

the country. Three years after this invasion (1823-4), some English settlers made their appearance: Leuts, Farewell and King, together with others of lesser note—such as Isaacs, Thompson and H. Fynn—arrived. These succeeded in collecting the lurking and cowed natives round them, and each became the head or chief of a clan, which in time formed a protection and safety to the land. Meanwhile Chaka, the conquering hero, was assassinated by a relative named Dingaan, who reigned in his stead. About this time, a sort of contract was entered into between the Zulu king and the Whites, by which the right to settle in and about the Port of Natal was accorded them. Had they worked well together all might have been well, for their combined forces formed a powerful barrier to native invasion, but jealousies broke out amongst them, for each wanted to be “Inkosi Inkulu” (great chief). Before long, the wily enemy saw the joint in their armour, and availed himself of it to obtain especial and secret gifts from each. No doubt he hugged himself with delight whenever each new aspirant approached—for a word in his ear meant a valuable and useful gift in his hand. It was at this most opportune time (1838) that another band of white settlers appeared on the scene in the persons of the Dutch “Voor trekkers,” who left the Cape Colony in indignant protest against the British policy there, as will be remembered. Their chagrin, on finding that the English were in the field before them, may be imagined. During the months intervening between their departure from the Cape and their passage up the Drakensberg into Natal, much that is stirring and romantic happened to them. Referring to the very meagre records of the time, we learn that under leaders, named Trichard, Gert Maritz, Uys, Landtman, Rudolph, and Retief, the emigrants, numbering in all about 7,000, formed themselves into caravans, which stretched, in some cases, for miles upon miles across the country. Taking a course through the region now known as the Orange Free State, in order to avoid certain hostile tribes, they held their way parallel

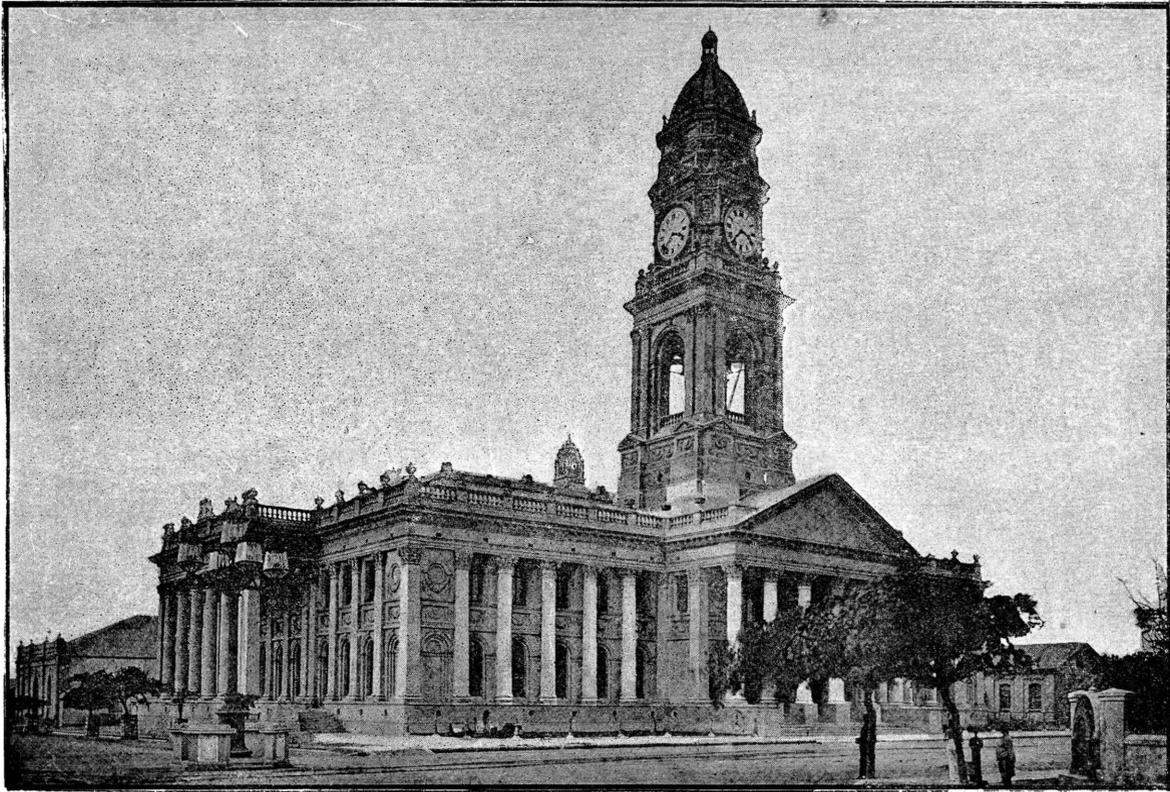
with, and on the western slopes of, the Drakensberg Mountains, until in the neighbourhood of the Vaal River. Here the valiant "trekkers" met with the powerful and warlike Matabele tribe, and in the resulting battle twenty-eight of their champions fell, while the barbarians captured several herds of cattle and carried off some of their children. This check was followed by another, in which twenty-five men and women fell, while their property became the spoil of the enemy. A few of this second party escaped, however, and fled back to warn several succeeding caravans. These drew themselves together in time to meet (on the 29th of October, 1836) the combined army of the Matabele. Forming "Lagaars" or stockades of their waggons, and being armed with "roers" (elephant guns), they held their own against their agile and dauntless assailants. In the battle, as far as I can learn, only two "Boers" (farmers) were killed and twelve wounded, while a heavy loss was inflicted on the savages, who retired discomfited and defeated.

Passing on, after having carried the war into the country of Moselekatze, the Matabele chief, as shown elsewhere, the emigrants turned eastward, and approached the Drakensberg Mountains for the purpose of reaching the coast. But an enemy set fire to the great prairies between them and the mountain range, thereby not only endangering their lives, but preventing their advance—for the hills, after the passage of the flames, were left without a blade of grass for the cattle to eat. Under these circumstances, a large camp was made, where the main body remained, while Retief and about seventy men rode on to spy out the land (what a wonderful analogy there is, by the way, between this event in modern history and the Israelitish record of the escaped bondsmen of Egypt, as set forth in the Scriptures). From the summit of the Drakensberg, the pioneers had a grand view of "the promised land." Since then I have time and again revelled in the same fair scene. It is difficult, in prosaic words, to convey any true or vivid description of this divinely grand prospect. The man who can stand on

those rugged and majestic mountains, and look across the vast fertile and unspeakably beautiful region without a thrill of the most exquisite delight, must be dead indeed to all that is inspiring and good in Nature. The same scene is to be enjoyed to-day, and I venture to say, without hesitation, that one day spent in these elevated latitudes is worthy *a journey across the world.*

Even these rugged and practical farmers, fresh as they were from the turmoil of battles and the more terrible toils of moving waggons through the roadless and undefined wilderness, were overcome with awe and delight, 20,000 miles of Eden-like meadows, hills, valleys, rivers and forest lay there, as they fondly hoped, awaiting them. Passing on, Retief and his brave little band descended the Berg, and traversing the country approached the encampment or village of the dreaded Emperor Dingaan. This crafty and brutal assassin received them with apparent friendliness, and after hearing their request for permission to settle in the land which was his only in name, most graciously granted them their wish. After the business of the meeting was over, he expressed a wish to entertain them with a grand review of his army. Delighted with his urbanity they agreed to wait the assembly of the warriors. For two days the army, numbering over 4,000 stalwart savages, paraded and went through their warlike exercises. This over, Dingaan, having impressed the Boers with a sense of his might, requested them, in order, as he said, to prove the sincerity of their devotion, to go up and chastise a certain freebooting Mantatee chief, named Sikonzella. "What can I do?" wrote Retief to his friends in camp, "otherwise than trust to the Almighty, and patiently await His will." Fortune, however, favoured the Bellerophon-like enterprise of the pioneers, for they compelled the Mantatee chief to obedience.

After this, Retief returned to the main camp of the emigrants, who by this time had crossed the Drakensberg and entered the region now known as Blawkrantz and Weenen,

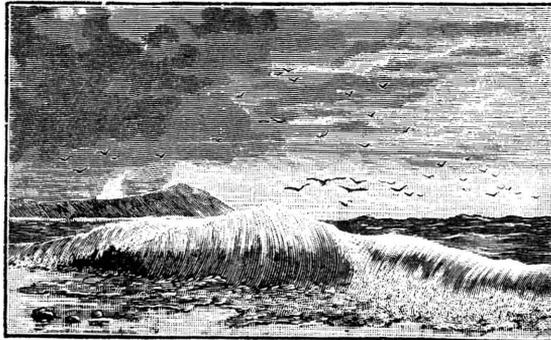


TOWN HALL, DURBAN, NATAL
(From a Photograph by Robert Harris.)

in Natal. Taking about 200 of the very pick of the caravans, he set out once more to greet the king. An immense concourse received them at the royal palace. Dingaan expressed himself as pleased with their success, and feasted them right royally. As a further proof of his good will, he granted them the country between the Tugela and St. John's River, utterly regardless of the fact that already he had handed it over to the British settlers, who were meanwhile peacefully labouring at Port Natal. This business being thus, as the Boers thought, satisfactorily arranged, festivities were indulged in, and great good feeling expressed on both sides. Still, from force of old habit, the Boers retained their rifles in their hands always. Dingaan, noticing this, made a special request that they should lay them aside, in order to enter into a conference with him. Incautiously, the pioneers complied, and instantly were seized and dragged to the place of execution, where they were foully murdered.

The war cry now spread, and the savage hordes poured themselves against the devoted Dutch and English settlers. After several victories and one or two drawn battles, Dingaan was defeated, and murdered by one of his own captains named Umpanda. This chief was proclaimed King of the Zulus by the Boers, who, at the same time, formed themselves into a Government, which was called the Republic of Natalia. It was in these struggles that the grim determination of the Rhinelanders showed itself, and won for them such decisive victories. And it was in these struggles that South Africa added to her roll of heroes a goodly list of names whose representatives to-day do no discredit to the valour of their fathers. Now comes the saddest part of all the history; one may look on the feuds between barbarian and Christian men with a certain amount of philosophy, for it is natural to expect conflicts between such diverse natures, but when Christian men, fellow-settlers and brother pioneers, turn upon and rend each other the case is different. Some of our historic heroes have to climb down from the pedestals of fame which their bravery and

enterprise had raised them to, and others again must in charity to their descendants be put out of sight and mind. The English at the port, and the Dutch further inland, fell to blows over trifles, and a useless and bloody war was the result. Having done my best to set the hazier parts of the colonial history before my readers, I must refer them to other works for the melancholy record of the Anglo-Dutch Colonial War, which resulted in the fall of the Republic, and the establishment of the British Colony of Natal.



CHAPTER VII.

NATAL OF TO-DAY.



NATAL has been, with justice, called the "Garden of South Africa." It lies, as a glance at the map will show, between Pondoland and Zululand, and has a superficial area of 21,150 square miles, or about thirteen and a-half million of acres. Its boundaries are British Zululand on the North; Pondoland and Griqualand East on the south; Basutoland, the Orange Free State and the Transvaal on the west; whilst it shows a seaboard of 180 miles on the east.

