

polies, or "concessions," were secured chiefly by Hollanders and Germans, and hence, we see one mainspring of the active sympathy of Hollanders and Germans in the present contest, for between the fat salaries of the imported officials, and the dividends from the operation of the monopolies, a good stream of money has been flowing into Holland and Germany for some years past. When we consider this, and the extortions of the Netherlands Zuid Afrikan Railway Co., owned and managed by a group of Hollanders, and when we consider that by every device possible, British trade is hampered and Dutch and German imports favored, we see why the cause of the Boer should be so warmly espoused in Holland and by sections of the German press, even if race affinity were not a factor in the case. We may add to this the work of the Transvaal political agent in Europe, Dr. Leyds—a Dutch pocket edition of Talleyrand—who has been supplied with means to make the agency a nest of intrigue against Great Britain ever since his appointment. The Netherlands Railway Co. has practically controlled the finances and legislation of the State. It has been able to levy the outrageous freight rate, averaging $8\frac{1}{2}$ d., say 17 cents per ton per mile, as compared with 6 cents per ton per mile on the Cape and Natal railways, which themselves return a good dividend to their governments. Yet, when some of Kruger's own friends protested against these extortions, he said he considered this contract a matter of high policy, and would not even hear the subject discussed.

The art by which the combined Boer and Hollander legislators framed laws, which, while appearing to the outside world to be quite fair, yet could be made to work out to the particular disadvantage of the Uitlander, amounts to a positive genius. For instance, the school laws, while apparently giving a show to English children, are so worked as to school hours, etc., that in practice English children can neither get a chance to learn English or Dutch, while the school tax is so artfully fixed that the English parent, whose child is robbed of its chance of education, has to pay £7 against the Boers' £5. A law, to forcibly suppress all English private schools even, was proposed in the Volksraad, and only defeated by two votes. The school law is so beautifully arranged, in the case of Johannesburg, that the grand sum of £650 a year is spent on the children of Uitlanders, who have to pay nine-tenths of the £65,000 spent on education there. Then there is a tax of £20 recently levied on farms. Here the unsuspecting foreigner would see a tax levied on the Boer element entirely. Kruger cannot be so unfair after all. But look at it a little closer, and you will notice that farms on which the proprietor lives are exempt; look still closer and you see that it applies to farms owned by companies only. Now the Boer never buys stocks or bonds, and never goes into partnership, so you see it hits the Uitlander, who has bought up a Boer farm at five or ten times its agricultural value, on the chance of minerals being found on it. Another example of Boer "slimness": A poll-tax was recently introduced. It was to be levied on all male inhabitants, and there was no distinction or discrimination. Surely this was fair to all? Time answered the question in the same old way, when it became known that the tax of 18s. 6d. was faithfully collected from all Uitlanders, but not one Boer or Hol-

lander has ever been made to pay. These are just a few samples of Krugercite equity.

We are familiar with the press law, by which Kruger has imprisoned and brought financial ruin on editors who have had the courage to run up against him. Of the same brand is the law giving it into the discretion of a policeman to break up a meeting, in the open air, of more than seven persons.

If the torture and degradation of thousands of Englishmen, Americans, Australians, and other peoples, accustomed to free institutions, were not in question, it would be amusing to those knowing the facts, to observe the injured innocence which glowed in the official despatches of the Boer Government right up to the time of the ultimatum. "If these people," said one of these despatches dealing with the petition of 40,000 Uitlanders made direct to the Queen, "instead of complaining to the British authorities had only come to this Government direct, their complaints would have had attention." What had they been doing all these years but complaining to a Government which treated their entreaties with scorn and contempt and only changed the chastisements by whips for those of scorpions? In 1893, a petition for the redress of grievances, signed by 13,000 Uitlanders, was presented to the Raad, and was received with a general laugh of derision. In 1894, another petition, praying for reforms, and signed by over 35,000 adult male inhabitants, was presented, and received more seriously, and it is due to some of the Dutch members that they made a stand for fair play; but the only response from Kruger, who moulded the Executive at his will, was new restrictions on the Uitlander's liberty, and new burdens on his industry. When the vote was taken on this petition, one of the Boer members was heard to say: "Nothing can settle this but fighting, and there is only one end to the fight. Kruger and his Hollanders have taken away our independence more surely than Shepstone ever did." It is only fair to say that many members of the Raad, who might be called progressive, by comparison, saw what Kruger's policy was leading to, and urged concessions to the Uitlander element. These were supported by a slowly-growing minority of burghers, who were almost as jealous of the Hollander faction as they were of British. But Kruger had his will; and when he found occasions arising where he could not carry his point by straight legislation, he went past the Volksraad and did it illegally, as head of the Executive. On several occasions he upset the decisions of the High Court, and ended by forcing the resignation of Chief Justice Kotze, who refused to prostitute the court, and make it the tool of the Executive. A more pliant man was put in his place, and Chief Justice Kotze was deposed without a pension or other allowance or support to his old age. A sample of the direct and easy way in which the Government overrode the decisions of the courts was furnished by the Doms case, among others. A man named Doms sued the State, but while the case was pending, the Government passed a resolution declaring that Doms had no right to sue! And so Doms was thrown out of court, lost his property, and is now a cab driver in Pretoria. When the Government wished to defeat the ends of justice, even in the High Court, all it had to do was to declare itself by resolution, and it was done whether the resolution conflicted with the