

SKETCHES AND STUDIES
IN
SOUTH AFRICA

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SOUTH AFRICA

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I DEDICATE THIS VOLUME
BY PERMISSION
TO
THE RIGHT HON. CECIL J. RHODES
A FAR-SEEING STATESMAN
AND
A FAITHFUL FRIEND

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION

SOME whose judgment I value are of opinion that the following "Sketches and Studies" may be of general interest. If so, it will be chiefly because the views and opinions expressed in them have been formed, not by reading books—although I have read everything on the subject which has come in my way for many years—but because I have had opportunities of conversing freely with men who know, on all sides of the questions involved.

South Africa is, for many reasons, one of the most interesting parts of the Empire; and it has before it—one cannot doubt—a great future. It affords examples of some of our gravest mistakes, and gives us, therefore, lessons for the time to come. It is encouraging, as being the theatre of some of the most energetic efforts of Englishmen. I am unable to recount any striking or sensational journeys in waggons, or any hair-breadth escapes in pursuit of "big game"; but to many it may be interesting to realise what rapid strides civilisation has made in a land scarcely known until recent years, and what a wealth of interest and beauty belongs to a region still—as a part of the Empire—young.

W. J. KNOX LITTLE.

CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
PREFATORY CHAPTER TO NEW EDITION	i
PART I. NARRATIVE AND DESCRIPTIVE	
I. CAPETOWN AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD	15
II. CAPETOWN TO JOHANNESBURG BY NATAL	30
III. JOHANNESBURG, PRETORIA, BOKSBURG, TO MAFEKING	51
IV. MAFEKING TO BULUWAYO, THE MATOPPOS, KIMBERLEY	80
PART II. HISTORICAL	
I. CAPE COLONY	107
II. THE ORANGE FREE STATE	147
III. THE TRANSVAAL ANNEXATION AND AFTERWARDS	171
IV. THE TRANSVAAL—THE SURRENDER	201
V. THE TRANSVAAL—THE RAID AND AFTERWARDS	244
PART III. GENERAL	
I. CONFEDERATION—THE BARTLE FREERE POLICY	277
II. SOUTH AFRICA NOW	290
III. HOMEWARD BOUND	310
INDEX	323