

BOER AND UITLANDER

CHAPTER I

WHO ARE THE BOERS ?

THE Cape of Good Hope was discovered by Bartholomew Diaz in 1486, during his command of one of the many expeditions sent out by the Kings of Portugal with a view of discovering an ocean route to India. Diaz only doubled the Cape and then returned home. In 1497, Vasco Da Gama likewise doubled the Cape, and landed in that portion of Southern Africa which is now the Colony of Natal. From that time onwards a few Portuguese adventurers were settled at Table Bay and Saldanha Bay, until the Dutch seized and colonised what was the original Cape Colony in the year 1500. During the Anglo-Dutch wars of 1770, curiously enough, this Dutch settlement was never captured by the British, and only came into our possession in 1795, in the early part of the French Revolutionary War. It was restored to the Dutch in 1802, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Amiens, but was re-taken by Great Britain in 1806 and retained. It was not, however, until some time after the peace of 1815, that any effective steps were taken to colonise this new British possession, and for

very many years the Cape was merely a military post and naval station.

The Boers of the South African Republic, better known, perhaps, as the Transvaal, are the descendants of the old Dutch colonists, who intermarried with a large number of Huguenot refugees expelled from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and sought a home in Holland; from that country they were driven, very much against their will, to the Cape of Good Hope; on their arrival there they became more or less incorporated with the Dutch population, owing to their being forbidden to preach in French or educate their children in that language. Of the present Boer population in South Africa, it has been calculated that about one-third is directly descended from the old Huguenots, as is indeed indicated by the thoroughly French names which some of them bear to the present day.

The seizure of the Cape Colony by Great Britain was very distasteful to its then inhabitants. They had been for many years accustomed to lead a pastoral life, full of freedom and independence. They found themselves at once under the sway of a foreign Government, brought into contact with unsympathetic foreign officials, and, what was much more galling to these free men, they were obliged to pay taxes. Moreover, the good people of Great Britain, no doubt inspired by worthy motives, sent out missionaries to the Cape to "convert" these Boers, a matter which was productive of much ill-feeling.

The Boers have ever been religious men according to their lights; they have found in the Bible all their theology, all their history, all their science, in a word, all their literature. In their homes they had family worship morning and evening, and when marching through the veldt, it was their custom to sing psalms. They never went forth on a journey until after much prayerful deliberation. They usually travelled in company, twenty or thirty families joining together for mutual defence; their long, strongly-built waggons contained as much as was necessary of their household gear and served as a shelter at night, while on the approach of hostile natives, they could easily be made to serve the purposes of an entrenched camp. Now these people, as I have said, strongly resented British rule and the attempted interference with their manners and customs on the part of British officials and British missionaries. As time went on, the Boers found British rule more irksome, and, accordingly, sixty years ago, they determined to throw up their farms, give up everything, in fact, except their freedom, and trek for "fresh fields and pastures new." The Cape Government became alarmed and endeavoured to stop the exodus, but the Boers were not to be turned from their purpose, and their various parties made for the Orange River, where they hoped to be able to settle in peace and quietness. Their object was not achieved without dangers, difficulties and disasters. They were harassed by the Matabeles, who prowled around them, attracted by the large

droves of cattle which the Boers were taking with them. There was much fighting and there were many massacres, but still the Boers "trekked" on nobly assisted by their womenkind. At length, the Boers obtained a grant of territory from Dingan, a great Zulu chief, and they established a regular Government with a Volksraad, military commandant and various other officials necessary to administer the territory of which they had obtained possession. The Cape Government was not, however, prepared to see a miniature republic set up in South Africa, and a military force was accordingly sent to the Port of Natal with the object of preventing all trade with the Boers. After a while better counsels prevailed and the British force was withdrawn, the Boers being left to themselves with Pretorius, a man of great ability, at the head of the Republic. Pretorius attempted to obtain a recognition of the petty State on the part of Great Britain, but the only reply sent to him was the despatch of a British force with orders to take any steps necessary to prevent the setting up of a separate Government by the Boers, who were commanded, on pain of being treated as rebels, to return to British territory. The Boers resisted, and besieged the force sent against them, which was only saved from destruction by a relieving force being despatched from the Cape to its assistance. The Boers were overcome, but neither their courage nor their energy was exhausted, so once again they determined to "trek," and almost the entire body crossed the Vaal River.

While all these events were taking place, a large number of emigrant farmers had settled in that part of South Africa which lies between the Orange and the Vaal River, of which Bloemfontein had become the capital. Sir Harry Smith was appointed Governor of the Cape Colony and High Commissioner for South Africa in 1847, with power to annex the territories south of the Vaal River. Soon after his arrival in Cape Colony, the High Commissioner issued a proclamation, bringing under British rule the entire country between the Orange and the Vaal River. Pretorius very quickly decided to resist this arbitrary act, and at once commenced preparations with that end in view. Bloemfontein was captured, and a decisive battle was subsequently fought close to the Orange River. After a long struggle, which Sir Harry Smith, an old Indian soldier, described as one of the most severe engagements that had ever taken place, the Boers were defeated and hotly pursued by the British troops. The Cape Government confiscated the property of the "rebels" who had taken part in the contest, and a reward of £2000 was offered for Pretorius, dead or alive.

The Boers were not, however, prepared to give in, and a desultory warfare was kept up for some years. At length, the Government at home determined to put an end to this unsatisfactory condition of things, and Commissioners were sent out from England with full powers to negotiate with Pretorius, the offer of a reward for his arrest having

been previously withdrawn. The result of these negotiations was the signing of the Sand River Convention on January 17th, 1852. The first article of that Convention "guaranteed in the fullest manner on the part of the British Government to the emigrant farmers beyond the Vaal River the right to manage their own affairs and to govern themselves according to their own laws, without any interference on the part of the British Government," and it ended with a full assurance of the warmest wish of the British Government for the future welfare and happiness of these farmers.

There is little doubt that the Sand River Convention was the outcome of the advice of Sir Harry Smith, who appears to have had some idea of thereby creating a permanent buffer and self-defending State. The constitution of this free State was finally settled under that able and judicious statesman, the first President Brand, an English barrister. From time to time the Boers, who overflowed the rather limited accommodation for them in the free State, "trekked" beyond the Keiskama to the east-north-east, and in due course succeeded in consolidating a settlement, and founding what has since become the capital of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. From the foundation of that town, however, a similar state of things existed as has since prevailed at Johannesburg, namely, a steady English immigration, and, accordingly in time, the Natal Boers were largely outnumbered. Once more these intrepid men determined to "trek" this time north-north-east

across the Vaal. They settled in the pastoral rolling veldt, at that time a desolate wilderness, and they built themselves a new capital under Pretorius, who had succeeded Pieter Maritz as leader.

