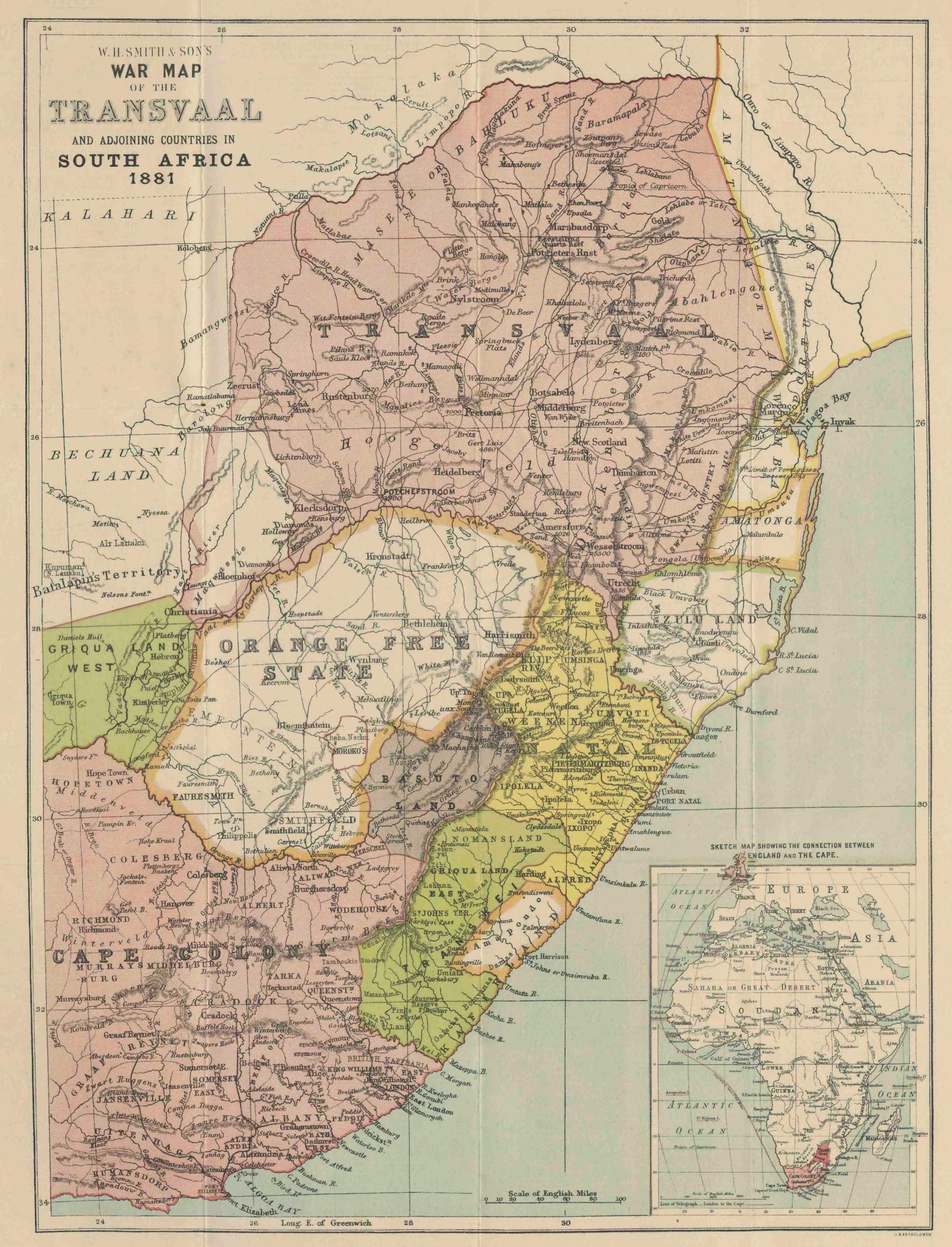
# W. H. Smith & Son's War map of the Transvaal and adjoining countries in South Africa

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## THE TRANSVAAL.

History of the Boers in South Africa-Founding of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic-Description of same-The Boer of the Transvaal-The Annexation of the Transvaal-Revolt of Boers -The Boer Army.