The view from the deck of the steamer as she lies at the outer anchorage is a pleasant and interesting one. On one hand the wooded heights of the "Bluff" clothed in dense forests, jut into the sea and trend away into the distance; on the other the Town is faintly hinted at by the appearance of a few spires and towers over the fringe of bush that skirts the shore. The distance is bounded by the Berea, with its villas and cottages, while in the foreground the masts of the shipping proclaim the commercial importance and life of the place.

Durban, the seaport of the Colony, may be divided into three parts: first, the Point and Addington, which is a town in itself; second, the main or business centre; and third, the Berea or residential part. The entrance to the harbour has been hitherto somewhat obstructed by a bar similar to that at the mouth of the St. John's River; but owing to the effectual and skilfully carried out harbour improvements, it is daily

being removed, and already ships of one thousand tons and over may enter in safety and discharge alongside the wharves, where ten years ago vessels of four and five hundred tons could not venture with any degree of safety. Once over this long standing and somewhat exaggerated danger, the voyager finds himself in a landlocked harbour measuring about four miles by three. It is enclosed on the south by a long wooded range called the "Bluff," upon the extremity of which stands the lighthouse, and where even in these degenerate days of ultra-civilisation, good shooting is to be had.

Near the head-waters of the bay are a group of tiny islands where pic-nic parties most do congregate. Three rivers—named the Umbelo, Umhlatazan and Manzie-manyam (Black-water)—flow into it from the west and north-west. Slightly further north, the Congella flats and mangrove thickets afford shelter to droves of sea-fowl; while on the southern edge, on a picturesque plain, stands the town itself. Landing from the steamer, the traveller will be pleasantly surprised at the bustle and progressiveness of the place. Broad, solid, and well-constructed wharves laid with rails, towering warehouses, steam cranes, railway engines screaming and puffing, and the eternal rumbling of wheels, greet his eyes and ears whichever way he looks. A ride—either by train, tram, or bus—of two miles, through a continuous mass of substantial structures, will take him through Addington and into Durban proper. Here again, the solidity and English appearance of the streets, and town generally, will serve to convince the most sceptical of the wealth, importance and value of the Colony as a field for enterprise and labour. The Town Hall, which has been erected at considerable cost, is a stately building, and forms a fitting centre-piece to the town. The streets are laid down at right-angles, and West Street (the principal thoroughfare) is broad, well built and lighted. Goods of all descriptions are to be had at a very slight advance on English cost. The population of Durban is 27,492, of which 13,000 are Whites—principally British.

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Pietermaritzburg—commonly called “ Maritzburg ”—the capital of the Colony, is situated about fifty-four miles by rail inland, and to the north-west of the port. It was founded by the early Dutch settlers, and is a comfortable, well-appointed and busy commercial centre. At first it does not strike one as being so thoroughly English as Durban, but that feeling soon passes off. The public buildings of the city are stately and handsome, while the streets are broad, and in many cases planted with shade trees. The whole population of Maritzburg is 14,298. This number is made up as follows:—Whites, 9,436, Natives, Hottentots, and others, 4,862. Amongst its public institutions I may mention a Swimming Club, Rifle, Athletic and Football Clubs, Reading Room and Public Libraries, an Agricultural Society, Botanic, Benevolent and Horticultural Societies; while Friendly Societies, such as Odd Fellows, Foresters, Freemasons, &c., are in great repute.

Maritzburg was connected by rail with Durban in 1880. Of other townships there are great numbers. Chief amongst which I may mention—Howick, Weston, Estcourt, Colenso, Ladysmith, Newcastle, Pinetown, York, Nottingham, Stanger, Richmond, Greytown, Umzinto, Harding, New Hanover, Willowfontein, Marburg, Hermansburg, Verulam, Victoria, Stanger, and Isipingo. The railway system of Natal is now extended to the borders of the Transvaal in order to meet the increased requirements of the Gold Fields trade. At present three lines start from Durban. One, called the South Coast line to Isipingo—a distance of ten or twelve miles; another, called the North Coast line to Verulam, 25 miles; and the third or main line, to Newcastle or Charlestown in the uplands of the Colony, 247 miles. The fares to Charlestown are—1st Class, £3 2s. 6d.; 2nd Class, £2 1s. 8d., 3rd Class, £1 0s. 10d., with allowance for luggage. These fares are, of course, subject to variation. The main line passes through Maritzburg, and by it some most interesting scenery can be enjoyed.

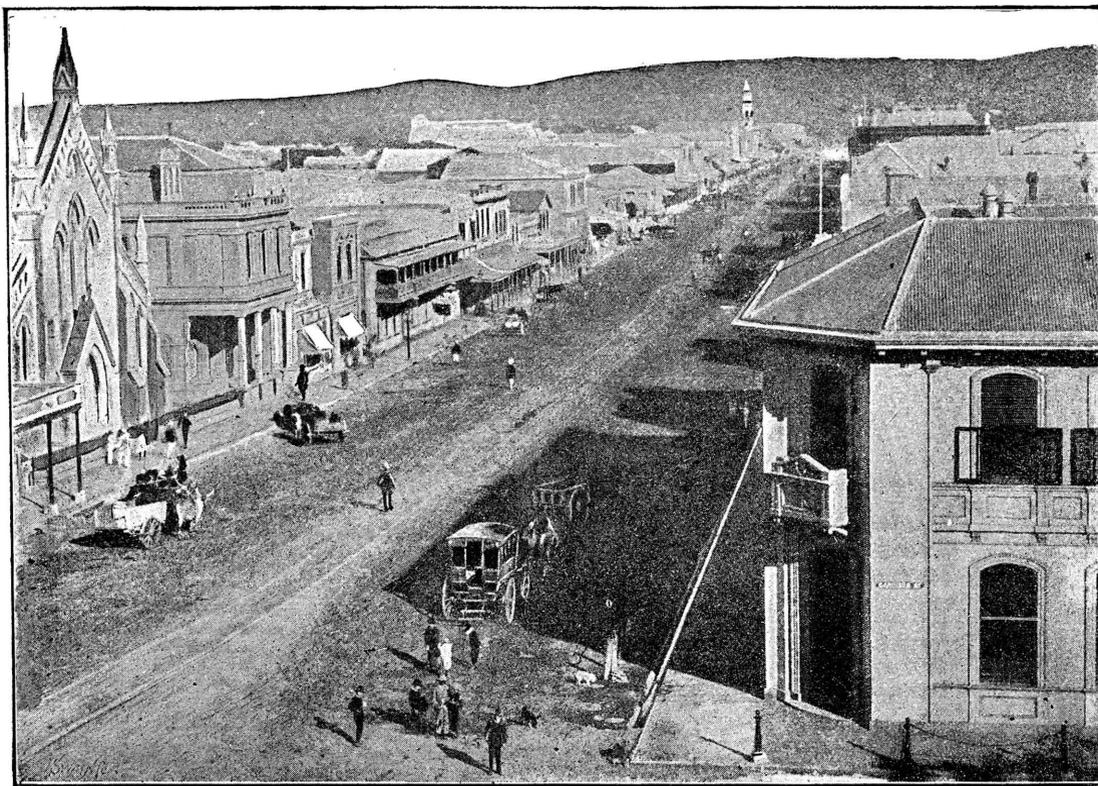
The Government of Natal is of a unique description, it being neither a Crown Colony, nor an independent one. It

is, however, generally understood that the questionable boon of Responsible Government is about to be conceded. The Governor is appointed by the Crown, as are the heads of Departments, such as the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Surveyor-General, Postmaster-General, Secretary for Native Affairs and Treasurer-General.

The Legislative Council is, with the exception of certain Government nominee members, elected by the colonists. All Bills passed by this body must first receive the Imperial sanction before they become law. The defence of the country rests, of course, under these circumstances, with the Crown, though hitherto the colonists have acquitted themselves bravely. A strong Volunteer force of over one thousand colonists is always ready to take the field, and as it is divided into cavalry, artillery, and infantry, it forms no mean factor in the Imperial estimation. The Government supports them in a most generous manner. In addition to this, the Natal Mounted Police is really a strong and well-drilled cavalry corps, numbering usually about 100, ready at a moment's notice to take the field.

The physical geography of the country is similar to that of the south-eastern parts of the Cape Colony; while, by reason of its position, its climate is, on the coast at any rate, of a semi-tropical nature. This arises from the same causes as stated when dealing with the climates of Pondoland and St. John's River territory. Commencing at the coast, the country rises in an almost regular series of steppes, which culminate in the Drakensberg range of mountains, with an altitude of 10,000 feet above the sea. Owing to this formation, it will be seen that a series of climates may be enjoyed, ranging from the moist warm coast lands to the broad open wind-swept and sometimes bleak levels, called "Up-country." These steppes may be enumerated as follows:—

The Coast level extends inland, roughly speaking, three miles. Then the Berea and its continuations, which attain about 400 feet of altitude. Then the Fields Hill and Noodsberg ranges, 1,000 feet. After these, we may estimate the



A STREET IN DURBAN
(From a Photograph by the Author.)

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Inchanga at 2,000 feet. Passing it we strike the elevated plain south and east of Pietermaritzburg (3,500), and from these by a gradual rise to the Drakensberg, which forms the watershed of the country, and attains, as has been stated, an altitude in places of 10,000 feet. This is simply an approximation, but it will serve to illustrate the broad features of the place. For about thirty miles inland, sub-tropical and tropical agriculture prevails: tea, coffee, tobacco, sugar, arrowroot, ginger, bananas, pineapples, oranges, &c., grow luxuriantly. The district is well wooded and watered, free from fever, and healthy, though somewhat relaxing.

Inland of this belt is what may be called the Middle District. The air is cooler, and the productions almost identical with that of England: wheat, oats, barley, turnips, forage, potatoes, and all European cereals thrive. The pasturage is good, and in the kloofs (valleys) wood in abundance is to be had. The climate here loses the coast heat in a great measure, is entirely healthy, and has an even temperature throughout the year. The farms closely resemble those in an English county, while society of a most enjoyable description is to be had. The upper district, which lies contiguous to the *Berg, is suitable chiefly for grazing stock, though wheat, and other produce of a similar nature, thrive in the more sheltered valleys. Sheep, cattle, and horse farming are the chief features of the place, while in limestone and coal it is especially rich.

The population of Natal, according to the census of 1891, is 543,913, made up as follows: European, 46,788; Indian emigrants, 30,393; natives, 55,983. Of the Europeans, the bulk are colonial born. The Indians were introduced as labourers, because the natives, like all primitive men, have a decided aversion to hard work, on the plantations. The great mass of the population is, as the above figures show, made up of descendants of the original tribes who took refuge under the early settlers. In addition to the natural increase which has taken place, their numbers have been largely supplemented

by refugees from the surrounding native states. They have districts, called "locations," set apart for them, the total extent of which exceeds 2,000,000 acres. Native chiefs are either appointed by our Government or elected by the natives. Being polygamists, they cannot come under our code of laws, so the Government, with a wisdom which, from my knowledge of the natives, I may venture to designate as questionable, have acknowledged their ancient codes, and as a consequence, Natal has two or more sets of laws—one for the Black, one for the White—and one might almost say a third for the Indian, whose interests are so carefully and captiously attended to by the Indian Government as to require a special Court, which is presided over by an officer called "The Protector of Indian Emigrants." The bulk of the natives live at their ease in these locations, the land being free to them and exceedingly fertile, their wants being few, and taxes light (14s. per hut a year). They lead a life of lazy luxury, that does more to retard their intellectual and social progress than any amount of actual depravity would effect. The rest of the land is distributed as follows: 8,000,000 acres acquired by grant or purchase by Europeans, while two and a-half millions remain in possession of the Crown, and, as yet unappropriated.