These constant struggles had, not unnaturally, proved a serious obstacle to the development of the country inhabited by the Boers, and were, moreover, a cause of growing weakness. It accordingly came to pass that in 1876, the Republic found itself practically unable to resist the attacks of the powerful chief, Sekekuni. At that time there was a wide-spread feeling at the Cape, which found an echo here in England, that the weakness of the Boers, as against Sekekuni, might possibly bring about a general rising of the Kaffir population in South Africa. About this period Sir Bartle Frere was appointed High Commissioner, and though Sir Bartle had what are now known as imperialistic views respecting South Africa, I believe, as a matter of fact, he was strictly opposed to the annexation of the Transvaal, unless it were brought about in accordance with the wishes of its inhabitants. Be that as it may, on the 12th April 1877 Sir Theophilus Shepstone quietly annexed the Transvaal Republic to Great Britain, and it remained a British Colony, in name at any rate, until its independence was restored to it in 1881 by Mr William E. Gladstone. I do not propose here to consider or detail the sad memories connected with the restoration of Boer independence. Whatever may be our feelings in regard to the Boer population, Laing's Nek and

Majuba Hill must ever be unpleasant names for Englishmen, and there can be no doubt that the bloodshed in 1880 and 1881 has caused an estrangement between the British and Dutch races in South Africa which it will take years to eradicate.

Whatever may be our opinion of the Boers—and they have of course, their failings, and, if I may say so, the defects of their good qualities—there can be no doubt whatever that the treatment that the Boers have sustained from successive British Governments between the years 1815 and 1881, is not such as can well be defended on any ethical principle. And I believe, too, that in expressing this opinion I am not giving vent to one which would be contravened or contradicted by any large number of Englishmen. A gentleman of vast experience, and quite as vast ability, writes upon this very matter: “I detest the Boers and all their ways, except their indomitable courage, their aptitude for field exercises, their tenacity of purpose, and their unquenchable love of independence. I think the Natal trekkers who squatted in the Transvaal, have been somewhat cavalierly treated by the British Colonists both of the Cape and of Natal.”

No matter what Englishmen may think of the Boers—and no doubt a good many of my countrymen hate them for no better reason than that they defeated us at Majuba Hill—I believe that if Englishmen clearly comprehended the—to put it mildly—inconsiderate treatment the Boers have met with at the hands of the British Government for so many decades

past, they would not let their prejudices so materially affect their estimate of these Dutch farmers.

All these people have ever asked was to be allowed to have a community to themselves. To procure that they have trudged away 800 miles into a howling wilderness, and it was scarcely to be wondered at, when one considers the sacrifices they have made to retain their independence, that they were not content to accept the annexation which Sir Theophilus Shepstone effected by a stroke of the pen. Once more the Boers find the old condition of things repeating itself. Their country is now overrun by some thousands of men who really have no nationality, because their only object is to acquire gold, and in order to effect that consummation, they are ready to trample under foot not only principles but patriotism. In other respects, however, the Boers find prevalent a very different condition of things from that which existed thirty or forty years ago. They are now surrounded on all sides by British territory, which runs north for hundreds of miles till it touches regions which have been appropriated by one European state or another, and where, moreover, even if it were possible for them to "trek," the climatorial conditions and the products are prohibitive of the favourite Boer pursuit of pastoral life. There is now, accordingly, literally nowhere for them to "trek" if they abandon the Transvaal, and it is, therefore, scarcely to be wondered at if they cling to the independence they have, after much toil and tribulation, achieved, and

mistrust the hotch-potch collection of adventurers who desire the Transvaal because the Transvaal is rich in the precious metal. I do not ask my readers to concur in every opinion set forth in this book, but I do ask them to seriously consider the statements made, to clear their minds of cant and prejudice, and to determine that, so far as in them lies, the sturdy, brave and independent, if rough, Dutch farmers shall have that justice which is the inalienable right of every human being.

CHAPTER II

THE TRANSVAAL—ITS PRINCIPAL FEATURES

As geography is not, I think, a strong point with the public at large, and even after the occurrence of recent events in the Transvaal, a large number of people seem to have but a dim idea respecting the area and general characteristics of what is often incorrectly designated "a little State," I think it just as well to give what I hope my readers will not consider too dry details regarding the physical and other features of the Transvaal. Briefly, then, the Republic under the sway of President Kruger has an area of about 120,000 square miles. Perhaps its extent will be better understood when I say that it is half the size of the Cape Colony and about three times the size of Natal and the Orange Free State. The area of the South African Republic is rather larger than that of Great Britain and Ireland combined.

As regards distances, the nearest point of the Transvaal is about 698 miles from Cape Town, 536 miles from Port Elizabeth, and 220 miles from

Port Natal, while the eastern boundary of the Republic is only about 40 miles distant from the Portuguese possession of Delagoa Bay. The Transvaal territory extends for about 400 miles to the banks of the Limpopo, a river about 300 miles south of the Zambesi. The extreme breadth of the Republic is 400 miles. The South African Republic is bounded on the north by Bechuanaland, on the south by the Orange Free State and Natal and on the east by Zululand and Mozambique.

The two principal rivers of the Transvaal are the Vaal and the Limpopo; the former takes its rise in the high plateau called Hooge veldt, which extends throughout the whole breadth of the Transvaal and forms the water-shed between the rivers flowing south to the Vaal and north to the Limpopo. After receiving all the Transvaal rivers from the north and the Free State rivers on its southern bank, the Vaal River joins the Orange River in the vicinity of Hope Town, and the two combined in one large river, called the Ki Gariep, flow into Alexander Bay on the western side of South Africa, the twin rivers being more than a thousand miles in length and draining a basin of 325,000 square miles. The Limpopo, after receiving a large number of tributaries, empties itself into the sea on the eastern coast of South Africa; neither of these rivers are navigable to any appreciable length.

Three mountain ranges extend through the country from west to east, but the highest altitude is only

The Transvaal—Its Principal Features 13

6700 feet. The climate of the Transvaal is one of the finest in the world. Properly speaking there are only two seasons, summer and winter, the former warm and rainy, the latter dry and cold. The dry season sets in at the end of May, and it is not unusual for it to continue till the end of September without even a single shower falling. Although the barometer during the summer months is very high, the heat is seldom oppressive on account of the altitude of the country. The air is always clear, the mornings and evenings are delightful. In winter the few lakes in the country are occasionally covered in the early morning with a thin sheet of ice, but this melts away before the day is far advanced. Extreme cold is practically unknown, and the climate of the Transvaal may unhesitatingly be pronounced one of the finest in the world.

