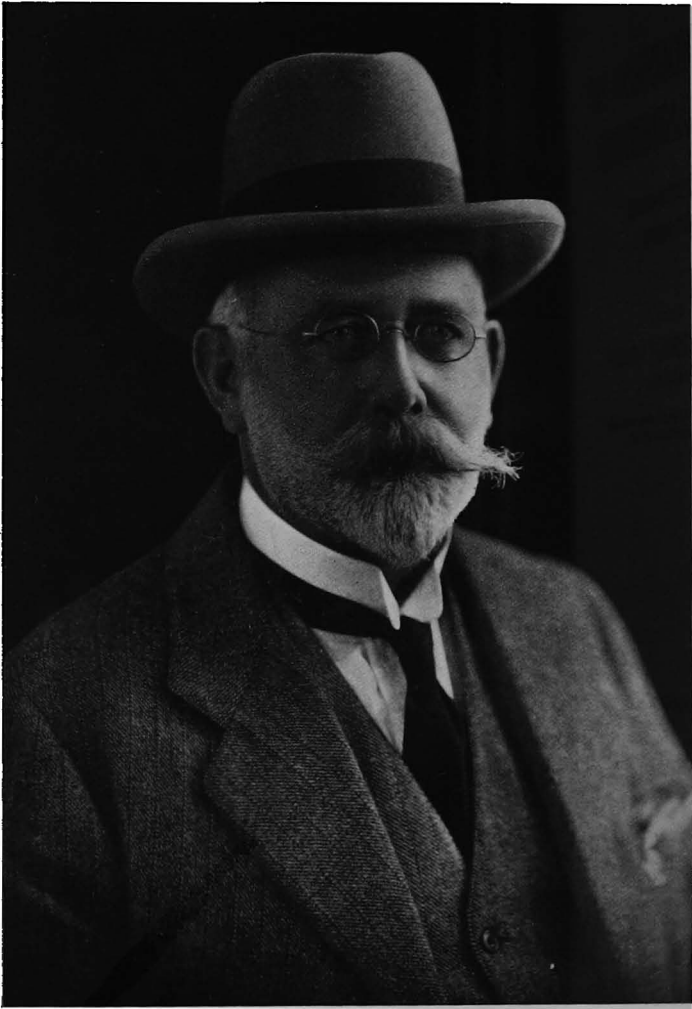


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**THE DOMINION OF
AFRIKANDERDOM**



J. J. Mollen

THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

RECOLLECTIONS PLEASANT
AND OTHERWISE

BY THE HON.

SIR JAMES TENNANT MOLTENO
B.A., LL.B., K.C.

LAST SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, AND FIRST SPEAKER
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

WITH THREE PORTRAITS

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DEDICATION

To that gallant band, my colleagues in Parliament,
who, rooted in faith and love of country, stood staunch
and undismayed amidst the storms that convulsed
South Africa in the dying years of the late century.
To those who have passed on I bend in reverence;
to those who survive I send thoughts of gratitude and
affection.

JAMES T. MOLTENO

ELGIN, C.P.

9 June, 1922

CONTENTS

	PAGE
I EARLY DAYS	I
II BEFORE I BECAME A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	10
III FIRST RHODES MINISTRY	16
IV FIRST RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	21
V FIRST RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	26
VI SECOND RHODES MINISTRY	32
VII SECOND RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	37
VIII SECOND RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	43
IX SECOND RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	50
X SECOND RHODES MINISTRY (<i>continued</i>)	55
XI THE RHODES CONSPIRACY AND RAID	62
XII THE JAMESON RAID	69
XIII THE RHODES CONSPIRACY AND RAID (<i>continued</i>)	73
XIV THE RHODES CONSPIRACY AND RAID (<i>continued</i>)	79
XV THE RHODES CONSPIRACY AND RAID (<i>continued</i>)	84
XVI THE JAMESON RAID	90
XVII THE JAMESON RAID (<i>continued</i>)	98
XVIII THE JAMESON RAID (<i>continued</i>)	106
XIX THE JAMESON RAID (<i>continued</i>)	112
XX BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR	118
XXI BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	126
XXII BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	132
XXIII BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	139

viii THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

	PAGE
XXIV BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	146
XXV BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	155
XXVI BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	162
XXVII BEFORE THE ANGLO-BOER WAR (<i>continued</i>)	166
XXVIII WAR	172
XXIX THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM	178
XXX THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM (<i>continued</i>)	186
XXXI THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM (<i>continued</i>)	194
XXXII AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER	198
XXXIII AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	205
XXXIV UNION DAY	213
XXXV AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	215
XXXVI AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	223
XXXVII AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	230
XXXVIII AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	237
XXXIX AFRIKANDERDOM AND MILNER (<i>continued</i>)	243
INDEX	249

LIST OF PORTRAITS

SIR JAMES TENNANT MOLTENO	<i>Frontispiece</i>
From a Photograph by NAVANA, LTD.	
	<i>Facing Page</i>
THE RT. HONBLE. JOHN X. MERRIMAN	14
Last Prime Minister of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.	
From a Photograph by VANDYK	
LORD ROSMEAD OF TAFELBERG	86

INTRODUCTION

THESSE are the early autumn days of the year 1922. This is perhaps the most lovely part of the Western portion of the Cape Province. The Elgin District of the Caledon Division. It is harvest time, and such a harvest. It is a paradise, a garden of Eden and a Haven of Rest. Here I purpose to write down my memories of men and happenings in the most eventful period of the history of South Africa.