## HISTORY OF THE BOERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE Boers are the descendants of those subjects of Holland who, in 1650, landed at and formed the Cape Colony. At the time of the French Revolution in 1795, the colony was taken by the English, but restored to Holland in 1802. In 1806 it again fell under British power;

restored to Holland in 1802. In 1806 it again foll under British power; and at the Congress of Vienna in 1814 was finally made over to them. The Dutch inhabitants fell as "accidents of territory" to the English as subjects, without their consent or desire. This was resented by an attempt at rebellion, which, however, was soon crushed, the leaders being executed; and the "Martyrs of Slaughter Neck" are as well remembered by every Dutch household to this day, as national heroes are in older lands. Even yet, in the language of Mr Froude, the Cape is "not an English colony: it is a conquered country, of which we took possession for our own purposes against the will of its proper owners. English colo-nists have settled there since, but South Africa was Dutch. The laws were Dutch; the language was Dutch over the greater part of the country. The Dutch occupied the place more than two hundred years ago. They conquered the Hottentots, they destroyed the wild beasts, they built fair houses and towns, and planted trees and vineyards. Forests of oak and pine introduced from Holland now speak for the industry of the Dutch of last century." Thus, on their final occupation of the country, in many ways too numerous to mention, the English Government came into collision with its unwilling Dutch subjects. The English Government thought the Boers perverse and good-for-

Government came into collision with its unwilling Dutch subjects. The English Government thought the Boers perverse and good-for-nothing; the Boers hated the British occupation from the first; and a good many of them, determined to recover their liberty, broke up their homes in 1836, and pushed up into the interior over the Orange River. It must never be said that any hatred of civilised government, as such, led to this step. This would be a base calumny on the character of a body of men whose motives were as pure as those that actuated the a Did of Bethem?

These Voortrekkers (advanced pioneers) gave to their exodus a domestic character, when their great "trek" commenced from the Cape Colony, the women taking as prominent a part in the emigration as

#### did the men. Families moved off together, old and young, male and female, with their waggons, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and some little furniture.

Crossing the Orange River, they encountered, and conquered and broke, the power of the formidable warrior chief, Moselekatze; and the emigrant farmers became possessed of vast territories which they had delivered from his murderous sway, and pushing their way beyond the Vaal River, formed new states, now known as the Orange Free State and the Transvaal.

and the Transvaal. Being an enterprising people, and wanting access to the sea for their wool trade, Peter Retieff and a party of them accordingly crossed the Drakensberg mountains, and went down to Natal, which at that time belonged to Dingaan, the grandfather of Cetywayo, the Zulus having destroyed all its old inhabitants. Retieff and his party were all murdered by Dingaan; but in 1840 the Zulus succumbed to another Dutch force, and Natal became a third Dutch state. The Dutch were now in possession of a new country stretching down to the sea, and completely isolating Cape Colony from all contact with the interior tribes; and with the Dutch on one side and the English on the other, the Kaffirs between would have ceased to give any trouble. They might have remained in harmless independence. harmless independen

In 1842, however, the English invaded and took Natal, its accessibility from the sea rendering the Boers independent of Cape Colony for both imports and exports. The Boers fought for it, but they were beaten back imports and exports. The boers rought for it, but they were beaten back over the Drakensberg mountains into the Transvaal, and Natal became English. After forty years' occupation, there are only 20,000 Europeans there, and of these only half are British, the rest being Dutch. The country is almost wholly uncultivated. There is a native population of over 300,000, but they prefer being idle to working, and live on the corn and the cattle which their wives raise for them. Its possession also involved Britain in the Zulu war, with its cost in blood and treasure.

## THE FOUNDING OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND THE TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC

Mr Froude, in one of his lectures at Edinburgh on South Africa in 1880, after regretting the annexation of Natal, proceeded to remark: "Whorever we went on those wild Boer hunts, trouble followed us like a shadow. We crossed the Orange River to protect a native tribe, which did not seem to want our protection, for we soon found ourselves at war with the Basutos, who fought well. The English did not always come off with credit. Such benevolence was expensive, and Downing Street changed its policy. They found out they had made a mistake, and in 1851-2, in two separate conventions, they left the Dutch in possession of the Orange River State and the Transvaal, and bound themselves most faithfully never more to interfere between the Boers and the natives. of the Orange River State and the Transval, and bound themselves most faithfully never more to interfere between the Boers and the natives. They did not wish those two Dutch States to be too prosperous, and so they deliberately shut them out from the sea. The two Republics, however, prospered beyond expectation, and probably far beyond our wishes. The machinery of a settled Government was introduced into the new Republics, and the Dutch of the Cape rejoiced that at least part of their race were happy. But the English did not know when they were well off; and, in distinct breach of treaty, they interfered to prevent the Orange Stato crushing the Basutos whom they had conquered in war. The conventions of 1852 were again renewed in 1869, and we again bound ourselves with all the solemnity of a formal engagement to interfere no further on the north of the Orange River."

