

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1900—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

OPPOSE THE MIDWAY

Movement Under Way to Eliminate This Feature of Paris Exposition.

PETITIONS PREPARED FOR CIRCULATION

Mothers Throughout France Are Expected to Enter Vigorous Protests.

MAN'G MENT SIMPLY SHRUGS SHOULDERS

Goos Right Ahead to Prepare the "Hottest Thing" Ever Witnessed.

PUBLIC EXPECTS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Statistics from Monte Carlo Show that Since the Opening of the Season Seventeen Suicides Have Taken Place There.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Opposition to a "Midway" attachment to the exposition is being seriously organized under the leadership of Senator Brenger and Duchesne D'Es.

Positions are being prepared for circulation among another throughout France. Despite the protests the show is evidently destined to outdo all the previous fancies that have been given license. Director Piaré, when interviewed, shrugged his shoulders and said grimly:

"People coming to the 'World's Fair' don't expect a Sunday school atmosphere. If this movement gains strength it is bound to seriously disorganize us, and surely had the intending visitors will remain away."

Since the opening of the Monte Carlo season this year not less than seventeen suicides have taken place there. This list included four women and one American, a business man from Dallas, Tex. These tragedies are always carefully guarded from the public, each Paris paper receiving a regular monthly subsidy to ignore them. I learn that gambling American men and women were never more numerous in Monte Carlo than at the present time.

Prince Cantanervo and his bride (who was Julia Dent Grant) occupied a box to-night at the opera house at the "Masked Ball," an entertainment as lively as any provided by the French capital.

Otero almost lost her life in a carriage accident two days ago. Her coupe collided with a runaway cab. The shock threw Otero's coachman down. She tried to jump, fell and her arm was run over. She is now well.

WANTS TO SEE HER HUSBAND.

It is not because she is so anxious to see her native land that Mrs. Rosalba Collins has decided to return to America, but because she is anxious to have a talk with her husband, Charles Lyman Collins of New York. Mrs. Collins, who was formerly a Casino chorus girl, and has been frequently heralded as a coming front opera singer about to make her debut after years of study, never seemed to care for the life she has led in Paris. She has organized concerts to make ends meet and her success has not been so great that she proposes to continue.

In Paris Mr. Collins is supposed to be a millionaire, which is not true. He is a millionaire in white goods importing firm in New York. His wife has announced to the American colony that she has decided that either her allowance must be resumed or she will return to New York and live with her husband. If neither of these things is possible she will return to the stage.

W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and his wife (who was Virginia Fair) are here shopping and sightseeing. Yesterday they went to Fontainebleau, spending the day in visiting the chateau. A telegram having reached them today from Gibraltar that the yacht Valiant had passed eastward, the young couple announced they would start for Marseilles tomorrow to meet the party.

Denial by Boni's Mother.

The venerable Marquise de Castellane, mother of Count Boni de Castellane, today made this statement:

"I have been distressed beyond measure by the cowardly and unheroic attacks made upon Count Boni de Castellane, who is so far away that it is impossible for him to defend himself.

"When we first read the newspaper accounts the marquis and myself were dazed with grief. Imagine what it meant, our son, the heir to the fortune of the family, executed and treated like a dangerous confidence man. We had never known the count to speculate and feel very sure that even if caught in a disaster he would apply to his family for help rather than be disgraced.

"It was evident to us from the first that the newspapers had been purposely misinformed by some of his many social and political enemies. Paris life is full of this sort of treachery. However, in order to guard against any possible delusion we might have been under, my husband, the marquis, wrote the details to the newspapers. We imagine the New York dailies are full of this matter and that when my son and his wife arrive there tomorrow they will be greeted with this awful story the moment they land. That is why I earnestly request you to deny the details to the newspapers. My husband assured Mrs. Marquise that her statement would be called immediately.

Course of the Paris Papers.

The Temps, Matin and Figaro are the three papers which simultaneously published the story of Count Boni de Castellane's bizarre disaster last Thursday. Next day the count's father wrote to the editors letters denying the truth of his son's story. Le Matin and Le Temps inserted it without comment. The Figaro, however, practically reiterated its original charges against Boni, remarking that because of the grave consequences of the count defaulting on a loan, it was natural that his father should do his utmost to discredit the story.