I have leisure and inclination. For a long time my friends have urged me, before it becomes too late, to record my experiences. I think the time has arrived when I can safely do so. The major portion of my public life has been spent in opposition, when the political passions of men were at boiling point. Now, things and events that were fiercely debated, and contended for, have become settled, and the common stock and heritage of the Union of South Africa. I shall without doubt evoke controversy, but that at the present time can do little harm. New ground will be broken and things that have never seen the light of day will be revealed. Much will depend upon the spirit which animates the writer and the time when this book is published. In a word, I think I owe it to myself and to the public who trusted me during those long and intense years.

Time has a mellowing effect, and one can take a more or less philosophical view of things that at the time burned into the vitals of life. And more than

xii THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

that, things that my friends and I struggled and contended for have been accomplished and one has the satisfaction of fulfilment. It is now nearly four years since the Armistice and a sort of peace obtains in the world. More than six years have elapsed since I retired from active public life. Twenty years almost to a day since the Anglo-Boer War came to an end with the Peace of Vereeniging. Thirty-two years ago I was first elected a member of the House of Assembly. Fifty years have passed since the inauguration of Responsible Government and twelve years of the Union of South Africa. I cannot be charged with overhastiness.

INDEX

- Abrahamson, 43
 Acts passed in the Cape Parliament, 1891-92, 20
 Adderley Street, origin of name, 2
 Adderley, Sir Charles, 2
 Addiscombe, 1
 Adelaide, 133
 Adendorff, his trek into the sphere acquired by the Charter, 29
 "Adullamites," 204
 Advocate, admitted to the Supreme Court, 9, 13
 Afrikander Bond, 11, 26, 43
 "Afrikanderdom," meaning of, 194
 Agriculture Department, creation of, 38
 Albany, 133
 Alexander, Henry, 2
 Anglo-Boer War, period before, 118
 Anti-Convict Agitation, 2
 Asquith, Mr., 234
 Assembly, House of, 14

 Babylon's Tower, 16
 Balfour, Mr., Statement on Peace Terms, 232; money grant to Milner and Kitchener, 232
 Barkly, my brother, 8, 167
 Barkly, Sir Henry, 4
 Barkly West, Schreiner Member for, 43
 Barnato, Barney, 11, 129,
 Basuto War, 4
 Basutoland, Lerethodi, King of, 55
 Bates, 69
 Barton, Mr., 239; supports us at Imperial Conference, 244
 Beard, 123
 Bechuanaland expedition, 10; and question, 23; annexation of, 58; strip of country transferred to the Chartered Co., 73; rising, 120; more land for whites, 121; Natives' Reserves Bill, 123
 Beck-Meiring, Dr., 173
 Bedford, 133
 Beit, Alfred, my visit to, 67; effect of Raid, 67; financial help for Rhodes Conspiracy, 75
 Bergh, Michael, 19, 22, 45, 123, 124

 Berry, Dr., 43, 146, 149 (*see also* Sir Wm. Bisset Berry)
 Berry, Sir Wm. Bisset (formerly Dr. Berry), 246; letter of protest against suspension movement, 246
 Beyers, Henry, 175
 Bloemfontein, railway to opened, 18; the Conference, 169
 Boer, the old, description of, 54
 Boer War, First, 4
 Bond, Afrikander, 11, 26, 43
 Bond Ministry: We pass Defence, Navy and Dock Bills, 166; Admiral's thanks to Schreiner's party, 166
 Bonn, my stay at, 9
 Boom, First, 12, 13, 14
 Botha, Louis, 234
 Boulanger, M., 9
 Bower, Sir Graham, 62; privy to Rhodes Conspiracy, 75
 Brabant, Captain, 119, 124
 Brand, Sir Christoffel, 29, 59
 Brand, Sir John, 162
 British South Africa Co., 92; finance of Raid, 93, 94, 95, 96
 Bryce, Mr., 241
 Buller, Redvers, 172
 Burton, Henry, 215
 Butler, General Sir Wm., 128, 145, 162; support of Lord Rosmead's policy, 163; attempt to smooth out difficulties, 163; recalled, 172; exposure of game of bluff, 172