The following extract of the law governing the sale and transfer of Crown lands will be read by intending purchasers with interest:—

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF THE
CROWN LANDS IN THE COLONY OF NATAL.

I.—*Sale of Crown Lands, exclusive of Crown Reserves, Township Lands
and certain Pasture Lands.*

1. Exclusive of all lands which are already, or which shall hereafter be, set apart for public purposes, either permanently, such as Crown forests and lands required for the purposes of public defence and convenience, or temporarily, such as lands required for the formation of "special settlements" under the provisions of Law No. 21, 1876, or otherwise for the time

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being, such as certain pasture lands under the Drakensberg not adapted for agriculture, and certain coal-bearing lands in the Division of Newcastle, in the County of Klip River, as hereinafter shall be defined by public notice, and the conditions for renting out or leasing of which for grazing purposes are hereinafter separately dealt with, and exclusive also of township lands, as hereinafter named and described, and the conditions for the sale of which are herein also separately dealt with, the unappropriated waste lands of the Crown are open for sale, in lots varying from 10 to 2,000 acres.

2. All lands so opened for sale as aforesaid will be sold in freehold, and by public auction only, to the highest bidder, and the upset price of such lands shall be at the rate of 10s. per acre.

3. All lands will be sold subject to the following special servitude which shall be set forth in the title-deeds, viz. :—

- (a) All authorised roads, railways, telegraphs, thoroughfares and water-courses, now made or running on the said lands, shall remain free and uninterrupted, as in their present or past use.
- (b) The said lands shall be liable, without compensation to any proprietor, or to any sub-grantee or lessee thereof, to have any roads, railways, railway stations, telegraphs or watercourses made over any part of them for the public use and benefit by order of the Colonial Government, except those parts in which any building may actually be thereon erected at the time when any such roads, railways, railway stations, telegraphs or watercourses may be required to be made, in respect of which building, if required to be removed for any such purpose, reasonable compensation shall be made by the said Government.
- (c) The said lands shall be liable, without compensation to any proprietor, or to any sub-grantee or lessee thereof, to the entry thereon by any person, by order of the Colonial Government, to remove therefrom any coal or any other mineral that may be found thereon, and also to the right of the Colonial Government to carry out such workings on or in the said lands as may be required for the removal or utilisation of such coals or other minerals, and also reserving to the Colonial Government the right of entry on said lands, and removing therefrom such materials, not including timber or wood, as may from time to time be required for the construction and repairs of any part of any public road running through the said lands.
- (d) The said lands, if 500 acres or more in extent, will be sold subject to the general right of all travellers to outspan upon them, in suitable situations, for not more than 24 hours, unless longer

detained by just cause, as provided for under Law No. 9, of 1870, and to such other regulations relative to outspan as may hereafter be deemed necessary, and declared by the Government for the interests of the public.

4. Persons desirous of acquiring Crown lands by purchase must make application in writing to the Surveyor-General, and must set forth in such application the division in which the land they wish to purchase is situated, and, as far as practicable, its position, boundaries, and extent. Should the Surveyor-General see no objection to the land so applied for-being disposed of by public sale, he will submit the application for the approval of the Governor, and, upon such approval, he will call upon the applicant to deposit with him the probable amount of fees required for the inspection, survey, and erection of beacons, in accordance with the tariff of survey fees, as fixed under Government Notice No. 124, of the 28th October, 1861, or such other Government notice as may be at any time issued.

5. In the event of the sale of the lands applied for, the expenses attending the survey will be borne by the purchaser, and should the original applicant not become the purchaser, the fees deposited by him for the survey will be returned to him, but, should no sale take place, no such refund will be made.

6. The Surveyor-General, on receiving the survey fees, will proceed with the inspection and survey of the lands for which application has been made, subject to the general conditions contained in Schedule B and the applicant shall, personally, or by duly appointed deputy, attend at the inspection and marking off, by beacons, of the boundaries of the lands at the points where the lines intersect, and, at such other points along the boundaries as may be necessary, and, upon the completion of such survey, notice shall be published by the Surveyor-General in the *Government Gazette*, at least one month before the day of sale, setting forth that the lands so surveyed will be offered for sale by public auction at a time and place named in the notice.

7. On the day named in the said notice the Surveyor-General shall cause the lands to be put up for sale by public auction.

8. The lands, having been put up to public auction, shall be sold to the highest bidder, who shall be deemed to be the purchaser, and who shall, on the day of sale, pay to the Surveyor-General, or person representing him, the expenses of the survey in full, and who shall, within three months from the day of sale, pay one-tenth part of the total purchase amount.

9. Upon the aforesaid payments being made, the Surveyor-General shall issue an occupation certificate to the purchaser, in the form hereunto annexed, and shall attach to the certificate a diagram showing the position, extent and boundaries of the land together with a copy of the conditions of

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such occupation, which condition shall commence to take effect from the date of the issue of the occupation certificate.

10. The condition of such occupation shall be as follows:—Within six months of the issue of the said occupation certificate, the purchaser to whom such certificate is issued shall enter upon beneficial occupation of the land. To constitute such beneficial occupation there must be continuous personal occupation by the purchaser, or by his agent, duly approved of by the Surveyor-General, during nine months in every year of the period for which the occupation certificate is issued, and the erection and maintenance of a suitable homestead or dwelling-house, and the cultivation, where the lands purchased are 100 acres or more in extent, of not less than one acre in every 100 acres.

11. Upon the issue of the occupation certificate, due notice of the purchase and of the certificate shall be communicated to the Resident Magistrate of the Division in which the land is situated; and at the close of the third year, commencing from the date of the issue of the certificate, and at the close of each succeeding year until the expiration of the tenth year from the date aforesaid, the holder of the certificate shall obtain from the Resident Magistrate of the Division a certificate showing that there has been such beneficial occupation.

12. At the close of every year, commencing from the date of the issue of the occupation certificate, the holder of the certificate shall also pay either to the Surveyor-General or the Resident Magistrate of the Divisions, one-tenth part of the total purchase amount, until the whole amount has been paid; and the Surveyor-General or the Resident Magistrate shall grant a receipt for each instalment so paid.

13. The Resident Magistrate shall forward to the Surveyor-General a duplicate copy of every certificate of beneficial occupation so given by him as aforesaid, and of every receipt for the instalments so paid, together with the amounts of all such instalments; and the Surveyor-General shall pay all moneys received by him, either from the occupant of the land or from the Resident Magistrate, into the Public Treasury, and shall keep an account of the same.

14. Upon receipt by the Surveyor-General of the final instalment of the purchase money, and upon receipt of the final certificate of beneficial occupation, and upon being satisfied that there has been such beneficial occupation, the Surveyor-General shall prepare a title vesting the land so occupied in freehold in the purchaser, which title shall be upon parchment, and shall be submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor for his signature and for the seal of the colony.

15. Upon the issue of every such title the Surveyor-General shall cause the same to be registered in the office of the Registrar of Deeds; and the

purchaser shall pay to Surveyor-General's office, in respect of such title and registration, a fee of forty shillings.

16. Portions of land, not exceeding 320 acres in the case of agricultural lands, and 1,000 acres in the case of pastoral lands, for the purchase of which in freehold special application is made to the Surveyor-General, and the sale of which is authorised by the Governor, shall be sold, in freehold, by public auction, to the highest bidder, at an upset price of £1 per acre.

17. The lands so sold as aforesaid shall be subject to the special servitudes set forth in Clause 3, and to no other servitude. The total amount of the purchase money must be paid by the purchaser of such lands within a period of three months from the day of sale.

18. In the case of *bonâ fide* immigrants from Europe, lands need not be sold by public auction. "Blocks" of land, not exceeding 50,000 acres in extent, may from time to time be surveyed and laid off as reserves for immigrants, to be disposed of under such conditions and regulations as the Governor in Council may from time to time direct to be issued.

19. For the purpose of these Regulations any portions of forest land of a greater area than 10 acres shall be deemed to be Crown forests. All such lands, and all lands upon which coal or other minerals are found, shall be permanently set aside and reserved to the Crown, and shall not be sold or alienated under these Regulations.

II.—Sale of Township Lands.

20. All township lands as set apart for sale in the townships hereinafter mentioned, and not reserved or otherwise appropriated, will be open, in lots not exceeding one erf, for sale to applicants, and for purchase at the several upset prices as below mentioned, and in the form and manner, and subject to the rules for times and mode of payment, as set forth above in the case of other Crown lands :—

	Upset price per erf.	
Colenso...	£25	0 0
Estcourt	25	0 0
Greytown	25	0 0
Glendale	3	10 0
Harding	10	0 0
Ladysmith	25	0 0
Newcastle	20	0 0
North Barrow	12	10 0
Nottingham	25	0 0
Scottsburgh	12	10 0
South Barrow	12	10 0
Stanger...	12	10 0
Weenen	25	0 0
Weston...	12	10 0

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21. All town lots so sold shall be subject to the conditions of personal occupation by the purchaser, or by his agent, duly approved of by the Surveyor-General, or of useful occupation in the form of any building required for purposes of industrial business.

III.—*Rules applicable to all Lands sold under the above Regulations.*

22. In the event of any purchaser failing to fulfil the conditions of beneficial occupation, or occupation as hereinbefore mentioned in clauses 10 and 18, or failing to pay any annual instalment of the purchase price, the occupation certificate will be cancelled, all payments and improvements by the purchaser being forfeited, and the sale becoming null and void.

23. In the event of the decease or bankruptcy of the purchaser before the issue of the title to the land, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, upon fulfilment of the conditions of occupation and payment of purchase price in the manner aforesaid, shall be entitled to all the rights of the original purchaser.

IV.—*Pastoral Leases and Licenses.*

24. The Crown lands lying under the Drakensberg, which are unsuitable for agriculture, and which will be hereafter described and defined by public notice in the *Government Gazette*, and those which are known as coal-bearing lands in the division of Newcastle, in the county of Klip River, will be open for occupation for grazing purposes, in areas varying from 500 to 5,000 acres, by annual license or by lease, for any term not exceeding ten years.

25. The upset rental of such lands will be at the rate of one penny sterling per acre per annum, and shall be payable every year in advance.

26. Any person desirous of renting or leasing any of the aforementioned lands must make application in writing to the Surveyor-General, setting forth the situation and extent of the land applied for; and every application so received will be registered, and a description thereof published in the *Government Gazette*.

27. Should there be no objection to the rental or lease of the lands so applied for, the Surveyor-General may, after one month from the date of the publication as aforesaid, issue at the upset rental the lease or license applied for; or, should he deem it advisable, offer the lease of the lands for which application has been made for purchase of the same by public auction.

28. Every lease will be subject to the servitudes attached to the land set forth in sections *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*, of Regulation No. 3, and may be determined by either party upon twelve months' notice being given, the party giving such notice forfeiting the fees paid for survey, or it may be transferred

by the lessees, with the consent of the Surveyor-General, upon the payment of a transfer fee of ten shillings.

