authority gradually, allowing Britain to retain the naval station at Simon's Bay, and a certain "suzerainty," which could be strained to the breaking-point as time went on. Steyn, the Free State president, with his usual lack of diplomacy, gave a plain statement of these designs in a speech just a year ago, and anyone who studies the wording of most of Kruger's recent despatches and his replies to the enquiries of American and other newspapers, will see how he claims to act as champion of the whole of South Africa, though the difficulty is supposed to be with the Transvaal only. It was made plain to the British element in South Africa, and to the Home Government, that Britain must either make good her claim of paramountcy or give over the rule of South Africa to the Boers. As one of the Boers put it, there could not be two "bosses" in South Africa, and it became a question, which was it to be, Boer or Briton?

In pursuance of his policy of Napoleonizing South Africa, President Kruger, at the head of a delegation of three, went to London in 1884 to attempt to get a release from all semblance of British control, and to get a formal confirmation of the encroachments he had been making on independent native tribes since the convention of 1881. He represented to Lord Derby, the Secretary of State for the colonies, that his burghers were discontented under the existing convention, which they felt implied interference with their internal affairs. The deputation drew up a draft of a new convention, in which the name of the Transvaal was changed to the "South African Republic," and in which the British suzerainty was expressly abolished. In discussing this draft, Lord Derby politely, but firmly, informed the deputation that "neither in form nor in substance was it such as Her Majesty's Government could agree to;" but that as the paramountcy of Great Britain was an obvious fact, and did not require a document to establish it, he had no objection to satisfying the susceptibilities of the Boers by accepting the change of name,