 Caledon, 175, 202
 Campbell-Bannerman, Sir Henry, meeting with, 231; refusal to support money grant to Milner, 232; friend of S. Africa, 235
 Cape Colony: Boundary after Bechuanaland Annexation, 58
 Cape Flats, 4
 Cape of Good Hope University, my studies at, 6
 "Cape Times": Correspondence regarding my Memorandum, 186
 Cape Town and Port Elizabeth Railway Lines joined, 7
 Castlereagh, Lord, 1

250 THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

- Chamberlain, Mr., criticism of Sir Hercules Robinson's appointment, 57; attitude after Raid, 119; agreement with Rhodes to make war on Transvaal, 121; Sprigg makes excuses for Rhodes, 126; supports Rhodes in House of Commons, 127; thanks for Diamond Jubilee Address, 130; promise of inquiry into Martial Law broken, 165; Bloemfontein Conference, 169; letter to Sir Alfred Milner regarding Mr. Percy Molteno's communication to "Daily Chronicle," 181; Milner's reply, 186; omission in editing Blue Book, 190; reply to Sir A. Milner's Dispatch, 193; open hostility to Cape Colony, 201; offensive against the political rights of the Cape Colony, 218; as to summoning Imperial Conference, 238; suspension of Constitution abandoned, 242; principal factor, 243; Sir Bisset Berry's letter of protest, 246
- Chief Justice Sir John Jarvis, 1
- Chelmsford, Lord, 5
- Charles, my brother, Member for Tembuland, 62; help my brother at Jansenville, 168
- Chinese Question, 204
- Clarke, Sir Edward, regarding my memorandum, 175
- Coetjie Burgers, 54
- Coventry, Captain, 70
- Cookhouse, 134
- Commadagga, 143
- Colesberg, 151
- Concentration Camps, 216
- Courtney, Lord, meeting with, 233
- Constitution: South African, my plans to safeguard, 237; Imperial Conference proceedings, 243; Sir Wm. Bisset Berry's letter of protest, 246; Mr. Merriman's motion on suspension of, 246
- Coronation, The, my invitation to, 240
- Cronje, Piet, 72
- Cradock, 129, 133
- Crewe, Colonel, 246
- Cunninghame, Sir Arthur, 4
- "Daily Chronicle," correspondence and my memorandum on S. African situation just before Boer War, 181
- De Villiers, J. H., 4
- Dixon, Daniel, 2
- Diocesan College, 3
- Diamond Jubilee, 120
- Dilke, Sir Chas., 234
- Downing Street and its amateur interference, 23
- Drummond Castle, 10
- "Drifts Question," 121
- Dutch Reformed Church, 80; Rev. Marchand, 80; Rev. Pienaar, 80
- East India Co., 1
- Education, my, 3
- Edwards, Mr., 142
- Elections petitions, 143, 144
- Ellis, J. E., 234
- Ensor, Mr., 124
- Exeter Hall, and its well-meaning busybodies, 23
- Father, my, 2, 3, 5, 6; first Prime Minister, 2; death, 3, 6; reversal of his policy, 5; his ministry dismissed by Sir Bartle Frere, 5; and Sir Garnet Wolseley, 5; as Colonial Secretary, 5; railway policy consummated, 7
- Faure, 19, 34, 57, 86, 203; Colonial Secretary, 245
- Farmer, 71
- Farrar, George, 174
- Ferry, M., assassination of, 9
- Financial distress after boom, 14
- Fischer, Mr., 168, 206
- Fitzpatrick, Percy, 174
- "Flotation, The," 76; capture of "The Times," 76; Flora Shaw, 76; "Fatal Letter," 77; date of, 77; Select Committee's references, 101, 111
- Foley, 71
- Fouché, General, 224
- Frere, Sir Bartle, 4, 5, 11, 164; dismissal of my father's Ministry by, 5
- Froude, Mr., 4
- Frost, John, 35, 203; Agriculture Minister after the war, 245
- Fuller, Thomas, 123
- Gaika War, 4
- Galeka War, 4
- Garrett, Edmund, 26, 65; career, 65; letter of invitation found at Doornkop, 65
- General Election, 1889, 14
- George, at, on circuit, 1890, 16
- George, Lloyd, Mr., 241
- Gladstone, Mr., meeting with, 8; House send address of sympathy on his death, 130