29. All licenses and leases so made shall be duly entered in a book to be kept for that purpose by the Surveyor-General; and every person to whom a license is issued shall pay to the Surveyor-General a fee of two pounds seven shillings, and every person to whom a lease is granted shall pay a fee of twenty shillings.

SCHEDULE A.

Occupation Certificate.

This is to certify that _____, on the _____ day of _____, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and _____, at public auction, of which notice was duly given in the *Government Gazette*, did become the purchaser of a piece of Crown lands situated in the county of _____, being the lot known as _____, bounded _____, and containing _____ acres, _____ roods, _____ poles, be the same more or less, without any liability or claim for lesser or greater contents or acreage, as will more fully appear by the diagram framed by the Surveyor and hereunto annexed, with full power and authority to possess the same on certain conditions set forth at the sale, duly agreed to by the said purchaser, and repeated herein as following :—

SCHEDULE B.

General Instructions to be observed in the Survey of Crown Lands.

Each allotment shall be laid off with reference to natural boundaries and features, sharing equally with other lands left open as Crown lands, or surveyed at the same time for other applicants, arable, forest, and pasture capabilities.

2. Both banks of an important stream are not to be included in any one lot, unless the area of the lot is of such magnitude as to render such a condition necessary.

3. In surveying a river boundary, the bank of the stream or river is to be adopted as the boundary.

4. Lands let vacant, if of less width than one mile, must be included in the survey of adjoining lands; or the width must be not less than that of the land laid off or to be laid off, adjoining the same.

5. Each lot should be bounded by four approximately equal sides, deviations from this being only permitted with the view to connection with adjoining lands, or to taking advantage of river boundaries and other natural features referred to in paragraph 1. Such deviations, moreover, will be attended with a proportionate increase in the cost of the survey.

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6. Each lot must be connected with the boundaries of some other lot of land which has been already laid off on the general plan in the Surveyor-General's office, and all details of such connection will be required with details of the survey of the lot so connected.

7. The proprietors of the adjoining lots of lands already laid off must be made aware by the Surveyor, through notice duly given, of any new survey or surveys to be undertaken. The beacons and boundary lines of such adjoining lots must be carefully compared, and the new survey will proceed from or be worked to them.

8. Before proceeding with any survey the details of all adjoining surveys must be taken by the Surveyor from the plans in the Surveyor-General's office.

9. The conditions laid down in Government Notice No. 32, 1862 with regard to the erection and delivery of beacons to intending purchasers, or to their deputies or agents, must be strictly observed.

10. Notice, within reasonable time, must be given by the Surveyor to each applicant or his agent, to enable him to be present at the survey including the inspection; and to erect beacons, and take over the boundaries, according to the notice cited above.

11. In the event of several applications being made for land in a locality, the total area of which is not sufficient for the allotment to each applicant of the full area, the respective areas applied for may be reduced with the concurrence of the applicants; and if this is not practicable from any cause, natural and otherwise, the survey of each lot will take place in the order of the dates of the applications for the same.

12. Should any survey approach the boundary of the colony in the Drakensberg, it will be necessary to connect the same with that boundary line if the distance is less than one mile, and in no case may the space intervening between any survey and that boundary line be of less width than that of such survey.

Some of the productions of Natal have already been enumerated. The exports consist principally of wool, mohair, hides, skins, gold, coal, grain, and sugar. The total value of imports in 1891 was £3,535,831. Exports during the same period were valued at £1,371,240, which is a very considerable falling off from the two previous years. This, however, is to be accounted for by the fact that Natal has been forestalled by the Cape as regards railway extension to the gold fields. When Natal has acquired similar advantages her trade will undoubtedly increase. Of manufactures but little can be said. Matches, jams, biscuits, and dried fruits are largely made for local consumption. Of waggon and

carriage works, foundries and engineering establishments, there are several.

Touching the geology of the region. I have travelled over the whole of it, and, by putting my own observations beside those of others, have succeeded in collecting the following notes, which are correct as far as my knowledge goes. The granite base is visible only at the lowest parts of the river valleys, and on the coast hills. A line drawn due north from the Umtwalume River, in the southern extremity of the country, will touch all the parts of the country where granite and gneiss reach the surface through the covering of stratified rocks. Farther to the south this rock seems to form a distinct belt, which is lost for a time, but reappears in the lower parts of the Noodsberg Mountains in the north, and again, still further north, in the valley of the Tugela on the northern frontier of the colony, adjoining Zululand.

Mica schists, clay, chlorite and talcose slate are to be met with, where the granite base is exposed, nearly everywhere; they stand almost upright at an angle of from 65 to 75 degrees, with a pitch from north to south. They are particularly well seen in the Tugela valley. I have seen them also at the Umzimkuluwana and at the Um-pam-banyoni River (south). It is remarkable that the same pitch is to be noticed in the De Kaap and Tatiti fields. The Umzimkulu River, at about twelve miles from its mouth, breaks through crystalline limestone of enormous thickness. Messrs. Aiken Bros. have established marble and lime works here, which promise well. On both sides of the river, the marble forms precipitous walls of great height. This district covers about eleven miles. With respect to the mountain sandstones, and the general geology of the country, the following report, by an expert geologist, will, I think, be useful:—

“The sandstone plateaux, which are so characteristic of the African landscape, lie horizontally upon the old slate formation, and at some places on the granitic base. The sand-

stone, forming precipitous tablelands, has never been disturbed; nowhere is a folding of the deposits visible; only fractures run through the zone, in which masses of Aphanitic Diorite are seen, which have burst through the granite and slate formation; but nowhere is the sandstone raised up at an angle, or folded by the greenstone. The high plateaux are covered with a dense grass vegetation; the soil is extremely poor, and there is not even a shrub to interrupt the endless uniformity of the landscape. The rivers have made their way through the beds and strata of this sandstone



Natal Gold Fields, Tugela River.

thus forming precipices, at some points several thousand feet in height. The sandstone shows the same lithologica peculiarities as the Table-Mountain Sandstone of the Cape, after which it is named. The tops of many of the 'table mountains' of the Colony are crowned by beds of dark basaltic greenstone, which contain fragments of quartz granite and gneiss. In a variety of this igneous rock, from the 'Great Karoo,' I found traces of gold. I never found any organic remains in the sandstone of the Colony itself, except a thin soft shale, with much mica in it; which seems at the Krantzkop to be a bed in the sandstone, from which I got some small bivalves and a finely striated *Patella*,

both too indistinct for determination. Such shale is also exposed near the upper drift of the Umkomazi river, near Richmond, and at several other places in the Colony. The Sluten-Kunga, Table Mountain near Pietermaritzburg, Inanda, and Noodsberg, are examples of the regular-shaped table mountains of South Africa. The same shales and quartz-sandstone from the Krantzkop, which drops nearly vertically down to the Tugela River, about 3,800 feet. The high plateau is capped with melaphyre-like greenstone. The basis of the Tugela valley is granite and is covered with the so-called 'Doorns' (Thorns), the celebrated mimosa vegetation of South Africa; the great mass of the mountain is built up of sandstone, and crowned with basaltic greenstone. In this locality, but on the Itemani side of the Krantzkop, I found the small traces of organic remains in the shaly bed of the sandstone which I mentioned above."

The Karoo Formation.—So called after the Karoos, the immense plains of the interior, as they are principally composed of strata of this formation, which has its greatest height above the sea in the Drakensberg range. The lower part of the land on the Natal side of this range rests partly upon the Table-Mountain Sandstone, but not conformably. The Karoo sandstones and shales occupy the largest portion of South Africa, as they compose the whole of the interior, forming the high elevated plains of the Kalahari, the Free State and the Transvaal, as well as the countries to the north as far up as the Limpopo; they are also to be met with at the Zambezi. As Mr. Tate and Profs. T. R. Jones, Owen, and Huxley have already so ably described this formation with its fossil contents, little remains for me to say. The dark-grey and blue shales of Pietermaritzburg, containing oxide of iron in great quantities, represent the *Ecce*-beds of the great Karoo. Further up it passes gradually into sandstones of much the same lithological character as the Table-Mountain Sandstone, with intervening layers of shale which at Dundee, Newcastle, in the Tugela Valley, &c., contain beds of coal. Numerous remains of reptiles

and plants are described, which come from the Natal side of the Drakensberg, and therefore the age of these beds may be determined. Mr. Tate regards them as Triassic, whilst Mr. Wyley thinks that they belong to the Carboniferous period; but as the coal from Tulbagh, in the Cape Colony, is decidedly carboniferous (*Calamites*, *Equisetum*, and *Lepidodendron* in the sandstone), and the succeeding Karoo formation (which is a fresh water deposit) does not lie conformably on the former, Mr. Tate's opinion seems the most acceptable. Also the same formation, with *Dicynodon* and *Glossopteris Browniana*, occurring in India at the base of the Cretaceous series, is proved by a careful examination of its flora, to be a Triassic deposit. There can certainly not be the slightest doubt that the Natal coal belongs to a far younger period than the Tulbagh coal, which is an equivalent of the English coal-measures.

The "Karoo formation" also occurs in a small belt on the sea coast of Natal, which belt is never broader than from seven to eight miles, if so much. Beds of the Karoo series are well exposed at the Umgeni mouth, and also at the Ifumi River. Anyone who has been to Pietermaritzburg must have observed cuttings on the road, about seven or eight miles before he reaches the capital, in a dark shaly rock, with large boulders of older rocks imbedded, of granite, gneiss, slate, and also frequently of greenstone. These boulders are so characteristic of African scenery that they have received general attention. They are often of very large size, and are embedded in a soft grit and shaly clay, containing small particles of mica.

They seem to have been formed on the spot, or at least have not travelled very far, as many of them have retained their angular shape, and they seem to have undergone rather a process of decomposition than of rolling. These beds ("boulder-beds") extend often over a very large area, and pass everywhere beneath the dark shale which represents the base of the Karoo plant-beds. This is proved by a section at Thornville, and also on the sea coast of Natal at several places, amongst them at the Umgeni Valley and the Ifumi River.

Both these sections show that the plant-bearing shales and sandstones rest unconformably on the older Table-Mountain Sandstone, and also that the boulder-bed lies at the base of these plant-beds.

The same is shown at part of the road between Pietermaritzburg and Thornville.

The boulder-bed here, in the same way as in other sections, passes gradually into the shale of Pietermaritzburg, which, it is thought, belongs to the lowest bed of the Karoo series. We learn from the Geological Survey of India that almost the same formation of shales, sandstones and calcareous grit contains the same forms of plants, as well as reptilian remains of *Dicynodon*, and lies conformably on a boulder-bed, which gives the impression that it was formed on the spot, and was not transported by the action of the water. It is also remarkable, and an observed fact, that this boulder-bed of Southern India passes gradually into the succeeding shales and sandstones, which have been termed by the Indian geologists "the Ootatoor plant-beds." A lithologically similar boulder-formation I have also seen at the same horizon in the Cape Colony, passing beneath the blue Karoo shales; and I am pretty certain that Mr. Bain and many African geologists have taken this boulder-bed, at many localities, for an igneous trappean rock. Mr. Bain calls this boulder-bed, which dips under the "Ecca-beds" of the "Pataties Revier," "Claystone Porphyry." There is certainly a basaltic melaphyre, forming beds of considerable extent in this lowest part of the Karoo formation, as can be seen, for instance, near Platte-fontein, in the Karoo; but this trap does not belong to the extensive beds of boulders at the base of the "Pataties Revier" shale. At first sight the trap and the boulder-bed have many similarities, as the material of the boulder is partly derived from igneous rocks. Dr. Sutherland thinks that the boulder-bed was formed by glacial action, and tries to prove it by the observed fact of grooves and furrows on the plateaux of the Table-Mountain Sandstone. These grooves, quite similar

to those in the Alps, occur in great abundance on the sandstone of the Ifumi River, about twenty miles south of Durban.

