









Suid Afrikaan.

Cape Town November 18, 1905.

WANTED A MAN.

In our last issue, we briefly adverted to a scheme by which the difficulties and dangers arising from our unemployed labour might not only be met, but turned to very advantageous account. The Cape proverbial for its liberality in the cause of suffering humanity, never mind from what quarter the wail of distress is raised, would seem, however, to be very callous, shortsighted, and remarkably impervious to emotion when the cry of the hungry is heard among themselves, and dinned into their ears, at their own very doors. This is unquestionably a remarkable psychological phenomenon, and requires some sort of solution. We do not now intend to unravel it, we only state it as a sort of inexplicable fact, and give expression, at the same time, to our wonder, that it should be so. Heaven, it is said helps those that help themselves, but we are not aware that heavenly aid is vouchsafed to those who do not fulfil their part of the conditions of the contract. At all events, it seems pretty clear that the gods have not been excessively propitious, nor over extravagant in the bestowal of their favours upon us Colonists for the last few years. We do not wish to weary our readers, nor get ourselves out of temper, by raking up the dust-bin of the disasters, commercial, political, and social, which have lately overtaken, and almost overwhelmed us. We shall not even stop short to enquire whether the present state of things might, or could have been prevented. Our impression is, that it could, and would have been, had we had the desideratum which heads this article. Governors of course, like other animated beings, are liable to err, even when there is no particular object for their eccentricity, or "method in their madness." Parliaments also are by no means infallible, else why have parliamentary farces been perpetrated here annually, and that too, for a considerable portion of each year, with comparatively neutral, or rather negative results? Any one who has watched with interest the history of the Colony for the last few years, cannot be otherwise impressed than with the idea, that our material progress, like that of the crab, has been retrogressive, and that this condition has arisen in a great measure from that laissez faire principle which is the usual concomitant of a people well to do, as well as of a people reduced to desperation. Excellence is, or ought to be, the motto of every colonist in South Africa, and every where else; but when that course cannot be attained, we must just lump it, and try to make the ends meet as well as we can. There was a time in the history of the Colony, when we had a man among us, that was the late Mr. Montagu. During his administration, the public service was provided for. Internal communication by roads, bridges, &c., was facilitated. The Cape Downs, which were a mass of drifting sand, were reclaimed for the purposes of agriculture. In spite of opposition, he constructed his road through the Downs, and there it remains to the present date, a testimony to what a MAN can do. It may be said that the railway has superseded the hard road. True to some extent, but had it not been for the indomitable perseverance of Montagu, in bridging the flats, we should yet be dreaming of the railway to Wellington, which is already a fait accompli.

We could mention many other instances of the beneficial effects which have resulted to the Colony from the enterprise, pluck and perseverance of individuals, but we do not wish to drag their names prominently forward. We may only say generally, that the British Settlers of 1820, converted the Zuurveld, a country in the language of Pringle "Abandoned by fame and fear," into one of the most productive regions of South Africa. But there were men among them. And whatever Western politicians may say, there are men there still.

We may be wrong in our theory, but we think the great want of South Africa is the want of a Man, who has at once the confidence of the public, the disinterestedness, and the diplomatic and administrative ability to control and direct the hub y-lorsional vagaries of would-be leaders of public opinion, and the self constituted dictators of public action.

Of the latter class we unfortunately have too many. But what, or whom do they represent? Is it not too frequently themselves and their own individual interests? Or are they striving patriotically for the benefit of the country of their birth, or rather, in most instances, that of their adoption, without any longling lingering look as to which side of the Ledger, the results of their public efforts shall be entered? We believe, without any disparagement to the Mercantile Interest, that the Ledger is the pole star by which they steer their political courses.

It is of no use (under present circumstances) for us to reiterate what we have already so often said, that commerce can never make this colony. Our products are extremely limited, and with the exception of wool, comparatively valueless as Exports. Our Imports have hitherto been in fearful excess of our Exports, and if this remains so, we must inevitably in the end, be absolutely ruined. It may be that we are not so far from that goal to which we are hastening, yet we would not hope, that behind the dark cloud that now overhangs us, there may be a silver lining. Be this as it may, there is no question that in the very few branches of colonial industry that have been already cultivated or developed, there are few master minds that have taken the lead, and in those that are still talked about we have, it is true, abundance of amateur cotton growers, coffee

cultivators, tobacco planters, irrigation mongers, water faders, fibre enthusiasts, and a host of others, but where is the man to carry any of these projects forward to a successful issue? He may be able to do very little, but if he discovers one new source of industry, and applies it, he is a great benefactor to the colony, and ought accordingly to be encouraged and supported. We are weary of repeating the thrice told tale, that to the soil alone we have to look, not only for our prosperity, but for our very subsistence. In years gone by, South African ground was valued principally for its extent, and situation, not for its productiveness. This false standard of valuation has naturally vanished with the abatement of the flood of money with which we were then inundated; and land generally speaking now, is considered to be only worth what it can be made to yield. The above, of course, are trite facts, but they have their significance. They clearly point to the necessity of the country bestirring itself. The Agricultural Societies may do a good deal, but we want not a society so much as a Representative Agriculturist; one who can "allure to better worlds, and lead the way."

