



THE HISTORY

OF THE

BATTLES AND ADVENTURES

OF

The British, the Boers, and the Zulus, &r.,

1N

SOUTHERN AFRICA

FROM THE TIME OF PHARAOH NECHO, TO 1880.

WITH COPIOUS CHRONOLOGY.

VOL. I.

B¥

DUNCAN CAMPBELL FRANCIS MOODIE.

Minmun

"Oh blood and thunder ! and oh blood and wounds ! These are but vulgar oaths, as you may deem, Too gentle reader ! and most shocking sounds ; And so they are—yet thus is Glory's dream_ Unriddled,"—BYRON.

COLOURED MAP AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

CAPE TOWN: MURRAY & ST. LEGER, Parliamentary Printers and Government Bookbinders. 1888.

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The History of the Battles and Adventures of the British, the Boers, and the Zulus, &c., in Southern Africa.

BY D. C. F. MOODIE.

OPINIONS OF THE PEESS, LETTERS, AND OTHER AUTHOBITIES ON VOL I.

D. C. MOODIE, Esq.—" Buckingham Palace, London, September 29, 1882.—Sir,—I am commanded by the Queen to thank you for the Volume on South Africa which you have had the kindness to present to Her Majesty.—I have the honour, &c., (Sig.) HENEY PONSONEY.

The late Sir BARTLE FREEE to D. C. F. MOODIE.—" It is very gratifying to see anyone who really understands South Af ican matters making the truth about them clear, for the ignorance on all such subjects is deplorable, and people utter opinions on matters of which they do not even know the facts."

South Australian Advertiser, ADELAIDE.—"Mr. Moodie's work is a goodly volume. Mr. Moodie's experience in the past has enabled him to intersperse his narrative of events with many curious observations on the customs of the Zulus and other tribes, which are alike original and valuable. An important feature in the work is a chronological table of the principal events connected with South Africa since the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope in 1486, which will prove most useful to Students. The illustrations are numerous, some of them being decidedly effective, and the coloured map of South Africa at the beginning of the book is really an excellent one."

The Lantern, ADELAIDE.—"A really valuable history. Exciting incidents and numerous anecdotes are pourtrayed with a vivid eye. The works redounds to the credit of its author. We cannot close our review of this book without adverting to the large amount of industry and research Mr. Moodie has brought to bear upon it. *Energ Institute and Public School* in the Colonies ought to find a place for it." Sir THEOPHILUS SHEPSTONE, K.C.M.G., to D. C. F. MOODIE, Esq.—" I think your book a meritorious publication. It will be most usefu as a reference. It shows great industry, and does your powers of research and skilful adaptation great credit."

Chief JOHN DUNN, ZULULAND.—" TO D. C F. MOODIE, Esq.— Dear Moodie, many thanks for your Zulu Book, which I got by last mail, much to my surprise and pleasure, as I had lost sight of you ever since our being boys together in Natal. Your book is very accurate, and gives a very good version of what really did take place in Zululand, &c."

The Federal Australian, MELBOUENE.—"Mr. Moodie's volume on South Africa is one of the most creditable contributions to general literature that has ever been issued from the Australian Press. No person will find the work dull. Many readers will devour it with eagerness. On the whole, the author deserves high commendation for his industry and literary ability, and we hope his book will attain a wide circulation."

Natul Mercury.—"A very attractive and most readable volume. Of all the books written upon the Zulu War, it alone possesses the distinction of having been prepared by one whose acquaintenance with his theme is a matter of life-long intimacy, fortified by exceptional facilities of access to historical records. Mr. Moodie follows the history of Cetywayo with absorbing fidelity."

Times of Natal.—"A book which commanded a large cireulation in Australia. Its merits entitle it to a place on the shelves of every local library. Mr. Moodie's book is a thrilling narrative of adventure, all the more interesting because it is a record of facts."

Natal Mercantile Advertiser.—" Deeds of blood, and the horrors of war, do not occupy all the pages of this very interesting book, but historical accounts, anecdotes, and reflections, will render it a valuable, if not indispensable, assistance to any one who, in the future, attempts to deal with the history of South Africa."

