

In common with British subjects in all parts of the world, he was deeply stirred by the occurrences of the South African war, and after the battle of Paardeberg (February 25th, 1900), in which his fellow countrymen played so conspicuous a part, he wrote as follows:

"We know too good a tale of death,
Spent on the sun-baked windy plain,
Our best, who left us without a word,
But may not now return again,
But pibroch is tucked with our tears,
The seed grows beneath stately trees,
We know that in the tide of years
We sow for empire yet to be,
Our loss our kin—nor let away
As rising in the east—
The day blood of the valling yeldt,
But fathers, mothers, sisters, wives,
Your loss is more than you can bear,
For you those young, exultant lives
Gone out, 's darkness everywhere,
We grieve with you, we stand to aid."

And yet his view of the war was not a wholly one-sided one, his fairness and his admiration for the Boer being evidenced by the following lines:

"The silent Boer that lies a clod,
He was a father or a son
Upon his dry, grey Transvaal sod
Among the roks that we have won,
His narrow soul was true and strong,
To fend us from his home and kraal
He gave his life—we knew him wrong,
But find him worthy after all;
And when in days to come the songs
Of later harvests shall be sung
He will have part in that South land
As elder brother, true and strong,
Each spring that rises on the yeldt
Will cast its wreath of self-sown flowers,
Will breathe its fragrance and be felt
About his grave as over ours,
Not all is lost if life be spent,
For it is good to truly die,
To give to that extreme extent
If so be freedom lives thereby,
The things not seen, beyond the veil,
Have harvest also full and true,
And loss we reckon but by tale
Is measured there—to each his due."

Dr. Dawson's geological work was carried on chiefly in the region of the great prairies of the Northwest and British Columbia, but he was thoroughly informed as to the geology of all parts of the Dominion. In the Northwest he paid particular attention to the relations of