We want a man, too, in the various industries to which we have alluded; and finally we want a man to unite, systematize and regulate the efforts of these leaders of varied industry. Of course the Governor of the Colony ought to be the man, but unfortunately happens, that Sir Philip does not suit, or come up to that standard. Whether his successor may do so, remains to be seen. But we ask our fellow colonists, and we ask them emphatically, whether it is compatible with their honor and dignity, and the duty they owe to themselves, that their prosperity, or the content of their Vicerey in whose nomination and appointment they have no voice?

APPOINTMENT.—Capt. M. L. Taylor, B.A., as acting military secretary, during the absence of Col. Travers.

SEQUESTRATION.—The estates of Abdul Wakiel, shoemaker, and Christopher Charles Long, miller, first and second meetings at the master's office, 22nd and 29th Nov.—Johannes Maath, farmer, ditto at the magistrate's office, Richmond, 2nd and 9th Dec.—Alexander Rennie, Bacon Syderier, farmer, and Peter Mitchell, farmer, ditto at ditto, Georgetown, 27th Nov. and 4th Dec.—Bastian Pieter Everhardus van Blerk, deceased, trader, ditto at ditto, Hopetown, 27th Nov. and 4th Dec.

COMPULSION.—The estates of John and Richard James Berry, of Port Elizabeth.

INTERSTATE ESTATE.—A meeting of the next of kin and creditors in the estate of Hans Tromp and surviving widow, will be held at the magistrate's office, Elands Post, 22nd Dec.

BANK NOTES.—The amount of notes in circulation on the 30th Sept. last, was as follows: Western Province—Cape of Good Hope, £10955; Cape Commercial, £11680; Colonial, £7255; South African, £3845; Union, £9995; Stellenbosch, £3135; Paarl, £9755; Western Province, £17160; Wellington, £7415; Malmesbury, £7005; Caledon, £445; Worcester, £1570; Swellendam, £2375; Montagu, £10; George, £195; London and South African (Cape Town), £2775; Standard (Cape Town, Beaufort West, Malmesbury, Mossel Bay and Victoria West) £12200.—Eastern Province—Queen's Town Agricultural, £1396; Queen's Town, £5908; Albert, £5254, 10; Frontier Commercial & Agricultural, Alwal North, £2813; Fort Beaufort & Victoria, £3690; Graaff Reinet, £4899; S. A. Central, Graaff-Reinet, £5994; Eastern Province, (Graham's Town and Grootdorp), £12394; Frontier Com. & Agr. (Graham's Town), £5478; Port Elizabeth, £7450; P. E. Commercial, £525; London & South Africa (Colesberg), Fort Beaufort, Graaff-Reinet, Graham's Town, Port Elizabeth, (Richmond), £11180; Standard (Burgersdorp, Colesberg, Cradock, Graham's Town, Middelburg, Port Elizabeth, Somerset East, and Uitenhage), £30,696.—Total, Western Province, £107500. Eastern Province, £105567, 10.

A NEW PAPER.—Messrs. PRKE & BYLES have issued a prospectus, setting forth the principles which will distinguish a paper—to be called the Cape Standard—to be published by them, thrice a week, on and after the 24th of January next.

SHAMEFUL IMPOSITION.—According to a communication from a correspondent of one of our contemporaries, dated Montagu, 8th instant, Spamer, who lately gave such a pitiful account of himself and his companions to the inhabitants of Clanwilliam, is an absconded horse stealer. Having in January last stolen a mare from Mr. G. D. Coenradie, he was pursued by the latter as far as Frasersburg, which he had pressed two days previously under the name of Paulsen. Since then nothing was heard of him. As to his alleged companions, two of them at least (Rosouw and Rothman) are at Montagu enjoying excellent health. The rogues are named Stoffel and not Frans Spamer. A warrant for his apprehension was published in the Gazette of the 7th February, last, from which we copy the following description: Stoffel Spamer, alias longling lingering look as to which side of the Ledger, the results of their public efforts shall be entered? We believe, without any disparagement to the Mercantile Interest, that the Ledger is the pole star by which they steer their political courses.