- Glen Grey Bill, agreed to, 46, 47;
and the Native Question, 47;
liquor, 47; equal rights, 47;
land, 47; Bill, dead letter, 47
- Good Hope Lodge, 5
- Gordon, General, my meeting with,
6, 7
- Gold, rush for, 12
- Goodenough, General, opens Parlia-
ment as Acting-Governor in 1895,
57, 120; House adjourned to
attend funeral of, 162
- Grandfather, 1, 2
- Gransell, Lord, 4
- Grantham, Sir William, Judge, 9
- Griqualand West Boundary dispute,
10
- Graaf, and the Logan Contract,
34
- Graaff-Reinet, 43, 134; Milner's
speech at, 164
- Grey, Raleigh, Colonel, 70
- Grenfell, 71
- Griqualand East, rising, 120
- Graham, T. D., succeeds Sir Thos.
Upington, 130; Colonial Secretary,
203; Attorney-General, 245
- Great Fish River, 134
- Graham, Francis, 136
- Grey, Sir E., 234
- Gysbert, 215
- Harris, Dr. Rutherford, 43, 44, 101,
102, 103, 113, 118, 160, 204
- Hawke, Lord, and English cricket
team's visit, 60
- Hamilton, 71
- Haarhoff, Danie, 118; moves leave
of absence to Dr. Harris—Debate,
118
- Hawksley, 127
- Harris, Colonel David, 129
- Harts River Valley, 139
- Harcourt, Sir Wm., meeting with,
231; friend of S. Africa, 235;
refused peerage, 235
- Haldane, Mr., 234
- Heereingracht Straat, 2
- Hen and chickens, 7
- Heidelberg, my stay at, 9
- Heany, 71, 104
- Heerden, Van Hercules Christian,
129
- "Het Dagblad," 132
- Herholdt, 147; Amnesty Minute,
201
- Hely-Hutchison, Sir Walter, 221
- Hinterland, importance of the, 30
- Hirst, Mr., 241
- Home Life, 4, 5
- House of Assembly, 3, 19
- Hofmeyr, Mr. J. H., 17; impressions
of, 26, 27; and the Logan Contract,
34, 38; influence, behind the
scenes, 39; resigns his seat for
Stellenbosch, 56; banquet to, 58;
retirement, 60; my friendship
renewed after Raid, 66; parting
with Rhodes after Raid, 68;
attitude to Poor White Question,
81; enters greatest political con-
test, 128; banquet to, 128; sends
me urgent letter after my election
for Somerset East to go to Vry-
burg, 139; disappointment with
Schreiner, 202; treason trials, 215
- Hofmeyr, J. R., 124
- Hockly, 29, 44
- Holden, 71
- "Horrida Noverca," 169
- Hudleston, John, 1
- Hudson, Donaldson, Dixon & Co., 2
- Hull, Mr. H. C., 241
- Imperial Conference, 237; proceed-
ings regarding suspension of S.
African Constitution, 243
- Imvo, 132
- Jabavu, Tengo, 132
- Jansenville, 133, 168
- Jameson, and Raid: pen picture of
the House, 50; last session before,
59; rumour of crossing Transvaal
border, 62; Sir Graham Bower
confirms rumour, 62; drama
unfolded, 62; race-hatred let loose,
63; over the border, 64; mes-
sengers from the Governor to recall
him, 64; proclamation disowning
Dr. Jameson, 64; Governor's
action thwarted by Rhodes and
Bower, 64; prisoner at Doornkop,
64; Governor leaves to meet
President Kruger, 64; our wire to
Kruger for mercy for Jameson,
66; Emperor William II, action,
66; chapter on, 69; wires cut,
69; address to troops, 70; com-
position of force, 70; names,
71; Kruger's knowledge of Raid,
71; orders from Sir Hercules
Robinson to return, 71; orders
ignored, 71; Burghers preparing,
71; Sir Jacobus de Wet informs
Jameson of further order by
Governor to return, 72; forces
meet, many casualties, 72; posi-
tion hopeless and surrender, 72;
relations of the two races after the
Raid, 84; Schreiner's motion in
House condemning Raid, 88;

