THE MAIN STREAM

Raid, and he draws his original inspiration from several sources. One is a strong dislike to capitalists, another is distrust of Mr. Rhodes, a third, hatred of Mr. Chamberlain. So strong was the impulse of this current from the first that the natural sympathies of patriotism and Liberalism were, in many minds, speedily submerged and carried away by it; and men like Mr. Labouchere were already belittling the grievances and disabilities of the Uitlanders in the Transvaal at a time when Sir William Harcourt was still in a mood to remind President Kruger of the origin of the Great Trek, and when Mr. Morley was still of opinion that "the Transvaal, in my judgment, cannot withdraw from the five years franchise." The object of the pro-Boers at this time was to "give master Joe another fall"; their methods included advice to the Transvaal upon the invasion of British territory. Their hatred was extended to include Sir Alfred Milner. His appointment the Daily Chronicle (Mr. Massingham) had described as "an ideal one," adding that he "may be trusted to do justice, and to do it with firmness, with tact, with good sense." Mr. Stead in the Review of Reviews had also declared "that Sir Alfred Milner is the best man for the post there is no manner of doubt . . . a man with a better judgment, a leveller head, and a kinder heart you will not easily find "; yet by September 1899, this unanimously chosen umpire was execrated as "a lost man, a lost mind," because he had given a decision against their views. This was after the dispatch of September 5, and in spite of his applause of the dictum last quoted, Mr. Morley was still urging "this five years franchise without dubious terms" upon the Transvaal Government, adding the words "we must be patient-not too patient : I do not ask it"; and Sir William Harcourt was still of the opinion "that the claim to be a Sovereign International State, put forward on the part of President Kruger, was not justified; that the British Government were right in repudiating it." The pro-Boers, however, immediately afterwards accused Mr. Chamberlain of "going to war for a consonant," though the dispatch of September 22, which contained the "consonant."

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