

Abbey has been by no means the least important result of his administration.

The death of the Very Rev. F. W. Farrar, D.D., was recently announced, at the age of 72. He was an able preacher, and has contributed much to the literature of his country. He was born in Bombay, but brought up and educated in England. As a boy of 16 at King's College, he made the acquaintance of the first of the many men of note, whom he numbered amongst his friends. On leaving Cambridge, he was assistant master at Marlborough and Harrow. It was at the latter school that he taught the Duke of Genoa, afterwards King of Spain. Subsequently Farrar held the positions of head-master of Marlborough, Rector of S. Margaret's, Westminster, Canon of Westminster Abbey, then Archdeacon, and in 1895 Dean of Canterbury. Of his many works, the "Life of Christ" had a phenomenal sale, and few other preachers have had their sermons more extensively published.

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#### SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Chamberlain has returned from his South African tour, and received the congratulations of the nation for the manner in which he has carried out his responsible duties there. He has acquired a grasp of the situation which will assist materially in the settlement of all questions which may hereafter arise. He speaks very hopefully of the future, and augurs much from the co-operation of the Boers. The process of reinstating them on

their farms is going on apace, some hundred thousand being already settled, and altogether matters look much more promising than one might reasonably expect considering so short a time has elapsed since peace was proclaimed. Mr. Chamberlain's advice not to refuse self-government, if both British and Boers desire it, is good, but it will undoubtedly be well if they recognize that it will be to the advantage of all to be satisfied with Crown Colony government until they have had time to shake down comfortably together. It is pleasing to note the great statesman's remark that the surplus of the two Colonies for 1904 will very considerably exceed the charges on the loans required; a position rarely attained by conquered countries in the past.

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#### AMERICA.

At a time when the extension of naval power is attracting so much attention, it is not surprising to see America taking a hand. No country acts more thoroughly up to the principle that if a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing well than America, and it is not therefore surprising to see that the programme in this case is an extensive one. An addition of 3,000 men to the navy, and a million and a half dollars for target practice, of which a hundred and twenty thousand dollars are to be offered as prizes, are announced. For a country which so short a time ago practically had no navy, America is making great strides.

