

materially the better able would they be to assist the Motherland.

Mr Seddon, interviewed, said he expected a difference of opinion on the question of Imperial defence. Personally he would like to see a strong Imperial reserve created in the colonies and trained and equipped on the lines of the Imperial army, ready to serve anywhere in case of emergency. If the Motherland and the colonies agreed the returning troops would form an excellent nucleus. A small annual bonus should be paid to the men to drill sufficient to maintain the service.

He declared that Maori volunteers, when drilled, would be sure to exhibit in the field the chivalrous qualities of their ancestors.

He considered the hospitals and refugee camps in South Africa were excellent, and the allegations against the authorities were grossly unjust.

The Reconciliation of South Africa.

Lord Kitchener reports that the disarmament is proceeding satisfactorily, and that a good spirit is shown in regard to everything.

One thousand nine hundred and eighty-six rifles were surrendered on Saturday, making a total of 4342.

General Ian Hamilton, addressing the surrenderers at Heidelberg, said the whole British nation admired their gallant struggle. The men expressed allegiance.

Reitz and the whole staff of the Transvaal Government, who were stationed at Rhenosterkop with an escort of 50, have surrendered at Balmoral. Commandant Lieberberg and 470 men surrendered at Reikuz.

De Wet brought 200 of Vannikerk's and Vandermerwe's commando to Vrededorf. Major-General Elliott welcomed them and delivered the King's messages, expressing delight at the termination of the war and enjoining the Boers and British and hoping the burghers would soon regain prosperity and happiness. The Boers were delighted, and gave cheers for the King. Field-Cornet Raath declared the Boers would be loyal.

Four hundred and forty Boers have surrendered at Brandfont and 126, including Hindon's and McKinney's commandos, at Balmoral.

When a number of surrendered Boers reached Bloemfontein they refused to shake hands with those who surrendered previous to the peace.

The Boers who came into Vrededorf expected that there would be fifteen thousand British troops to witness the surrender. They were surprised and gratified to find only Major-General Elliott and his staff.

All the Boer leaders are delighted at the establishment of peace. They express a wish to resume work on their farms.

Commandant Hertzog remarked to the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent that Krause (recently sentenced in London for conspiracy) deserved all he got, and more. He ought to have observed the law or else have openly fought in the field.

An impressive peace ceremonial took place in the public square at Pretoria on Sunday forenoon. Six thousand troops lined the square. Lord Kitchener, attended by Generals Ian Hamilton and Baden-Powell and Lady Methuen, appeared on the platform in front of the Government Buildings and presented medals to the nurses and Victoria Crosses to the officers and privates. Then the army chaplains, with a surplised choir, with banners and crosses, marched in procession, singing hymns and reciting prayers. The Archbishop of Capetown preached and referred to the bravery of the Boers in the field.

Then followed the National Anthem and Kipling's Recessional.

Lord Kitchener called for cheers for the King, and the great crowd heartily responded. The troops also cheered Lord Kitchener.

Opperman's commando has surrendered at Pretoria. They are delighted at the restoration of peace.

Mullen's commando, at Balmoral, gleefully threw down their rifles and insisted on shaking hands with the British officers. They had a big "sing-song" in the evening.

Commandant Fouche represented the Boer Government when Bezindenhout's and Odendaal's commandos surrendered at Aliwal North. Fouche, in responding to Colonel Terman's complimentary welcome, expressed the hope that next time he would fight beside the British.

The skirmishes which have occurred are due to the great area to be covered by the peace emissaries and the difficulty of communicating earlier the news of peace to isolated outposts. Three hundred and seventy-seven Boers have surrendered at Hopetown, including 331 rebels.

Commandants Vanze and Vandermerwe have arrived at Vryburg. They welcome peace.

Commandant Kemp surrendered at Mafeking. He was averse to surrender, but finally yielded to the views of the majority. He says he is glad Lord Kitchener did not attach any shame to surrender. The Boers might have continued the struggle for a couple of years longer though they had no certainty of success. Food was plentiful in the Western Transvaal, but exhausted in the Eastern. He is quite satisfied from the conditions of settlement that there will be no bitterness and he predicts harmony.

A proclamation issued in Cape Colony accepts surrenders for another month. Those failing to surrender within that time will be subject to the extreme penalty of the law.

Lord Kitchener reports that Vantonder's and Vanbeeren's commandos,

with 403 rifles, surrendered on Monday at Venterdorp. Afterwards, at a camp concert, the burghers sang "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King." Further surrenders have taken place in West Transvaal of 167 rifles and 23,000 rounds; at Ermelo, of 303 rifles; and at Zoutspanberg, 150 rifles; a total of 3671 arms on the 9th and 10th inst.

The Government is engaging nine transports for a three months' service to carry the Boer prisoners back to South Africa. Each will carry 60 officers and 1650 men. Vessels that have been used for the transport of horses will not be accepted to carry troops.

