

# **THE BOERS AND THE UITLANDERS**

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The Boers and the Uitlanders by Mrs. John Hays Hammond

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**MRS. JOHN HAYS HAMMOND**

**THE BOERS AND  
THE UITLANDERS**



THE BOERS  
AND THE UITLANDERS

by *Hammond, Natal*  
*Clare*  
MRS. JOHN HAYS HAMMOND

AN ADDRESS TO THE CENTURY CLUB OF SAN  
FRANCISCO, CAL., JANUARY 9, 1901



D. PAUL ELDER AND MORGAN SHEPARD  
SAN FRANCISCO

1901

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## STATISTICS OF THE TRANSVAAL

**AREA :** 119,139 square miles. (California, 156,000 square miles; Nevada, 109,000 square miles.)  
**ELEVATION :** Above sea, Johannesburg, 5,600 feet.  
**POPULATION :** State Almanac of 1898 gives population as follows :

White .....	245,397
Black.....	748,759

Total.....1,094,156

This makes the *White* population about as large as that of San Francisco in 1880, and about one-sixth as large as the present population of California.

As the Uitlanders outnumbered the Boers in about the proportion of 3 to 2, the above total *White* population of 245,000 must have consisted of (approximately):

Boers in whole S. A. R. ....	100,000
Uitlanders in " " .....	145,000

*Population of Johannesburg* (1896): 102,315, consisting almost wholly of Uitlanders.  
*Pretoria population*: 10,000.

**MINES :** *Employees in Mines* (1898) were :

Natives.....	88,000
Whites.....	10,000

*Total production of gold to Nov., '99*: \$390,000,000.

*Production of 1899* was at rate of \$100,000,000 per year or more than one third of the world's production of that year. More than nine-tenths of this came from the *Rand*.

*Total estimated gold capacity of Rand* (up to limits of practical working) is \$300,000,000, about two-thirds of the total gold now in the world.

**ANNUAL REVENUE OF SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC :**

1881.....	\$ 315,000
(About \$20 per head of Boer population)	
1885.....	889,000
1888.....	4,422,000
1892.....	6,279,000
1895.....	14,618,000
1899.....	20,439,000
(About \$20 per head of Boer population)	

[Annual revenue of U. S. is about \$9 per head.]





## The Boers and the Uitlanders.

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[AN ADDRESS TO THE CENTURY CLUB, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., JANUARY 9, 1901.]

I have been wondering, ever since I received your kind invitation to speak before you, just which side of the big, complex subject of South Africa I should select as my theme; and I have concluded that the human side of the subject is the proper one to choose. Of the international and political points at issue you have already heard much,—and probably care little;—for indeed, treaties, conventions, and questions of suzerainty do not strike home to our hearts as do the questions of humanity and human rights; and it is of these latter, therefore, that I propose to talk to-day. I shall try to tell you something of the Boers,—who they were and how they came into the Transvaal; then something of the coming in of the Uitlanders;—and lastly something about Mr. Kruger's government.

### *The Boers and the Uitlanders.*

**History of the Boers.**—To understand the Transvaal Boer of to-day, it is necessary to remember his past; for, like other primitive people, he shows with distinctness the marks of his mold. I shall begin, therefore, by reminding you of some of the salient points of the Boer's history.

Cape Town was founded in 1652 by a colony of Dutch sailors under the leadership of a small, fiery tempered, ship's surgeon named Jan Van Riebeeck. Their object was to make of this point a port of call for the fleet of ships belonging to the Dutch East India Co., on their way to and from the East Indies. That voyage was long, covering many months, and often ships would arrive at their ports with half of their crew dead for lack of vegetable food and good water. It was to supply these needs that Cape Town took its first form in a fort surrounded by vegetable gardens. These first settlers, who grew garden truck, and retired into the fortress by night for protection from the natives, were not of the Argonaut type, nor of pioneer courage; they were of common stock, sea-faring men mostly, and of the class who drift out into new countries more from lack of home attachment than from a spirit of adventure; possibly also they were tempted by the free passage.

### *The Boers and the Uitlanders.*

Thirty-seven years later, or in 1689, the first settlers were joined by a band of some 300 French Huguenots who had found a temporary refuge in Holland; and from the blend of the two people sprang the Boer. In the process of this amalgamation, it was the sturdier Dutch characteristics which survived—the finer fiber of the French Huguenots rapidly disappearing. Even the mother language was lost to them—only traces of it now remaining in family names, such as Joubert, De Villiers, Cronjé and others.

The colonists thrived and increased in numbers, and spread from the original place of settlement into the neighboring country; and this at once brought about a change in their occupations. South Africa is physically different from all other continents of the world,—for it is all edge and top. Essentially it is a vast plateau, or table land, from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above sea-level, with a mere edging of lowland along the Southern and Eastern coasts. On the top of the plateau are no forests or rich valleys, such as are found throughout other continents,—no steady rivers, no assured rainfall,—but dry and treeless rolls of upland, like the high plains of the Rocky Mountain slopes, stretching for some 1,500 miles, in successive terraces, almost to the Zambesi River and