



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1852.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, April 7, 1852.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Her Majesty will hold a Drawing-Room, at St. James's-Palace, on Thursday, 13th May next, at two o'clock, to celebrate Her Majesty's Birth-day.

N.B. The Knights of the several Orders are to appear in their Collars.

The Ladies who purpose to attend Her Majesty's Drawing-Room, are requested to bring with them two large cards, with their names legibly written thereon, one to be left with the Queen's Page in Attendance in the Presence-chamber, and the other to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain, who will announce the name to Her Majesty.

It is particularly requested that *written cards only* be delivered.

Downing-Street, May 8, 1852.

THE Right Honourable Sir John S. Pakington has this day received a Dispatch and its Enclosures, of which the following are Copies, addressed to the Right Honourable Earl Grey by Lieutenant-General Sir Henry G. W. Smith, Bart., K.G.C.B.

No. 47.—Military.

MY LORD,

*Camp, Blinkwater,
17th March 1852.*

I HAD the honour to receive on the 1st instant at King William's Town your Lordship's Dispatch, No. 732, of the 14th January last, intimating to me that Her Majesty's Government had deemed it an unavoidable duty to relieve me from my present position, that my Sovereign had approved of the measure, and that my successor was immediately to leave England. At that period, however, such were the prospects of this war, and so rapid the progression towards that state of things which can alone perpetuate peace (best shown by the Proclamation issued by me on the 6th of February, and again enclosed), that a sense of the duty which has guided me in the service of my Sovereign and country for so many years, induced me to persevere in the preparatory steps I had taken for the expulsion from certain strongholds within the colony, of the rebel Gaiikas and Hottentots under the wily Chief Macomo, a renegade from the authority of his paramount Chief Sandili; as also for expelling the Gaika tribes from British Kaffraria, and driving them

over the Great Kei. My intention was communicated to your Lordship in my despatch of the 16th ultimo.

2. I have the honour, therefore, to report that on the 5th instant I moved the 12th Lancers and a large detachment of the Cape Mounted Rifles under Lieutenant-Colonel Pole; two guns Royal Artillery, the 6th, 60th, and four companies of the 45th Regiment, with detachments of Hottentot and Fingoe levies, under Lieutenant-Colonel Michel; two guns Royal Artillery, the 43rd Light Infantry and 73rd Regiment, and detachments of Hottentot and Fingoe levies, under Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, all well supplied with provisions, to the general rendezvous at Fort Beaufort, where I established my head-quarters.

3. On the 4th instant Major-General Somerset had a smart affair with the enemy in the Water Kloof, in which the 91st Regiment greatly distinguished itself; Lieutenant-Colonel Yarborough, of that regiment, and Captain Bramly, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, having, however, been severely, and Ensign Hibbert, of the 91st, slightly wounded. The Chief Macomo fought with great determination; but one hundred head of cattle and forty horses were captured—the best criterion of success. Subsequently to this affair, such part of Major-General Somerset's division as was available for the field, consisting of the 91st Regiment, four companies of the 74th Highlanders, the Cape Mounted Rifles, and strong detachments of Hottentot and Fingoe levies, was assembled at Had-don's Old Post, on the western end of the low mountain range forming the Water Kloof, Blinkwater, and Fuller's Hoek; the best position it could occupy with reference to my intended operations.

4. Meanwhile, Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval, with a detachment Royal Artillery and a gun, with rockets, the 12th Regiment, detachments of the 91st Regiment, Cape Mounted Rifles, and Armstrong's Horse, and Hottentot and Fingoe levies, and burghers, had been ordered to act on the enemy's position in the Fish River Bush. The various posts of defence in the neighbourhood of my proposed scene of action, viz. Whittlesea, Eland's Post, Blinkwater, and Post Retief, were at the same time strengthened for the purpose of patrolling.

5. On the 9th instant the troops marched to establish themselves on their respective bases of operation, as set forth in the instructions annexed; and I established my head-quarters at the Blinkwater Post—a commanding and central position.