Most of the Transvaal is covered with a rich sward, affording excellent pasture for horses, sheep and cattle. There are considerable extents of forests, from which large quantities of timber are obtained for building and other purposes. Although the Transvaal, from its fertile soil and fine climate, is peculiarly adapted for the growth of cereals, the supply is far below the demand, and large quantities of bread stuffs are accordingly annually imported. The average Boer farmer is certainly not a far-seeing man, and is content to grow just as much wheat as suffices for his own consumption. Considerable attention is paid to

sheep farming and the breeding of cattle and horses. Of the total area of the Republic only about 50,000 acres are under cultivation.

Some reference must be made here to the mining industry of the Transvaal, although I shall have to deal with the matter in greater detail further on. The gold fields of the Rand are now famous all the world over, and the out-put of the mines therein has risen from 230,640 ozs. in 1888 to something like one million-and-a-half ounces in 1895. Coal mines are worked in the eastern portions of the country; iron also abounds, although no steps have as yet been taken to develop the industry, while there is a silver mine close to Pretoria which has a very respectable annual output.

As regards the population of the Transvaal, it is hardly possible to give any even approximately correct figures. According to the official census of 1890, the white population of the Republic numbered 119,128. There is, however, good reason for believing that the population of Johannesburg before the recent trouble was not far short of that figure, and was, moreover, increasing at the rate of somewhere about 1000 per week.

Such are a few meagre details in regard to the South African Republic. I hope, however, I have said enough to enable my readers to comprehend the great natural advantages, irrespective of the great mineral wealth, of this favoured portion of the earth's surface. It can hardly be wondered at that these hunted Boers, having no other place

The Transvaal—Its Principal Features 15

whither to "trek," should desire to continue to inhabit the land which is certainly theirs on every ground of right and justice, and that they should be loth to lose their independence and come under the authority and autocracy of what I conceive to be the worst system of government the world could ever see, namely, a Government of financiers whose principle is greed and whose quest is gold.

CHAPTER III

THE CONVENTIONS OF 1881 AND 1884

ALTHOUGH most of the Boer laws are antecedent to the re-establishment of the Republic in 1881 by that noble-minded and heroic statesman, William Ewart Gladstone, that year may, I think, be regarded as in some sense the re-incarnation of the Republic as it now is, and accordingly the Convention signed at Pretoria in 1881 by Sir Hercules Robinson, Sir Evelyn Wood and Messrs J. H. de Villiers, S. J. P. Kruger, M. W. Pretorius and P. J. Jouvert, which was again largely embodied in the London Convention of 1884, may be deemed to be in effect the charter of the Boers. I, therefore, make no excuse for quoting the latter document here in full. I think it best, however, in the first instance, to give the more important clauses of the 1881 Convention, in order to show more clearly the modifications, omissions, etc., which took place in the Convention of 1884. This is, I think, particularly important in view of the question which has arisen, and which we are likely to hear still more of in the future, namely,

how far the Suzerainty of Great Britain over the South African Republic, clearly enunciated as it undoubtedly was in the Convention of 1881, was affected by the Convention of London three years later.

PRETORIA CONVENTION OF 1881

II. Her Majesty reserves to herself, her heirs and successors (a) the right from time to time to appoint a British Resident in and for the said State, with such duties and functions as are hereinafter defined; (b) the right to move troops through the said State in time of war, or in case of the apprehension of immediate war between the Suzerain Power and any foreign State or native tribe in South Africa; and (c) the control of the external relations of the said State, including the conclusion of treaties and the conduct of diplomatic intercourse with foreign Powers, such intercourse to be carried on through Her Majesty's diplomatic and consular officers abroad.

XVI. There will continue to be complete freedom of religion and protection from molestation for all denominations, provided the same be not inconsistent with morality and good order; and no disability shall attach to any person in regard to rights of property by reason of the religious opinions which he holds.

XVII. The British Resident will receive from the Government of the Transvaal State such assistance and support as can by law be given to him for the due discharge of his functions. He will also receive

every assistance for the proper care and preservation of the graves of such of Her Majesty's forces as have died in the Transvaal; and, if need be, for the appropriation of land for the purpose.

XVIII. The following will be the duties and functions of the British Resident:—

1. He will perform duties and functions analogous to those discharged by a *chargé-d'affaires* and consul-general.

2. In regard to natives within the Transvaal State, he will (a) report to the High Commissioner, as representative of the Suzerain, as to the working and observance of the provisions of this Convention; (b) report to the Transvaal authorities any cases of ill-treatment of natives, or attempts to incite natives to rebellion, that may come to his knowledge; (c) use his influence with the natives in favour of law and order, and (d) generally perform such other duties as are by this Convention entrusted to him, and take such steps for the protection of the persons and property of natives as are consistent with the laws of the land

3. In regard to natives not residing in the Transvaal; (a) he will report to the High Commissioner and the Transvaal Government any encroachments reported to him as having been made by Transvaal residents upon the land of such natives, and in case of disagreement between the Transvaal Government and the British Resident, as to whether an encroachment has been made, the decision of the Suzerain will be final; (b) the British Resident will be the

medium of communication with native chiefs outside the Transvaal, and, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, as representing the Suzerain, he will control the conclusion of treaties with them; and (c) he will arbitrate upon every dispute between Transvaal residents and natives outside the Transvaal (as to acts committed beyond the boundaries of the Transvaal) which may be referred to him by the parties interested.

4. In regard to communications with foreign Powers, the Transvaal Government through the British Resident and the High Commissioner.

XXVI. All persons other than natives conforming themselves to the laws of the Transvaal State (a) will have full liberty, with their families, to enter, travel, or reside in any part of the Transvaal State, (b) they will be entitled to hire or possess houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises; (c) they may carry on their commerce either in person, or by any agents whom they may think fit to employ, (d) they will not be subject, in respect of their persons or property, or in respect of their commerce or industry, to any taxes, whether general or local, other than those which are or may be imposed upon Transvaal citizens.

XXVII. All inhabitants of the Transvaal shall have free access to the Courts of Justice for the prosecution and defence of their rights.

XXVIII. All persons, other than natives, who established their domicile in the Transvaal between the 12th day of April 1877, and the date when this

Convention comes into effect, and who shall within twelve months after such last-mentioned date have their names registered by the British Resident, shall be exempt from all compulsory military service whatever. The Resident shall notify such registration to the Government of the Transvaal State.