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## 1881. W. H. SMITH & SON'S WAR MAP OF THE TRANSVAAL AND ADJOINING COUNTRIES IN SOUTH AFRICA, WITH HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE BOERS, &c.

TRANSVAAL INDERENBENDE

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## TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSVAAL AND THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

The area of the territory of the Transvaal is variously described as The area of the territory of the Transvali is variously described as containing from 90,000 to 100,000 square miles, and about half the size of France. It is bounded on the north by the Limpopo River, on the east by the Drakensberg range and the Lobembo Mountains, on the south by the Vaal River, and on the west by Bechuana Land. The population is stated by Behm and Wagner as being, in 1880—Boers 40,000 and Natives 275,000. The boundary ranges of the Drakensberg and the Lobembo may be rudely defined as the hackbone of Africa, and yarv in elevation from 4000 to The boundary ranges of the Drakensberg and the Lobembo may be rudely defined as the backbone of Africa, and vary in elevation from 4000 to 10,000 feet. From the inland summits the country, very broken at first, falls away gradually into the Highveld, a plateau averaging 5000 feet above the sea level, and gradually falls away to the northward into the more level grounds of the Central South African plateau. This plateau, whether in the Orange Free State or the Transvaal, is essentially the land of the Boers. The boundary ranges of mountains present everywhere towards the sea, eastwards, a very steep face and natural rampart, especially towards the adjoining colony of Natal. The plateau has thinly-wooded hills, although heavy timber exists; but vast fertile tracts of land exist peculiarly adapted for the growth of wheat, coffee, sugar, cotton, rice, tobacco, and every kind of tropical fruit, while its pasturages offer unrivalled advantages for cattle-grazing and wool-

to be sugar, cotton, rice, conceed, and every which of tropical truth, while its pasturages offer unrivalled advantages for cattle-grazing and wool-growing purposes. Among fruits,—grapes, peaches, and oranges also flourish. The diamond, gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, and coal are found in the Transvaal. The construction of the proposed Pretoria and Delagoa Bay Railway, a distance of 300 miles, which would run into Lorenzo Mar-Bay Railway, a distance of 300 miles, which would run into Lorenzo Mar-quez, the only open and valuable harbour, with the exception of Simons Bay, in all South-Eastern Africa, would enormously increase the value of the territory, by supplying a seaport and ready access to and from its wealth-creating possessions. This harbour is obstructed by no bar, is safe in all weathers, and is wide enough and deep enough to contain a larger number of vessels than all the South African ports put together; and as against Natal, it has the still greater advantage of being readily accessible in all weathers to ships of the greatest tonnage. The Government of the Transvaal, as founded by the Boers, consisted of a division into districts, each having a chief town possessing a Land-drost, or headman. These districts in turn sent so many representatives drost, or headman. These districts in turn sent so many representatives to an annual parliament—the Volksraad—which was annually held in September in the town of Preteria. Potchefstroom, on a tributary of the Vaal, is the capital. As, in the event of British operations against the Transvaal, the Orange Free State will meet with frequent mention, the following particulars may prove of interest :-