Moreover, the same paper registered the rumor that the old marquis had substituted himself for Boni, mortgaging the shabby remnants of his estate and signing notes to cover the debt. This was said to be the reason why Anna Gould's husband was not "executed." The last assertion has been so far left uncontradicted by the marquis.

Reporters of several other American newspapers, desirous of making a sensation in any cost, have telegraphed strong confirmations of Count Boni de Castellane's bizarre losses, but their stories, examined logically, will show no proofs in support of what they affirm so positively. I have investigated the case thoroughly and while I would not care to state that Boni did not speculate and lose I will say, without fear of contradiction, that the American correspondents who confirmed the first rumors did so out of their own heads, because the proofs, one way or the other, at the present time, are unavailable. Meanwhile many peo-

GRIP'S RAVAGES IN LONDON

Death Rate During the Past Week is Thirteen-Seven, While Normality It is Nineteen.

CHAMBERLAIN PLANNING TO HOLD ON

If Buller Can Believe Lady Smith's Present Ministry Will Continue.

ANOTHER DEFEAT WILL CAUSE UPHEAVAL

Prominent English Yachtsman Argues for Use of Dumdum Bullets.

PROTESTS AGAINST HUMANITARIANISM

Boers Use the Manner and Follow Humane Methods in Conducting the War—Dutch Uprising is Threatened in Cape Colony.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The ravages of the grip in London nowadays are worse than at any time since the original epidemic in 1831. The death rate last week was thirty-seven, as compared with a normal figure of nineteen.

Undertakers are worked to death, the removal of coffins is almost exhausted and it is extremely difficult to get laborers to repair the coffins. The medical profession is convinced that the extreme depression caused by the war conduces to aggravate this epidemic. The funerals are so numerous that the supply of black horses has run out and the undertakers are using dark bays.

Two peers, the marquis of Lothian and Earl Manserv, died of the grip this week. Among those now ill with the grip are the duchess of Devonshire, the marchioness of Lansdowne, the countess of Warwick, the countess of Rosary, Earl and Countess Spencer and the marquis and marchioness of Londonderry.

The epidemic got foothold in the queen's household at Osborne, but immediate isolation restricted it to the nine underservants originally attacked. The duke of York got a slight attack at Sandringham, from which he is recovering.

The House of Commons, always a center for the grip, is being carefully fumigated throughout, with a view to the opening on January 30, and the clerk has been directed to arrange for a complete fumigation of the chamber and all the members' rooms twice weekly until further notice.

On the Great Eastern railway alone ninety-three station masters, 200 conductors and 1,070 porters have been laid aside by the epidemic. It has also afflicted 32 per cent of the prisoners and warders at Holloway penitentiary.

A leading medical paper advises those who desire to escape the epidemic to "avoid all causes of depression, whether from overwork, underfeeding, fear of the malady or inordinate apprehension of immediate or future results of the war."

LONDON PAPERS WAKING UP

Mrs. Buller's Adoption of American Methods Forces Change in the Standard—Other Moves.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Standard, the most old-fashioned and conservative of the London journals, has at last been forced to move with the times owing to the severe competition set up by the success of the Daily Mail in adopting American methods.

W. H. Mudford, editor and trustee of the Standard for thirty years under the will of the late proprietor, Wallace Johnson, has been asked to resign. The Standard, hitherto assistant editor, who will be associated with young Wallace Johnson in the future management of the paper.

Mudford is a man of great culture and ability. He is a bachelor and has lived the life of a perfect recluse, never going into society, to a club or to any entertainment. His sole ambition was to make the Standard rival the Times in solidity and the stern exclusion of all but severely didactic matter. The interview has never been published in the columns of the Standard, but the new management is expected to change all that.

A new weekly illustrated 6-cent paper called the Sphere will be produced here under the editorship of Clement Shorter next month. Shorter left the Illustrated London News to start the new venture, and Sir William Ingram, its proprietor, now advertises the publication of another new weekly illustrated, the first number to be issued two days before Shorter's and to be named the Spear.