Mr Chamberlain, presiding at the Colonial Club dinner, in the course of a speech said the country now enjoyed a peace honourable to both parties. The lines we ourselves traced at the outset alone afforded a basis of permanent settlement. Britain had been very generous in everything relating to personal and private matters, but had yielded nothing of substance. The country might well be delighted at the way the terms had been accepted. It was a good augury that our late opponents, after doing their best to maintain their independence, were now ready to loyally accept the altered conditions and co-operate in developing an era of unparalleled prosperity.

Lord Kitchener inspected and thanked the National Burgher Scouts. He promised that they should return to their farms as soon as possible. The Scouts enthusiastically cheered Lord Kitchener, Lord Milner, and peace. The Scouts and surrenderers are on amicable terms. At Middleburg, in the Transvaal, the

surrenderers went to the refugees' camp and arranged an impromptu ball with the Scouts and refugees.

Beyers' commando of 152 have surrendered at Petersburg. Hans Grobelaar's commando, numbering 318, have surrendered at Erelinos. Meyers admitted getting ammunition through Portuguese territory. A large number have surrendered at Reitz. Nearly all were armed with English Lee-Netford rifles. They expressed resentment at the French and German press encouraging the hope of protracting the war.

Some surrenderers in the Transvaal were wholly clad in skins, their boots being made out of old portmanteaux, and their hats from cows' paunches. Seven hundred and eighty-two, belonging to the Kroonstad and Hoopstad commandos, the majority being ill-clad, under General Hlattinga, surrendered on the 10th. Some of the old men were unarmed and many youngsters had rifles.

De Wet described the latter as the best fighters, holding their positions long after the older men had retired. He urged the surrenderers to prove their fidelity to the new Government.

Lieutenant-General Elliott spoke, bringing them the King's messages of goodwill. The King and Lord Kitchener were lustily cheered.

Two thousand Boers have surrendered at Reitz. The total number of surrenderers to date is 11,008. They include Steyn's bodyguard and Dutoit's staff. Lord Milner gives ten days' rations and tents to those who are able to support themselves on their old farms.

It is expected that there will be 5000 additional surrenderers before the 17th inst. Many of the recent surrenderers are young boys and old men.

Botha, De la Rey, Meyer and Reitz are expected to arrive at Utrecht, in Holland, in July. Botha spends several weeks in London in August.

On Friday 1817 Boers surrendered, bringing the total who have come in to date up to 12,850.

The King delivered two important speeches at audiences given separately at Buckingham Palace to the Lord Mayor, members of the City Corporation, and the chairman and members of the London County Council, who were bearers of peace congratulations.

In the first speech he expressed his thankfulness to Almighty God at the termination of the struggle. He recognised the sacrifices, the admirable fortitude and the spontaneous exertions of his subjects at home and beyond the seas, their action contributing to the increased unity and strength of the Empire. He also referred to the valour and endurance of the troops who had been opposed by a brave and determined people. He rejoiced to think that they would become our friends, and earnestly hoped that by mutual co-operation and goodwill the bitter feelings of the past will speedily be replaced by ties of loyalty and friendship.

In the second speech His Majesty said he looked to the introduction of a system of government which, with God's blessing, would bring South Africa peace, and that prosperity would follow its establishment in every quarter of the globe. He confidently believed that the good feeling displayed by those who were so recently opponents augured well for the future of the vast country added to the dominions of the Crown.

THANKSGIVING.

In connection with the thanksgiving service crowds gathered outside St. Paul's, London, at two o'clock in the morning, and the unreserved space was absorbed immediately the doors were opened at eight o'clock.

The Lord Mayor at Temple Bar surrendered the city sword to the King, and afterwards met His Majesty outside the west entrance of the Cathedral, where the Bishop of London (the Right Rev. A. F. Winnington-Ingram) and the Dean (Dr. Gregory) received them.

A stately procession was then formed, consisting of the Guardsmen's band, the surplised choir, the clergy in splendid robes, the sheriffs of the city, the Lord Mayor bearing the pearl sword, the King and Queen, the Bishop and Dean, the Prince and Princess of Wales and other Royalties, all following an uplifted cross

A Peace Hymn.

"Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land."—Psalm lxxxv., 1st verse.

T. G. T. G. T. G. T. G.

Words and Music by C. E. Button, Esq.

The musical score consists of four systems of staves. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

I.
O God the King of Nations,
Let Britain's praise arise
To Thee from all her stations
Beneath the circling skies;
For she hath grown and flourished,
Nursed in Thy fostering hands;
By Thee her children nourished,
Have peopled many lands.

II.
Thou who dost bear the sceptre
Of universal power,
Hast always safely kept her
In perils' dreadful hour.
The shield of Thy protection,
Has over her been cast;
And Thy divine direction
Has led her in the past.

III.
With so much special favour,
Bestowed upon our race,
O may we never waver
In gratitude and praise.
But let us spread Thy glory,
As round the earth we move,
And tell the world the story
Of Thy redeeming love.

IV.
Till all mankind, confessing
That Christ is Lord indeed,
Obtain the ancient blessing,
Through Abram's promised seed,
And by earth's sons and daughters,
Of every tribe and tongue,
Like sound of many waters,
Thy praises shall be sung.