The greenstone (melaphyre?) has found its way through this formation at many places, and forms beds between the strata of it. The greenstone contains a great quantity of pebbles of older rocks imbedded, which give it a speckled appearance. But it seems that the greenstone eruption happened at the earliest period of the forming of the Karoo beds, as the "kopjes" of greenstone are only found in the lowest strata of the "Pietermaritzburg shales," and in the succeeding sandstones. The series of greenstone "kopjes," which runs from the Ingeli Range in Kafirland up through Richmond, York and Greytown to the Tugela River, is of practical importance, as in it, or in the direction of its strike, the occurrence of copper ores can be traced through the whole of South Africa. Besides this Trappean greenstone, a second igneous formation may be found within the Karoo series, the so-called amygdaloid rock, which caps many of the heights of the upper Karoo beds, and often forms extensive beds between them. From it are derived the various kinds of chalcedony, agates, rock-crystals and topazes which are so plentiful in the rivers of the Free State and Natal.

The Cretaceous Rocks of South Africa.—Between the rivers Umtamfuna and Umzambane, about five miles from the southern boundary-line of Natal, some deposits are found which at first sight seem to be of the same material as the underlying stratum. They consist of sandy marls and hard sandstones of a greyish-brown colour, with a few calcareous concretions. These rocks are partly covered at high water by the sea, which has hollowed out small cavities in them. They have probably served at some period as a shelter for white people, as the natives of this district call them "Izinhluzabalungu"—houses of the white men. These rocks only extend for a short distance, and only form isolated cliffs. They are found, too, at the Impengati River, and at some of the more southern rivulets which run

into the sea between the boundary of Natal and the St. John's River (Umzimvubu). The same are also recognised in the bed of a small stream running into the St. Lucia Bay, in the Zulu country. The strata forming these deposits are perfectly horizontal, and they rest upon a sandstone of much greater age, which belongs to the very interesting series of the Karoo formation. It is remarkable that the Izinhluzabalungu rocks do not rest conformably upon the older formation, the plant-bearing sandstones.

I have been enabled to distinguish no fewer than five distinct faunas. The lowest stratum is a hard calcareous sandstone, very much worn by the sea breaking against it at high water. Large trees and branches are imbedded in it, lying about in all directions. The wood is traversed by large masses of *Teredo*, whose holes are filled with iron pyrites. Resting on this stratum is a bed of softer brown sandstone, with great abundance of *Trigonia*. This bed is more exposed near the Umzambane River, and nearly concealed at the northern end of the deposits. It is overlain by sandstones and grits, containing ammonites, resting upon which is a softer sandstone and grit, containing many fossils, mostly bivalves and gasteropods. The roof of the cave is formed by a harder limestone stratum, which has not been so easily worn away by the sea as the underlying sandstone stratum. This limestone contains *Ammonites Gardeni*.

It is quite clear that most of the species obtained from this African locality ("Izinhluzabalungu") resemble in every respect those of the Trichinopoly series of India. The *Trigonia* bed with *Ammonites Kayei*, *A. Rembda*, &c., show the true character of the Ootatoor beds of the Trichinopoly district, whilst we have the Trichinopoly group represented by eighteen species, which also occur in India. The Arrialoor group is proved only by *Ammonites Gardeni*, which was first described from Africa, but has since been found by Stoliczka in the Indian Cretaceous series.

The plant-beds with *Teredo* find their representative in the

lower beds of the Ootatoor group of the Trichinopoly district ; and from this, and also the fact that the preceding plant-bearing Karoo formation finds its analogue in the Indian Ootatoor plant-beds (not the Ootatoor group) the conclusion is easy to arrive at, that both Africa and India were, after the development of the Table-Mountain Sandstone, one continuous continent, which afterwards was covered by the Cretaceous sea.

Between the deposition of the Table-Mountain Sandstone and that of the plant-bearing blue shales and of their boulder-bed, from the base of the extensive *Dicynodon* sandstones, a long time must have elapsed.

The large area now covered by the Indian Ocean must have been the basin for an extensive series of lakes, which would explain the occurrence of the same plants and large reptiles which were then living in India, and also in South Africa. It must have been a period of long-enduring tranquility, and no great disturbance whatever seems to have occurred. These periods of repose, which witnessed so very few changes during the deposition of at least 5,000 feet thickness of strata, must have lasted through the Triassic age right up to the Upper Jurassic ; as in India the highest of these beds seem to belong to the Jurassic formation. The greater portion of the Indian Ocean must, at this period, have been depressed, together with a large part of India and South Africa, which were covered with the shallow Cretaceous sea, having a peculiar fauna of its own. The Cretaceous deposits of Southern India and Africa were all shallow-water and coast deposits, as is proved by the species of fossils they contain and also by the quantities of wood imbedded in them, which give evidence of a formation on a shallow coast, where the wood was soon covered with sand and mud and in this way preserved. Since that period the coast has been gradually rising, or the sea retiring. The portions of the Cretaceous sea nearest the old coast-line had become dry land ; and we see the remains of these deposits in Southern India and South Africa, from the Cape to Durban Bluff, and still further north.

even as far as Zanzibar, modern raised beaches, coral-reefs, and oyster-banks may everywhere be seen. At the Izhuluzabalungu Caves there is such a point, where the rising of the coast is plainly visible; recent oyster-banks are now twelve feet and more above high-water mark. The same can be observed on nearly the whole line of the Natal coast. Van der Decken has observed the same thing at Zanzibar, and is of the same opinion as myself, viz., that the eastern coast is rising. Early in 1878 I had the opportunity of observing at the Bazaruto Islands about 90 miles to the north of Inhambane, on the east coast of Africa, a series of raised coral-reefs round the island of Marsha, containing many living shells, and quite recent oyster-banks. In fact, I believe that the Bazaruto Islands only owe their existence to the circumstance that the coral-reefs have been upheaved, and that their surface was naturally covered with loose sea-sand, which is the only soil of the desolate islands. Everywhere, at about 12 to 14 feet depth, water is to be obtained at Marsha; wherever the sand is removed the coral-rock is reached.

If we take a vertical section of the Natal formations we shall find them as follows:—

Brown soft sandstones and grit, with great numbers of fossils (Cretaceous series, lower green sand up to white chalk).

Sandstones and shales, with coalbeds, shales and boulder-bed (greenstone dykes) (Karoo formation, probably Trias, reaching as far as the Jura).

Quartzose sandstone with shales, containing only traces of fossil remains (Table Mountain sandstone, Coal period).

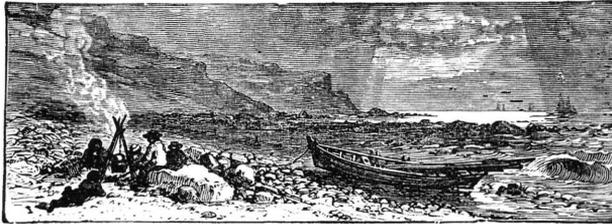
Clay and talcose slates, micaschists, dykes of diorite (Primary slate formation).

Granite and gneiss, dykes of diorite (Primary rocks).

Within the past two years gold in payable quantities has been discovered in Natal, both in the northern and southern districts. As yet, of course, no extensive workings have been carried out, but there can be no manner of doubt about the stability and extent of the formations and deposits. Vast beds

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of coal are also being rapidly developed in several of the up-country districts ; while lead, silver, galena, copper and asbestos have been traced in all directions. All that is required is a systematic prospect of the country by men of experience, and the publication of their reports in order to secure the recognition of the country as a mineral one.

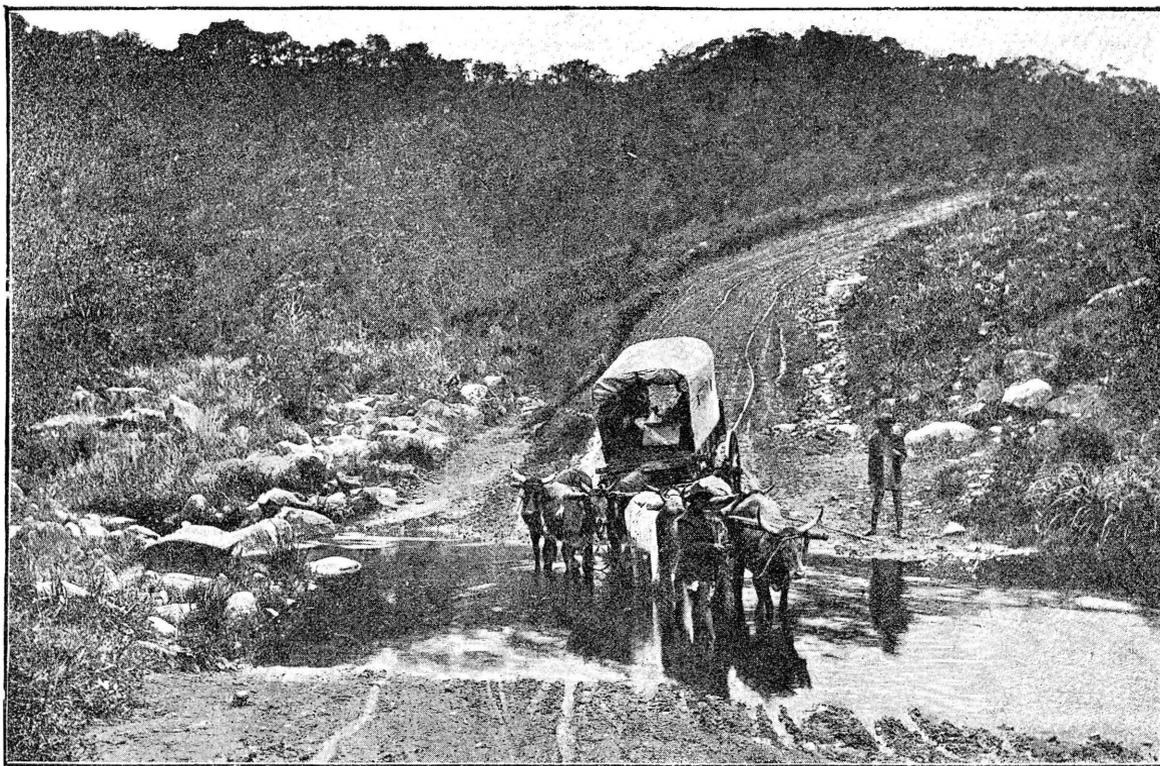


CHAPTER VIII.

THE UMZIMKULU RIVER AND PORT SHEPSTONE—SCOTBURG AND UMZINTO.