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of £25 per Muscadell or Frontignac, was not awarded, but the second of £12 10 was carried off by Mr. J. G. de Villiers. The prizes for red and white wine were awarded to Messrs. J. D. Bosman and J. H. Krige; whilst the prize for Lorraine Chianti was divided between Messrs. A. J. and J. W. Louw, whose samples were declared equal. Various samples of very superior wine were exhibited, but which could not come into competition, the owners not possessing the requisite quantity. The wine exhibited by Mr. A. D. J. Van Blerk, who gained the £20 prize, was of such a superior description that the judges even expressed a doubt whether it was really wine of the last vintage.

The sale of the wines exhibited will come off on Tuesday, the 21st inst.

CLANWILLIAM, Nov. 6.—Our Divisional Council, in its sitting of the 29th October last, reduced the travelling expenses of members from one pound to fifteen shillings, but the salary of the Secretary remains at £75, although it had been proposed to reduce that also. If people keep true to their word some of them will in the early part of next year, proceed to the Free State to look out for dwellings. If they really mean to do it, we better be doing so now when they might assist the Free State in its war with the B.utos. We have lately had fine rains here, but they were of little benefit to the crops which had then already faded. The future of this place is very gloomy, for it is quite certain that there will not be sufficient wheat for bread. Where the money required to pay taxes and other expenses is to come from it is difficult to conceive. Money was scarce enough as it was, and now everything to sustain life has been destroyed by the drought.—Correspondent.

GRAHAMSTOWN.—We have already given an account of the burglarious attack upon Mr. Gibbon, at his house, near Grahamstown. We now learn that Mr. Gibbon continues in a critical state. He is very low and feeble, but hopes are still entertained of his recovery. The miscreants who perpetrated the outrage have not yet been apprehended.—P. E. Telegraph.

EASTERN DISTRICTS COURT.—GRAHAMSTOWN.—The quarterly sessions held by Mr. Justice Denysen last just terminated in Grahamstown. The calendar was light, the following being the cases disposed of:—Jack Lawrence, horse-stealing. Sentence, three years' hard labor.—Jurie van der Schyf, a young Boer, stealing a gun, &c. Sentence, 18 months' hard labor.—Makate, sheep-stealing. Sentence, 12 months' hard labor and 25 lashes.—Charles Donald, a carpenter, theft. Sentence, 18 months' hard labor. Pr. oner pleaded guilty.—Klass and Faku, sheepstealing. Sentence, 6 months' hard labor and 15 lashes.—Jonas assault. Sentence 3 years' hard labor.—David Japp, poultrystealing. Sentence, 18 months' hard labor.—Mangani, aggravated assault. Sentence, 3 years' hard labor. James Orr, forgery. Sentence, 2 years' hard labor.

We hear that the Government intend building at once the new Court House and offices for the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate. The new offices are to be put up on the side of the old Library in High-street. The present building will be converted in Chambers, Court Room, Solicitor-General's and Masters' and Registrar's Office.

We regret to have to announce the death, at Port Beaufort, on Saturday last, at the residence of his father, of Mr. H. Meurant, second son of the late Sir H. Meurant, Bart., and son of L. H. Meurant, Esq., Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Port Beaufort.—Ibid.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.—A steady, well conducted farm servant, European, named John Foulmer, was returning home along the Cape Road a few days ago, when he was set upon by five Kaffirs, who robbed him of everything in his possession, and very much ill-treated him. His upper lip was cut off hanging by merely a piece of skin, his eyes and face were horribly contused, and he had to be sent to the Hospital at once. It is to be hoped that the miscreants may speedily be apprehended.—Ibid.

NEW M.L.A.—Heuben Ayliffe, Esq., has been elected member of the House of Assembly for Uitenhage.—Ibid.

THE ROBBERY AT MR. WINKEL'S STORE.—Information was given by Mr. J. Smit, that he had seen on his farm last week two colored men with two horses loaded up with clothing in packs, and they said they were enquiring. The men are known to him, and he would point out the man who was sent after; so mounted police will be sent after them; and there is a probability that they will be apprehended. Booy Kleinboer, the Hottentot who was also concerned in this robbery, was committed for trial last Monday.—G. Herald.

A CHARGE OF FRAUDULENT INSOLVENCY has been laid against Mr. E. Hind, late of Worcester in this district, on a complaint made by the creditors of his estate, and on his creditors, property belonging to his estate above the value of £10. The evidence was taken at the farm where that some property had been sent away, and the servants indicated a piece in a poplar bush where some furniture and some other things had been stowed away. On this, Mr. Hind was arrested, and bound over to appear to answer the charge, himself and bound over to others in £25 each. The property which has been traced, is said to be of the value of about £200.—Ibid.