252 THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

- Select Committee appointed, 88; petition for Dr. Jameson's release, my action, 89; Select Committee's Report, 90; findings as to start of Raid, 92; finance of, 93; mines and their owners and Companies connexion with Raid, 96; ammunition and rifles, 96; the Jameson letter, 98; preparations for inroad, 99, 100, 101, 102; date fixed for rising, 102; the sudden check, 103; telegram disclosures, 105; cutting of wires, 105; Committee finish detailed events leading up to inroad, 109; Committee's view as to knowledge of Raid by Colonial Government, 109; and as to officers in Government Service, 109; and as to Customs Dept., 109; as to guilt of De Beers, 110; as to guilt of B.S.A. Co., 110; Letter of Invitation, 109, 111; guilt of Rhodes, 112; hitch over flag, 113; telegram incident, 114; condemnation of Rhodes's action, 114; Dr. Jameson's responsibility with Rhodes, 114; Letter of Invitation, text, 115; signatories to Report, 115; my speech in the debate, 126; Member for Kimberley, 204
- Jarvis, Sir John, 1
Jarvis, Chief Justice Sir John, 1
Joubert, General, 72
Jones, C. T., 134
Joel, Woolf, 11
Juta, Henry, as Attorney-General, 41; elected Speaker, 86; defeat of, 146; our regret, 160; Sir Bisset Berry's letter of protest, 246
- Karro, 3
Kennedy, 71
Kekewich, General, 223
Kimberley, my visit to, 13
Kilpin, Sir Ernest, 19, 123
Kipling, Rudyard, in S. Africa, 61
Kitchener, 141; victory over Mahdi, 145; opinion of Milner, 212; allows me to leave for England, 221; regarding money grant, 232
King Edward, accession, 235; Coronation postponed, 240
"Kloof Road, The," 50, 51, 52, 53
Kruger, President, my meeting with, 14; offer to Rhodes to deal with rebellions, 120; death of, 225, 226
Krige, Gideon, Mr., 149, 153; attempted bribery and Committee of Privileges appointed, 153; reference to case by Rhodes, 157
- Laing, Commissioner of Public Works, 34
Langeberg, 120
Lawrence, Mr. Justice, 146
Lansdowne, Marquis of, 172
Labouchere, Mr., 234
Laurier, Sir Wilfred, 238; regarding Imperial Conference and my plan, 238; proceedings as to suspension of S. African Constitution, 243
Lesseps, M. de, 9
Legislative Council, 14
Lewis, Mr. Charles, 16
Lerethodi, Paramount Chief of Basutoland, 55
Leonard, Chas., 74, 98, 113
Letter of Invitation, text of, 115
Leonard, J. W., 119
Levy, Mr., 208
Leipholdt, Dr., 216
Lindsell, 71
Liberal Imperialists, 234
Loch, Sir Henry, 18, 28; visits Kruger, 46; flag incident, 46; debate in House, 46; extracts from speeches, 46, 47; retires to England, 57
Logan Contract, 33; condemned by Committee, 39
Loyal League, 124; address to Governor, 124
Luttigs, Jan, 54
Lynch, Tom, 37
- Majuba, 11
Mackay, John, 43
Masters and Servants Act, Rhodes's support, 48
Malmani, 70, 71
Marchand, Rev., 80
Mashonaland rising, 120
Matabeleland rising, 120
Marais, J. H., 167
Marais, J. S., 245
Malmesbury, 202
Marks, Sammy, 226, 228
Massingham, H. W., 233
Malan, F. S., 245
Member of Parliament, elected for Namaqualand, 16; took my seat, 17; Merriman and I leave our old Constituency, 132
Merriman, John X., my meeting with, 14; telegram from, asking me to stand for Namaqualand, 16; signed roll in introducing me to House, 17; refusal to recognize Logan Contract, 34; we leave our

- old constituency, Namaqualand, 132; Member of new Cabinet, Oct., 1898, 147; reply to Rhodes's attacks, 158; speech at Sir Thos. Uppington's funeral, 161; Amnesty Minute, 201; leader of our Party and leader of the Opposition, 204; treatment by Milner, 205; Merriman letter, motion in House, 206; traces history of theft of De Wet letter, 208; regarding espionage, 209; motion in House on Suspension of Constitution, 246
- Memorandum, my, 182
- Military Seminary at Addiscombe, 1
- Milner, Alfred, Sir, succeeds Lord Rosmead as Governor, 124; address from Loyal League, 125; opens session, 129; again opens session, 146; constantly insulting the Dutch, 163; connexion with Chamberlain, 165; return to S. Africa after conferences with Chamberlain, 168; correspondence with Kruger more menacing, 168; Bloemfontein Conference, 169; Press account of my interview, 173; our Party ignored and snubbed by, 173; his friends, 174; presented petition, 174; propagandist reply to Chamberlain, 176; reason for making me the repository of his confidences, 176; letter from Mr. Chamberlain regarding Mr. Percy Molteno's communication to "Daily Chronicle," 181; my memorandum, 182; commencement of despatch, 186; reply to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch, 186; my reply to "Cape Times" letter from Governor, 187; explanation of words he used at interview with me, 189; view of causes of the war, 192; Mr. Chamberlain's reply to despatch, 193; Proclamation to Cape Colonists at outbreak of war, 200; causes crisis in Government over war policy of the Crown, 200; Amnesty Minute, 200; open hostility to Cape Colony, 201; new Sprigg Ministry, 203; disliked for his methods, 205; against Merriman, 205; Merriman correspondence episode, 206; use of Martial Law against political opponents, 211; prevents me leaving for England, 211; offensive against political rights of the Cape Colony, 217; Ministry at the time, 219; another petition concocted, 220; Governor of Transvaal, 221; further as to my visit to England being prevented, 221; regarding money grant, 232; and the Progressive Party, 236; Suspension of Constitution, Chamberlain repudiates his policy, 242, 243; refusal to accept defeat, 244; offers Chief Justiceship of Transvaal to Sir James Rose-Innes, 245; Sir Bisset Berry's letter of protest, 246; Mr. Merriman's motion on suspension question carried, 247
- Ministry, sixth, under responsible Government, 19
- Ministry of all the Talents, 20; end of, 34
- Mills, Sir Chas., 59; birth and career, 60; Dr. Montagu Butler's opinion of, 60; position in society, 60
- Montgomery, Colonel, 6
- Molteno, Percy A. (my brother), 8, 175, 181, 186; Barkly (my brother), 8, 167; Charles (my brother), 62, 168; Sir J. C. Molteno (my father), 2, 3, 5, 6
- Moshesh, Chief Councillor of Basutoland, 56
- Montsioa, 73
- Muizenberg, 21
- "Mushrooms, The," Literary Society at Cambridge, 66
- Namaqualand, invitation to stand, 16; elected M.P. for, 1890, 16; again stand for, 41; Merriman and I leave our old constituency, 132
- Napoleon, 1
- Natives, and Rhodes, 48; opinion of, 48, 49; unrest owing to Raid, 120, 121
- Neethling, 128
- New Thought, 31
- Newton, Francis, 74; party to Rhodes Conspiracy, 75
- Noble, John, 19, 45, 123, 124
- Ogilvie, Canon, education under, 3
- Olivier Gert, 160
- "Ons Land," 38; Mr. Merriman and myself attacked by, 42; support of Jutta, 160
- Opposition, join the, 39
- O'Reilly, 22
- Orange Free State, 168
- Oudtshoorn, 146, 160
- Paris, stay in, 9
- Parliament Houses, 14