AMERICAN SCHOOL EXHIBIT

Showing to Be Made at Paris Will Be Revelation to the European Nations.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—M. Piaré, director in general of the Paris Exposition, announced that most of the buildings are now in an advanced state of construction and the opening of the exposition will take place on the advertised date. The American section is the subject of many appreciative notices in the press.

The Rev. Franchise says: "From every point of view the United States will have a place worthy of them." And adds that it considers that the exhibit of American schools will be a revelation to European nations. Space has been secured for exhibits from Cuba, Hawaii and Puerto Rico in the portion allotted to the United States in its colonies, and the exhibit will be shown under the American flag.

Maxim Solving Aerial Flight.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Lord Rayleigh, the famous scientist, speaking at the Royal Institution, said: "I agree with Hiram Maxim that the only question of money, Maxim has overcome many of the difficulties himself. There are many birds which seem able to maintain themselves with little apparent effort. It is all a question of relative motion, as when a horizontal wind is of no use to the sailing bird. There has been a good deal of scepticism as to whether it is a matter of suction from above, but I have conclusively proved by experiment that it is the case."

Queen Will Not Sail in Yacht.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Queen Victoria, it is stated, will shortly be announced, as she was never trust herself to the magnificent new vessel which she intended when it was being floated out of the dock. A grave blunder was made in the construction, as the vessel must be sunk twelve inches below the water line to attain stability. The yacht is costing \$1,000,000. Sir William White, the chief constructor and navy designer, says alterations were made which he declined to approve.

Betrothal of Count of Turin.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) ROME, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The betrothal of the count of Turin, King Humbert's nephew, to the Infanta Maria, elder sister of the king of Spain, will shortly be announced. The Infanta Maria recently refused the hand of Orleans, who was worsted in a duel by the count of Turin. The count's father, the duke of Aosta, occupied the Spanish throne for some time.

HANGING IN BALANCE

Continuance of Cabinet in Power Depends on War Developments.

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Boers Use the Manner and Follow Humane Methods in Conducting the War—Dutch Uprising is Threatened in Cape Colony.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The approach of the opening of Parliament excites active speculation as to the probable immediate political results of the loss of British prestige in South Africa. Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, feeling the radicals concentrating all their forces for an attack on him, has caused the significant proclamation to be published in the Birmingham organ that the cabinet will stand or fall as a whole and if defeated in the House of Commons no reconstructed ministry will result, but an immediate general election.

This threat of a general election is calculated to appeal with equal strength to the disqualified ministers, who are completely would be jeopardized, and to the radicals, who as yet are unprepared for an appeal to the country. Even in a supreme national crisis like this claims of party expediency, in a final resort, the dominating influence in Parliament and Chamberlain takes his measure accordingly.

The Tory papers which have been attacking the government, frightened by the effect of their words, are moderating their criticisms and if Buller can believe Lady Smith before Parliament meets, the Tory clamor against the ministry and the War department will be completely stilled. Another disaster, on the other hand, would certainly provoke a peculiar crisis which the politicians could not prevent from overwhelming the ministry.

Refinement of Cruelty.

The duke of Somerset writes to the papers protesting against the continued employment of "irk IV" bullet by the British forces on the grounds of human kindness. He strongly urges the use of the "dumdum" bullets as the best means of disabling the Boers.

W. B. Jameson, the famous yachtsman, who sailed the prince of Wales' Britannia round the world, is in the war of wits with the duke of Somerset's suggestion, saying: "The daily humanitarianism that approves of the shells and professes to be shocked at the use of dumdum bullets in one of those puzzles which afflict mankind."

In view of these cold-blooded counsels to the duke of Somerset, it is not surprising that the respondent of the British Medical journal, who writes: "The wounds of the Boers, both of entrance and exit, were small, presented a clean punched-out appearance and were almost entirely free from contusion or laceration."

Thus the Boers, who are fighting desperately for life and independence, are content to employ humane bullets, while the English, who are engaged in a war of aggression, cry out for missiles to mutilate the Boers. On the subject of wounds Surgeon Major Young says that out of 300 bullet wounds under his cognizance at Colenso, ninety were in the head, seven in the face, three in the neck, twenty in the back and spine, seventy-six at the upper extremity and 118 at the lower extremity. There were only eight shell wounds and only four gunshot fractures.

