

events in the history of warfare. Shortly afterwards Mafeking was relieved, after a siege of seven months.

After six weeks in the capital of the Free State, Lord Roberts pushed on rapidly to Pretoria, and as he did so the Boers fell back from position to position. On May 30, 1900, he occupied Johannesburg, and on June 1st entered Pretoria in state. Some months of vigorous fighting followed, and, generally speaking, British arms were everywhere successful. The Free State had already been added to the British Empire, and now came the turn of the Transvaal.

Lord Roberts returned to England in December, and Lord Kitchener took command. The Boers now broke up into small parties, and harried the British troops whenever they could, but avoided pitched battles. Owing to the vast tracts of country over which they fought, and the rapid way in which they appeared and disappeared, the work of dealing with them was most difficult. For our troops it meant marches, counter-marches, and small fights almost without number. In this kind of warfare the year 1900 came to a close.

