amputate the member. One of them tried to do so, but his heart failed him and he gave it up. Thereupon Kruger seized a knife with his other hand and himself cut off the mangled thumb. The very small scar now remaining shows how good a job he made of it. He has several times visited England on missions for his countrymen.

He first went wearing the broad felt hat, the short jacket and shoes of untanned leather which form the usual costame of a "Dopper" Boer. But on his return home his astonished friends beheld him clad in a high silk hat, a long black frock coat and polished boots. He told them that England was a good enough country and contained some fine houses, but all the land seemed to belong to some one. Even outside of London you could not sit down under a tree to smoke a pipe without having some one come up and say the land was his and ask you what you were doing there. Kruger has stubbornly refused to learn a word of English, and there is no man in the whole republic who regards Englishmen with more hatred and contempt than he does .- N. Y. Tribune.

HE COULD PLAY THE JEWSHARP.

Singular Sentiments Expressed at the Grave of a Musician.

We gathered around the open grave en of us, and gazed down silently at the plain deal coffin. None of us knew any burial service, but something of the sort seemed necessary, so we stood puzzling our brains to recall some good action of the deceased. After a lapse of several minutes Jones mentioned how the corpse had once treated Cornish Joe to a big burst. The remark was better left unsaid, for we all remembered that the sequel to that action was his running through the traveler's pocket and abstracting all the contents thereof.

There was another silence of five minutes while we moved our feet about, shuffling the loose earth into rude circles. Then Darbyshire whispered that perhaps if we sang something it would be better than keeping dead silence. There was no answer to Dar-

byshire's suggestion. By and by, Murphy could stand it no longer. "Boys," he cried, "d'ye moind the toime he did Ginger Smith outer a pen at Gerogery? A low, sneaking

hound he was.' "Aye, he was that," chipped in Mc-Dougall. "Do you no remember him saltin' the South claim, too?"

We all remembered it well. Our tongues were loosened at once, and each of us had some anecdote to relate of the perfidy of the departed. For an hour or more we stayed, until the pauses got longer between the yarns, and ultimately conversation came to a stop. We shoveled in the earth and left a yellow mound to mark the spot. Then we made for the Miner's Arms to drink the corpse's health.

"Fill 'em up, mon," said McDougall He was a dom'd scoondrel, but, my oath, he could play the jewsharp."-Sydney Bulletin.

The Wrong Word.

Mrs. Querrel sat looking into the fire resently she chuckled a little bit. "What are you giggling at?" kindly

inquired Mr. Querrel. "I was thinking of the time when you proposed. You told me to say the one little word that would make you

happy for life." "Yes, I remember. And you went and said the wrong word."—Cincinnati En-

quirer, -Australia has no rivers of any consequence. The interior of this vast continent is almost destitute of water.

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

-Froude passed seven years in collecting materials for and in writing his "History of England." He was very careful in the selection of data, and spent whole days in the effort to verify a single fact or citation.

-Costaki Pasha Anthopoulo has been appointed Turkish ambassador to the court of St. James. Costaki Pasha is a Greek Christian who has had much administrative experience in various parts of Turkey and has occupied several important posts.

-Of the 14 new stars discovered during the last 300 years, Mrs. Fleming, of the Harvard observatory, has discovered four-viz.: One in the constellation of Perseus in 1887; one in Norma in 1893, and one each in Carina and Centaurus during the present year.

-The eldest boy of the German emperor is a little bit of an enfant terrible. One day the little crown prince was being laboriously catechised by the chaplain, who continually impressed him that all men are sinners. "Well," exclaimed the boy, impatiently, being wearied of these admonitions, "father may be a sinner, but I know mother

-Elizabeth Ney, daughter of Marshal Ney, famous in Europe for her delicate work in sculpture, is found to be the same woman who for 20 years has worked quietly in Texas, where she has been known as "The Strange Lady." Miss Ney-now Mrs. Montgomery-is said to be a very beautiful woman, untiringly devoted to her art, and to have accomplished wonders in the way of raising the somewhat hazy aesthetic standard of Texas. In the Texas building at the world's fair was a finely wrought marble statue of Gep. Sam Houston, the work of Mrs. Montgom-

-A large wholesale bookseller declares that, despite the multiplication of editions of Scott's novels during these last few years, the sale grows automatically with the growth of population. There is no parallel to the sale of Scott, except the Bible. The very best Christmas book of the year has no chance beside Scott, Rev. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren") expressed in a recent lecture the fear that Scott was being raised to the elevation of a classic. That, he said, was the same thing as taking a man out of the house of commons, where he was an active figure, and placing him in the stately seclusion of the house of lords.

#### HUMOROUS.

-Experienced.-Chunk-"Doesn't a 'new woman' make you feel fairly mad?" Quiverful-"Yes; but she's not so bad as a new baby!"-Fun.