XXXIII. Forthwith after the ratification of this Convention, as in the last preceding Article mentioned, all British troops in Transvaal territory will leave the same, and the mutual delivery of munitions of war will be carried out.

Signed at Pretoria this 3d day of August 1881.

LONDON CONVENTION OF 1884.

Whereas the Government of the Transvaal State, through its delegates, consisting of Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, President of the said State, Stephanus Jacobus Du Toit, Superintendent of Education, and Nicholas Jacobus Smit, a member of the Volksraad, have represented that the Convention signed at Pretoria on the 3d day of August 1881, and ratified by the Volksraad of the said State on the 25th October 1881, contains certain provisions which are inconvenient, and imposes burdens and obligations from which the said State is desirous to be relieved, and that the south-western boundaries fixed by the said Convention should be amended with a view to

promote the peace and good order of the said State, and of the countries adjacent thereto.

II. The Government of the South African Republic will strictly adhere to the boundaries defined in Article I. of this Convention, and will do its utmost to prevent any of its inhabitants from making any encroachments upon lands beyond the said boundaries. The Government of the South African Republic will appoint Commissioners upon the eastern and western borders, whose duty will be strictly to guard against irregularities and all trespassing over the boundaries. Her Majesty's Government will, if necessary, appoint Commissioners in the native territories outside the eastern and western borders of the South African Republic to maintain order and prevent encroachments.

Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the South African Republic will each appoint a person to proceed together to beacon off the amended south-west boundary, as described in Article I. of this Convention; and the President of the Orange Free State shall be requested to appoint a referee to whom the said persons shall refer any questions on which they may disagree respecting the interpretation of the said Article, and the decision of such referee thereon shall be final. The arrangement already made, under the terms of Article XIX. of the Convention of Pretoria, August 3d, 1881, between the owners of the farms Grootfontein and Vallei-fontein on the one hand, and the Barolong authorities on the other, by which a fair share of the water

supply of the said farms shall be allowed to flow undisturbed to the said Barolongs, shall continue in force.

(The following Article should be compared with Article XVII. of 1881.)

III. If a British officer is appointed to reside at Pretoria, or elsewhere within the South African Republic, to discharge functions analogous to those of a Consular officer, he will receive the protection and assistance of the Republic.

IV. The South African Republic will conclude no treaty or engagement with any state or nation other than the Orange Free State, nor with any native tribe to the eastward or westward of the Republic, until the same has been approved by Her Majesty the Queen.

Such approval shall be considered to have been granted if Her Majesty's Government shall not, within six months after receiving a copy of such treaty (which shall be delivered to them immediately upon its completion), have notified that the conclusion of such treaty is in conflict with the interests of Great Britain or of any of Her Majesty's possessions in South Africa.

(The above Article has been held by certain persons and journals in this country to embody the rights of Suzerainty so clearly laid down in the Preamble and Article II. of 1881.)

V. The South African Republic will be liable for any balance which may still remain due to the debts for which it was liable at the date of

annexation, to wit, the Cape Commercial Bank Loan, the Railway Loan and the Orphan Chamber Debt, which debts will be a first charge upon the revenues of the Republic. The South African Republic will, moreover, be liable to Her Majesty's Government for £250,000 which will be a second charge upon the revenues of the Republic.

VI. The debt due, as aforesaid, by the South African Republic to Her Majesty's Government will bear interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from the date of the ratification of this Convention, and shall be repayable by a payment for interest and Sinking Fund of £6, 0s. 9d. per £100 per annum, which will extinguish the debt in twenty-five years. The said payment of £6, 0s. 9d. per £100 shall be payable half-yearly in British currency at the close of each half-year from the date of such ratification, provided always that the South African Republic shall be at liberty at the close of any half-year to pay off the whole, or any portion, of the outstanding debt.

Interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the debt as standing under the Convention of Pretoria shall, as heretofore, be paid to the date of the ratification of this Convention.

VII. All persons who held property in the Transvaal on August 8, 1881, and still hold the same, will continue to enjoy the rights of property which they have enjoyed since April 12, 1877. No person who has remained loyal to Her Majesty during the late hostilities, shall suffer any molestation by reason of his loyalty, or be liable to any

criminal prosecution, or civil action, for any part taken in connection with such hostilities; and all such persons will have full liberty to reside in the country, with enjoyment of all civil rights and protection for their persons and property.

VIII. The South African Republic renews the declaration made in the Sand River Convention and in the Convention of Pretoria that no slavery, or apprenticeship partaking of slavery, will be tolerated by the Government of the said Republic.

IX. There will continue to be complete freedom of religion and protection from molestation for all denominations, provided the same be not inconsistent with morality and good order; and no disability shall attach to any person in regard to rights of property by reason of the religious opinions which he holds

X. The British Officer appointed to reside in the South African Republic will receive every assistance from the Government of the said Republic in making due provision for the proper care and preservation of the graves of such of Her Majesty's forces as have died in the Transvaal; and, if need be, for the appropriation of land for the purpose.

XI. All grants or titles issued at any time by the Transvaal Government in respect of land outside the boundary of the South African Republic, as defined in Article I., shall be considered invalid and of no effect, except in so far as any such grant or title relates to land that falls within the boundary of the South African Republic; and all persons hold

ing any such grant, so considered invalid and of no effect, will receive from the Government of the South African Republic such compensation, either in land or in money, as the Volksraad shall determine. In all cases in which any native chiefs or other authorities outside the said boundaries, have received any adequate consideration from the Government of the South African Republic for land excluded from the Transvaal by Article I. of this Convention, or where permanent improvements have been made on the land, the High Commissioner will recover from the native authorities fair compensation for the loss of the land thus excluded, or of the permanent improvements thereon.

XII. The independence of the Swazis, within the boundary line of Swaziland, as indicated in Article I. of this Convention, will be fully recognised.

XIII. Except in pursuance of any treaty or engagement made as provided in Article IV. of this Convention, no other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the South African Republic of any article coming from any part of Her Majesty's dominions than are or may be imposed on the like article coming from any other place or country; nor will any prohibition be maintained or imposed on the importation into the South African Republic of any article coming from any part of Her Majesty's dominions which shall not equally extend to the like article coming from any other place or country. And in like manner the same treatment shall be given to any article coming to Great Britain from

the South African Republic as to the like article coming from any other place or country.

The provisions do not preclude the consideration of special arrangements as to import duties and commercial relations between the South African Republic and any of Her Majesty's colonies or possessions.

