

"Why did not President Kruger bow to the storm and avert revolt by reasonable concessions? He had not 'a friend in the world except Germany. * * * Both 'the Free State and the Cape Boers had been alienated by 'the hostile tariff which the President had set up against 'their food stuffs, and by his refusal to employ Cape Dutch-'men in the Transvaal service. * * * Had he ex-'tended the franchise to all immigrants, after say five 'years' residence he might not only have disarmed opposi-'tion, but have made the South African Republic a 'powerful State, no considerable section of whose inhabi-'tants would thereafter have thought of putting themselves 'under the British crown."

That is precisely what Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Alfred Milner begged Kruger to do; precisely what they said the result would be.

Mr. Geo. W. Van Sieten, who has been flooding the American papers with appeals for sympathy for the Boers, makes the grossest mis-statements. In an article published in *THE OUTLOOK* of October 21st last, he said:

"England says, 'You shall receive as citizens those 'whom the British Empire chooses to force upon you' * * * 'We have as much reason to anticipate and to yield to a 'demand that every Englishman residing in the United 'States shall be accorded the right of franchise *without taking 'the oath of allegiance to the United States.*'"

Look again at Sir Alfred Milner's proposals, and ask whether Mr. Van Sieten was himself deceived or trying to deceive his readers.

As a further example of Mr. Van Sieten's lack of information, or lack of veracity, (it is not for me to say which), he in the same article makes this statement:—

"*This treaty of 1881 was not ratified by the Congress of 'the South African Republic; they refused to admit that 'suzerainty and sent a commission to London refusing to 'submit to this claim of suzerainty, and it was stricken 'from the treaty.*'"

Well, it so happens that the Convention of 1881 *was* ratified by the *Volksraad* on October 25th, 1881; it happens that by its express terms it would have been void if not so ratified, in which event there would have been no Transvaal independence at all. *How does it happen that Mr Van Sieten dared to obtrude so much ignorance or so much falsehood upon the people of the United States?*

This is the sort of thing which accounts for the false impressions so prevalent among our neighbors, with the result that public opinion is largely against us when it ought to be all with us.