GAIN FOR THE AMERICANS.

Business Will Boom After the African War Is Over.

Special Correspondence of THE STAR.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 17.—Whichever way the war turns out, America will be the gainer in a business way. If England wins, no end of American machinery will be needed in the Transvaal, and if the Boers win substantially the same business will be assured. Boer victory will not mean relapse into primitive civilization. The rugged Dutchmen will be ambitious to take their place among the nations of the earth.

The war has caused a suspension of mining operations in South Africa, but the temporary loss of trade is more imaginary than real. The exceptional demand for iron and steel products in the United States and Great Britain and Germany keeps the foundries of the world busy, and if there were now any demand in South Africa it could not be supplied. It is not unlikely that the mining section of this continent will again want iron and steel when the rest of the world is once more confronted by an overproduction. Many Americans have already made fortunes in mechanical supplies, and wealth awaits many more, provided they keep out of speculation in mining schemes.

Up to the time of the declaration of war 90 per cent of the mining machinery at the gold and diamond mines was of American manufacture. An even greater percentage of agricultural implements came from America. Vehicles of all kinds were American, and not so long ago the mule propelled cars along Dutoitspan road, Kimberley, bore the inscription, "Broadway, From Battery to Central Park"—relics of the days of horse cars on Broadway.

American liquors, such as beer and whisky, American clothing, American wagons and American hardware have all been favorites in South Africa. Then, too, Americans themselves have been well treated. An American is the practical head of the De Beers diamond mines. An American was formerly the state mining engineer in the Transvaal, and fully one-half of the mine managers at the Witwatersrand gold mines are Americans.

AVENUE OF GUM TREES IN PRETORIA.

There has been much talk about the annihilation of the Boers. Most people predict ultimate English victory in the present struggle, but the Boers will secure terms which will not be wholly disadvantageous. They have already won the respect of the civilized world, including their antagonists. Beautiful Pretoria, with its shaded streets and picturesque scenery, will be one of the most attractive and flourishing cities in the world.

The greatest drawback to Pretoria is its railroad connection, and that is the case with the rest of the Transvaal. The railways of South Africa are the slowest and most uncertain of any in the world. The Boer does not want to travel fast and objects also to others traveling fast. From an American standpoint to travel 220 miles in two days is not much of a feat in railroading, but to cover that distance by rail in 48 hours is a marvelous thing in the Transvaal. It is related that most Boers make their wills before going on a railroad journey, and it is not to be marveled at, for the ordinary Transvaal locomotive leaves the tracks about once an hour. There is a tradition among railroaders on the notorious Biera railroad that an especially careful and skillful engineer once performed the remarkable feat of running his locomotive over the entire length of the line without its leaving the rails but 19 times.

Peace must come sooner or later, and then America will reap the reward of British aggression and Boer stubbornness. South Africa will need much mining machinery, corrugated iron houses, clothing, underwear, nails, hats—in fact, everything that a human being needs will be wanted. South Africa has no manufactories. Everything must be imported, whether it be whisky or clothing. Even agriculture has been neglected in the mad rush for wealth. Legitimate business has been abandoned for speculation, and commercial honesty has been conspicuous for its absence. There will be a healthier condition of affairs after the war, and Americans will be in position to make profitable use of their peculiar advantages.

CECIL HOYT.

A Thousand Tongues

Could not express the rapture of Annie E Springer, of 1125 Howard St., Philadelphia, Pa., when she found that Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption had completely cured her of a hacking cough that for many years had made life a burden. All other remedies and doctors could give her no help, but she says of this royal cure: "It soon removed the pain in my chest, and I can now sleep soundly, something I can scarcely remember doing before. I feel like sounding its praises throughout the universe." So will everyone who tries Dr. King's New Discovery for any trouble of the throat, chest or lungs. Price 50c. and $1. Trial bottles free at B. R. Wilson & Son's drug store. Every bottle guaranteed. 5

On the Gridiron.

The Little One—I'm a back.
The Tall One—I'm a half back.
The Little One—H'm! The half seems to be greater than the whole.—**Judy.**

Robbed the Grave.

A startling incident of which Mr. John Oliver, of Philadelphia, was the subject, is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters,' and to my great joy and surprise, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50 cents, guaranteed, at B. R. Wilson & Son's drug store. 5

All but the Public.