Miner in a Quandary.

Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner in South Africa and governor of Cape Colony, is in a quandary over the trial of forty-one Cape Dutchmen charged at arms at Douglas and now undergoing a preliminary magistrate investigation at Capetown. They can only be convicted by the unanimous verdict of a jury, and unless all the Dutch jurors are present, it is feared that no verdict will be obtainable.

But this resort to jury-packing by the exclusion of the Dutch, one of the commonest instruments of the government in Ireland, would precipitate a Dutch revolt which only the necessary exclusion of Premier Schreiner's cabinet and ex-Premier Hofmeyr have hitherto prevented.

Trial by jury could be abolished temporarily by a proclamation of martial law, but Premier Schreiner will not assent to that measure and Sir Alfred Milner is afraid to take the entire responsibility for it. An indefinite postponement of the trial has been suggested, but that would be equivalent to confession of impotence, which Milner would immediately weaken the hands of British power. So the minister of this unjust war continue to confound its authors.

Colonel Wyndham Murray, an ex-guardsman, writes to the Times suggesting that photographs be sent to South Africa to take messages to their relatives from dying soldiers and to register wills on the field of battle. The idea is that each chaplain should carry along a phonograph.

DUKE TAKES FULL RETINUE

Mrs. Belmont Cares for the Duchess During the Trying Hours of Parting.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The duke of Marlborough, to his great chagrin, failed to get an appointment on Lord Roberts' staff. So he has gone to the war after all as a lieutenant in the Oxfordshire yeomanry. His personal transport arrived at Southampton on Thursday. The other yeomanry officers take each two chargers and one sumpter (pack) horse. The duke has four chargers and four sumpter horses in the care of four servants, a light luggage cart and a smart carriage.

He is accompanied by two valets, two coachmen and two footmen and has provided himself with a large stock of preserved delicacies, cigars, choice wines, a medicine chest, surgical appliances and enough linen and underwear to render him independent of laundresses for months. Everyone prophesies that he will be invalided home in less than three months. He is anything but robust and is young enough to be liable to get typhoid fever.

Irish Jews are Counting.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Maurice Gonne, the "Irish Jew of Art," sailed from Havre for New York today on the steamer Normandie.

Go-go of Mules Sails.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 20.—The British steamship Corinthia cleared today for Capetown with 1,400 mules for the British government, also a large quantity of feedstuff.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Jan. 19.

At New York—Sailed—Emsa, for Genoa, etc. Arrived—Hesperia, from Genoa, etc. At New York, from Southampton and Cherbourg; Celtic, from Liverpool; Gera, from Bremen; Columbia, from Liverpool and Queenstown.

At Genoa—Arrived—Columbia, from New York.

At London—Arrived—Michigan, from New York.

Bremen—Sailed—Dresden, for New York and Baltimore.

FIGHT ALL DAY LONG

Olely with Part of Warren's Force in Action Thirteen Hours.

ADVANCE THREE MILES DURING DAY

Buller Reports the Troops Are Evidently on the Ground Gained.

MAIN BOER POSITION STILL IN FRONT

New Guns Throwing Eight-Inch Shells Used by Ladysmith Besiegers.

BOER LOOKOUTS ARE NOT SLEEPING

Know Every Move Made by the British Forces—Transvaalians Select the Ground on Which to Give Battle.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 21.—4.30 a. m.—It is evident from General Buller's dispatch to the War office and the advice to the Associated Press from Sparrman's camp that a big battle is now being fought. As far as can be gathered from these dispatches the result remains undecided and unless the Boers withdraw during the night the engagement, on which hangs the fate of Ladysmith and which may prove the turning point of the whole war, will be resumed this morning.