XIV. All persons, other than natives, conforming themselves to the laws of the South African Republic (a) will have full liberty, with their families, to enter, travel, or reside in any part of the South African Republic; (b) they will be entitled to hire or possess houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops and premises; (c) they may carry on their commerce either in person or by any agent whom they may think fit to employ; (d) they will not be subject, in respect of their persons or property, or in respect of their commerce or industry, to any taxes, whether general or local, other than those which are or may be imposed upon citizens of the said Republic.

XV. All persons, other than natives who established their domicile in the Transvaal between the 12th of April 1877 and the 8th of August 1881, and who within twelve months after such last-mentioned date, have had their names registered by the British Resident, shall be exempt from all compulsory military service whatever.

XVI. Provision shall hereafter be made by a separate instrument for the mutual extradition of criminals, and also for the surrender of deserters from Her Majesty's forces.

XVII. All debts contracted between the 12th of April 1877 and the 8th of August 1881, will be payable in the same currency in which they may have been contracted.

XVIII. No grants of land which may have been made, and no transfers or mortgages which may have been passed between the 12th of April 1877 and the 8th of August 1881, will be invalidated by reason merely of their having been made or passed between such dates.

All transfers to the British Secretary for native affairs in trust for natives, will remain in force, an officer of the South African Republic taking the place of such secretary for native affairs.

XIX. The Government of the South African Republic will engage faithfully to fulfil the assurances given, in accordance with the laws of the South African Republic, to the natives at the Pretoria Pitso by the Royal Commission in the presence of the Triumvirate, and with their entire assent (1) as to the freedom of the natives to buy or otherwise acquire under certain conditions, (2) as to the appointment of a commission to mark out native locations; (3) as to the access of the natives to the courts of law; and (4) as to their being allowed to move freely within the country, or to leave it for any legal purpose, under a pass system.

XX. This Convention will be ratified by a Volksraad of the South African Republic within the period of six months after its execution, and in default of such ratification this Convention shall be null and void.

I shall have occasion later on to consider whether or no, and in what respect, the Suzerainty of Great Britain over the Transvaal Republic, enunciated in the Convention of 1881, was abrogated or modified by the Convention of 1884

CHAPTER IV

THE GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY, WITH SOME REMARKS ON THE INHABITANTS

THE legislative authority of the Transvaal is vested in the Volksraad, a body somewhat analogous to our House of Commons, the members being elected by their constituents for four years. The number of members is only twenty-one. The Volksraad meets annually at Pretoria, the date of assembly being the first Monday in May, but the President is empowered to call an extraordinary session at any time to consider any matter that he may deem urgent. The only qualification for the Volksraad is, that the member must be thirty years of age, and either have been born in the country or else have been a qualified voter for fifteen consecutive years; he must also be a member of some Protestant church, a regulation which excludes Jews and Roman Catholics, and not only reside in the Transvaal but have a fixed property therein. There are further important and somewhat curious disqualifications for membership of this body. No person

is eligible who is "an openly bad character," while if the father is a member of the Volksraad, his sons and step-sons are for the time ineligible. Coloured persons, those not born in wedlock and officials in receipt of salaries are all disqualified from sitting in the Volksraad. This House possesses a veto over every act of the second chamber. Indeed, the President possesses full discretion in regard to what measures passed in the second chamber he shall submit for the consideration of the first.

The executive of the Transvaal consists of the State President, who is elected by the people for a term of five years, the State secretary, who is elected by the Volksraad for a term of four years, the commandant-general, who is elected by the people for a period of ten years, and the secretary for native affairs and two non-official members, the choice of whom rests with the Volksraad, and each of whom holds office for three years. The president must be thirty years of age, must be a member of some one, though not any particular Protestant church, and must not have been sentenced for any criminal offence; there are no other qualifications.

The chief official in each district, termed the Landdrost, combines the functions of magistrate and civil commissioner; he is assisted by a clerk, who is simultaneously public prosecutor and distributor of stamps. Each district is likewise superintended by a field cornet, who possesses certain judicial and, in time of war, military powers. My readers will, no doubt, have observed

many references to field cornets in connection with the assembly of the Boers to resist Dr Jameson's invasion of the Transvaal.

The South African Republic possesses no standing army, if we except a small corps of mounted artillery. On the other hand, every full-grown Boer is to all intents and purposes a soldier, and the president has the right, with the concurrence of the executive, to call out the burghers at any time in defence of the Republic. The whole force being then under the orders of the commandant-general, by law of the Republic all its inhabitants between sixteen and sixty are liable to be called upon for active service, the first levy being those of men from eighteen to thirty-four, the second of men from thirty-four to fifty, the third of boys between sixteen and eighteen, and men over fifty. The commandeered, as they are usually termed, are required to provide themselves with a gun, clothing and thirty rounds of ammunition. As regards loot taken during a period of hostilities, one-fourth goes to the Government, the remaining three-fourths being equally divided among the men called out.

The law of the country is Roman-Dutch, modified, to a certain extent, by the accepted customs of South Africa. The decrees of the supreme courts of the Cape Colony, if they do not over-ride any local legislation, are regarded by the Transvaal judges as authoritative, being decided on the principles of Roman-Dutch law.

These few details will, I hope, enable my readers

to form some idea as to the mode of Government that obtains in the Transvaal. It is on the whole a simple, rough-and-ready method of administration, well adapted to the requirements of the Boers, though I frankly admit in all respects not suited, or suitable, for persons who have lived in countries like France and England.

The Dutch Boers of South Africa are, as I have already indicated, fearful of the activity of the British Colonists, a fact largely due to their having no taste for expansive development—indeed, they are, by habits and association, quite averse from it. Amongst the purely Dutch element has also gradually sprung up a mixed race, known as *Africanders*, the majority of whom are of partial Dutch descent and are more in sympathy with the pure creole Boers than with the conquering and dominant race—the chief ideal of the Boers being a sort of humdrum routine of pastoral life, varied, if varied at all, by an equally methodical pursuit of the chase, rifle in hand. What they cherish most is to be masters of as large an area as they can of what we should call little better than waste land, for the pasture of their fat-tailed sheep and their oxen, chiefly used for draught purposes. They are, with very few exceptions, if any, expert bullock-drivers and unerring riflemen. They are extremely simple as well as primitive in their habits; and, except, as against the African natives, such as the *Kaffirs*, the *Hottentots* and the *Fingoes*, they are anything but aggressive as neighbours, for the very good reason that they are of extremely stay-at-home

habits and predilections, stolidly wrapped up in their habitual pursuits. Except amongst themselves and their own communities, they are not gregarious. But in their far-away settlements, they are, as a rule, hospitable to isolated strangers from whom they apprehend no transgression of their tastes, peculiarities, immunities or possessions. It is only justice to state that the Boers are hardy, enduring, capable of great physical exertion, indomitably courageous, and endowed with a haughty, though almost tacit, spirit of independence, the gratification of which is ingrained in and entwined with their very existence. It is due to this latter characteristic, combined with a fear born of experience of British aggression, that so soon as British colonists began to be multiplied at and near Cape Town, and afterwards about Port Elizabeth and Durban, numbers of Boers kept on migrating or "trekking" more and more to the north eastward, into Graaffreynet and the country beyond the Orange River, in the latter of which they, as I have already shown, founded the settlement which has since been recognised as independent, under the name of the Orange River Free State; on the further side of which, to the northward, they have since been hemmed in by the extension of the Cape Colony to include what is known by the name of Griqualand West, whilst to the south-east, they were in contact with the skilful and warlike Basutos (Kaffirs), between whom and themselves there was an inextinguishable blood-feud