"What sort of a reception did your new tragedy have at its first production yesterday?"

"Oh, magnificent! Only the public didn't seem to take very kindly to it."
—Heitere Welt.

I want to let the people who suffer from rheumatism and sciatica know that Chamberlain's Pain Balm relieved me after a number of other medicines and a doctor had failed. It is the best liniment I have ever known of.—J. A. Dodgen, Alpharetta, Ga. Thousands have been cured of rheumatism by this remedy. One application relieves the pain. For sale by B. R. Wilson & Son.

A Brilliant Couple.

When the Spanish minister and his American wife drive out in Washington, they attract no little attention. They drive in a very handsomely appointed victoria, and the men on the box are in very light liveries, with brilliant scarlet cockades in their hats. The duke is very fair and the duchess a decided brunette, and they make a very handsome couple. They are great friends of Admiral and Mrs. Dewey.

"Experience is the Best Teacher."

We must be willing to learn from the experience of other people. Every testimonial in favor of Hood's Sarsaparilla is the voice of experience to you, and it is your duty, if your blood is impure and your health failing to take this medicine. You have every reason to expect that it will do for you what it has done for others. It is the best medicine money can buy.

Hood's Pills are non-irritating, mild, effective.

THE ORIENTAL OUTLOOK.

What Former Minister Barrett Says of the Far East.

Special Correspondence of THE STAR.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—"While in Siam," said former United States Minister John Barrett recently, "I had many opportunities to visit all parts of Asia. I have been in China, Japan, Siberia, Java, Borneo, Korea, India and the Philippines. China is an interesting country. The population is at least 300,000,000, and probably 350,000,000 is a more correct estimate. I have met a number of the leading men of the nation. When received by Li Hung Chang, he asked me if I was 50 years old. Considering my age, this would not have been flattering in our own country, but I afterward learned that the wily statesman intended the query as a compliment. He intended to infer surprise that one so young should represent the United States in such an important position.

GATE TOWER NEAR PEKING, WHERE A RAILROAD STATION WILL BE LOCATED.

"I have also met Sheng, who is at the head of the Chinese railroads. He is one of the ablest and wealthiest men in China and is worth at least $30,000,000. It is his belief that his country is destined to have a railroad system second only to that of the United States. Kang Yu Wei, the Chinese reformer, who, it will be remembered, was compelled to leave his native country, believes in the future of China, but claims that she must be freed from the domination of certain politicians. He wishes, of course, that China should be turned over to the reform party. The present Chinese minister at Washington is another capable man. He believes that China is abundantly able to take care of herself if outside powers will only let her alone.

"Marquis Ito is doubtless the ablest statesman in Japan. He says that the Japanese empire has a great future herself and that she will always exert a strong influence in the far east. He is also of the opinion that there will be no great war in the immediate future in Asia, and the different nations will work out their own salvation.

"While stationed in Siam I visited the Philippines and made a thorough study of conditions in that group. In private conversations and personal letters and in frequent reports made to our government I stated years before we thought of fighting Spain that in proportion to size and population the Philippines surpassed all other countries of Asia in variety and extent of great staple products and in natural resources awaiting development, together with conditions favorable to the support of a large population.

"When I went about the islands, the fact which impressed me most was opening of the Philippines to the commerce of the world. I recall when standing with General Blanco, then the governor general, during a review of Spanish troops in progress on the Luneta that he remarked that it was fortunate for Spain and the United States that we were always at peace. He said this as he gazed with admiration upon the seemingly strong body of Spanish soldiery passing.

"The island of Luzon is about the size of New York state, and the Philippine group has a population of 8,000,000. Yet Java, which is the same size as Luzon, supports a population of 20,000,000. These figures show the immense growth which must come in time to the Philippines.

"There is room for the investment of $500,000,000 in new enterprises in the Philippines. One-fifth of this sum might be put in railroads. Sugar, hemp, tobacco, rice, cocoanuts, coffee, vanilla beans, spices, fruits and a large variety of other products can be profitably raised. Gold, silver, copper, tin, iron and soft and hard coal are found in the islands. The climate is far better than it has been represented. Near Manila are high mountains, and I have no doubt that many hotels, hospitals, barracks and sanitariums will there be erected."

WILLIAM R. BRITTON.