

MEN, MINES AND ANIMALS

IN

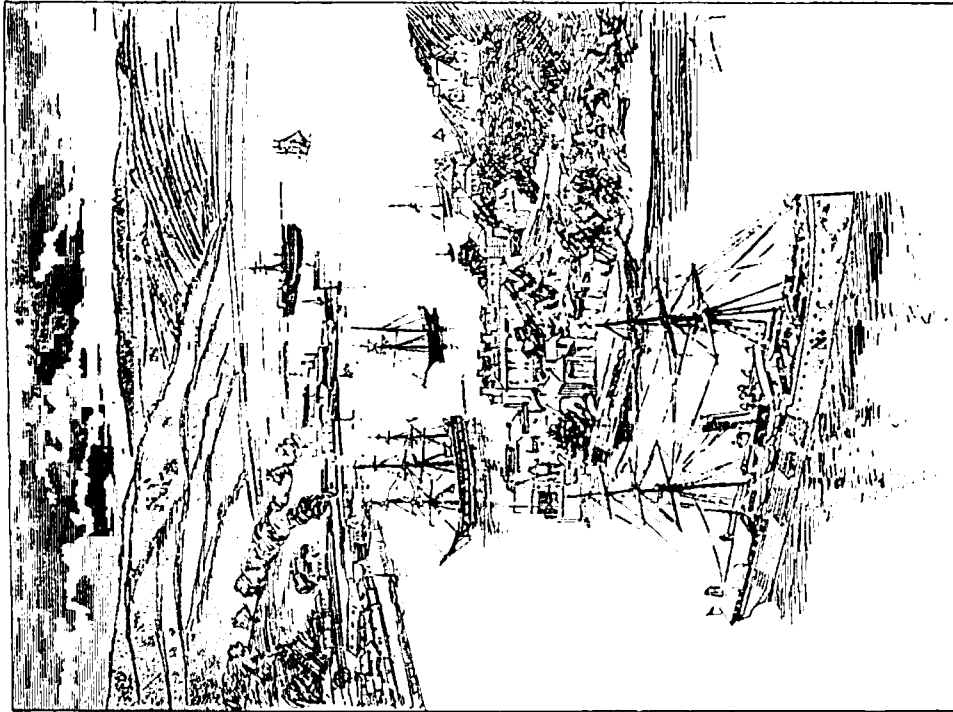
SOUTH AFRICA

BY

LORD RANDOLPH S. CHURCHILL, M.P.

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THE R.M.S. "GRANTULLY CASTLE," 3180 TONS, IN FARINGOUTH HARBOUR.
 Page 5.

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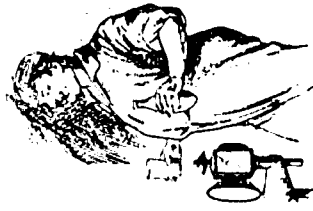
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BOOKS OF RHODESIA

BULAWAYO, 1969

minds. Mr. Rhodes formed a high opinion of the farming capacity of a large district of high veldt lying between this place and Umtala. No physical difficulties of importance, he reported, need obstruct the construction of a railway from the coast to Manica, the ascent from the low to the high land being gradual and easy. Sportsmen at home may like to know that a prodigious quantity of game, big and little, swarms on either side of the Pungwe River. Possibly after next June, July, and August these buffalo, hippo, rhino, and buck of every kind, now neither wild nor wary, will have been frightened away into remote and inaccessible swamps and thickets; possibly before another year is over the silence of the bush between Manica and the coast will be disturbed by the whistle of the steam-engine, by the axe or the pick of the navy, rather than by the baying of the hound or the crack of the hunter's rifle.



CAPT. TOM TISON
OF KINGSTON COLLEGE,
MR. RHODES' CAPTAIN,
WITH HIS PATENT-ACTING
LAMP AT HIS DESK OF
THE TABLE.

mining centres, where provisions could be purchased at comparatively moderate cost. The financial resources of the company are respectable. The monthly taxes on the building-stands in the townships of Fort Salisbury, Umtala, and Hartley Hill, and of the farming rents may exceed 3000% in the coming year. A nice amount may also be expected from stamps. Licences, moreover, will be a fruitful source of revenue. A general trading licence costs 10*l.*; a hotel licence for the sale of liquor in retail 100*l.*, a bottle licence costs the same. Only three liquor licences have been granted in Fort Salisbury, and it is to be hoped that the company will curtail, as far as possible, this source of profit. I may mention that till within the last few days whisky and brandy were selling at from 50*s.* to 60*s.* a bottle. Regular hours of opening and closing the liquor shops are effectually enforced, and the sale of liquor to natives or coloured men is prohibited under heavy penalties. Speaking generally of the revenue, it is anticipated, and probably on substantial grounds, that, without taking into account any profit from gold mining, the cost of the administration of the country during the coming year will be more than covered. Thus, as I looked all round on the eve of my departure on my journey south, I thought that I could see much that was bright and smiling in the present condition of Mashonaland. The administration in competent hands. The bulk of the settlers who intend to remain on through the rainy season vigorous, confident, and full of enterprise. The one thing needful for the sure pros-

perity of the land is the discovery of some rich gold-field, and probably the only requisites for the securing of this auspicious event, if it has not been already attained, are patience and hard work.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes arrived from Manica before my departure south. His arrival, long expected



and long delayed, his presence in the capital settlement, the knowledge that he was engaged in mastering all the facts and details of the administration, condition, and development of Mashonaland served to stimulate the action of authority, strengthen general confidence, reanimate men's