ABOUT sixty miles down the coast, to the southward of Durban, is situated a broad open and navigable river, which, by the enterprise of a small number of Colonists, assisted now and again by a Government vote, has been transformed into a snug little harbour and seaport. It forms an attractive holiday resort, and is of considerable economic importance, both as a port and as an agency for the development of the adjacent inland districts. The distance is traversed by small coasting steamers in eight or ten hours, at a cost to passengers of thirty shillings or thereabouts. On arrival off the Port, one is struck by the tameness and apparent monotony of the coast; but let us not be in haste to condemn, for beyond those low round aloe-studded hills, there lies a rich pastoral and beautiful district. Here and there along the shore, masses of forbidding rock crop up out of the sand; one of these possesses considerable historic interest. It appears that, in the olden days of barbaric rule, when the country was full of witchcraft and superstition, the sable potentates who ruled the land were wont to execute their grim justice on evil doers by casting them into a long, narrow and dark fissure in the rocks here. Afterwards, when I looked down into it, and saw the sea foam churned white and fleecy as wool, I could not but conjure u



CROSSING A DRIFT. Road to the Umzinto, Natal.
(From a Photograph by Robert Harris.)

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the awful spectacle of the frantic and useless struggles of the condemned in their living tomb. The jet-black rocks, the thunder of the sea and the flying spray, were fitting accompaniments to the screams and wails of the luckless criminals.

On the same side of the river, whose mouth is here, is a wooded hill sloping down to a plain, where in days to come, there is no doubt, a city will stand. On the other, or southern side of the river entrance, there is a long, low grassy point, which, as it sweeps inland, rises to an altitude of about three hundred feet. Here are situated the signal station, look-out stand and Port Captain's office. Behind it lies the tiny and scattered village of Umzimkulu.

The river, which at this point forms a broad lagoon, is of an average depth of fifteen feet, and has an open channel leading into the sea—through which small steamers can enter with ease. The view, after entering the lagoon, is very beautiful. Stretching away for miles inland lies the broad still stream, flashing with ripples and flecked with light and shade. On the right-hand side, the mountains come close up to the river edge; while on the left they stand back, leaving a broad strip of rich alluvial plain, which is dotted here and there with the tiny houses of the settlers, of whom there are about 600 in the vicinity.

Taking a boat kindly placed at my disposal by Mr. D. C. Aiken, one of the leading spirits of the locality, I was rowed up stream for seven or eight miles, to the first rapids. This spot, overshadowed as it is on the one hand by dark rich forests, and on the other by St. Helen's Rock, which is a veritable fernery, forms one of the sights of the place. Very little engineering skill will remove the rapids, which are only caused by the sudden narrowing of the river bed by some large boulders. Having surmounted this obstacle, we passed on for another mile or so, obtaining, *en route*, a delightful glimpse of the Umzimkulwana River, which is a tributary of the main stream. Here the forests increase in density, and the hills in height; bright-plumaged birds flitted to and fro,

while black-faced monkeys chattered and yelled at us from the security of their native branches. Towards evening we approached the great marble deposits, which were mentioned in the geological report on the Colony. They are located in a grand valley, encompassed by lofty mountains. The outcrop is about one hundred feet above the sea level, and the continuation of the strata can be traced on the opposite side of the river. After spending the night in the forest, where we rested on a snow-white marble floor, under a canopy of drooping branches, through which the myriad stars peeped like jewels, the return journey was undertaken. At every turn of the river fresh beauties greeted us; and as the boat sped on, borne by the force of the river, we saw the dizzy height where a bee-hunter, but a short time before, had met with his death while taking a hive. It appears that he got wedged amongst the rocks, and while in that position was stung to death by the insects.

In the very near future, Umzimkulu is certain to become a place of considerable commercial importance, for it is the natural outlet for the trade of all the southern districts of Natal.

Of the other ports along the Natal coast, Umkomanzi, Scotburg and Umzinto are the only ones which can be reasonably expected to advance much. They tap the country at rich and well-populated points; sugar, rum, hides, waggon wood, and maize are the principal exports to be expected from them, though, when matters are further advanced, a host of others may be added.

CHAPTER IX.

THE ORANGE RIVER FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND.



WHEN dealing with Kimberley and Griqualand West, mention was made of the British Orange River Sovereignty, which has since become the Orange Free State. Its area, as accurately as can be ascertained, is 48,326 square miles. It is bounded on the north-west and north by the Vaal River, which separates it from the Transvaal or South African Republic; on the east by the Drakensberg Mountains, which separate it from Natal; on the south-east by the Caledon River and an irregular line which separates it from Basutoland; on the South by the Orange River, which separates it from the Cape Colony. Its population, according to the census of 1890, is 207,503, of whom 77,716 are whites.

The history of the country is in a sense the history of Natal and Cape Colony. According to the most ancient records, it was originally peopled by a race called Bushmen (Bosjesmen), which were—and such as remain are—a detestable and repulsive nation of dwarfs, whose habits are as filthy as their traditions. Armed with bows and arrows, they dwelt in caves and holes, caring neither to clothe themselves nor build dwellings. Their chief occupation in life was to rob their neighbours and maltreat all who, by an evil chance, fell into their power. These were displaced by a cross-bred race, called Griquas, who being better armed, drove them into the fastness of the mountains, whence they swooped down on any stray

herds that came within reach. Following the original Griquas came the Basutos, under their veteran chief Moshesh, whose head-quarters were in the mountain ranges between the Orange and the Caledon Rivers. While these worthies were wrangling over the land, the overflowing and restless population of the Cape Colony began to creep out over the great plains and establish themselves here and there.

Then came the exodus of Boers of 1835-6-7, from the Cape Colony on their way to colonise Natal; some of these dropped out doubtless, for after their passage some new names crop up in the early history of the place. It is extremely difficult at this stage to avoid confusion, for we have four rival races struggling for territory, *i.e.*, the English at the Cape and Natal, the Dutch, the Basutos, and the Griquas. The Basutos very soon returned to their much-loved mountains and left the Dutch and Griquas to squabble to their heart's content.

It was at this period (1845) that the English first took a hand in the game, by appointing an officer to keep order. Sir Peregrine Maitland's idea was to assume authority and control the land and yet allow it to remain as it was, a sort of Tom Tiddler's ground for all sorts of malcontents. Peace was an unknown blessing, and war was every man's business. At this stage, Sir Harry Smith arrived in South Africa. Very shortly afterwards (February 3rd, 1848) he issued a proclamation extending British Sovereignty over the region lying between the Orange and Vaal Rivers. By this course he hoped to end the strife that had for some years reigned throughout the land; at the same time he had no intention of disturbing the native chiefs or wresting their land from them.

At this period a Boer leader, named Pretorius, rallied the emigrant Dutchmen round him, and the result was open revolt, which led to several battles, after which the English established themselves as masters. Peace now promised to reign instead of disorder, when some ill-advised persons in England succeeded in persuading the Government to abandon the territory to the emigrants. This was done on the 23rd of February, 1854.

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For a number of years wars and rumours of wars disturbed the new State. The Basutos proved formidable foemen to it. On the 12th of March, 1868, the English interfered by declaring the Basutos to be under the protection of the British Empire; and in 1869 a definite boundary was fixed. The present prosperity and stability of the Free State is to be mainly attributed to the wise and statesmanlike policy pursued by the late Sir John Brand, who, until 1888, filled the position of President of the Republic with credit to himself and his country, and with advantage to the rest of South Africa.

The principal towns in the State are, Bloemfontein (River of Flowers), Smithfield, Bethulie, Fauresmith, Harrismith, Winburg, and Kronstad. Besides these there are several hamlets. The official language of the country is Dutch, though English (owing to the number of British Colonists) is generally understood and used. But little land remains in the hands of the Government, it being nearly all parcelled out in farms.

Geographically, the country consists of an immense plain, sloping slightly and continuously towards the west. The Caledon, which runs into the Orange, and the Reit and Modder, which unite near the western boundary line, are the main streams of the country. The country is well governed, and English settlers, tourists and travellers are as much at home in it as though under their own flag.

Under the terms of a Convention between the Free State and the Cape, the Government of the latter have constructed and are now working a railway from Colesberg right through the Free State to the Vaal River, where it connects with the Nederlands line to Johannesburg and Pretoria.

There are thirteen divisions in the State, as follows:— Boshof, Winburg, Kronstad, Harrismith, Jacobsdal, Fauresmith, Bloemfontein, Smithfield, Phillipolis, Bethulie, Rouxville, Bethlehem and Ladybrand. Most praiseworthy and successful progress has been made in the Educational Department of the State. Owing to the scattered population, large

and important schools are almost an impossibility. At Bloemfontein, the capital, and in the other centres, good plain schools are established. The Government contributes largely to their maintenance, and encourages educational advances of every kind. Most of the wealthier Boers employ private tutors or governesses. The Dutch "Reformed" is the State Church and the majority of the population attend it. Missionary enterprise is well represented by several denominations. The revenues of the State are chiefly derived from quit-rents, land transfer dues, licenses, and hut taxes levied on the natives.

British Basutoland was, as we have just seen, brought under British rule in 1868. It is bounded by the Cape Colony, the Orange River Free State, Griqualand East and Natal, and is composed of the watersheds of the Caledon and Orange Rivers, having an area of 10,293 square miles. Here it was that the grand old mountain chief, Moshesh, held his own, and no more, against all comers, and here it is that the missionary enterprise amongst native Africans has met with most success. The country, since its annexation to the British Empire, has been divided into magistracies, as follows: Leribe, Thaba-Bosigo, Berea and Cornet-Spruit. The census of 1891 shows the population to be 218,903, of whom only 578 are whites. In each of the magistracies there is a European administrator, and over them is an officer with the title of Commissioner. The hereditary chiefs have considerable power, but are not allowed to inflict death or other severe sentences. The clans of Basutoland are members of the Bechuana tribes, speak a kindred language, and have similar customs. They at present are the best advanced, and, in my opinion, the most intelligent tribe in South Africa. As a proof of this, we may point to the fact that each year a larger quantity of grain is raised than they can consume, with this surplus they purchase European luxuries and manufactures. I have been told that, in 1880, seven hundred thousand bushels of wheat, maize and millet, together with two thousand, or over, bales of wool, were traded for blankets,

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cottons, &c. There are about fifty trading stations established in this country, and property is respected by them. Considering the number of the tribe, there is but little crime. Stock comprises their chief wealth, and in 1875 the census returns showed them to be possessed of 35,357 horses, 217,732 head of horned cattle, 303,080 sheep, 215,485 goats, 299 waggons, and 2,749 ploughs. No reliable statistics of a later date are available. Physically, they are a tall, robust set of men, with bluff, boldly-cut faces, very dark, and possessed of bright, intelligent eyes. The present native rulers of this sturdy nation are Letsie, and Jonathan and Joel Malapo.

It would be an aimless task to reproduce the story of the petty wars which have from time to time rent the country; the fact that at present it is in a peaceable and prosperous condition, and that year by year the natives are winning their way to civilization and its attendant blessings, is sufficient. From a picturesque point of view, Basutoland is unique: steeps piled on steppe, and mountain on mountain, meet the eye in all directions. When, in the course of time, our great artists have wearied of their everlasting journeys to the Rhinelands, Italy, and other continental beauty spots, we may hope to hear a joyful shout of delight at the grand and noble scenes which, touched by their magic brushes, will yet adorn the walls of our Academies of Arts.



CHAPTER X.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.