254 THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

- Parliament, change from the old type, 54
- Palmer, 136
- Percy (my brother), 8; my Memorandum on S. African affairs, 175; Mr. Chamberlain's letter, 181; my brother's letter to "Daily Chronicle," 181; my memorandum, 182, 186
- Petition to H.M. The Queen, 178
- Pentland, Lord, meeting with, as Captain Sinclair, 232
- Phylloxera, 14
- Philips, Lionel, 174
- Pitsani, 70; Dr. Jameson establishes himself at, 73
- Pienaar, Rev., 80
- Pickering, Mr., 96
- Piquetberg, 159
- Poland, Sir Harry, Q.C., 9
- Powell, Sir George Baden, 11
- Pondoland, tribal fighting, 18; annexation agreed to, 46; active annexation accomplished, 55; discussion with King and Chiefs at Wynberg, 56; treatment of Chief Sigcau, 56; rising, 120
- Pokwane, 120, 139
- Port Elizabeth and Cape Town railway lines joined, 7
- Queen Victoria, 120; we petition H.M. the Queen, 173; Sub-Committee appointed, names, 173; text of petition, 179
- Race war, 4
- Railway policy of my father consummated, 7
- Railway to Bloemfontein opened, 18; Vryburg, 18; Simonstown, 18
- Railway Administration, and the Logan Contract, 33, 34
- Radziwill, Princess, 223
- Rand magnates, 75
- Return, my, to S. Africa in 1889, 10
- Review of policy and public affairs at time of advent of new Rhodes Ministry, 1889, 17, 18
- Reitz, Frank, late President of Orange Free State, 40
- Reid, Sir Robert, regarding my memorandum, 175; meeting with, 231, 233; friend of S. Africa, 235
- Rey, la, De, 234
- Rhodes, Cecil, 11, 12; first Ministry, 15, 21, 22, 23; myself a supporter of, 17; first impressions of, 21, 22; admiration for, 24; influence and power, 25; policy in regard to the Hinterland and lines of argument, 30; and the University, 31; second Ministry, his choice which proved his downfall, 32; and the Logan Contract, 33, 34, 35; composition of second ministry, 35; visit to "Groot Schur" and discussion on Logan Contract crisis, 35; his altered character, 35, 36; second Ministry, composition of ninth Parliament, 43; support of Masters and Servants Act, use of lash, etc., 48; policy towards natives, 48; dangerous to interests of the community, 49; last speech in House as Prime Minister, 59; Liberal Government advise the Queen to promote to Privy Council, 61; resignation after Raid, 67; confession of guilt in Raid, 68; parting with Hofmeyr, 68; broke his promises at Kimberley, 68; what the Rhodes conspiracy was, 73; agreement to promote rising, 74; factors of the conspiracy, 74; what chief parties agreed to accomplish, 75; the flotation, 76; Flora Shaw, 76; "The Fatal Letter," 77; date of flotation, 77; Poor White Question, 79; Select Committee's report on his part in Raid, 110; his guilt, 112; condemnation by Select Committee, 114; refusal of Kruger's offer of help to suppress Mashona and Matabele Rebellions, 121; agreement with Chamberlain to make war on Transvaal, 121; "Drifts Question," 121; vote against Du Toit's motion, 123; evidence before House of Commons Committee on Raid, 123; votes against "No Confidence" Motion, 123; Bechuanaland Natives' Reserves Bill, 123; excused by Sprigg to Chamberlain, 126; the real leader not Sprigg, 127; enters greatest political contest, 128; leader of Progressive Party, 131; starts new Kafr paper, 132; mistake to leave him in power in interim, 134; paints me black, 135; his methods at Vryburg election, 140; dine with him at Vryburg Station, 140; offer of a compromise over elections, 141; statement to me regarding British Government's offer to clear up S. African matters after settlement in Egypt, 141; victory over the Mahdi, 145; action after defeat at elections,