It is, I think, desirable to interpolate some remarks

here with reference to the juxtaposition of what have now become two autonomous Boer States, in the very heart of our South African Territories, and actually formed out of and within our own colonies. The Boers of the Orange River State and those of the Transvaal are really one and the same people, having a perfectly identical origin, extraction, descent and characteristics, those of the Transvaal being but a portion of the same aggregate community, which, at the close of the last Basuto War, and on the complete subjection of Moshesh and Sandilli—having no squattings in the Orange River settlement when that was recognised as an independent State—had sought further seclusion from the British settlers by “trekking” beyond the Transkei, and after that again, northward, beyond the Vaal for the like purpose. The two States are naturally allied in all their sympathies of blood, habits and sentiments; and as they are conterminous along the whole stretch of the Orange River State’s north-eastern boundary, which forms by far the greater part of the Transvaal’s southern frontier, it is not at all unlikely that (especially if pressed by an attempt to coerce either the one or the other) they may combine and become consolidated under one central Government, whether at Pretoria or at Bloemfontein, or even, perhaps, at Johannesburg, if the restlessness of the Uitlanders were reduced to subjection, a consummation which would enable the united Boers to wield forces, especially on their own territory, which could not be quite lightly reckoned with. It is further to be observed

that in the event of a combination of forces, at any rate, which was quite recently imminent upon the sudden invasion of the Transvaal from the west, our diamond mining settlement, in Griqualand West, might be seriously exposed to sudden incursion. Kimberley is close upon the western frontier of the Orange River State, and within convenient striking distance of the south-western angle of the Transvaal; whilst a hostile occupation of Griqualand West would all but isolate Bechuanaland from Cape Colony, and would seriously menace the line of communication by land between Cape Town and Matabeleland. Again, the Orange River State is conterminous with our colony of Natal, at the north-eastern extremity of the former and the north-western extremity of the latter, which has also a small stretch of extreme north-eastern frontier conterminous with the Transvaal, which, together with the Orange River State, comprises little, if any, less of territorial extent than does the Cape Colony, and not much less than the Cape Colony, Natal and British Zululand combined. These facts suggest many grave possible contingencies, to which the crude, ill-formed, vacillating policy of successive Governments in England has exposed the future of our great South African possessions. It would be no such very easy strategy, in the event of an open conflict between the British Government and the combined Boers, to isolate them at all effectually. In a rugged country like South Africa, where roads and railways are still but few and imperfect, at the best, and military movements, like all other occasions

of transport, must be conducted over more or less difficult ground, with peculiarities and means of conveyance over which all the Boers are familiar, they would have a great advantage in manœuvring as well as in mobilisation and marching. To this advantage must be added also that their common base would be a compact, united and central position, and that they can produce all absolutely indispensable supplies, excepting, possibly, sufficient of arms and ammunition, within their own borders. No doubt, if England were resolved to subjugate them at any cost, commanding nearly the whole coast line as she does, the Boers of both States, even with their Afrikander adherents, would be in time defeated, and those inhabiting the Cape Colony and Natal would be prevented from becoming insurrectionary agitators ; but it would not promote the prosperity of any part of South Africa that a large proportion of the population, of the characteristics of the Boers and Afrikanders, should be kept by overpowering and costly repression in a state of sullen subjection, and, accordingly, the best interests of Great Britain evidently lie in the cultivation of not only a good understanding, but a cordial alliance with the Boers of both the Transyaal and the Orange River Free State.

CHAPTER V

THE CHARTERED COMPANY

THE British South Africa Company, better known as the Chartered Company, ought not in one way to have any concern whatever with the Transvaal, and, accordingly, would not need any mention in a book dealing with that Republic. Unfortunately, however, the events of the past few months have brought the Chartered Company into notoriety, from the fact that its late administrator led the armed forces under his command into the territory of a friendly nation. Dr Jameson, and the greater number of the men whom he led into the South African Republic, have arrived in this country for the purpose of being put upon their trial for their conduct in connection with that raid. They have every right to expect an impartial trial; but while the case against them, so far as the law is concerned, is still *sub judice*, it would be obviously improper that either in a book or a newspaper any statements might appear which could, in the slightest degree, have a prejudicial effect

on their approaching trial. The Chartered Company is, likewise, to some extent, upon its trial, and directly the charges which will be preferred against Dr Jameson and his fellow-prisoners have been adjudicated on, it is pretty well certain that a full and exhaustive inquiry will be held into the connection, if any, which existed between the Chartered Company or any of its officials in regard to Dr Jameson's raid into the Transvaal. It is only fair to say that Mr Rhodes has asked for that inquiry, and, so far as my personal opinion goes, I may say that I do not believe for a moment that Mr Rhodes has any reason to fear the result of that inquiry. I have known that gentleman for a long time; I have watched his career with the deepest interest; I am certain that he is a man with large ideas, great aspirations, no doubt considerable ambition. But, at the same time, he is a man of tact and caution, and I shall refuse to believe that Mr Rhodes knew anything of, much less authorised, that fatal incursion of Dr Jameson into Transvaal territory. Now, I do not intend in this book to criticise the Chartered Company any more than I do to cover it with fulsome eulogy. The Chartered Company has, in the past, done a considerable amount for the development and advancement of South Africa, and especially a portion of South Africa in which I am greatly interested. But, at the same time, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that Chartered Companies are far from being the best means of administering a new country inhabited by a large

native population. It has been pleaded that the administration of newly-occupied portions of the earth's surface by Chartered Companies is economical for the mother-country, which gets all the *kudos* of possession without incurring the cost of administration. This is undoubtedly true, but, at the same time, it must not be forgotten that the objects of such companies are, to a large degree, incompatible with the just and upright administration of a new and undeveloped country. The primary object of a company must be a pecuniary one, and its shareholders the very first consideration. The example of the East India Company, which we so often hear quoted, is really nothing in point. We have progressed marvellously in many ways since the days of "John Company," and it is no exaggeration to say that the means by which the East India Company annexed large portions of what now constitute the Indian Empire, if attempted to be carried into effect at the present day in any part of the world, would rouse such a storm of indignation in this country as would sweep from office any minister or ministry that attempted either to tolerate or justify them. Wherever Chartered Companies exist at the present time or have existed of late years, in East, West, or South Africa, their rule has, to my knowledge, been disadvantageous to the native races under their control, and in many instances has brought discredit on Great Britain. In any case, it is manifestly an absurdity that a trading corporation should be allowed to have armed forces

at its disposal, under the command of an officer who is not directly responsible to the Imperial Government. And I say this, not only as regards the Chartered Company, but also in reference to the Royal Niger Company.