now in the republics of the interior. He is uncultivated and unprogress

sive; but he possesses qualities which, even in England, will be regarded as not valueless. He is domestic, but not gregarious. When he settles he procures from six to twenty thousand acres of undulating grass plain. He takes possession in his waggon with his wife and children, his scanty furniture, his family Bible, which is his sole literature, and his sheep and when he sheep and procures from six to twenty thousand acres of undulating grass plain. Ho takes possession in his wagon with his wife and children, his sentry furniture, his family Bible, which is his sole literature, and his sheep and oxen. He plants his home near a stream or spring of water, ten miles perhaps from the nearest neighbour. His house consists of a central hall, with a kitchen behind it, and from three to six sleeping apartments opening out of it, all on one floor. He builds kraals for his eattle; he fences a garden carefully irrigated; and so rayid is the growth in that soil and climate, that in four or five years he will have a plentiful stock of oranges, lemons, circus, peaches, apricots, figs, apples, pears, and grape-vines. He encloses fifty or a hundred acres, which he ploughs and sows with Indian corn and wheat. His herds and flocks multiply with little effort, and thus he lives in great abundance. The family lie is patriarchal, the authority of age being absolute. There is no hasite to become rich; there is no desire for change. The Boar has few wants except those which he can himself supply, and he asks nothing but to be let alone. Ho is a strict Calvinist. The only knowledge which he values is contained in his Bible. He is constitutionally a Republican, yet of liberty in the modern sense he has little or no idea. He considers work and prayer to be the whole duty of man, and habits of work the only fitting education. Native questions, and all other questions as well, he considers from this point of view. Without tenderness or enthusiasm, and whit a narrow intellectual horizon, he has a stubborn practicability well suited for the post of a pioneer of African civilisation. Such is the white denizon of the Transval. Mr ylward, in his interesting "Transval of To-day," remarks that, compared with their numbers, the improvements they have wrought are sufficiently astonishing :--- There are read-end very good roads-wereywhere. There are tore dustion, the Boers, notwithstanding the slanders of their and their indenty to their religion, through long periods of contact with an ever-present barbarism. The women have ever been more patriotic and more determined to be free than even their lords and masters, while they have ever been, and still remain, entirely anti-English." The men, as has been remarked by many writers, are splendid speci-mens of humanity; far over the middle height, powerful, robust, and inured to hardships and long travel; simple and temperate. During the greater part of the year the write powerful probable in wageons or in greater part of the year the rural population live in waggons, or in tents pitched in the midst of their herds or flocks, sheep numbered by thousands, and cattle by hundreds. Not rooted down to the soil, or troubled with over-much baggage, it is not so great a hardship for them to move away from home, as it is for farmers in the more

settled European countries. They are accustomed to trek to pastures new. If a Boer has 12,000 acres or so of land, well watered and fertile, it does not much matter to him where it may be situated. The common mode of travelling is by ox-waggon. The Boer will inspan his oxen twice a year, and take his produce, wool and hides, into the nearest town for sale, and return home laden with coffee, tea, sugar, salt, gun-powder, shot, and other commodities, to meet the requirements of his household for a season. As a rule, he is accompanied in these expeditions by his worthy "Vrow" and his whole family of boys and girls. The godinie will barter her eggs, poultry, and butter, for woollen stuffs and showy prints, and perhaps a smart embroidered saddle-cloth for the first-born to display when he goes a-courting. An immense quantity of hese gay trappings are imported annually for this festive purpose. A sheep-skin will serve on ordinary occasios. They rarely leave home, excepting for these periodical trading trips, and the quarterly religious services (or Natchmal), when the whole community, far and near, meet to partake of the Holy Sacrament, according to the Lutheran, or else the Dutch, Reformed rite. The small towns at which these gatherings are held are unable to find house accommodation for the influx of visitors, so they live in their large waggons or in their tents, and it is an animated seene, this assemblage of Boers, young and old, with their Hottentot and Kaffir attendants, spans of treek oxen and saddle-horses, gaily painted waggons, and snow-while tents. They generally camp out in the market square, an open space of turf, of nom two to six acres in extent, which it is the eastorn to mark off in the centre of each town or blage, not only in the Transval, but in most of the South African State of public use. village, not only in the Transvaal, but in most of the South African

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On 12th April 1877, the British Government, in a *Gazette Extraordinary* dated Pretoria, Transvaal, proclaimed the Transvaal to be British territory, in the following terms:—