Cape Times, January 30, 1888.—An advertisement in another column states that the "Battle and Adventure" parts of this rather ambitious work is now being carried through the printing department of this office. We have already given a synopsis of the contents of the two volumes some months ago, and now draw attention to the advertisement, as the numerous subscribers to the work will be interested to know that the volumes will soon see the light of the day (and the heat of criticism). It is ap-

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

parent that the author's intention is to present history in a striking and inviting form, in fact to base solid history on exciting adventure and thrilling incidents, which are all the more interesting because perfectly true. It is thought that thus presenting substantial instruction in such a taking form will be acceptable to the youth of these colonies as well as to the "older boys." In the various opinions of the press quoted, we notice that amid the general eulogy the fact is frequently emphasised that these "Battles " will be a standard work of reliable reference, and others lay stress upon the assertion that they will be "most useful to students." We notice that an Eastern Province contemporary also views these works from the stand point above indicated. It says : - The battles, &c., when produced, will be large, handsome, and valuable works of reliable reference, and teeming with thrilling narrative and wild adventure, based upon solid history. The advertisement sets forth that they will contain illustrations, coloured map, and a copious chronology, a new feature which will be of special value to the student, and it quotes parts of a letter from Sir Theophilus Shepstone, K.C.M.G., to the author, saying, "I think your book a meritorious publication. It will be most useful as a reference. It shows great industry, and does your powers of research and skilful adaptation great credit." The Australian press also alludes to the first volume as being the most creditable contribution to their literature that had then (1880) appeared, saying also that the book "is most useful to students."

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PREFACE.

"On that mine enemy would write a book!" I hope T have no enemies, but, anyway, here is the book, or books; the last volume being the third that I have inflicted upon an unoffending, good-natured, and long-suffering public. But, joking apart, there is a point where egotism ends, and due and proper self-assertion, based upon favourable antecedent, begins. It will be perceived by the opinions of the general press-pre-annexed-which I leave to speak for me, that I have spent many years (thirty-five) in South Africa, and I speak the Dutch and Kafir languages like a native, and have for a very long time taken a keen interest in the histories and general literature of South Africa. As early as (about) 1855 I began by keeping a very primitive hunting journal, being a record of a trip to the Waterberg Mountains in the Transvaal-almost a terra incognita in those days.

I may say, also, that my humble endeavours in "letters" have been nccessarily stimulated by the literary antecedents of 'my relations before me. As far back as 1835, my uncle, John Wedderburn Dunbar Moodie, of the 21st Fusiliers, wrote his two volumes entitled "Ten Years in South Africa," in England, after his retirement from South Africa. At a literary coterie in London, he met Susanna Strickland, one of the three writers of the "Queens of England, &c. &c." Elizabeth and Susanna however, were brought out by Agnes Strickland, who continued the works in her own name, as before. The Lieutenant wanted his wife to settle in South Africa, but she produced his own book against him, which book set forth how during the absence of the author and his brother (the father of the present writer) an elephant had thrust his tusks through their little hut and walked off with it. So they went to Canada, where the soldier got ruined in Yankee speculations, and Mrs. Moodie then brought out "Roughing it in the Bush" and many other works, to which the Lieutenant. contributed, as well as issuing one himself, entitled "The Adventures of a Soldier and a Settler during a quarter of a century."

My father, Donald Moodie, R.N., after leaving the navy also after the peace of 1815, which caused so many officers, of both branches of the service, to turn their swords into ploughshares, came out to Cape Town, where he eventually entered the Government Civil Service, having in the meantime, in 1838, produced his "Cape Record" a complete copy of which is very scarce and valuable now.

The elder brother, Mr. Benjamin Moodie, "the Laird" as he was called, also came out at the same time and settled at Groot Vader's Bosch in Swellendam, which district his son, Thomas Moodie, represented for many years.

On the 11th July, 1824, Benj. Moodie met Mr. Thos. Pringle, the Rev. Dr. Philip, Mr. W. T. Blair, Mr. H, S. Rutherfoord, Mr. W. L. Buchenroeder, and C. T. Thornbill, at the house of Messrs. W. Thomson and Mr. Pillans for the purpose of starting a "Literary and Scientific Society," but Lord Charles Somerset declared the meeting to be "illegal," and opposed the project.

The above exhausts the list of the literary endeavours of those of my name before me, unless I might be permitted to mention that my elder brother, W. J. Dunbar Moodie, condensed, compiled, and issued the "Natal Ordinances" some twenty years ago.

As to my own modest experiments in the field indicated, in 1874 I ventured to publish a volume of poems in Adelaide, in South Australia. The newspaper critics were complimentary, but personal friends informed me that the perusal of the Poems entailed serious mental and even physical indisposition in about a quarter of an hour. The first edition was published under the pseudonym of "Austral," the second edition of these Poems was issued in Natsl, and the third will accompany the volumes of these "Battles, &c."

