

I have selected those which seem of most interest to an English reader.

The MS. is written in ink, the handwriting being perfectly clear, but obviously that of a more or less uneducated man. The writer's name, W. Du Plessis, appears on the first page.

The first piece in the book which is headed "Poem 3" gives an account of the battle of Talana on October 20.

Burgher Du Plessis states somewhat vaguely that nearly a thousand British troops fell near "that hill," and it is interesting to note that the actual British loss in killed and wounded actually amounted to 326.

"After this," he says still more vaguely, "Oom Piet" (Joubert) began his shooting. This refers presumably to the shelling of Dundee by the Boers on October 22, two days after the battle of Talana.

POEM III.

My friends, again another song
A true account of what happened to us.
It was on the 19th October
When we all were sober
And suddenly heard the cry of Saddle up!
We were busily engaged in collecting our horses.
After having saddled up, we mustered
And separated after an affecting sermon
Delivered by our pastor Burgher
Who remained behind praying.
The night was boisterous and wet
But the Lord led us with His Blessing.
We travelled all night with chattering teeth
And mounted the hill during the inky night.
At daybreak we heard continued cheering and hurrahs
For facing us was Dundee.
It was still early morning when the cannon were placed in
position
Discharging their contents in the camp and breaking it up.