

## CHAPTER XII.

### FAILURE.

KRUGER had now everything in his own hands. Johannesburg was tired of politics, and revolutions were at a discount. England felt its hands were tied, and that for the time it must leave the Transvaal to work out its own fate. The most moderate exercise of real statesmanship, of wisdom towards his opponents, of generosity, would have made all right. Fifteen years before Kruger might have done this ; now he was too much set on his own way to swerve an inch.

Good counsellors who had proved their devotion to him through long years begged him to act up to his declaration of peace to Johannesburg. But other counsellors were not wanting ; and some of the Hollander officials were tireless in painting the picture of