

10. A few Kafirs were seen, and almost all of them were killed. The delay in driving the bush had no doubt enabled the rebels to escape in small parties, and in different directions.

11. I had issued instructions for the breaking up of the force around the Buffalo range after this operation; but before it was completed, I received intelligence of the presence of large bodies of Kafirs belonging to Jali's, Swani's, Rama's, and Seyolo's Tribes (who had just broken out in rebellion) in the neighbourhood of Taba Indoda. A portion of these rebels had been gallantly attacked by a force consisting of 75 Diamond Field Horse, under Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, R.E., who had routed them with considerable loss, 58 bodies of the enemy being counted in one spot outside the bush, and 300 cattle being taken. The movements I was now called upon to make with the view of preventing these fresh bands from penetrating north into the Amatolas, entailed very considerable fatigue on the troops (more especially on the European Officers belonging to the Fingoe Levies) who had already gone through a hard day's work in the bush.

12. A small force under Lieutenant-Colonel Law, consisting of two guns N Brigade R.A., and one company 2nd Battalion 24th Foot were at once dispatched to Perie, with orders to leave that station at daybreak the following morning for Bailie's Post. The 1,000 Transkei Fingoes marched at 1 A.M. the following morning towards the same post, whilst instructions were sent to Colonel Wood, V.C., C.B., to move the whole of his force from the heights on the following morning, and to march with his mounted men and Fingoe Levies by the valley of the Rebula to the neighbourhood of Burns Hill, where he would be in a position to stop any attempt on the part of the rebels to force their way into the Amatolas. I myself met Colonel Wood at Bailie's Post the following morning at 8 A.M., and arranged that I should advance to the attack of the rebels from Bailie's Post at 12 noon, by which time I reckoned that his force would be in position.

13. Two guns and a company of the 2nd Battalion of the 24th Foot, under Captain Tongue, were moved by Colonel Law to the south of the Taba Indoda Hill. This bush was shelled at noon, and cleared without difficulty by 1.30 P.M. At 2.30 it was discovered that some rebels were occupying the Tutu Bush, which lies on the north side of Taba Indoda. This was attacked by the 1st Division of Transkei Fingoes (500 strong), under Captain Wynn, who entered the bush from the south and west. The Kafirs made an obstinate stand, and drove them out of the bush, killing Captain Webster, of this division, whilst gallantly leading on his men. At this moment, Colonel Wood's force, reinforced by two companies of the 90th Regiment and Captain Emmett's company of Hottentots, opportunely appeared on the high ground above the bush and effectually carried out its instructions.

14. After the repulse of the 1st division, the 2nd division Transkei Fingoes, who had descended into the valley, were ordered to drive the bush from west to east. They were wanting in enterprise, however, and valuable hours of daylight were lost. Commandant Rorke (commanding this division), however, collected two or three companies, and by his personal example and courage succeeded in clearing that part of the bush which had been previously attacked without success by the 1st division. He only retired when ordered to do so in consequence of failing light, and want of ammunition. So far as can be ascertained the enemy's loss in actual killed on that day by the

Transkei Fingoes, and by the force on the southern side, was 41 men, among whom were two sons of Seyolo. As the bush is very dense, and the Artillery and Martini Henry Rifles penetrated further than the Fingoes searched, it is probable a larger number was killed. Our loss was 1 officer and 2 Fingoes killed, and 20 wounded severely: the loss inflicted by Colonel Wood's force was 28, having 1 killed and 10 wounded on his side.

15. During the night of the 6th, the rebels broke away in different directions. One body, stated to be 150 or 200, passed near Bailie's Grave about 7 A.M., on the 7th, into the Perie Bush; the two guns Royal Artillery and two companies of the 2nd Battalion of the 24th moved out to intercept them, the Transkei Fingoes at the same time beating the bush from the Taba Indoda to the same point, killing 8 Kafirs, and capturing some cattle and horses. One man of the 2nd Battalion of the 24th was killed. Colonel Wood's force, resuming the position he had occupied on the 6th, drove the Tutu Bush, killing 44 Kafirs, among whom were two Chiefs (Jali is stated to be one of them).

16. As the bands of rebels appeared now to be for the time demoralized and dispersed, I returned to King William's Town, as it was absolutely necessary to make arrangements for replacing by new levies the volunteers who were daily leaving me, in consequence of their three months' engagements having expired.

17. Beaufort District.—The Waterkloof part of the country is reported to be quiet; and I am leaving that district to the care of the Colonial forces. The chief Oba has up to the present time remained loyal, but his tribe is not to be depended upon.

18. District between Buffalo and Keis Kama Rivers.—The Kafirs belonging to the tribes of Seyolo, Kama, and Jali, have generally taken the field against us. Swani, up to the present time, has proved faithful; but a large proportion of his tribe have joined Seyolo. Commandant Von Linsingen, who was placed in military charge of this district, lost no time in attacking them; and by his energetic action has succeeded in driving the rebels completely out of that district; their subsequent dispersion having been already narrated.

19. Thomas' River District.—Commandants Frost and Schermbrucker have now returned to this district; rebels are constantly passing through it, but have been already attacked by those officers at Xaxazeli and Dolme Bush, 26 of the enemy were killed, and 19 horses taken; Lieutenant Belling, of the Stutterheim Volunteers, was severely wounded, and one Fingoe wounded. Commandant Frost further searched the bush on the 9th April, killing 4 Kafirs and capturing 4 horses. It will be seen, therefore, that over a large area within the confines of the Colony, armed rebellion exists. It will require constant watchfulness and sustained energy on the part of the Magistrates and Commandants, aided by efficient bodies of volunteers and native levies, to meet this danger. I have pointed this out to the Government, who are doing all they can to carry out my views.

20. Transkei.—Beyond the Kei all is reported quiet: Kreli is still at large, but his whereabouts is not known.

21. Bamboo Kiealand.—I have received no detailed reports from Major Elliott's expedition, which, however, I believe is progressing favourably.

23. I append a return of the losses inflicted on the enemy during the last fourteen days, based