BEFORE proceeding to the Transvaal, and the native states adjoining it, we will take a passing peep into the vast new region which has so recently been added to British South Africa. Bechuanaland lies to the west and north of the Transvaal Republic, and between it and the so-called Kalahari Desert. It was formerly under the government of a number of chiefs of whom Mankoroane was the principal amongst the Batlapins, and Montsioia amongst the Baralongs. The former chief, on the 3rd of May, 1884, surrendered his territories into the hands of the British Government. A few days later, Montsioia did likewise. The boundaries of the region are described as west of the South African Republic, north of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, east of the 20th meridian of east longitude, and south of the 22nd parallel of south latitude.

On the 23rd of March, 1885, a formal proclamation was issued announcing it as a British protectorate. On the 30th of September in the same year it was announced that that portion of the Protectorate which is bounded on the east by the Transvaal, on the south by the Cape Colony, on the west by the Molopo River, and on the north by the same river to its junction with the Ramathlabana Spruit, and thence by the said Spruit to the frontier of the Republic, should be thenceforward called British Bechuanaland. The area of the country is about 180,000 square miles, with a population of 5,254 whites. The Census of 1891 excluded aboriginal Natives who paid hut tax—probably 250,000. All other coloured races numbered 7,472.

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The natives are of kindred race with the Kafirs further to the north and east, and like them, form distinct clans or tribes which are governed by hereditary chiefs. Their language is similarly formed, but without the clicks of the Zulu and Amaponda tongues.

At one time they occupied the region now known as the Transvaal; but when the chief Moselekatse revolted from the army of Chaka, and burst into the country, carrying slaughter and death with him, they fell back to their present country and settled there, flanked by the desert on one hand, and by blood-thirsty foemen on the other.

Although the Bechuanas are not so robust and warlike as the Zulus, they are much more ingenious and skilful in the manufacture of domestic utensils, clothing, implements, and weapons. Their huts are more commodious than those of the coast tribes, the roofs being lofty and very thick. Their religion is similar to that of the Zulus, and will be dealt with in due course. Missionaries (chief amongst whom may be mentioned the well-known names of Moffat, Livingstone, and John McKenzie) have for many years toiled among them, and in the writings of the two latter, much valuable information is to be gleaned.

The climate of Bechuanaland is remarkably salubrious, being, as Dr. Livingstone puts it, "the complete antipodes of cold, damp England." The winters are perfectly dry and bracing.

In the opinion of those who know the country best, Bechuanaland has a grand future before it, as a field for European emigration. I have the kind permission of the Rev. Mr. McKenzie, one of the veteran missionaries whom I have cited as an acknowledged and undisputed authority on the land, to quote the following passage from his recent work entitled *Austral Africa*—

"I come now to give my own thoughts as to the capabilities of Bechuanaland as a field for colonisation. My mind reverts to thrifty and laborious people who are battling for dear life

on some small holding in England or Scotland, and who can barely make ends meet. I do not think that any class of men, or men of any colour, endure such hardship in South Africa. There are portions of Bechuanaland where, in my opinion, a body of some hundreds of agricultural emigrants would take root from the first, and make for themselves homes. If they came in considerable numbers, and accompanied by a minister of religion and possibly a schoolmaster, the children would not be losers by the change, while the church and the school-house would form that centre in South Africa, with which all are familiar in Scotland. I would not suggest that such men should be merely agriculturists, but that like most farmers in South Africa they should follow both branches of farming. They would begin with some sheep, or a few goats and a few cows. In the first instance they would have a freehold in the village and a right to pasturage, and they would also have the farm itself in the neighbourhood, the size of which would depend on its locality and capabilities. But with the milk of the stock and the produce of the land in maize, millet and pumpkins, he and his family would be, from the first, beyond the reach of want."—*Austral Africa*, Vol. ii, p. 356.





STEPHANUS JOHANNES PALUS KRUGER,
State President of the South African Republic.

CHAPTER XI.

THE TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC.



IN the last section mention was made of the invasion by Moselekatse, of the vast region that lies between the Limpopo in the north, the Vaal River in the south, the Drakensberg Mountains in the east and the Kalahari in the west. The old Lion of the North, as Moselekatse was commonly called, built up a powerful state here, partly by the splendid organisation of his own warriors and partly by a wise mingling of them with the defeated races. Parties of Griquas, trusting to their guns, attacked him at the time of the Orange River emigration, but he beat them off; then, gaining courage by success, he sent out marauding parties to scour the country and make what they could. In one of these excursions, it will be remembered, they met the emigrant Boers and inflicted heavy losses on them. These sturdy pioneers made haste to carry war into his country, and in revenge for the death of their brethren succeeded in shattering his power, capturing 7,000, or more, head of cattle and driving him back to the region now called Matabeleland, where the tribe under King Lo Bengula are at present located. The Lion of the North ceased to roar in the region beyond the Vaal; the white settlers flocked in and spread themselves over the whole land, some going even as far north as the Limpopo.

Although these settlers were ready enough to help each other and unite against a common foe, there was unhappily no organi-

sation amongst them, and at first no attempt was made to set up an independent government. Matters remained in this unsettled condition until 1848, when Andries Pretorius put in an appearance. Immediately he was invested with supreme military command over all the emigrants in the region. A government was established similar to that which had just fallen at Natal. During the years 1849-50-51, constant streams of English-hating emigrant Boers kept drifting in, so that the central and southern parts of the district began to be fairly well populated; though, as each farmer owned about 10,000 acres, we cannot regard them as in any way crowded. It appeared at last that they had attained the goal of their happiness, *i.e.*, freedom from English control, for by this time the British authorities had begun to realise that it was of little use to attempt ruling so turbulent and rugged a community. They had all Africa at their backs, and openly boasted that if interfered with again, they would not hesitate to plunge still deeper into the heart of the continent. Accordingly, on the 17th January, 1852, they were formally recognised by the established Governments on the coast.

Shortly after this, Pretorius, worn out with cares of state, died, and in him they lost their grandest champion and leader. For about fifteen years after this event, matters drifted on slowly and quietly in the Transvaal, as the region was now called. The discovery of diamonds to the south, and the almost equally important Lydenburg Gold Fields to the north of the Republic, caused a regular but small stream of traffic to spring up in the land, for the connecting roads crossed the very heart of the country. Settlers from Europe and from the adjacent colonies came slowly in; newspapers in English were established and published at both Pretoria and Potchefstroom. These advances caused, in a short time, a change of policy, and old obstructional ideas gave place to progressive ones. The President, Mr. Burgers, was despatched to Europe for the purpose of raising £300,000, on the security of five hundred farms, of six thousand acres each, the intention being to lay down a railway to Delagoa Bay, on the east coast.

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The negotiations, though promising fairly at first, ultimately failed, but not before a loss of something like £90,000 was inflicted on the struggling Government. Some few years after this, owing to the deplorably bankrupt condition of the country, England, on the request of a section of the community, formally annexed the country and appointed a Government; but this did not meet the views of the majority, who, in 1881, broke into open revolt, and succeeded in regaining their national independence. Since then marvellous deposits of gold have been discovered in the land, and the revenues accruing to the State from licences, &c., have set it on a permanent and secure footing.

It is difficult to give an exact statement of the area of the Transvaal. It is, I should say, 121,850 English square miles. Compared with the area of the other South African States it ranks first, with the exception of the Cape Colony, which is about as large again. The Transvaal Republic is about three times the size of the Orange Free States, seven times the size of the Colony of Natal, and 7,000 square miles larger than the Kingdom of Italy. At present it is divided into seventeen districts as follows:—

<u>Districts.</u>	<u>Seat of Landdrost.</u>	<u>Other Villages.</u>
Pretoria.	Pretoria (Capital).	None.
Potchefstroom.	Potchefstroom.	Ventersdorp, Klerksdorp, Venterskroon, Wolmaranstad.
Rustenberg.	Rustenberg.	None.
Waterberg.	Uylstroom.	Hartingsburg.
Zoutspansberg.	Pietersberg.	Haenertsberg, Woodbush, Eerstelling, Marabastad, Smitsdorp.
Lydenburg.	Lydenburg.	Pilgrim's Rest, Barberton, Eureka City Moodies, Fairview, Jamestown.
Middelburg.	Middelburg.	Roosenekal.
Heidelberg.	Heidelberg.	Johannesburg, Elsburg, Boksburg, Krugersdorp.
Wakkerstroom	M. V. Stroom.	Amersfoort.
Piet Retief.	Piet Retief.	None.
Utrecht.	Utrecht.	Luneburg.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Seat of Landdrost.</i>	<i>Other Villages.</i>
Bloemhof.	Christiana.	Bloemhof and Schweizer-Renneke.
Marico.	Zeerust.	Jacobsdal and Ottoshoop.
Lichtenburg.	Lichtenburg.	None.
Standerton.	Standerton.	Bethal.
Ermelo.	Ermelo.	Amsterdam and Carolina.
Vryheid.	Vryheid.	None.

The southernmost boundary of the Transvaal is about 698 miles from Capetown, 536 miles from port Elizabeth, and 220 miles from Port Natal, while its easternmost frontier is only 40 miles from Delagoa Bay.

The two principal rivers which embrace the territory of the Transvaal are the Vaal in the south and the Limpopo or Crocodile River in the north. The former rises slightly to the west of New Scotland and extends through the whole breadth of the Transvaal, and after receiving all the rivers of the Free States on the south side and the Transvaal on the north, joins the Orange River in the vicinity of Hopetown. This magnificent stream, which is also called Ki-Gariep, sweeps on to the Atlantic Ocean, which it joins in Alexander Bay on the West Coast. The total distance traversed by the two streams is 1,000 miles. In the course of this journey a basin of 325,000 square miles is drained. The Limpopo also takes its rise on the highlands of the Transvaal territory, and flowing northwards passes through the Magaliesberg range, after trending north-west for some distance it turns north-east, and finally sweeping round to the south enters the Indian Ocean slightly above Delagoa Bay in latitude 25° 12' S. and 33° 30' E. Captain Elton made a most interesting journey in this direction, and has often assured me that the river was navigable for light draught boats for 360 miles from the mouth. My own experience, however, goes to prove that such is the case for only about 60 miles, when the river shoals, and navigation in anything larger than a whaleboat becomes a weariness by reason of the constantly recurring mud-banks.

At the present moment a friend of mine is busy with a

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scheme for the establishment of a steamship service on the river; in common with the rest of South Africa, I will watch the result of his enterprise.

On the eastern frontier of the Transvaal the Sabia River (mentioned by Josephus), the Crocodile and the Komatio Rivers are to be found; these rise in the Drakensberg, and after running through the Lebomba range unite into one river called the Manika, Umcomogas, or King George's River, which enters Delagoa Bay; there are many other smaller streams, but as they are but tributaries, and flow through parts of the Republic only, I need not mention them. Lake Chrissie is the only lake worthy of mention in the country; it is situated in the New Scotland settlement, and measures about 36 miles in circumference.