- 149; speech on the new situation, 150; and seats re-distribution, 150; charged Schreiner with Krugerism, 151; attack on members of the new Ministry, 151; champions my cause, 152; his one over-ruling passion, 155; assertion of the glory of breaking laws, 156; reference to Stellenbosch election case, 157; nearly unseated for Barkly West, guilty of libel, 159; pall-bearer at Sir Thos. Upington's funeral, 161; Great Pan-Afrikaner Conspiracy, 166; offensive against the political rights of the Cape Colony, 217, 223; release from the Siege of Kimberley and quarrels with General Kekewich, 223; death of, 224
- Rhodesia, general policy of Ninth Rhodes Parliament, 45
- Rhodes, Frank, Colonel, 69, 70
- Rimington, General, 8
- Ripon, Marquis of, re-appoints Sir Hercules Robinson Governor, 57; criticism by Mr. Chamberlain, 57
- Rinderpest, 121, 129
- Robinson, Sir Hercules, 7, 10, 11; statement as to there being no place for direct Imperial Rule in S. Africa, 17; resolution as to above, 18; re-appointed Governor, 57; criticism by Mr. Chamberlain, 57; welcome to, 58; Hofmeyr's advice at time of Raid, 63; resolution in House against recall, 87; made a peer, 87; now Lord Rosmead, 120; unable to open Parliament, 120; his retirement and departure, 121; Vote of Recognition in House, 121; cables from Chamberlain on his retirement, 122; vote of sorrow and regret on death of, 131
- Rondesbosch, Diocesan College, 3
- Royal Montgomeryshire Militia, 1
- Rose-Innes, Sir James, 19, 28; the Logan Contract, 33; refusal to recognize Logan Contract, 34; Attorney-General, 203; support of Sir Gordon Sprigg regarding Merriman correspondence, 210; deserts the Ship of State, 245; offered Chief Justiceship of Transvaal by Milner, 245
- Roex, Le, Abraham Stephanus, 50; support of Rhodes, 51; "The Kloof Road," 52
- Robertson, Mr. J. M., 241
- Roberts, Mr. Bryn, 241
- Sauer, Mr., signed roll in introducing me to the House, 17; refused to recognize Logan Contract, 34; Member of new Cabinet, Oct., 1898, 147; refutes Rhodes's Statements, 152; Amnesty Minute, 201; welding our party, 204
- Salisbury, Lord, 171, 172
- Schoeman, 146, 160
- Schreiner, Mr., Attorney-General, 34; and position in second Rhodes Ministry, 39; resignation of Attorney-Generalship, 41; re-appointment, 41; Member for Barkly West, 43; strength to the Ministry, 55; evidence before Committee of House of Commons on Jameson Raid, 123; No Confidence Motion, 130; motion carried and defeat of Rhodes Party, 131; new Cabinet, member of, 147; speech on Peace in S. Africa on the adjournment, Oct. 12, 1899, 170; Amnesty Minute, 201; supported Government of Sprigg, 203; Treason and Indemnity Act, 215
- Schreiner, Olive, my meeting with, 14; estimate of Rhodes's character, 40
- Schermbrucker, 22, 23
- Scanlen, Sir Thomas, my father and his Ministry, 1881-82, 3, 5; succeeded by Mr. van Heerden as Member for Cradock, 129
- Scab Bill, agreed to, 46, 47
- Seven Circles Bill, 4
- Secoceni, war with, 4
- Seeley, Sir John, 217
- Searle, Chas., Mr., 173; supported Sprigg Government, 203
- Selborne, Lord, 247
- Shoreham, 1
- Simons Bay, 167
- Sigcau, Chief of Basutoland, 56, 156
- Sivewright, 19, 28; the Logan Contract, 33, 34; Minister for Railways, 86; during my fight for Somerset East, 135; unseated on petition, 145; my part in same, 167
- Simonstown, railway to, opened, 18
- Simpson, Captain, 64
- Slaghtersnek, 134
- Smuts, Jan, 233
- Smith, Kincaid, 71
- Smardt, Dr. T. W., 43, 131, 133, 203; and Progressive Party under Martial Law, 244; ardent follower of Milner, 245; Sir Bisset Berry's letter of protest, 246