in the following terms:— "Whereas at a meeting held on the sixteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, at the Sand River, between Her Majesty's Assistant Commissioners, Major Hogge and C. M. Owen, Esq., on the one part, and a deputation from the emigrant farmers then residing north of the Vaal River, at the head of which was Commundant-General A. W. J. Pretorius, on the other part, the said Her Majesty's Assistant Commissioners did 'guarantee in the fullest manner on the part of the British Government to the emigrant farmers north of the Vaal River, the right to manage their own affairs, and to govern them-selves according to their own laws, without any interference on the part of the British Government: 'And whereas the evident objects and inciting motives of the Assistant Commissioners in granting such guarantee or per-mission to persons who were Her Majesty's subjects, were 'to promote motives of the Assistant commissioners in granting start guarantee of per-mission to persons who were Her Majesty's subjects, were 'to promote peace, free trade, and friendly intercourse' with and among the inhabi-tants of the Transvaal, in the hope and belief that the territory which a few years afterwards—namely, in February 1858—became known by the style and title of 'The South African Republic,' would become a flourishing and solid containing. State a comment of atomitted and it to be an in the south African Republic,' would become a flourishing is tyle and title of 'The South African Republic,' would become a flourishing and self-sustaining State, a source of strongth and security to neighbouring European communities, and a point from which Christiunity and civilian-tion might rapidly spread towards Central Africa: And whereas the hopes and expectations upon which this mutual compact was reasonably and honourably founded have been disappointed, and the circumstances as set forth more at length in my address to the people, of to-day's date, here-unto attached, show that increasing weakness in the State itself on the one side, and more than corresponding growth of real strength and confidence among the native tribes on the other, have produced their natural and inevitable consequences, as will more fully appear from a brief allusion to the facts; that after more or less of irritating contact with aboriginal tribes to the north, there commenced about the year 1867 gradual abandon-ment to the natives in that direction, of territory settled by burghers of this State, in well-built towns and villages, and on granted farms; that this was succeeded by the extinction of all effective rule over extensive tracts of country, included within the boundaries of the State, and as a tracts of country, included within the boundaries of the State, and as a consequence by the practical independence, which still continues, of large native tribes residing therein, who had until then considered themselves subjects: That some few farmers, unwilling to forfeit homes which they had created for their families, and to which they held grants from the Government of the Transvaal, which grants had, however, ceased and still fail to protect them in their occupation, made terms with the chiefs, and now occupy their farms on conditions of periodical payments to those chiefs, notwithstanding the acknowledgment which such payments involve: That this decay of power and ebb of authority in the north is being followed by similar processes in the south under yet more dangerous circumstances; people of this State residing in that direction have been compelled within the last three months, at the bidding of native chiefs, and at a moment's the last three months, at the bidding of native chiefs, and at a moment's notice, to leave their farms and homes, their standing crops, some of which were ready for reaping, and other property, all to be taken possession of by natives, but that the Government is more powerless than ever to vindi-cate its assumed rights, or to resist the declension that is threatening its existence; that all confidence in its stability once felt by surrounding and distant European communities has been withdrawn; that commerce is wellnigh destroyed; that the country is in a state of bankruptcy; that the white inhabitants, discontented with their condition, are divided into fac-tions; that the Government has fallen into helpless paralysis from causes which it has been unable to control or counteract; and that the prospect of the election of a new president, so far from allaying the general anxiety,

prove of interest :--The Orange Free State embraces three great natural divisions—the highlands of the Drakensberg, the plains, and the riverside soils. On the whole it is not so fertile or productive as the Transvaal. There are in the country about 50,000 square miles. Population—Boers, 80,000; Natives, 70,000. The capital is Bloemfontein, with 2,000 inhabitants. The Presi-dent is elected for five years by the people, who governs by the Assembly called the Volksraad. The country is divided into thirteen districts, which are governed by magistrates called Landdrosts.

## THE BOER OF THE TRANSVAAL.

The South African Boer has been, till lately, regarded in England as little better than a savage. The reader must learn to know his fairer side. The type is unchanging. As ho was in 1806 in Cape Colony, so he is

