

but he did not do so then, or since. He only met the Government's request by demanding an increase of salary! The correspondence in the case is on record. How much the consciousness of this fraud had to do with the intrigues he engaged in against the British Government, it is hard to say. At all events, while holding an office under the British Government, he was engaged in agitations against it, and became the leader in the armed rebellion that followed. After the British defeats in the skirmishes at Laing's Nek, Majuba Hill and Ingogo, and while British reinforcements, to the number of 10,000 men, were gathered, the Gladstone Government stayed the sword-arm that was ready to strike back, and an armistice was arranged, followed by the convention of 1881,

and hence began the evasions and trickery by which the plain intentions of the negotiators of the original convention were to be thwarted. His ambition did not stop here. He purposed the formation of a great military state, which would centralize the Dutch influence in South Africa, and establish a Dutch republic extending from the Cape to the Zambesi, with Pretoria as the capital. For a long time this ambition, though steadily pursued, was concealed, and even now there are many well-informed public men in England and America who have either not grasped the situation or refused to believe the designs so steadily pursued by this cunning trickster. The people of the Orange Free State, under the misguiding influence of their present head, President Steyn—a third-rate attorney, possessed of



SCENE—MARKET SQUARE, JOHANNESBURG.

by which the Republic was restored, subject to the suzerainty of the Queen. By this instrument, the right of internal self-government was given to "the inhabitants" of the Transvaal, without prejudice as to nationality, and in the discussions by which the intent of its provisions was explained, Mr. Kruger distinctly declared that all would be put on an equality, as regarded the franchise and other rights. These discussions were taken down at the time, and form part of the records in the colonial office. At that time the Boers were in a large majority, and it is possible Kruger might have kept faith had the population remained thus, but Englishmen began to come to the country in greater numbers, and in 1886 the discovery of the now celebrated Witwatersrand gold fields brought people from all quarters of the globe, until the alien or outlander population, which of course included Englishmen, outnumbered the Boers. Kruger had from the first aimed to keep all power in the hands of the Dutch,

none of the commonsense statesmanship of the late Sir John Brand, who so wisely guided the little State for twenty-five years previously—were easily led into these designs, and in the Cape Colony, the widespread ramifications of the Afrikaner Bond—a sort of granger organization, having for its motto: "Africa for the Afrikaners"—afforded good ground to work upon, as its membership was almost exclusively Dutch. The plan, as regarded Cape Colony, was to overturn British 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