However, when the exciting telegrams regarding the disaster of Isandhlwane, in Zululand, reached Adelaide, I was editing a paper of an offensive nature, which I owned, when a printer aware of my South African connection suggested a book on the Zulu War, of which he would take the risk. I accordingly went to work, and in 1879, taking Natal as my standpoint, produced the first volume of "Battles in South Africa," &c. The title was duly "thought out," my then intention being to continue the subject as long as I enjoyed good health, and as long as "they" would oblige me by fighting.

The first volume was an unlooked-for success.

The critics were gracious, and I was relieved from a state of starving authorship, in which, like a South African Bosjesman, I vacillated between a famine and a feast.

In the meantime, during my other small avocations, I watered the tender flowers of Hope, and, fancying that I had discovered my "forte," set to work, with what amount of patience nature has endowed me with, to collect materials for an extension of the "History of the Battles, &c.," being also encouraged thereto by the South Australian Government ordering 100 copies of the 1st volume for the use of Schools, Institutes, &c., &c., as the said good-natured critics had fortunately reviewed the work as being "Useful to Students, &c." And a leading literary magazine in London, much to my gratification, alluded to it as "a charming combination of faithful history and stirring incident." I say, "gratifying," because, of course, that was exactly the point I was writing up to.

When I reached this ancient town (Cape Town) in 1886, by the kindly courtesy of leading gentlemen, including officials, I was obliged with ready access to all kinds of very old authorities, including the treasures of the "Archives" in the Parliamentary Buildings, the papers of which, I may mention, in justice to the memory of my late patient father, Donald Moodie, were rescued from destruction and first set in due order by him (vide correspondence between Sir George Grey and Dr. Bleek, which appears in the appendix attached to vol. II of these works.) And afterwards, in 1838, as I have said, he published his Cape "Record" which chronicled all the journals of the Cape Commanders to 1691, and gave every minute particular of Dutch occupation during that period.

I then perceived that I could, and would have to, recast my works—a labour, it will be conceded by *cognoscenti*, of some difficulty, as from the Natal stand point it would become necessary to go back to the days of Pharoah Necho, when the Phœnician admirals first sailed down (according to Herodotus) the coast of Africa.

However, I have done my "level best" and shall be more than amply repaid if the merciful critics perceive that my protracted and anxious labours will result in substantial benefit to the general reader and to students of History in particular.

My present endeavour is well set forth in the Cape Times of January 30, 1888, which says :---"It is apparent that the author's intention is to present history in a striking and inviting form, in fact to base solid history on exciting adventure and thrilling incidents, which are all the more interesting because perfectly true. It is thought that thus presenting substantial instruction in such a taking form will be acceptable to the youth of these colonies as well as to the 'older boys.' In the various opinions of the press quoted, we notice that amid the general eulogy the fact is frequently emphasised that these 'Battles' will be a standard work of reliable reference, and others lay stress upon the assertion that they will be 'most useful to students.'"

In a, perhaps, too ambitious work of this sort, extending over 1,200 pages, it will be natural that many shortcomings will be apparent, but I respectfully venture to hope that allowance will be made. During my earlier struggles with this work, I was not what might be called offensively wealthy, and I had, perforce, to combat the ridiculous necessities of every day humdrum life, but now, I hope, I have at length laboriously succeeded in producing a complete account, according to my title; of every disturbance in South Africa, from the days of the very early Portuguese heroes to about 1880.

Any interesting matter that may be crowded out will be found in the Appendix attached to the second volume. In that Appendix will also appear what the Australian press noticed as an important feature in the first volume, I mean, a copious and carefully prepared Chronological Table from the best available authorities. That in the first volume was limited. It is now much extended, and will, I need hardly say, be found most useful to the scholar, the man of business, and the general reader. I have not consulted Hall's Chronology. The list of authorities that, with gratitude, I have consulted, appear in the Appendix.

D. C. F. MOODIE.

Valhalla, Cape Town, March 13, 1888,

ADAMASTOR, OR THE TITAN SHAPE OF THE MIGHTY CAPE.

Of old the Titans, is unholy rage, Waged impious war against the thunderer Jove; And oft we've seen along the classic page How—lightning armed—the "Cloud Compeller" hove The rebels headlong down to earth, where still they strove Awhile amongst themselves, and then were doomed To lone and distant spots, ne'er more to rove, But stand the sentries grim where breakers boomed, Where lay life's light, and joy, and Hope itself emtombed.