or from inspiring hope in the future, is looked forward to by all parties as most likely to result in civil war, with its attendant anarchy and bloodshed: That the condition above described affords strong temptation to neigh-bouring native powers, who are known to be anxious and ready to do so, to make attacks and inroads upon the State, which from its weakness it cannot repel, and from which it has hitherto been saved by the restraining influence of the British Government, exercised from Natal by Her Majesty's representative in that colony, in the hope, yet unfulfilled, that a friendly understanding might be arrived at between the Government of the Transwal and the complaining native chiefs: That the Secocoeni war, which would have produced but little effect upon a healthy constitution, has not only proved suddenly fatal to the resources and reputation of the Republic, but has shown itself to be a culminating point in the history of South Africa, in that a Makatee or Basuto tribe, unwarlike, and of no account in Table 1.1. Zulu estimation, successfully withstood the strength of the State, and dis-closed for the first time to the native powers outside the Republic, from the Zambesi to the Cape, the great change that had taken place in the relative strength of the white and the black races; that this disclosure at once shock the *prestige* of the white man in South Africa, and placed every European community in peril; that this common danger has caused uni-vorsal anxiety, has given to all concerned the right to investigate its causes and to protect themselves from its consequences, and has imposed the duty upon those who have the power to shield enfeebled civilisation from the encroachments of barbarism and inhumanity: And whereas the inherent encroachments of barbarism and inhumanity: And whereas the inherent weakness of this Government and State, from causes above alluded to, and briefly set forth, and the fact that the past policy of the Republic has not only failed to conciliate the friendship and goodwill, but has forfeited the respect of the overwhelming native populations within and beyond its boundaries, which together probably exceed one and a half millions, render it certain that the Transval will be the first to suffer from the conse-quences of a pressure that has already reduced its political life to so feeble a condition. And whereas the reacoing of an ediciting friendle State he a condition: And whereas the ravaging of an adjoining friendly State by warlike savage tribes cannot for a moment be contemplated by Her Majesty's Government without the most earnest and painful solicitude, Majesty's Government without the most encode and painful solicitude, both on account of the miscrics which such an event must inflict upon the inhabitants of the Transvaal, and because of the peril and insecurity to which it would expose Her Majesty's possessions and subjects in South Africa; and seeing that the circumstances of the case have, from the inharent weakness of the country already touched upon, become so grave, that neither this country nor the British colonies in South Africa can be saved from the most calamitous circumstances except by the extension over this State of Her Majesty's authority and protection, by means of which alone oneness of purpose and action can be secured, and a fair pro-spect of peace and prosperity in the future be established: And whereas I have been satisfied by the numerous addresses, memorials, and letters which I have received, and by the abundant assurances which personal intercourse has given me, that a large proportion of the inhabitants of the Transvaal see, in a clearer and stronger light than I am able to describe them, the urgency and imminence of the circumstances by which they are surrounded, the ruined condition of the country, and the absence within it of any element capable of rescuing it from its depressed and afflicted state, and therefore earnestly desire the establishment within and afflicted state, and therefore carnestly desire the establishment within and over it of Her Majesty's authority and rule; and whereas the Govern-ment has been unable to point out or devise any means by which the country can save itself, and as a consequence relieve the other white com-munities of South Africa from the danger of the dire events certain speedily to result from the circumstances by which it is surrounded, and can entertain no reasonable hope that it possesses, or is likely under its present form of Government to possess, the means to raise itself to a safe

States, for public use. The Boers retain in their habits many curious marks of their life on their long "trek" of forty years' wanderings. Many of them yet retire to rest at sundown, after the dinner and supper or one meal of the day when family prayers are over; and rising with dawn resume their attendance on their flocks. Many more, in remembrance of their wander-ings in constant danger from the lurking savage or the prowling lion, even up to the present hour, sleep half dressed, a habit which has been often characterised by ignorant travellers to imply laziness and dirty hebits while it is but a mark of the "trek." habits, while it is but a mark of the "trek."

## THE ANNEXATION OF THE TRANSVAAL,

The Government of the Republic having heard of the intention of the British Government to annex the territory, on the 11th April 1877 pro-tested as follows :---

tested as follows:--"Whereas I, Thomas Francis Burgers, President of the South African Republic, have received a letter, dated the 9th instant, from Her Britaunic Majesty's Special Commissioner, Sir T. Shepstone, informing me that his Excellency has determined, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, to bring the South African Republic under the jurisdiction of the British Crown by annexation; and whereas I am not strong enough to draw the sword for the successful defence of the independence of this State against a superior Power like that of England; and, moreover, with a view to the welfare of all South Africa, I am altogether disinclined to bring its white inhabitants into a disastrous complication of warfare by any hostile pro-ceeding on my part before having first of all tried every means to secure the rights of the people in a peaceable manner; therefore, in the name the rights of the people in a peaceable manner; therefore, in the name and by authority of the Government and the people of the South African Republic, I hereby make my solomn protest against the intended annexa-tion. Done under my hand and under the State seal.—I am &c., THOS. BURGERS, President of the South African Republic."

British officer in command to stop until a reply had been received from Colonel Lanyon. The officer, however, gave orders to move on. 'Then,' says Joubert, 'I commanded the charge. Within 130 yards we charged, diamounted, and fired, and the capitualation followed. It was a matter of fifteen minutes.' All the wounded were sent up to Pretoria. There are over fifty killed, many wounded, the remainder prisoners. These prisoners have been released in detachments, and are returning to the neighbouring colonies via the Orange River State, Kimberly, and Nata. The Boers have issued a long "independence" proclamation, and they are governing the country by means of the Triumvirate above named, who have addressed characteristic lettors to Sir George Pomeroy Colley, Colonel Sir W. Lanyon, and President Brand of the Free State, attempting to provo that the British authorities precipitated the collision at Potchefstroom on

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that the British authorities precipitated the collision at Potchefstroom on December 15 and 16, and also in the affair near Pretoria, by firing first.

