

## A.

**NOMINAL RETURN of Killed and Wounded at Quintana, February 7, 1878.**

Carrington's Light Horse, Private Thomas Mulroy, gunshot wound of thigh, severe; and Sergeant James Leslie, assegai wound of hand, slight.

Fingo, Cauisa, gunshot wound of head, dangerous; and Nocoyo, gunshot wound of thigh, severe.

Five other Fingoes, slight.

Two Fingoes, Nansi and Nyaniso, killed.

B. W. HALL, Medical Officer in Charge.  
Quintana, February 7, 1878.

## B.

From Captain Upcher, 1-24th Regiment, Commanding Column\* near Quintana, to Colonel Glyn, Commanding Transkei Field Force.

SIR, Quintana, February 8, 1878.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that yesterday it was reported to me by Captain Veldtman, at about 5.30 A.M., that the Kaffirs were advancing on the camp.

2. We were aware that a very large force of the enemy was concentrating in our front, and had made every preparation to meet them.

3. I immediately struck tents. The men (who had been previously told off to their places) manned the shelter trenches, which I had constructed on the lines laid down for the proposed fort. Captain Rainforth's company were sent out in skirmishing order, and lined a small hill on our right front. Carrington's Light Horse patrolled to the north to observe the enemy; both these officers had orders to fire and retire, to bring the enemy within range of the camp; these orders were carried out most satisfactorily.

4. The Kaffirs advanced at first in two divisions from south and west. The number that appeared in these directions was, in my opinion, fully 1,500 (one thousand five hundred) men.

5. At 1,200 yards, I directed Lieutenant Cochrane, Frontier Armed and Mounted Police Artillery, to fire with the 9-pounder gun, and soon afterwards the 7-pounder gun, well worked by the Cape Town Artillery Volunteers, and the Naval Brigade Rocket tube, under Lieutenant Hamilton, R.N., were brought into action.

6. In spite of the heavy fire from these guns the Kaffirs continued their advance with great determination on our front and left flank. When they arrived within about 900 yards of us they came under the fire of our rifles; on the left flank they came within about 400 yards, being constantly reinforced by Kaffirs coming over the hill in rear.

7. The Fingoes were placed under cover on our right and left flank. Veldtman on our left, Smith Poswa on our right flank, both having orders to pursue directly the enemy was broken.

8. After about twenty minutes' heavy firing, the enemy gave way on both sides. Captain Veldtman chased the Kaffirs on our left, following them up to the Kolora, not getting back here till after mid-day, having killed 54.

9. The Frontier Light Horse, under Commandant Carrington, dashed out, and, charging the enemy in front, broke them up and drove them into the Nyameni. This charge was most brilliantly executed.

10. Several of the enemy, still hovering about our left rear, were driven off by Sub-Inspectors Holden and Springer, and Frontier Armed Mounted Police, mounted and dismounted.

11. The Frontier Light Horse having returned to camp the men were about to commence breakfast, when a strong division of Kaffirs approached on our right flank.

12. Some Frontier Armed and Mounted Police, under Sub-Inspector Hatton, the Frontier Light Horse, and about 50 men of 1-24th Regiment, under Lieutenant Atkinson, were sent to intercept this party, under Captain Grenfell, whose report I attach.

13. A large body of Kaffirs was coming up a small wooded kloof on our right front. I left the camp under Sub-Inspector Holden and a sufficient force, and took out the Naval Brigade, and one Company of the 1-24th Regiment under Lieutenant Anstey, and Smith Poswa's Fingoes, and drove back the enemy with heavy loss, clearing the kloof in about one hour.

14. By 10.30 A.M. the enemy had retreated out of range, and were assembling in hundreds on the conical hill, on our right front. I ordered the pursuit to cease, and returned to camp.

15. I then sent out the 9-pounder gun, under Sub-Inspector Cochrane, Frontier Armed and Mounted Police Artillery, with the men previously left in camp, as escort. He took up a good position, and worked his gun well, shelling the hill occupied by the enemy, who fled in the direction of the Tala Bush.

16. I have much pleasure in testifying to the admirable conduct of all branches of the service under my command.

17. The 24th skirmished with great steadiness and rapidity, making the best use of cover while advancing under fire, to which fact I attribute the small loss on our side.

18. The Naval Brigade, under Lieutenant Hamilton, Royal Navy, both in working the rockets and driving the enemy out of the kloof, did great service.

19. The Frontier Armed and Mounted Police, commanded by Sub-Inspector Holden, and the Frontier Armed and Mounted Police Artillery, under Sub-Inspector Cochrane, behaved admirably: the 9-pounder was excellently laid by Sergeant Baker, Frontier Armed and Mounted Police Artillery.

20. The Cape Town Artillery Volunteers, with 7-pounder gun, under Sergeant Breda, behaved with great steadiness in action; the gun was well laid and capitally served by the men.

21. The Frontier Light Horse, under Commandant Carrington, behaved most brilliantly, charging right into the enemy, engaging them at close quarters, and effectually preventing them from re-forming. They were grandly led by their commandant.

22. My special thanks are due to Captain Grenfell, A.D.C., who behaved with great gallantry, and commanded the party sent against the right attacking force of the enemy.

23. I enclose a report from Captain Robinson, Royal Artillery, who made every effort to reach the scene of action, and dispersed a body of men on our right.

24. Surgeon Hall was most attentive, and rendered every assistance to the wounded.

25. Captain Veldtman, in pursuit, rendered great service, and Smith Poswa's Fingoes fought well.

26. The loss of the enemy has been severe, 186 bodies reported counted; but many having

\* Force:—Naval Brigade, 1 officer, 25 men;—Royal Engineers, 5 men;—24th Regiment, 4 officers, 215 men;—F.A.M. Police Artillery, 1 officer, 14 men;—F.A. Mounted Police, 8 officers, 77 men;—Frontier Light Horse, 8 officers, 72 men;—Cape Town Volunteer Artillery, 14 men;—Total, 12 officers, 422 men.—Fingoe levies, 500 men.