256 THE DOMINION OF AFRIKANDERDOM

- Smyth, Sir Leicester, 6
 Somerset, Lord Charles, 2
 Somerset East, Abrahamson, Member for, 43; I stand as candidate for, 133; course of the election, 135; election, mistake in count, 136; myself elected, 136; our victory fatal to Sprigg Government and Rhodes's plan, 138; election petition, 144; Rhodes champions my cause, 152
 Solomon, Richard, 44, 118, 133; withdraws as candidate for Somerset East, 133; Member of new Cabinet, Oct., 1898, 147; draws up Amnesty Minute, 201; supported Sprigg Government, 203
 South African League, 124, 173
 Sprigg, Sir Gordon, as Premier, 13; Ministry, fall (1890), 15; Leader of Opposition, 29; Treasurer, 34; experienced in administration, 45; remarks about Rhodes's Dutch friends, 58; new Ministry, 1896, 86; attends Jubilee, 123; makes light of Rhodes's offences, 126; his Ministry defeated, 129; introduces Better Representation of the People Bill, 130; promise of Inquiry into Martial Law broken, 165; Milner requests form new Ministry, 203; endeavour to stop House from discussing Milner and Chamberlain's action over Merriman correspondence, 210; as to the Suspension of the Constitution, 236; my interview regarding this in London, 237; explain my plan, 237; speech at Imperial Conference, 244; Prime Minister after the war, 245; Mr. Merriman's motion supporting action in regard to Suspension Question, 246
 Speaker of House, approached to submit my name, 146
 Steyn, President, 168, 190, 191, 206, 207
 Stracey, 71
 Stevens, J. A., 92, 96
 St. Leger, Fredk. York, 22, 65, 128
 St. Vincent, Earl of, 1
 State Church, 4
 Swaziland, negotiations dealing with, 18, 28
 Tamplin, 23
 Tarkastad, 133
 Taungs, 139
 Tennant, Sir David, 19, 29; re-elected Speaker, 44; last session, 59
 Tembuled, Charles, my brother, Member for, 62
 Tennant, Hercules, 143
 "Thought," 30
 Thompson, Matabele, 43
 Theron, Secretary of Bond, 44
 "The Kloof Road," 50; Le Roex's connexion, 51; extracts from speeches on, 52; debate on, 53; vote on, 53
 "Times, The," The Rhodes Conspiracy, 76; agitation for Sir H. Robinson's recall, 86; we cable protest to England, 86; resolution in House against recall, 87
 Toit, Du, Rev. S. J., 82, 132
 Toit, Du, P. J., 122; proposed motion on Peace in S. Africa, 122
 Tokai, 219
 Trinity College, Cambridge, my life at, 8, 9
 Transvaal Question, 121
 Treason and Indemnity Act, 215; devote myself to those charged, 215
 Uitenhage, 43, 133
 "Uitlander" Bondsmen, 44
 Umquikela, death of, 18
 University of Cape of Good Hope, my studies at, 6
 Union Day, 213
 Upington, Sir Thomas, 29, 86, 130; resignation and death, 130; attend his funeral, 161
 Vanes, Dr., 43
 Vereeniging, 213
 Victor, my brother, 8
 Villiers, Hyde, 71
 Vryburg, railway to, opened, 18; took charge at election, 139; election petition against candidates, 140; appeal to Courts over elections, 150
 War, 198; position of Cape Government at outbreak, 198; loyalty of Cape Afrikanders, 199; Milner's proclamation to Cape Colonists, 200; crisis in Government, 200; Amnesty Minute, 200; Cabinet divided, 201; war and rebellion session, 204; end of, 213; Peace proclaimed during my visit to England, 231; composition of first Ministry after, 245
 Warren, Sir Charles, 10
 Water, Dr. Te, 43, 86, 131, 147; Amnesty Minute, 201; in London, 241

INDEX

257

- Waal, de D. C., 140, 159; supported Sprigg Government, 203**
Walrond, O., correspondence regarding my memorandum, 187
Walta, van der Ignaas, 54
Weebers, Pieter, 54
Wet, Sir Jacobus de, 64, 72
Wet, Mr. De, 207; vs Merriman letter, 207
Wet, de, General Christian, 214, 234
Weiner, 123
Weasels, Daniel, 203
White, The Hon. Henry, Colonel, 70
White, Robert, 71
Witwatersrand Goldfields, 12
- Willoughby, Sir John, Colonel, 70, 72**
Williams, Gardner, 76, 96
Wienand, 133, 138
Witmos, 134
Williams, Basil, 155; sketch of Rhodes, 155
Wolseley, Sir Garnet, and my father, 5
Wodehouse, 43, 133
Wolff, Dr., 69, 70, 94, 99
"Zuid Afrikaan," 38
Zulu War, 4
Zyl, Van, H. J., 233

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