

reported in the London Times of June 27:

I agree that moral pressure should be exhausted before any man talks of anything else. I agree that patience is a virtue which becomes the strong, but there is, I imagine, no responsible person who will pretend that after successive governments have recognized the danger of the position and have made persistent requests, the position can be allowed to remain as it is at present. Every man of sense must see that there comes a time when patience can hardly be distinguished from weakness, and when moral pressure becomes a farce which cannot be continued without loss of self-respect.

Which is the more indicative of the war spirit, Dr. Doyle's illiterate letter from an obscure Boer to his equally obscure friend, or this speech of the colonial minister of Great Britain delivered to an applauding British audience? The obscure Boer says, on the 25th of June, that "the war are by us very much;" and on the other side of the globe, on the 26th of the same month, Mr. Chamberlain says, at a time when, according to Dr. Doyle, "the British were anxious for and confident in a peaceful solution," that there comes a time "when moral pressure becomes a farce."

In the light of the events succeeding this speech, can there be any reasonable doubt that it was inspired by the same aggressive motive by which Cecil Rhodes was confessedly actuated—ambition to make the South African Republic "an integral part of the British Empire?"

So the evidence furnished by Dr. Doyle, when analyzed, only confirms what all the other evidence indicates, that the moral responsibility for precipitating the South African war rests upon the Salisbury ministry of Great Britain.

## NEWS

No further information regarding the consultation between Vice President Schalkburger, of the South African Republic, and President Steyn, of the Orange Free State (vol. iv., p. 823), has been received. It is only known that they have come together under circumstances which inspire hopes of an early peace.

There are reports, however, of two additional battles, in which the fighting was severe and the losses heavy. They occurred in the southwestern

extremity of the Transvaal on the 31st. A British force which had started out to capture a Boer convoy was met by a large force of Boers, and the fighting lasted all day, terminating in the withdrawal of the Boers and resulting in a British loss of 27 killed and 147 wounded. At night a British force attempted to surprise a Boer camp, but was itself surprised and compelled to retreat under fire. Its loss is reported as 20 killed and 53 wounded, of which number a Canadian regiment, which bore the brunt of the rear guard action, lost 9 killed and 44 wounded. The reports are not very clear, but it would seem that these two battles were between the same opposing forces.

Since Gov. Heard, of Louisiana, questioned the American administration as to the breach of neutrality at the port of New Orleans (vol. iv., p. 823), where the British army maintains a station for the purchase and shipment of army mules and horses to South Africa, President Roosevelt has taken steps in the matter. At the cabinet meeting of the 4th, which was almost entirely devoted to the letter of Gov. Heard, the President ordered an investigation into the law and the facts of the case. An opinion on the law was accordingly rendered by Attorney General Knox on the 5th, and on the 7th Col. E. H. Crowder, an American army officer, designated to inquire into the facts, arrived in New Orleans. Nothing has yet been reported regarding his procedure except that on the 8th he exchanged notes with Capt. Fenner, the ranking member among the British officers at New Orleans who are directing the loading at that port of horses and mules upon British transports.

In consequence also of Gov. Heard's action Representative Sulzer, of New York, introduced in the House on the 4th a resolution reciting the circumstances and requesting the secretary of state to transmit to the House the governor's report and accompanying documents, affidavits, etc. No action has yet been taken on the resolution.

Another British army supply post has been discovered in the United States. It is at Lathrop, Mo., and is under the command of Maj. More, Capt. Gray and Capt. Caldwell, all of the British army. All the employes at the place—which was recently inspected by Gen. Sir Richard Stewart, of the British army—are reported to

be in the pay of the British war department. The mules and horses are shipped by way of New Orleans direct to Cape Town on board British transports.

From the Philippines (see vol. iv., pp. 663, 680, 695, 745, and week by week preceding), authentic news is now at hand tending to confirm the charges of barbarity on the part of American army officers, which have heretofore been strenuously and sweepingly denied. This news comes in Associated Press dispatches reporting the court-martial trial of Maj. Waller, now in progress at Manila. This officer led an expedition last winter into the interior of the island of Samar. After being given up for dead he and his party returned to camp, January 28, delirious from privation (iv. 680). Maj. Waller was next heard of in this connection in a dispatch of March 6 from Manila. He had been subjected to court-martial proceedings, on charges of having, while on this ill-fated expedition, executed natives of the island of Samar without trial. One of the specifications alleged that in one instance the accused had caused a native to be tied to a tree and on one day to be shot in the thigh, on the next in the arms, on the third in the body and on the fourth to be killed. Friends of Maj. Waller attributed his horrible actions to delirium caused by privation; but Maj. Waller himself refused to make this defense, insisting that he had acted under superior authority.

When the Waller trial began, March 17, Maj. Waller pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder, but admitted that while on his expedition he had ordered 11 natives to be shot. The taking of testimony has been proceeding, with some interruptions, ever since; but the press reports of it are too brief and disconnected to warrant any attempt at a full summary. The defense is directed to showing that Waller acted under orders. One of the witnesses on the 22d, Capt. David D. Porter, testified that he was with the Waller expedition, that he was present when Gen. Smith gave Maj. Waller his orders, and that Waller had not exceeded them. Maj. Waller himself testified on the 31st. In the course of his testimony he said that he had exceeded Gen. Smith's orders only in calling on his party to avenge the slaughter of their comrades at Balangiga (iv., 410), having strictly obeyed them in all other