ANOTHER "WATER FINDER."—A member of the useful fraternity of "Water Finders" is now in town, and although we have yet no report of the result of his endeavours in this locality, we have perceived his card, and find that he is Marshall, and Mr. W. Finer of Lady Grey Farm. Albert, states that through his instrumentality he enjoys the benefit of a spring, 4 1/2 inches in width, where no person would have supposed it possible to find one. Mr. Marshall proceeds on the "line" to find one. "No water, no pay," and may be honored principle. No water, no pay, and may be honored principle. He reports the existence of water on the neck of the Grootdorp near this city.—Colesberg Advertiser.

IMPROVEMENT AMONG THE FARMERS.—Ever new while the commercial clouds are hanging over us, and although we have yet no report of the result of his endeavours in this locality, we have perceived his card, and find that he is Marshall, and Mr. W. Finer of Lady Grey Farm. Albert, states that through his instrumentality he enjoys the benefit of a spring, 4 1/2 inches in width, where no person would have supposed it possible to find one. Mr. Marshall proceeds on the "line" to find one. "No water, no pay," and may be honored principle. He reports the existence of water on the neck of the Grootdorp near this city.—Colesberg Advertiser.

has become a gentleman, the "trou" a lady. The daughters learn music, are beginning to like English "nickies" has become a young lady, and the "neef" or "neef" what would be possible in the western counties of England "a young gentleman farmer." All this is well, and inspires hope of better days, coming as it does, amidst all the gloomy prophesying which meets our eyes and ears from every quarter.—Ibid.

COLESBERG.—The Advertiser says, "We have but little local news to communicate this week, but we have to say what is worth a whole column of the usual local news, that rain has fallen, and is likely, from the appearance of the clouds, to come still more copiously. To us, this is an event of no little importance, as the country was getting very dry. But little has yet fallen it is true, but there is every likelihood that the next few days will set the minds of our farmers at rest about the probability of another drought."

Several large sales were on the eve of being held in Colesberg. The sale of stock, &c., in the estate of the late Mr. Von Maltitz, was held on Wednesday last, and the stock-in-trade of Mr. R. A. Green, takes place to-morrow.

BURGHERSDORP.—The Civil Commissioner, George Cromar, Esq., died very suddenly at Burghersdorp, on the 28th Oct. A correspondent writing to us under date Oct. 30th, 1865, thus refers to the sad event:—"I have no news of importance to communicate, only the sudden and much unexpected death of our worthy and much respected Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, G. Cromar, Esq., which took place on Saturday morning at about eight o'clock, at his residence in this town. I can only add, in his death may a one will lose a good and true friend, for of him it may be said with truth that he was the sincere poor and needy man's friend. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon; every one in town, both white and black, followed his remains to their last resting place—upwards of 400 persons attended the funeral. The school children of the Burgher-dorp Academy, of which the deceased was a good supporter, also piled to their benefactor a tribute of their respect in following his remains to the still and solemn grave. The members of the Albert Amateur Band, with their bandmaster, decorated with black sashes and white cockades did not forget their benefactor and liberal supporter. It is doubtful who will be the successor. Whoever may be appointed, the inhabitants of the town and district will have to be content with it."

The Editor of the Gazette calls upon the Doppler's to show a little spirit, and get up an agricultural exhibition and races this year. There is no local intelligence from Burghersdorp.—P. E. Telegraph.

LOCUSTS.—We regret to hear that the "voetangers" or young locusts, are showing themselves in force in various parts of the province. A gentleman recently from Burghersdorp, has informed us that on his way down, he met in the Queenstown district numerous swarms of these destructive insects, just springing from the ground. It is to be hoped that we understand the "voetangers" are putting in an appearance. Ours consolation—poor enough in all conscience—is that if the weather continues, the young locusts will have little or nothing to devour.—P. E. Advocate.

DROUGHT.—It almost seems as if the country—this part at least—about to be subjected to another drought. The month of October, the month of floods, has passed, and although daily lured by gathering clouds with the hope of rain, each successive evening witnesses their despair without the earth being revived by their moisture. Crops which looked healthy a few weeks ago, are now black and withered, and the ground is so parched and baked, and it is feared that in many instances a total loss of crops in the ground will be sustained. Those who have water for irrigation may rejoice in their good fortune, but they are few in comparison with the number who are entirely dependent on the clouds. We shall very likely see many lambs lying fully in the gutter, and the ground so parched and baked, and it is feared that in many instances a total loss of crops in the ground will be sustained. 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