

SYMPATHY MISPLACED.

John Hays Hammond, Outlander and Mining Engineer, gives the English Side of the Controversy in South Africa.

It is little short of criminal for American statesmen, through their ignorance of the real facts, to attempt to justify the position of the Boer government in its controversy with England. I find that sympathy for the Boer, is, for the great part, based upon either an ineradicable hatred of the English race, or race sympathy for the Boers, right or wrong, and finally a sympathy based upon a misconception of the true inwardness of South African political affairs. It is to the last named class of Americans I address my remarks.

But for the large investments of the European capitalists on the one hand and the technical direction of American engineers on the other hand, the Transvaal mining industry would not have achieved any significant success.

Since the Jameson raid and before the Boers have been actively pursuing a scheme of conspiracy for driving the English from South Africa. They have been buying guns, building, fortifications, and hiring foreign officers. President Kruger was waiting for a rupture with England and some continental power as his chance for fighting for independence. But no such favorable opening presented itself, and, in my judgment, the recent insulting ultimatum of the Boer government, followed by its instant invasion of the British colonies of Natal and the Cape, was forced upon President Kruger by his inability to control any longer the widespread conspiracy he had carefully built up.

Today England is fighting, among other things, for the establishment of the principle that there should be no taxation without representation.

Now, I will state to you what are known as the outlanders' grievances, and you can then determine whether the reform movement of 1895 was or was not justifiable.

The franchise law in the Transvaal is that the applicant must renounce in the first instance allegiance to all other countries; he is then under probation for a period of fourteen years, during which time he is liable to be called upon by the state for military duty. After the expiration of fourteen years he may secure citizenship, provided he obtains in writing a petition signed by two-thirds of the burghers in the district in which he resides, and provided furthermore that he receives the sanction of the President and Executive council.

According to our Declaration of Independence, "governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed."

We objected to the subversion of the

high court of justice, in which rested our only hope of legal redress.

We objected to the alien's expulsion act, by which an outlander can be put over the border at the will of the president without the right of appeal to a court of justice—a course open to the offending burgher.

We objected to the public meetings act, which left discretionary power in the hands of Boer policemen to suppress assemblages.

We objected to being taxed to maintain schools in which Dutch was exclusively taught.

We objected to the maladministration of laws as to native labor, the Boers lying in wait to rob the natives of their earnings on their way from the mines to their homes.

Finally, we objected to the prevalent official corruption and to the granting of concessions giving monopolies for the sale of supplies indispensable to the outlanders. With the concessionaires government officials were generally associated in the great profit derived.

In view of the facts, it is nothing less than disingenuous to affect a sympathy for a republic which, as you must admit, is one in name only.

EDITORIAL ARTICLES WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN THE REBELLION.

The Puerto Rico tariff is a protective measure, passed by the House, and favorably reported in the Senate upon the demand of protected industries. It is going to stand as long as the Republican party is in power, whether two years or twenty. It is silly as well as cowardly for those who call themselves Republicans to lie about the matter.—[New York Press (Imperialist Rep.).

The advocates of free trade for Puerto Rico appear to labor under the impression that we owe the Puerto Ricans something for having delivered them from Spanish control, instead of the shoe being on the other foot, with all the obligation on the side of the Puerto Ricans. This country owes the new possessions nothing whatever. Their territory came under our possession as the spoils of war.—[New Orleans Picayune (Imperialist Dem.)

AN ORGAN'S TREACHERY.

The Hartford Courant is actually printing the Puerto Rican passage of the December message under the head of "What the President Said Three Months Ago." If the Courant keeps up this course of treachery, it may reach the point of printing what the President said some years ago in favor of silver, or what he said some years ago about Mr. Cleveland's wickedness in depositing government money in favored banks.—[Waterbury (Conn.) American (Ind.)

MONEY IN CATALPA TREES.

Mr. Burson, of Topeka, Figures There is Great Profit in Them.

D. C. Burson, of Topeka, specialist in the planting and culture of catalpa trees for profit, was in this city today, returning from Matteson, Kas., where he is planting 26,000 of the trees on a place owned by Mr. Macombs, of Lawrence. Mr. Burson had this to say about catalpa planting:

"Mr. Hall, assistant superintendent of tree planting in Washington, D. C., was at my home in Topeka two weeks ago, on his way back to Washington from a visit to the 800 acres of catalpa trees in Reno county owned by Mr. Yagga, a wealthy man of Chicago. Mr. Hall was sent out from Washington to visit this forest of catalpa trees and make a report about it. Those trees were set out ten years ago on soil that was none too good. Mr. Hall selected one acre of average sized trees and counted and measured every tree on that acre and ascertained the present actual market value of the trees if cut now for posts, poles and lumber. He deducted from this the original cost of planting the trees, the cost of caring for them since and found that the present net profit on the 800 acres is \$232 an acre. That, in ten years the trees have been growing, is the same as if Mr. Yagga had rented the land at \$23 an acre. Mr. Hall told me that the trees were only just beginning to get to a good marketable size. He estimated that in ten years more the trees on that 800 acres would be worth \$1,000 an acre and that is the substance of the report he will make.

"There is nothing I know of that is so profitable for men of small capital to go into as the planting of catalpa trees. A man who has 160 acres could plant it now in catalpa trees at a cost of about \$60 an acre and with very little attention the trees would be worth in twelve or fifteen years \$1,000 an acre. That would be \$160,000, a better investment for a man's family than life insurance."

A HINT TO ASSESSORS.

The attention of the assessors, who will meet in this city shortly, is called to chapter 77, art. 1, sec. 7 of the statutes of this state in which it is stipulated that the person shall list all his moneys, stocks (when not assessed in this state), money loaned or invested in franchises and other personalty and all of the above mentioned credits controlled by him as agent for some other person. Personal property, not required to be listed otherwise, shall be listed in the county in which the owner resides. If the assessors would consult the recorders' offices of the various counties and agree upon a system of reporting, a great deal of property could be assessed which has hitherto escaped taxation.