

and by omitting any specific use of the word "suzerainty," which Kruger had said was offensive to them. And so, clinging to the letter of this change, Kruger built up his claim that the Transvaal was now a "Sovereign International State," though the new convention of 1884 distinctly prevents the Transvaal from making any treaty with a foreign power without the consent of Great Britain. Without trying to define the term "suzerainty," plain men will question the "sovereign independence" of a country whose autonomy was given as an act of grace, and which could not make its own treaties. But even if there were no suzerainty, the conduct of the Boer Government had rendered it liable to be called to account in a dozen ways under common international law.



Some people ask, was not the Boer Government justified in its recent policy, by the Jameson raid? The answer to that question is that the Jameson raid was the result of Boer tyranny and misrule, and not the cause of it. Had Kruger treated the Uitlanders as white men with natural rights, and had he not laid on burden after burden, and taken away right after right, with studied hostility towards British subjects in particular, there would have been no Jameson raid. The educational restrictions, the arming and fort building, the prohibition of public meetings, and the iniquitous press law, and other grievances, all preceded the Jamesonraid. The people of Johannesburg and other Uitlander centres began to despair of any action from the British Government, and yet, while agitating persistently for their rights, the majority of the members of the "National Union," formed at the time to obtain redress for the people's grievances, publicly and privately assured the President that they had no desire to upset the republican form of government. And there is complete evidence that these sentiments were genuine with