

dreams, and he was eager to see Britain all-powerful in Africa. He formed a company to govern and develop the new territory, and the southern part of it was called Rhodesia in his honour.

Now let us return to the Transvaal. In the year 1895 some of the leading "Uitlanders" were so discontented with their lot that they plotted to overthrow the Boer Government and bring the Transvaal under the Union Jack once more. In order to assist this movement, Dr. Jameson, with five hundred police belonging to Rhodesia, crossed the Transvaal border and tried to force his way to Johannesburg, the chief town of the gold-mining district. After a march of one hundred and sixty miles, and a series of small fights lasting twenty-four hours, Jameson and his men were obliged to surrender to the Boers.

The raiders were lodged in jail at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal, and for some days their fate hung in the balance. Only when the Uitlanders laid down their arms did the Boer Government agree to hand over the raiders for trial in England. Jameson and his officers were sent home, tried for waging war on a friendly country, and imprisoned.

After this the lot of the Uitlanders became much worse. They were badly treated in many ways, and at last they asked Queen Victoria to take up their cause. A British official was sent to South Africa to try to bring about some agreement; but he failed, and soon the shadow of war appeared. Meanwhile the Boers had been importing rifles, cannon, and military stores in vast quantities.

The Orange River Free State now threw in its lot with the Transvaal, and early on the morning of the 10th October 1899 a letter was received from the Boers demanding that British troops be withdrawn from the frontiers and no further soldiers sent out. It was further stated that if a reply were not sent within a certain time the Boers would consider war to be declared.

At once, and in the clearest possible terms, the Boers were told that their demands could not be listened to. On October 10, 1899, the Boers crossed the Natal border, and on the 20th