

Transvaal Museum in 1934, when the sum of £300 was added to the Museum's grant for its maintenance and upkeep. Needless to say this sum has proved totally inadequate, and as result other sections of the Museum have had to be deprived of proper financial support to maintain Kruger House in a fitting manner. This house, which has been proclaimed a National Historical Monument, is a museum piece in itself, and, with its original furnishings, should be preserved as such, without the introduction of incongruous modern glass display cases. However, this has unfortunately not been possible as there is at present no other place to display the large assemblage of material that is available. Here again, it is regarded as essential that a separate building should be provided, in which the collection of Krugeriana could be properly set out without introducing any foreign element into the house itself. If such can be brought about, special efforts could be made to obtain more of the original furniture and other household items, which could then be placed in their proper setting.

From the foregoing it must be obvious that, until the Government sees fit to give more generous support, a national heritage must for the most part moulder in cellars and store-rooms. It is therefore hoped that, with the active support of the public of Pretoria, the original concept of the Museum "to foster a love of country and national pride" may yet be fulfilled by setting out in a fitting manner this record of our gloriously stirring and eventful past.

V. FitzSimons
Director Transvaal Museum

6/9/51.

A WANDERER'S RHYMES

A short while ago much interest was attracted by some notes, published in the columns of our local newspaper, dealing with different aspects of the life and work of Mr. Albert Brodrick, the author of "A Wanderer's Rhymes" (published in London in 1893 by: "The Record Press, Limited", located at 376, Strand, W.C.).

Mr. Albert Brodrick was a well-known storekeeper in Pretoria, who departed for England in 1878.

In "Thomas François Burgers. A biography" (written by Prof. S.P. Engelbrecht, Cape Town, Pretoria 1946) two poems, composed by Brodrick, are to be found.

Thanks to Mr. C.J. Freaan, a relative of Mr. Brodrick and the

proud possessor of a copy of "The Wanderer's Rhymes", we are able to give the readers of "Pretoriana" some more of the labours of an old Pretorian of the second half of the nineteenth century.

It may be of interest to know some further particulars dealing with "A Wanderer's Rhymes".

Mr. Freaan's copy consists of 128 pages. The most remarkable are those poems dealing with the Battle of Rorke's Drift, "Our Republic", "The last Napoleon", "Jong Koekemoer", other examples are those "rhymes" dealing with different aspects of life and its ups and downs.

In the "dedication" the author has stated, "This collection of rhymes, some of which have already appeared over the signature of 'A Wanderer' 'Transvaal Englishman' 'A.B.' and 'Vaalpens', is dedicated to the memory of M.S.B., my first and my best friend".

Mr. Freaan's copy has the following inscription: "M.W. Freaan from cousin Harold Brodrick."

J.P.

Note: The wife of Mr. A. Brodrick, lies buried in the Old Cemetery, her name being Isabella Louisa Brodrick, née Cole (9/6/1873) (Information supplied by Mr. C.J. Freaan).

EPITAPH ON A DIAMOND DIGGER

Here lies a digger, all his chips departed-
A splint of nature, bright, and ne'er down hearted:
He worked in many claims, but now (though stumped)
he's got a claim above that can't be jumped.
May he turn out a pure and spotless "wright",
When the Great Judge shall sift the wrong from right,
And may his soul, realised from this low Babel,
Be found a gem on God's great sorting table.

A. Brodrick: "A Wanderer's Rhymes". London, 1893.

EK ONTHOU

In die tagtiger jare was my vader, mnr. B.J. Kleynhans, assistent veldkornet vir die distrik Ermelo. Hy is aan die end van die sewentiger jare met Aletta de Jager, 'n dogter van Christiaan de Jager (die Voortrekker) getroud en het hom op die plaas Vlakkfontein No. 27 in die distrik Ermelo gevestig.