

language of hyperbole in describing the numerous reconcontres which have occurred, and in giving praise to the gallant officers and troops as well as burghers. Possessing, however, some experience in war, I must maintain that such is not the case. Troops acting in the open field expect not the stimulus of praise; the soldier sees his foe and his British courage rises at each step; but he who, after perhaps a night march of great length, has to ascend mountains or penetrate dense bush and ravines, filled probably with a daring and intrepid enemy, as resolute as athletic, ready to murder any one who may fall into his hands, and whose warfare is of the most stealthy and enterprising kind, appreciates the praise of his commander, because when his acts are conspicuously daring, he is conscious he deserves it. He does his duty; but human nature renders even the soldier's intrepid heart sensible of the approbation of his superior, which he is proud to know may reach the eye of his parents and friends.

18. Upon the eve, therefore, of relinquishing this command, I will not shrink from the performance of my duty: and I here record the value I attach to the indefatigable services of Major-General Somerset, whose experience of thirty years in Kafir warfare, its difficulties and its labours, renders him a most valuable, as he is a highly deserving officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Michel, of the 6th Royal Regiment, has frequently distinguished himself in command, and on no occasion more so than in the recent affair of the 15th instant on the "Iron Mountain;" his energy in the field is equal to his zeal and attention to regimental duty. Lieutenant-Colonel Nesbitt, of the 60th Rifles, merits much praise; and I regret that I have been only able on one occasion to give him a separate command. Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, perpetually in the field since the commencement of hostilities, has been so frequently praised by me for his invariable success in every operation entrusted to his conduct, that what I now add enhances, and does not merely establish his reputation. I must here record my opinion of the soldier-like and judicious manner in which he carried and cleared the stronghold of the enemy in Fuller's Hoek, a position occupied with defiance by Macomo; and express my conviction that the war would remain unextinguished until that determined chief should be, as he has been, thoroughly dislodged and expelled. This has been effected in a masterly manner by the gallantry, judgment, and perseverance of Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre. The 73d Regiment first set the example, under my orders, of taking the bush; they have ever been most successful, and the other regiments have emulated their exertions with equal results. Lieutenant-Colonel Pole has commanded his efficient regiment, the 12th Lancers, with zeal and activity. Lieutenant-Colonel Napier, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, has frequently been entrusted with the direction of patrols, which he has ever well conducted. Lieutenant-Colonel Yarborough, of the 91st, is a steady officer, and greatly distinguished himself on the day he was wounded. The 2d Queen's Regiment have upon this occasion occupied the different forts; their services during the campaign under Lieutenant-Colonel Burns have been valuable. Lieutenant-Colonel Skipwith, of the 43d Light Infantry, is an officer of much promise. Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval, of the 12th Regiment, has greatly attracted my attention by his exertions, ability, and natural talent for command. Major Kyle, commanding the four companies of the 45th Regiment, is a very valuable officer, and there is indeed no field-officer, from the gallant Major Pinckney of the 73d downwards—

the senior of his rank in this Army—who has not well performed his many arduous duties.

19. I fear, my Lord, that I render this a lengthy despatch. At the wind-up of a fifteen months' campaign, desultory it is true, but on that account, and opposed as we have been to from 20 to 25,000 intrepid warriors, probably of even a more than usually arduous character, much labour will naturally have devolved upon the officers of the staff, general as well as personal. I desire to draw your Lordship's attention to the services of Colonel Cloete, the Chief of the Staff, whose unremitting zeal in the performance of the many duties devolving upon him, has been as remarkable as the intelligence and perfect knowledge of his profession, which he has invariably evinced. I am deeply indebted to him, and the service equally so. Every officer of the General Staff has ably and zealously done his duty. To Lieutenant-Colonel Garvock, my private Secretary, and Captain Maydwell, my Military Secretary, who have had the largest share of correspondence, of every varied character, of any officers in this Army, I am truly grateful. Their devotion to the public service merits every encomium. The perseverance of these officers has greatly contributed to ensure that economy in the public expenditure which I have endeavoured to enforce, and I hope with much success. My aide-de-camps, Major Holdich, Captain Smith, and Lieutenant Greville, have filled their situations with great utility to me and labour to themselves.

The officers and soldiers of this Army, one and all, have undergone continued labour and fatigue in the prosecution of a most difficult warfare, extending over a territory larger than England, with that energy and courage conveyed by the words, "British soldiers."

I have, &c.

H. G. SMITH.

No. 1.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir HENRY GEORGE WAKELYN SMITH, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Colonel of the Second Battalion Rifle Brigade, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, in South Africa, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, and Ordinary and Vice-Admiral of the same; and Her Majesty's High Commissioner for the settling and adjustment of the affairs of the Territories in Southern Africa, adjacent and contiguous to the eastern and north-eastern frontier of the said Colony, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS the time has arrived when it is both just and expedient to expel the rebel Gaika tribes and the rebel Hottentots, from the Water kloof, Blinkwater, Fuller's Hoek, Kat River, and the whole of the Amatola Mountains; all the burghers of the divisions of Albany, Somerset, Fort Beaufort, Victoria, Albert, Cradock, and Graaff-Reinet, between the ages of twenty and fifty, are commanded to assemble; that is to say:—

The burghers of Albany, at Fort Brown
 „ Somerset, at Post Retief
 „ Fort Beaufort, at Old Koonap Post
 „ Victoria, at Fort Hare
 „ Albert and Cradock, at Whittlesea
 „ Graaff Reinet, to assemble at Cradock, as a second line.