

Transvaal mining company, the Consolidated Goldfields, and founder of Rhodesia, could not be ignored. In extending the dominions of the Empire over Matabeleland and Mashonaland, he closed the north to the Boers as a separate people. At first, he wanted to work with Kruger, as he worked with the Cape Dutch ; and he went out of his way to make friendly advances. But the old President would have none of him. Kruger quickly got the idea that Rhodes was the cause of all his troubles, and a bitter hatred of him sprang up. During the past few years, the very mention of his name is enough to send the old man into a violent temper, and his favourite adjective for him is "Murderer." In common speech, he does not talk of "Mr. Rhodes," but of "That Murderer," and everyone knows whom he means.

As head of the Consolidated Gold Fields, Mr. Rhodes had a large pecuniary interest in securing good government in the Transvaal ; while, as Premier of Cape Colony, he wanted the everlasting disturbances there ended. The other great mine owners of Johannesburg