As I shall have occasion throughout this book to refer from time to time to the Chartered Company within the limitations that I have laid down in this chapter, I think it necessary, in order that my readers may have a clear and comprehensive idea as to the terms on which the Company was placed in full possession of its rights and privileges, that I should give here the full text of the charter, which Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen was pleased to grant it on the 29th October 1889.

“VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

“To all whom these presents shall come, greeting

“Whereas a humble petition has been presented to us in our Council by the Most Noble James, Duke of Abercorn, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath; the Most Noble Alexander William George, Duke of Fife, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Privy Councillor; the Right Honourable Edric Frederick, Lord Gifford, V.C.; Cecil John Rhodes of Kimberley, in the Cape Colony, Member of the Executive Council, and of the House of Assembly of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope; Alfred Beit of 29

Holborn Viaduct, London, Merchant; Albert Henry George Grey of Howick, Northumberland, Esquire; and George Cawston of 18 Lennox Gardens, London, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law.

“And whereas the said petition states, amongst other things:—

“That the petitioners and others are associated for the purpose of forming a company or association, to be incorporated, if to us should seem fit, for the objects in the said petition, set forth under the corporate name of the British South Africa Company.

“That the existence of a powerful British company, controlled by those of our subjects in whom we have confidence, and having its principle field of operations in that region of South Africa lying to the north of Bechuanaland and to the west of Portuguese East Africa, would be advantageous to the commercial and other interests of our subjects in the United Kingdom and our Colonies.

“That the petitioners desire to carry into effect divers concessions and agreements which have been made by certain of the chiefs and tribes inhabiting the said region, and such other concessions, agreements, grants and treaties as the petitioners may hereinafter obtain within the said region or elsewhere in Africa, with the view of promoting trade, commerce, civilisation and good government (including the regulation of liquor traffic with the natives) in the territories which are or may be comprised, or referred to in such concessions, agreements, grants and treaties as aforesaid.

“That the petitioners believe that if the said concessions, agreements, grants and treaties can be carried into effect, the condition of the natives inhabiting the said territories will be materially improved and their civilisation advanced, and an organisation established which will tend to the suppression of the slave trade in the said territories, and to the opening up of the said territories to the immigration of Europeans, and to the lawful trade and commerce of our subjects and of other nations.

“That the success of the enterprise in which the petitioners are engaged would be greatly advanced if it should seem fit to us to grant them our Royal Charter of Incorporation as a British Company under the said name or title, and with such powers as to us may seem fit for the purpose of more effectually carrying into effect the objects aforesaid.

“That large sums of money have been subscribed for the purpose of the intended Company by the petitioners and others, who are prepared also to subscribe or to procure such further sums as may hereafter be found requisite for the development of the said enterprise, in the event of our being pleased to grant to them our Royal Charter of Incorporation, as aforesaid.

“Now, therefore, we, having taken the said petition into our Royal consideration in our Council, and being satisfied that the intentions of the petitioners are praiseworthy and deserve encouragement, and that the enterprise in the petition described may

be productive of the benefits set forth therein, by our Prerogative Royal and of our special Grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, have constituted, erected and incorporated, and by this our Charter, for us and our heirs and royal successors, do constitute, erect and incorporate into one body, politic and corporate, by the name of The British South Africa Company, the said James, Duke of Abercorn, Alexander William George, Duke of Fife, Edric Frederick, Lord Gifford, Cecil John Rhodes, Alfred Beit, Albert Henry George Grey, and George Cawston, and such other persons and such bodies as from time to time become, and are, members of the body, politic and corporate, by these presents constituted, erected and incorporated with perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to break, alter, or renew the same at discretion, and, with the further authorities, powers and privileges conferred, and subject to the conditions imposed by this our Charter: And we do hereby, accordingly will, ordain, give, grant, constitute, appoint and declare as follows (that is to say):—

“1. The principal field of the operations of The British South Africa Company (in this our Charter referred to as “the Company”) shall be the region of South Africa lying immediately to the north of British Bechuanaland, and to the north and west of the South African Republic, and to the west of the Portuguese Dominions.

“2. The Company is hereby authorised and em-

powered to hold, use, and retain for the purposes of the Company and on the terms of this our Charter, the full benefit of the concessions and agreements made as aforesaid, so far as they are valid, or any of them, and all interests, authorities and powers comprised or referred to in the said concessions and agreements. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prejudice or affect any other valid and subsisting concessions or agreements, which may have been made by any of the chiefs of the tribes aforesaid. And in particular, that nothing herein contained shall prejudice or affect certain concessions granted in, and subsequent to, the year 1880, relating to the territory usually known as the district of the Tati, nor shall anything herein contained be construed as giving any jurisdiction, administrative or otherwise, within the said district of the Tati, the limits of which district are as follows: From where the Shasi River rises to its junction with the Tati and Ramaquaban Rivers, thence along the Ramaquaban River to where it rises, and thence along the watershed of those rivers.

“3. The Company is hereby further authorised and empowered, subject to the approval of one of our Principal Secretaries of State (herein referred to as “Our Secretary of State”) from time to time, to acquire by any concession, agreement, grant or treaty, all or any rights, interests, authorities, jurisdictions and powers of any kind or nature whatever, including powers necessary for the purposes of government,

and the preservation of public order in, or for the protection of territories, lands or property, comprised or referred to in the concessions and agreements made as aforesaid, or affecting other territories, lands or property in Africa, or the inhabitants thereof, and to hold, use, and exercise such territories, lands, property rights, interests, authorities, jurisdictions and powers respectively for the purposes of the Company, and on the terms of this our Charter.