The youngest Titan, Adamastor named, (So sings in sweetest strain the Lusian bard), Was banished south to far off country, claimed In after days, by Diaz, sailor hard— And here to-day the Giant stands, ill-starred— His human semblance altered, and his brow, Tho' princely still, all wild, and fiercely scarred. But as of yore he stood, so stands he now, And sadly prays to Jove to change his vengeful vow.

Yes, o'er that wave did Adamastor scan Th' intrepid Diaz, and De Gama bold Pursue their dubious course with tools and plan Of rudest sort, but still with courage hold Their way to lands possess'd of fabled gold ; And from their high and clumsy vessels saw A lofty land where mists fantastic rolled, And storms resounding from the "caverned shore," With hollow groan "repeat the tempest's (horrid) roar

ADAMASTOR.

When many years had flown the Giant saw The coming of Van Riebeeck (and his floet). "In culture and refinement" was he raw, But wisdom he pursued with hasty feet, And in acquiring knowledge was discreet; "A little fiery tempered resolute man," With "prime of life and health " and active heat, He served his masters well in act and plan, And to the last he wrought as all good servants can

And with him came his burghers quaint, who soon, Squatted beneath the Giant's brow, and piled The work, till Bona Dea gave her boon. And soon where trouble was, all Nature smiled, And all was bright in jackal-haunted wild. To "Lion's Head" the "look out" mau was sent To spy the ships that were "the Enemy" styled, And as to tent the weary "Merchant" went, The lion's roar was with the boom of billows blent.

Old time rolled on—and Adamastor looked One day upon the open judgment room, And trembled at the sight. Old Death had booked Van Nood, the Governor, with a fearful doom, 'That soon the village filled with horrid gloom. Death's awful sentence he'd just passed on one Who vainly pled "not guilty" of the tomb; "I go to hang! We meet 'fore God! I come!" Some minutes hence pale Death had struck the Governor dumb.

Yes, when the limbs of law straight back repair To say the sentence has been carried out, They found him dead, bolt upright in his chair. The troubled soul had fled—withouten doubt— Just at the time they hanged the prisoner stout. The quaint, old-fashioned, straight-back chair is still On day view to the curious folks about, And superstitious people stare until Of deathly fear and gossip they have had their fill.

The Giant guardian Genius of the Cape Looks forth o'er lovely scenes of wood and wave, And from the profile of his Titan shape That eastward looks, the view is fair and "brave," For there high peaks the Berg stream waters lave, While close beneath, and nestling 'mongst the trees, Enchanting homes o'er which the fir trees wave, In soft contentment stretch between two seas, And breathe, in turn, the Mountain and the Ocean breeze.

ADAMASTOR.

And here the patriarch^o in his old Cape home— A paradise of creeper, heath, and wood— Rules in benignant sway; no more to roam From ancient halls where lares stand and stood, And breathed in peace from ventures wildly good. And lo ! at eve, 'midst generations three (All humbly kneeling, as 'tis meet they should), Ile bows his hoary head, and asks that He May still their stay, and friend, and help, and guardian be.

I like the Cape—I like the scenery fair, Its lovely lassies, seashore and its bays, I like the town, for there I first breathed air, I like the people, and I like their ways, I like the Premier, and I like his "stays," And, by Jove, I even love taxation, When well put on, and when the taxed one pays. I'm in the mood to even hug vexation, For to congenial theme I owe a slight elation.

And now farewell. I've climbed the Lion's Mount And seen a tiny flower not seen since youth.⁺ Oh ! fairy power that wells from Nature's fount When early scenes recur with tender truth. O'er Ocean hangs the sun, and now, in sooth, He's sunk beneath the wave, and as I gaze Abroad across the land, I think, with truth, That Huguenots and Dutch can claim proud bays, For thrashing Gaul and Spaniard in their palmiest days.

Three Anchor Bay, Cape Town, Jan. 8th, 1887. D. C. F. MOODIE.

* The late respected patriarch of Westbrook was here in mind. This place is now in the possession of George Plgo' Moodie, May 1888.

† I had been away from the Cape over thirty years,

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It is unavoidable that the pictures should be so unevenly divided between the two Volumes. But it will be apparent to the intelligent reader that it would be a matter of much difficulty to illustrate events that transpired many of them before the Nativity. Pharaoh Necho, Herodotus and Henry of Portugal did not leave their portraits, and Diaz and De Gama did not probably find any photograph likeness takers in Adderley-street or D'Urban in Natal. We have, however, secured a few cuts of old times, and produce them in the 1st Vol. The comparatively recent ones will appear in the 2nd Vol.