

I.—GRIEVANCES—*continued.*

History.	References.	Remarks.
<b>MONOPOLIES.</b>		
<i>(A.) Dynamite.—Economic.</i>		
Granted to E. Lippert, 1887, but cancelled at demand of British Government, after long correspondence, in 1892.	Parliamentary Paper C.—9317, No. 1.	Dynamite, an article of prime necessity to the gold industry, was raised to a preposterous figure merely to benefit the concessionaire and those members of the Government who were his allies.
Declared Government monopoly, and contract concluded to Vorstmann for fifteen years, in 1893.	Same, No. 3.	This was practically handing the monopoly back to Lippert, who was in the background.
Transvaal Industrial Commission reported in 1897 that the monopolists had been making a profit exceeding £2 a case, of which only 5s. went to the State.	Parliamentary Papers C.—9345, 1899, p. 7; C.—8423, p. 130.	The Commission recommended the abolition of the monopoly, as it pressed unduly upon the mining industry, and hindered development.
<b>OTHER MONOPOLIES.</b>		
Matches, paper, chocolate, wool, starch, mineral waters, soap and oils, sewage, &c.	Parliamentary Paper C.—9345, p. 227.	A new monopoly was created for the making of brushes on the eve of the Bloemfontein Conference.
<b>TAXATION.</b>		
<i>Uitlanders pay Nine-tenths.</i>		
Transvaal revenue, 1884, £150,000; 1897, £4,500,000, or, on a total population of 250,000, at the rate of £18 each.	Parliamentary Paper C.—9345, pp. 7, 12, 28.	The Industrial Commission recommended abolition of all duties on food-stuffs, as the country could not produce enough; but in the result the Government made large increases.
Taxation so arranged that the articles required by Boers—as coffee, sugar, clothes, corn—is practically duty free. Result, that the Uitlander and mining industry pay nine-tenths.	Same, p. 44.	
In November, 1898, the Raad, being short of money, passed, within twenty-four hours from the first motion, a new law levying 5 per cent. on the net profits of the mines, and this in spite of solemn promises that no further tax should be levied without ample consideration and notice.		
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>		
The gravest scandals have frequently occurred, and money, including large sums for secret service, is squandered in enormous sums. Any impartial authority will admit that the Government can be administered much more economically.		
Constant intrigue to obtain illicit advantages in matters affecting industries.		
<b>RAILWAY CHARGES AND MISMANAGEMENT.</b>		
The Netherlands Railway Company, largely owned and guaranteed by Transvaal Government, but purposely managed from Amsterdam, has the right to collect Customs dues from Delagoa Bay. Charges at rate of 6d. per ton per mile, and 3d. for rough goods. The Government has right to expropriate, but Mr. Kruger opposes, giving as his reason that things can be done through the railway company which through their own Government they could not do.	Parliamentary Paper C.—9345, pp. 10, 11.	The Industrial Commission suggested reduction of 25 per cent. in charges for goods, larger reduction still for coal, and of two-thirds of the fares of natives coming to the mines; but Volksraad disallowed, and in the result the charges were made more onerous. All claims exceeding £100 have to be preferred in Amsterdam, and the bulk of the officials are Hollanders. English is not permitted in the railway offices. C.—8423, p. 139.