“4. Provided that no powers of government or administration shall be exercised under, or in relation to any such last-mentioned concession, agreement, grant or treaty in such form, until such maps or particulars as our Secretary of State approves, verified as he requires, has been transmitted to him, and he has signified his approval thereof, either absolutely or subject to any conditions or reservations. And provided also that no rights, interests, authorities, jurisdictions or powers of any description shall be acquired by the Company within the said district of the Tati, as hereinbefore described, without the previous consent in writing of the owners for the time being, of the concessions above referred to, relating to the said district, and the approval of our Secretary of State.

“5. The Company shall be bound by, and shall fulfil all and singular the stipulations on its part, contained in any such concession, agreement, grant, or treaty as aforesaid, subject to the subsequent

agreement affecting those stipulations approved by our Secretary of State.

“6. The Company shall always be and remain British in character and domicile, and shall have its principal office in Great Britain, and the Company’s principal representative in South Africa, and the directors shall always be natural born British subjects, or persons who have been naturalised as British subjects by or under the Act of Parliament of our United Kingdom; but this Article shall not disqualify any person nominated a director by this our Charter, or any person whose election as a director shall have been approved by our Secretary of State, from acting in that capacity.

“7. In case at any time any difference arises between any chief or tribe, inhabiting any of the territories aforesaid, and the Company, the difference shall, if our Secretary of State so require, be submitted by the Company to him for his decision, and the Company shall act in accordance with such decision.

“8. If at any time our Secretary of State thinks fit to dissent from, or object to any of the dealings of the Company with any foreign power, and to make known to the Company any suggestion founded on that dissent or objection, the Company shall act in accordance with such suggestion

“9. If at any time our Secretary of State thinks fit to object to the exercise by the Company of any authority, power or right within any part of the territories aforesaid, on the ground of there

being an adverse claim to, or in respect of that part, the Company shall defer to that objection until such time as any such claim has been withdrawn, or finally dealt with, or settled by our Secretary of State.

“10 The Company shall, to the best of its ability, preserve peace and order in such ways and manners as it shall consider necessary, and may with that object make ordinances (to be approved by our Secretary of State), and may establish and maintain a force of police.

“11. The Company shall, to the best of its ability, discourage and so far as may be practicable, abolish by degrees any system of slave trade or domestic servitude in the territories aforesaid.

“12. The Company shall regulate the traffic in spirits and other intoxicating liquors within the territories aforesaid, so as, as far as practicable, to prevent the sale of any spirits or other intoxicating liquor to any natives.

“13. The Company as such, or its officers as such, shall not in any way interfere with the religion of any class or tribe of the peoples of the territories aforesaid, or of any of the inhabitants thereof, except so far as may be necessary in the interests of humanity, and all forms of religious worship or religious ordinances, may be exercised within the said territories, and no hindrance shall be offered thereto except as aforesaid.

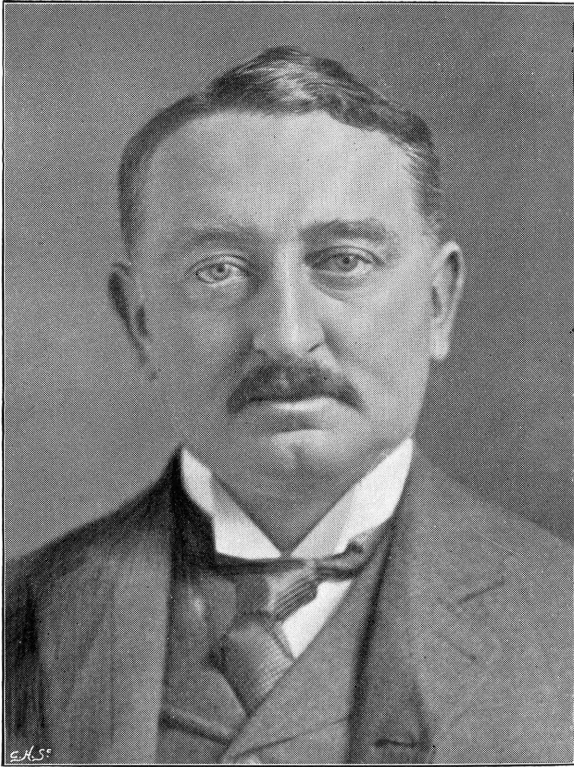
“14. In the administration of justice to the said peoples or inhabitants, careful regard shall always

be had to the customs and laws of the class, or tribe, or nation to which the parties respectively belong, especially with respect to the holding, possession, transfer and disposition of lands and goods, and testate or intestate succession thereto, and marriage, divorce and legitimacy, and other rights of property and personal rights, but subject to any British laws which may be in force in any of the territories aforesaid, and applicable to the people or inhabitants thereof.

“15. If at any time our Secretary of State thinks fit to dissent from or object to any part of the proceedings or system of the Company relative to the peoples of the territories aforesaid, or to any of the inhabitants thereof, in respect of slavery or religion, or the administration of justice, or any other matter, he shall make known to the Company his dissent or objection, and the Company shall act in accordance with the directions duly signified.

“16. In the event of the Company acquiring any harbour or harbours, the Company shall freely afford all facilities for or to our ships therein without payment, except reasonable charges for work done or services rendered, or materials or things supplied.

“17. The Company shall furnish annually to our Secretary of State, as soon as conveniently may be after the close of the financial year, accounts of its expenditure for administrative purposes, and of all sums received by it by way of public revenue, as distinguished from its commercial profits, during the financial year, together with a report as to its public



CECIL RHODES.

FROM A PORTRAIT BY ELLIOT AND FRY.

Page 49.]

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proceedings and the condition of the territories within the sphere of its operations. The Company shall also, on or before the commencement of each financial year, furnish to our Secretary of State an estimate of its expenditure for administrative purposes, and of its public revenue (as above defined) for the ensuing year. The Company shall, in addition, from time to time, furnish to our Secretary of State any reports, accounts or information which he may require to be furnished.

“18. The several officers of the Company shall, subject to the rules of official subordination and to any regulations that may be agreed upon, communicate freely with our High Commissioner in South Africa, and any other of our officers who may be stationed within any of the territories aforesaid, and shall pay due regard to any requirements, suggestions or requests which the High Commissioner or other officers shall make to them or any of them, and the Company shall be bound to enforce the observance of this Article.

“19. The Company may hoist and use on its buildings and elsewhere in the territories aforesaid, and on its vessels, such distinctive flag indicating the British character of the Company, as our Secretary of State and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall, from time to time, approve.

“20. Nothing in this our Charter shall be deemed to authorise the Company to set up or grant any monopoly of trade, provided that the establishment of or the grant of concession for banks, railways, tramways, docks, telegraphs, waterworks or other