QUIDA DENOUNCES THE WAR

Indulges in Scathing Criticism of England's Course in the South African Affair.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—"Quida" (Louise de la Ramee), like George Meredith, Frederic Harrison, Oscar Browning and a majority of the other leading writers, is utterly opposed to Great Britain's war on the Boer republic. She recently denounced the war in the following letter:

"No chance of fortune, no victories, no vengeance—however complete if tardy—no marching on Pretoria—will alter the feeling of Europe as regards the violation of right and justice of which Great Britain is guilty in this insidious, treacherous, soldiers' war, or as regards the fact that this war was declared less than six months after the British representative had given his adhesion to the international peace congress at The Hague.

"Ever since the South Africa committee and proceeded to the world a spectacle of secrecy, suborned evidence, suppressed truth and distorted testimony, beside which the Dreyfus case was mere child's play. Chamberlain has led the English nation from one fault or folly to another. He has perverted, inflated, his worst passions, fed its most greedy appetite and the nation does not retain either the courage or common sense to call him to account, although ministers less guilty have been impeached for far minor transgressions.

"I do not believe the country is at least realizes the shame it draws down upon itself in the eyes of the other nations. It is Joseph Chamberlain, not the Boers, who are the enemy of England. He is the enemy of England in the eyes of the Boers and the eyes of Europe. He and those who made this possible should alike be removed from all power in future for ever. Until England shows herself capable of doing this she must remain without dignity, capacity or honor in the sight of other peoples.

"What shall it serve the country if it gain a hemisphere for its colonies and lose its own good name? It is its good name in the eyes of the world that England loses and will lose so long as the tawdry imperialism of speculators and the majority of the Chamberlain party, the chief prophet shall utter from her tongue and blaze on her banners.

"That her press with a few exceptions has been sold to this doctrine marks her action against it more difficult, but also more incumbent, an imperative duty of doing this she must remain without dignity, capacity or honor in the sight of other peoples.

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Famous Picture Sold.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) WINCHESTER, England, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Sir Benjamin West's famous picture, "The Raising of Lazarus," an ornament of Winchester cathedral for more than a hundred years, has been sold for \$7,500 to Tiffany of New York. Dean Stephens says: "To the best of my knowledge the picture is intended for the new cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York, a much more fitting home than this cathedral, where it is out of harmony with its surroundings and spoiled in proportions by the new altar and screens. The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to various decorative works."

Boers Fire Eight-Inch Shells.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LADYSMITH, Jan. 20.—(Special Telegram.)—The Boers fired eight-inch shells and have been bombarding more vigorously for the last few days, though little damage has been done. Three of the British force have been wounded and one killed. The Boers did not reply and a majority of them remained silent.

Lord Dundonald's force on Thursday surprised 250 Boers. The British, who were posted on a kopje, allowed the Boers to advance leisurely before opening fire. The Boers did not reply and a majority of them remained silent. It is reported that the remainder of the force is being moved.

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Boer Lookouts are Not Asleep.

English Movements Watched by Enemy—Boers Sing Hymns.

BOER HEADQUARTERS, Upper Tugela, Friday, Jan. 19.—(Via Lourenco Marques, Tuesday, Jan. 19, afternoon.)—It became known today that 300 English had crossed the pont drift over the Great Tugela and were on the federal side. A display in force had been made toward Colenso and another toward the Boers' Hoek bridge, which was blown up by us a few days ago. Toward 5 o'clock the alarm was given that the English were coming. The lookouts observed long successive lines of infantry moving down to the new British position, a bush-covered chain of hills known as Swartkop. Their forces were sometimes lost in the trees straddling the river bank.

At 6 o'clock they emerged in open order and advanced in two lines to the low kopjes on the river bank. At 6.30 they took up a position and complete silence on the Boer side, their horses tethered where there was the least danger from chance shells, and the men prepared to make a night of it at their posts. Night had fallen. With the gloom came brief flashes of lightning from the thunderclouds which had been threatening all day. The clouds eventually separated, showing the moon.

Simultaneously with the clearing sky well known Dutch hymns were repeated from kopje to kopje with a strangely weird effect, hardly inspiring both the graybeards and the headless youths. The battlefield is full of historical significance. Spioekop hill, whence I am now writing, was a hill from which the Boer trekkers, after crossing the Dakenberg mountains, spied out the then barbaric Natal and found it fair in their eyes.

MAY RAISE SIEGE OF MAFEKING.