-"Why," demanded the court, "did you kill your wife?" The defendant's head sank upon his breast. "We were both opposed to divorce," he faltered .-Detroit Tribune.

-The Mean Thing .- He-"Don't you wish every year was leap year?" She-"Sir!" "Then your birthday would be one day later in getting around, you know."-Indianapolis Journal.

-Mrs. Newed-"Is your husband a domestic man?" Mrs. Henpeck-"He's the only domestic we keep. I have taught him to cook and wash dishes very nicely."-Philadelphia Record.

-Winks-'I understand you have lost your heart since you have seen the beautiful Miss Bjones." Binks-"No. sir. On the contrary, I have found it." -Somerville Journal.

-Old Quiverful-"And so you want to take our daughter from us; you want to take her from us suddenly without a word of warning?" Young Goslow-"Not at all, sir. If there is anything about her you want to warn me against, I'm willing to listen."-

Brooklyn Life. -His Quest-"And so your friend has been to Africa," she said to Derringer Dan. "That's what he has, ma'am." "Looking for diamonds?" "Yes, ma'am. Diamonds er clubs er spades er any old thing he happened ter feel the need of at the time."-Washington Star.

-The Illusion Dispelled .- Lady (a widow)-"Do you know, my daughter is quite smitten with you, Herr Muller?" Gent (feeling flattered)-"Really, now?" Lady-"A fact; she was only saying to-day: 'I should like that gentleman for my papa."-Deutscher Soldatenhort.

-"And you admit that you are a publisher of that pernicious form of reading known as the dime novel?" asked the long-faced man; "did you ever reflect, sir, how many have been ruined by your publications?" The man with the large diamond lighted a big, fat cigar. "Pho!" said he; "ten cents never ruined nobody."-Cincinnati Enquirer.

-A Strict Formalist .- Mrs. Quigg-"Of course, you have been in Europe Mrs. Prigg?" Mrs. Prigg-"Oh, yes! I was there lawst yeah, and called on the queen, don't you know." Mrs. Quigg-'Indeed! You intend going over again, no doubt?" Mrs. Prigg-"Cawn't say. It would hawdly be pwoper form for me to do so until the queen has returned my call."-Richmond Dispatch.

#### Had the Last Word.

A group of children were going home to luncheon from school. They were little girls between the ages of seven and ten years, and, following the example of their older sisters, were discussing their clothes.

"I have a lovely new dress that I am going to wear to church next Sunday," said one of them.

"Pooh!" said a little one with brown eyes, "I've got a new hat, and I'm going to wear it every day." This was too much for the little girl

who was clothed the most shabbily in the whole party, and she said: "I don't care; I've got heart disease, anyway."-Chicago Chronicle.

The Way of the World. "Does Fewcads owe you money?" "Yes; why do you ask?" "I thought he owed you money; he goes about abusing you like a pick-pocket."—Dallas (Tex.) Sifter.



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#### A HORSE'S PRESENCE OF MIND. He Saved His Own Life and That of His

Driver in Broadway. The remarkable presence of mind that a horse can display in case of an emergency was illustrated the other evening at 31st street and Broadway. Not only did the equine prove conclusively to several hundreds of people that an animal was capable of saving its own life when the necessity presented itself, but portrayed also to the many who saw the act that he could

save the life of his master as well. South-bound cuble car No. Columbus avenue division was going down Broadway at a rapid rate of speed. The horse, which was attached to a delivery wagon, was going from east to west, also at a very rapid gait, The driver, who had a companion in the person of a boy 12 years old, unmindful of the approach of the car, failed to reduce his speed when Broadway was reached.

Neither the gripman nor the driver saw each other until it seemed too late to avoid an accident. By this time the horse was half way across the east track and the car was close upon it. The gripman let go his grip and put on the brakes, but the people who witnessed the sight did not think for a moment that either the horse or its driver would come out of the accident alive, but the horse, with common sense which would do credit to many human beings, instead of trying to get across the track, with the possibility of wrecking the wagon and killing its occupants, stopped short directly in front of the car, reared on its hind legs and let the car come on.

When it was upon him he intelligently let his front feet down over the dashboard and into the car. This done, he quickly raised his hind legs on to the steps, and after the horse gave a short neigh of happiness the car came to a standstill and the equine backed

The car proceeded on its journey downtown and the wagon suffered only the breaking of one of its shafts .- N. Y. Evening Telegram.

-A man released from jail in Winchester, Ind., a few days ago, after serving a long term, went straight to the railroad station to take a train for his home, and in attempting to board it fell under the wheels and was killed.

-Lee, Mass., prides itself considerably on its spry old people. Mrs. Swan celebrated her 103d birthday recently. Capt. Norton is 90 years old, Mrs. Harriet Hinckley is 94 and Mrs. Baker is 93. Octogenarians are too young to be taken seriously there.



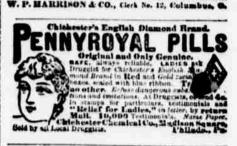
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