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#### J. Ackersdijck 1790 - 1861 Glossary of Dutch Names in South Africa.

| Alleen, lonely.   |
|---|
| Assegai, a javelin.                                       |
| Berg, mountain.   |
| Bergen, mountains.  |
| Blaauwbank, blue ridge.                                   |
| Blink, shiny, bright.                                     |
| Buffels, buffalo.   |
| Drift, practicable crossing in river;                     |
| a ford.   |
| Dwars, cross, or running obliquely                        |
| to across.  |
| Hout, wood.   |
| Hout berg, timbered mountain.                             |
| Inspan, to yoke team to waggon;                           |
| to start on a trading or "trek-                           |
| ing" journey.   |
| Kameel kop, giraffe's hill.                               |
| Klip, a stone.  |
| Klip spruit, stony stream.                                |
| Kloof, a glen, gorge, or valley<br>closed at highest end. |
| Koorn, corn.  |
| Kop, hill, headland.                                      |
| Kopjie, little hill.                                      |
| Kraal, village or town of Kafirs.                         |
| Krans kop, precipitous hill.                              |
| Krantz, a precipice.                                      |
| Losberg, isolated or loose mountain.                      |
| Lydenberg, mountain of sorrow.                            |
|   |

Oudhoutberg, "Old Bush" mountain. Outspan, to camp, by unyoking teams from waggons. Pan, pond, large or small, fresh or salt. Platberg, flat mountain. Poort, a gate; a pass. Riet, reed. Roode pan, red pond. Schoon spruit, clean or clear river. Slang, a snake. Spicen, a spy. Spicen Kop, Mount Look-out. Spruit, a stream, a brook. Steenkool, cool. Tafel, table Trek, literally to go on a journey; often used as to barter or trade. Vaal, mud-colour, whitish. Vals, false, full of quicksands. Veld, unenclosed country Vlei, a marsh; also the stream that drains it. Wet fontein, white fountain or spring. Witpan, white pond. Wilge, willow. Zwikerboshrand, Sugar-bush range.

and prosperous condition: And whereas the emergency seems to me to be such as to render it necessary, in order to secure the peace and safety of the Transvaal territory, as well as the peace and safety of Her Majesty's colonies and of Her Majesty's subjects elsewhere, that the said Transvaal territory should provisionally, and pending the announcement of Her Majesty's pleasure, be administered in Her Majesty's name and on her behalf: Now therefore I do, in virtue of the power and authority conferred upon me by Her Majesty's Royal Commission, dated at Balmoral, the 5th day of October 1876, and published herewith, and in accordance with instructions conveyed to me thereby and otherwise, proclaim and make known that from and after the publication hereof, the territory heretofore known as the South African Republic, as now meared and bounded, subject however to such local modifications as may hereafter appear mecessary, and as may be approved of by Her Majesty, shall be and shall be taken to be British territory ; and I hereby call upon and require the inhabitants of the Transvaal, of every class and degree, and all Her Majesty's subjects in South Africa, to take notice of this my Proclamation, and to guide themselves accordingly. And I hereby further proclaim and declare that I shall hold responsible all such persons who in the Transvaal shall venture opposition, armed or otherwise, to Her Majesty's authority hereby proclaimed, or who shall, by seditions or inflammatory language or exhortations or otherwise, incites or encourage others to offer such opposi-tion, or who shall injure, harass, disturb, or molest others because they may not think with then on political matters, and I do warn all such that upon conviction of any of the above offences they will be liable to the severe penalties which the law in such cases ordains ; and I hereby appeal to and call upon the orderly, right-thinking, and peace-loving people of the Transvaal to be aiding and supporting Her Majesty's authority. And I proclaim further, that a and prosperous condition: And whereas the emergency seems to me to trial of criminal or civil cases or questions are hereby continued and kept in full force and effect, and that all decrees, judgments and sentences, rules and orders, lawfully made or issued, or to be made or issued by such courts, shall be as good and valid as if this Proclamation had not been published; all civil obligations, all suits and actions civil, criminal, or mixed, and criminal acts here committed which may have been incurred, commenced, done, or committed before the publication of this Proclamation, but which are not fully tried and determined, may be tried and determined be one may lawful courts or by such others as it may be found by but which are not fully tried and determined, may be tried and determined by any such lawful courts or by such others as it may be found hereafter necessary to establish for that purpose. And I further proclaim and make known that the Transvaal will remain a separate Government, with its own laws and Legislature, and that it is the wish of Her Most Gracious Majesty that it shall enjoy the fullest legislative privileges compatible with the circumstances of the country and the intelligence of its people. That arrangements will be made by which the Dutch language will prac-tically be as much the official language as the English; all laws, proclama-tions and Government notices will be published in the Dutch language. Thickly be as much the official language as the English; all laws, proclama-tically be as much the official language as the English; all laws, proclama-tions, and Government notices will be published in the Dutch language; in the Legislative Assembly members may, as they do now, use either language; and in the courts of law the same may be done at the option of suitors to a canse. The laws now in force in the State will be retained until altered by competent legislative authority. Equal justice is guaran-teed to the persons and property of both white and coloured; but the adoption of this principle does not and should not involve the granting of equal civil rights, such as the exercise of the right of voting by savages, or their becoming members of a legislative body, or their being entitled to other civil privileges which are incompatible with their uncivilised con-dition. The native tribes living within the jurisdiction and under the protection of the Government must be taught due obedience to the para-mount authority, and be made to contribute their fair share towards the support of the State that protects them. All private *bona fide* rights to

