



ROUND THE WORLD.

SOUTH AFRICA.

THE complexion of affairs in South Africa has materially changed for the better since I took up my pen to write my last monthly record. In modern war times kingdoms may be lost and won within far less time than a month. When General Roberts arrived on the scene of operations with his able assistant, Lord Kitchener, he lost no time in maturing his plans. These have already resulted in the relief of Kimberley, and the surrounding of General Cronje's force at Paardenburg—about 30 miles east of Kimberley—forcing him to surrender, unconditionally, the 4,000 men and 48 officers which he had in his command. By circumventing and outgeneraling a man of Cronje calibre in such broken country, General Roberts has covered himself with fresh glory. General Buller has also succeeded, after severe fighting and having to contest every inch of the way with a foe rendered desperate by the recent defeat of General Cronje, in effecting the relief of Ladysmith. Two such defeats as these should do much to dishearten the foe.

The relief of Kimberley will be appreciated by no one more than by Mr. Cecil Rhodes. An uncontrollable, restless impulse appears to have led him at the outbreak of the war to set out for Kimberley. His active, restless nature must have made what was practically imprisonment in the besieged town exceedingly irksome to him, although he appears to have borne it with the greatest equanimity. It will be interesting to watch the next movements of "the most conspicuous man in South Africa," as Mr. Stead termed him in a character sketch in the

Review of Reviews, the man whom that cute old calculator, President Kruger, values at £5,000 dead or alive, but certainly underestimates his value in the latter case. So far Mr. Cecil Rhodes has been forced to take,



PRESIDENT KRUGER.

personally, little more than a spectator's part in a war, the result of which must have immense interest to him. Personally, I say, because it is well-known that he equipped a force of 400 men at his own cost.

ENGLAND.

WAR! War! War! Nothing but War!! Levying and despatching of men and horses, preparation of war and commissariat material. Papers full of war news. Caricatu-