Price of Everything Going Up Rapidly in the Transvaal.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) MAFEKING, Bechuanaland, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—All accounts from near and far indicate a raising of the long siege of this place. Prices of everything, especially provender, are going up rapidly in the Transvaal on account of the war. Troops and civilians in Mafeking are well. There is little to chronicle in the way of news. Life here is monotonous. The Boers

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—Fair; Slightly Colder; Variable Winds.

ROADS PLAY HAND

Ask the State Board of Transportation to Restore Hundred-Pound Rates.

WANT ITS FORMER ORDER RESCUED

Claim that Change from Carload Rates Will Not Be Disadvantageous.

TRANSPORTATION COST NOT INCREASED

Ask to Have the Suit in the Douglas County District Court Dismissed.

BOARD HOLDS AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Great Pressure is Being Brought to Bear on That Body to Have Them Do as the Roads Wish.

LINCOLN, Jan. 20.—(Special Telegram.)—The State Board of Transportation has been asked by the railroad doing business in Nebraska to rescind its order of two years ago restoring carload rates on shipments of live stock. They contend that the change from the carload to the 100-pound rates does not materially increase the cost of transportation, especially on large shipments.

The board is also asked to have dismissed the case now pending in the district court of Douglas county against the Union Pacific railroad to recover fines for the violation of the order.

The petition was considered by the Board of Transportation and its secretary in executive session this afternoon, in the conclusion of which it was decided to defer the whole matter until Monday. The strictest secrecy prevailed at the close of the meeting, all the members of the board being extremely reticent regarding the proceedings.

RELATIONS WITH TRANSVAAL

Montague White Not Likely to Be Given Official Recognition by Washington Authorities.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—(Special Telegram.)—Montague White, consul of the Transvaal at London, is in Washington as the accredited diplomatic representative of the South African republic. His presence in this capacity occasions much speculation whether the State department will receive him in official capacity. The weight of opinion among those conversant with diplomatic affairs is that our government cannot recognize him as the diplomatic representative of the Transvaal. According to the convention of 1884 between Great Britain and the Transvaal, the former country was accorded the privilege of passing upon any treaties the Transvaal might make, except with its neighbor, the Orange Free State. Our government is obliged to recognize this arrangement. Had the Transvaal established diplomatic relations with this country after 1884 and before the outbreak of the present war, they would have been continued despite the war. But to receive a diplomatic representative of Great Britain now would be regarded as an unfriendly act toward a friendly nation, as it would be in effect a nullification by our government of the convention of 1884 between warring countries and an assumption of the right to enter into a treaty with the Transvaal without regard to Great Britain's right of veto of such treaty under that convention.

Besides, there is grave doubt as to the constitutional power of the executive to take such action in the absence of specific authority by congress, inasmuch as it might possibly be construed by Great Britain as an act of war. It is true the United States has a consul at Pretoria, but he is charged with no diplomatic functions. A Transvaal consul in this country has no diplomatic standing. Consuls in fact are commercial, not diplomatic agents of the country employing them. The president of the United States may receive Mr. White as a private person, but not as diplomatic representative of the Transvaal. In receiving him in an official capacity no offense can be taken by Great Britain, while quite as much can be effected in that way as though he were positively received as the diplomatic representative of the government at Pretoria.

Mr. White's position is somewhat complicated by the fact that he is a subject of Great Britain and not a citizen of the Transvaal republic. His reception in a private capacity by the president is a satisfactory settlement of the matter, while it can give no just offense to the British government.

There is some talk in congress of that body's taking action toward recognizing the two South African republics, the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, as independent states and in nowise under the suzerainty of Great Britain. Whether definite action in this direction will be taken will probably depend on what happens in South Africa in the near future.

MACRUM REFUSES TO TALK

Has No Information for Press—Will Keep His Secret Until He Meets His Secretary.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) NAPLES, Jan. 20.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—I heard the East African liner Koening this morning and met Mr. Macrum, lately the United States consul at Pretoria, breakfasting with his wife and child.

Macrum was sallow and languid, having suffered much from fever. His wife, also, is out of health. Only their fair-haired 3-year-old child was looking well.

I acquainted Macrum with