support of the State that protects them. All private bona fide rights to

property, guaranteed by the existing laws of the country, and sanctioned by them, will be respected. All officers now serving the Government, and who may be able and willing to serve under the altered circumstances of the country, shall be entitled to retain their positions, and such rights as their positions now give them. All *bona fide* concessions and contracts with Governments, companies, or individuals, by which the State is now bound, will be honourably maintained and respected, and the payments of the determined the maintained and respected. the debts of the State must be provided for. The appointments or licences, in virtue of which attorneys, land surveyors, and others are entitled to practise their callings, shall be respected in accordance with the terms and conditions of such appointments or licences. GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. Given under my hand and seal at Pretoria, in the South African Republic, this twelfth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven. T. SHEPSTONE, Her Majesty's Special Com-missioner. By command of his Excellency, M. Osborn, Secretary."

missioner. By command of his Excellency, M. OSBORN, Secretary." The Transvaal, on the annexation, sent as delegates to England Messrs S. J. P. Kruger and P. J. Joubert, to pray at the foot of the throne for justice. They had again to appeal to the Colonial Office, and the result was that their potition was rejected. Among the documents the delegates enclosed to Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Secretary of State, while they were in London, on 10th July 1878, was "a memorial in support of the protest, signed by 6591 out of a possible 8000 electors, and dated 7th January 1978." Since the ennextiant the interval has been spent by the Bears 1878." Since the annexation, the interval has been spent by the Boers in petitions to England, and in fomenting discontent among themselves. Their petitions, whether to Conservative or Liberal Parliaments, were all futile, but not so their attempts at exciting overt opposition to English rule. More than once turbulent gatherings of the Boers have told the world how deeply rooted was the hatred towards us of a portion of the community, and how certainly, if opportunity offered, they would again fight for their liberty. This insubordination to English rule culminated, on the sale, for non-payment of taxes, of a quantity of timber at Pothef-stroom, on 11th November 1880. The delivery to the purchaser was opposed by three hundred Volunteers and two guns, and the excitement ended in the

## REVOLT OF BOERS AND DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

The Boers, having formally declared their independence at Heidelberg

The Boers, having formally declared their independence at Heidelberg on the 16th December 1880, proceeded, after two days' deliberation at the Pardo Kraal, to place a Government of their own in the hands of a Trium-virate, consisting of Kruger, Pretorious, and Joubert. Thereupon the Government was installed at Heidelberg, with an Executive Council, consisting of Joubert, Joussen, and Mare. On the 16th inst., open hostilities against the British were proclaimed, and begun the next day with an attack on Potchefstroom. On that day (17th) Colonel Bellairs, in the fort of Potchefstroom, was summoned to sur-render, but refused; and the same day he successfully repulsed an attack of the Boers. On the 18th, Major Clarke, who had been besieged in the Court Honsa with a small force, surrendered.

of the Boers. On the 18th, Major Charke, who had been obsieged in the Court House with a small force, surrendered. In the meantime (on December 17th), Commander Jonbert had sent a despatch to Colonel Sir W. O. Lanyon, announcing that a Republic had been established, and warning him that any movement of troops on the part of the British authorities would be regarded as a declaration of war against the Republic. Whilst the messenger was on the road to Pretoria, the Boers learnt that a convey of 300 men were proceeding from Leydenberg to Pretoria, and Joubert at once set out with a strong force to intercept this force. He met them eight hours' distance from the last-named town. Joubert reports that he sent a messenger, requesting the