Three mountain ranges extend through the country from west to east, besides the elevated plateau already mentioned, as forming the watershed between the southern and northern river systems. The first is the Magaliesburg between Rustenburg and Pretoria; the second range consists of the Dwarsberg, Witfonteinberg, Marikele mountains, Hanglip or Waterberg, Makapasis Range, Zebedelies or Stryupoot Range and Maschimalaberg; while the third range is formed by the Blaauwberg and Zoutpansberg, which latter extends to the Limpopo in three distinct mountain ranges. There are several detached ranges in other parts of the country, such as the Maquasiberg, Gatsrand, Zuikerboschrand, Pilandsberg and some small ranges in the district of Marico. A continuation of the Drakensberg extends from the Natal boundary to the Olifant's River, north of Lydenburg, in detached ranges called the Verzamelberg, Randberg, Slangapiesberg, Ingwenya range, some very high ranges near Lydenburg, and near Barberton, such as Kamshlubana, and the Kaap Plateau attaining a height of 6,000 to 7,000 feet. The principal altitudes of the Drakensberg ranges are: Mauchberg, 7,177 feet; Klipstapel, 6,020; Lake Chrissie, 5,755; Spitskop, 5,637; Holnek, 5,600; M. W. Stroom, 5,300; Llanwarne, 5,750;

Kaap Plateau, 5,800; Moodie's, 4,600; Ingwenya Range, 7,600; Forbes Reef, 6,000; Lydenberg, 4,900.

The following facts are taken from Mr. Jeppe's interesting Transvaal Almanac, which I would strongly recommend all intending travellers to procure:—

Farms.—There are about 20,000 farms, or portions of farms, registered in the Registrar of Deeds Office. Of these about 16,000 belong to private parties and the rest to Government. Inspections are now carried on in a careful and systematic manner (according to Law No. 3, 1887) in the districts of Zoutpansberg, Waterberg, Rustenburg and Middelburg. Each commission is accompanied by a qualified surveyor, who fixes the principal and most prominent points by trigonometrical survey, and frames a general plan of the inspection, showing the position of every farm.

The expenses of these special inspections are advanced by Government, but are repayable *pro rata* by the owners of the farms. These expenses amount to £7 8s. per farm and £4 for erection of beacons, in case the owner does not erect beacons himself.

The Transvaal is very rich in minerals, such as gold, silver, copper, lead, cobalt, iron, and coal. Mauch discovered the first gold at the Tatin in July, 1867, and a year later (in July, 1868) he found auriferous reefs within the limits of the Republic, below a range of hills which Button afterwards named Murchison Range, north of the Olifants River. He marked the spot on his map, published in 1870, as a *presumable* gold field. In this range, near the Selati River, and the native chief Palaboroa, a good number of diggers are now encamped for the purpose of opening up the reefs discovered by Button in 1871. In August, 1870, Button discovered the Marabastad reefs near Eersteling, and in February, 1871, the first alluvial gold was found in the neighbourhood of Lydenburg. Since then, auriferous reefs have been discovered in all parts of the country.

Coal exists in immense beds all along the eastern border of the territory, from the Natal boundary to Lydenburg. The coal on the Belelasberg, between Utrecht and Wakkerstroom, crops out on the face of the mountain in seams of great thickness and excellent quality. According to a report of Mr. Wilson, Superintendent of the Gas Works in Cape Town, this coal has yielded no less than 78·20 per cent. of carbon and only 7·20 per cent. of ash. He considered it equal to the Welsh coal for steam purposes, which is used on the Cape railway line, yielding 81·0 per cent. carbon, and containing 6·40 per cent. ash. Coal has also been found on the eastern slopes of the Lebombo range, in close proximity to the proposed line of railway.

The considerable altitude of the Transvaal above the level of the sea,

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which is about 4,000 feet on an average, renders the climate very salubrious. The winter season, from April to September, is dry and cold, particularly during the nights; the days are often as warm as in summer. Along the northern base of the Magaliesberg it is very mild, and corn has been harvested there as early as July. The rains commence in September, but as a rule the heavy rains do not set in before December and end usually in March. The sudden change in the temperature causes influenza, colds, and inflammatory affections, particularly among children, in the form of sore throats, croup, bronchitis and diphtheria, but the rate of mortality is very small nevertheless. In the absence of official statistics we are unable to give more information on the subject. Dust and thunderstorms are frequent and violent during the summer months; hailstorms are also frequent, destroying vegetation and crops within a few minutes. During the winter months, cutting sharp cold winds blow from the south, the High Veldt and Drakensberg Mountains are frequently covered with snow for days.

The Legislative power of the State is vested in the *Volksraad*, the members of which are elected by their constituents for four years. The number of representatives is 41—*i.e.*, two members for twelve districts, and three members for the four chief districts of the Republic—Potechefstroom, Pretoria, Rustenburg, and Lydenburg, to which has been added Vryheid, the new district acquired by the annexation of the *New Republic* in Zululand. Besides these, the Kaap and Witwatersrand Gold Fields are represented by one member each. Of this number 20 retired in 1888, and the vacancies are to be filled up by new elections in 1889 (according to V.R.R., 30th July, 1886). The *Volksraad* meets annually in session at Pretoria on the first Monday in May, but extraordinary sessions may be called by the President to consider important and urgent questions that demand immediate attention. The qualification of a member of the *Volksraad* is that he must have been a qualified voter for five consecutive years, must have reached the age of thirty years, be a member of a Protestant Church, a resident in the country, and in possession of fixed property within its limits. No person of an openly bad character, or having been sentenced for some criminal offence, or an unrehabilitated insolvent, or persons being in the relationship of father and son, or coloured persons, or bastards, or officials receiving salary, are allowed to take a seat in the *Volksraad*.

Executive.—This body, called the *Uitvoerende Raad*, consists of the State President, elected for five years by a general election throughout the State; the State Secretary, elected by the *Volksraad* for four years; the Commandant-General *ex-officio*, and two unofficial members, chosen for three years by the *Volksraad*. All these are eligible for re-election. The qualification for a President is that he must be thirty years of age; he need not be a burgher of the State on the day of his election, but must be a

member of a Protestant Church, and not bear sentence for any criminal offence.

Government of Districts.—The chief officer in each district is the landdrost, who acts as magistrate and civil commissioner, with the assistance of a landdrost's clerk, who is at the same time Public Prosecutor,*and in most cases distributor of stamps. Each district is further provided with a baljuw or sheriff, gaoler and staff of constables. Offices, gaols, and powder magazines are provided by Government. Each district is divided into several field-cornetries or wards, superintended by a field-cornet and assistant, elected by each ward. These officers have certain judicial and, in time of war, military powers.

Commando—With the exception of a corps of mounted artillery and police, commanded by seven officers with about 100 men, the Republic has no armed force. The President, with the concurrence of the Executive, has the right to declare war and call up a Commando, in which the burghers are placed under the field-cornets and commandants of each district. The whole force is commanded by the Commandant-General who is elected by the whole country for the term of ten years. All inhabitants of the State between 16 and 60 years of age (not exempt according to law) are liable to do service on commando. Members of the Volksraad, officials, clergymen, churchwardens, school teachers, directors of companies established and incorporated according to Law No. 5, 1874, and a certain number of their men, and the only sons of widows, are exempt from personal service, but may be called out when Martial Law is proclaimed. These have to contribute towards the expenses of the commando to an amount not exceeding £15—left to the discretion of a committee, consisting of the field-cornet and two burghers in each ward, and the landdrost, field-cornet, and one burgher in each town. Non-residents, owners of one or more farms in the Republic, have to pay a war tax of £20 on every farm and £10 on every erf to the landdrost of the district where the farm or erf is situated, or to the Civil Commissioner of Pretoria. The landdrost, in case of war, issues a notice in the *Staats Courant*, calling on such owners of ground to pay war tax within three months if owners reside in South Africa, and six months if they reside beyond South African territory. In the meantime no transfer is passed until the tax is paid. In accordance with the treaties entered into with Portugal, Holland, Belgium, Germany, France, Italy and Switzerland subjects of these States residing in the Republic are also exempt from military service, but are liable to payment of the same contributions as are payable by burghers of the State. *Exempt from personal service are also people registered according to the terms of the London Convention, and all people coming into the country, during the first two years of their residence, except when Martial Law is proclaimed.* The first levy is from 18 to 34,

years, the second from 34 to 50, the third consists of youths below 18 and men above 50. Those commandeered must provide themselves with clothing, gun, and thirty rounds of ammunition. They have even to provide their own wagons and cattle. Of the booty taken, after certain deductions, one-quarter goes to Government towards war expenses, and the remaining three-quarters are equally divided among the men actually in the field. All legal proceedings in civil cases against persons on commando are suspended, and may not be resumed before 30 days after their release from commando. No executions can take effect until 60 days after the Commando Law is withdrawn. The pounds are closed, and the payment of transfer dues (Heren-egten) is also suspended during the time Commando Law is in the field.

We will now glance at the history of gold research in Africa from the earliest periods up to the present time.



CHAPTER XII.

EARLY ACCOUNTS OF GOLD IN AFRICA.—MONOMOTAPA.



HERE cannot be a shadow of doubt that Africa, from the most remote periods, has been a gold-producing country. While travelling on the east coast, in the vicinity of Sofala, in 1883-4-5, I found numerous traces of long-abandoned workings, while the fact that many Hebrew customs, and even manners, are extant to this day in the land, taken in conjunction with the statements made by Josephus in his *Antiquities of the Jews*, all point to the identity of South-East Africa with the Ophir of the Scriptures. Traditions are also to be heard amongst the natives, to the effect that many thousand years ago, ships from a far-off land came regularly in quest of the "yellow metal" and the hard woods indigenous to the country.

The following are a few of the reasons for supposing South-East Africa to be, in very truth, "King Solomon's Mines":—

Ophir is translated in the earliest Greek versions of the Old Testament as Sophira or Sophara. This bears a striking analogy to the modern Sofala.

The articles Solomon got from Ophir were gold, ivory, apes, and algumim wood—according to Josephus, a white shining wood.

Gold and ivory, we know, have been procured in great quantities in Sofala, as well as apes; and it is remarkable that the Hebrew name of the apes mentioned, namely, "koph," seems to bear some analogy to the name of "kabo," at present used to designate an ape by the tribes to the north.

As regards the algumim wood, it is uncertain what variety is meant. It is generally supposed to be the red sandal-wood of India, of which specimens are also to be found in Africa.

But what Josephus says with regard to this wood is very interesting. In his *Antiquities of the Jews*, book viii, chap. vii, he remarks:—"The wood brought to Solomon (from Ophir) was larger and finer than any that has ever been brought before; but let no one imagine that these pine trees were like those which are now so named, for those we speak of were to the sight like the wood of the fig tree, but whiter and shiny."

According to this statement of Josephus, it is very likely that the algumim wood is the yellow wood, now so familiar to the colonists of South Africa.

He also mentions precious stones brought from Ophir to Solomon, and it is well known that in the vicinity of Sofala rubies and topazes are to be found.

There was a scruple against the belief that Ophir was in Africa, on account of the peacocks which the Ophir ships carried home with them, because there are none of these birds in Africa, but the Ophir traders may have procured them during the voyage, perhaps from some town of Indian trade on the shores of the Red Sea, as it is known that in those times a large trade was carried on between Egypt and India.

The Dominican monk Joao Dos Santos set out in the year 1587 for Mozambique and Sofala, and spent eleven years amongst the different Portuguese settlements in that region. In his *Eastern Ethiopia* (Evora, 1609), among other things he relates the following:—"The merchandise from Tete goes down to Sene with the gold which is brought from the market of Massapa, in the kingdom of Monomotapa, where a large quantity is always to be met with, as the great and lofty mountain Fura (or Afura) is close by. Upon this mountain are to be seen the ruins of buildings constructed of stone and lime—a thing which is not to be found in the whole of the Kafir country, where even the houses of the king are only built