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*War Office, October 10, 1879.*

**A** DESPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been received by the Secretary of State for War from General Sir Garnet Wolseley, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., commanding the Forces in South Africa:—

*Army Head Quarters, Camp, Ulundi,*

SIR, *Zululand, September 3, 1879.*

I HAVE the honour to report that after a well-sustained pursuit through a most difficult country, extending over sixteen days, Ketchwayo, the ex-King of Zululand, was captured on the 28th ultimo by a patrol under the command of Major Marter, King's Dragoon Guards, to whom every praise is due for the skilful manner in which the capture was effected.

Ketchwayo is now on his way to Cape Town, accompanied by some of his wives and servants. He will be detained as a State prisoner at large in the Cape Colony, under the authority of an Act to be passed for that purpose by the Cape Parliament.

On the 1st instant I held a meeting attended by nearly all the great chiefs of Zululand, most of those who from bodily infirmities, or other sufficient causes were unable to attend, being represented by their principal councillors. I explained to the assembled chiefs how the country is in future to be divided amongst them, and the terms upon which they are to be appointed to rule over their respective territories as independent chiefs. I have addressed a despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies giving full details of the arrangements I have made for the future government of the country, through which I have every reason to believe that peace will be permanently secured, and the Zulu military power, which has so long threatened the peace of South Africa, be for ever broken up.

I now feel, therefore, in a position to report that the Zulu War has been satisfactorily concluded. Her Majesty's troops can now return to Natal, where, with the exception of those to be retained for the garrisons of South Africa, they will be encamped at Pinetown to await the arrival of transports to take them to their respective destinations. The 1st Battalion 13th Light Infantry and the 1st Battalion 24th Regiment have already embarked for England.

Lieutenant-Colonel Clarke's Column is now on the march to Natal, via St. Paul's and Entumeni. It will cross the Tugela at the Middle Drift. Upon reaching Natal, all the levies and irregular troops

belonging to it will be disbanded. Lieutenant-Colonel Baker Russell's Column will be broken up as soon as Oham, Ketchwayo's brother, has been re-established in his own district, and when, with the assistance of Lieutenant-Colonel Honourable G. Villiers, whom I appointed Special Commissioner to Oham's armed forces, Lieutenant-Colonel Russell has obtained the submission of the turbulent and semi-independent tribes inhabiting the north-west corner of Zululand, and the disputed territory there bordering upon the Transvaal. I expect that a show of force in the district will be sufficient to effect this object in a very short time.

I have already had the honour of reporting to you the strength of the garrisons I propose retaining at least for the present in the several provinces of South Africa, and from which detachments will be provided for Mauritius and Saint Helena.

Almost all the hired land transport is now being discharged, and I hope I may soon be in a position largely to reduce the amount of Government transport still retained.

To-morrow I intend marching from this with the Head Quarter Staff and a small personal escort direct to Utrecht, en route for Pretoria, which place I hope to reach about the 1st proximo.

Our patrols have visited the most distant localities of Zululand, testing thereby the completeness of the submission of the chiefs, and the peaceable condition of the country. I have in this way been able to extend our topographical knowledge of Zululand, and by actual survey, as well as by reconnaissances, to lay down on paper with very tolerable accuracy its rivers, mountains, &c.

I believe that at least 5,000 stand of arms have been now collected and destroyed. Those upon whom I rely most for information estimate at about 8,000 the total number of guns in Zululand before the war. Assuming that this somewhat under estimates the number, I think we may calculate that at least one-half of the firearms in the country have been taken or voluntarily surrendered by the chiefs coming in to submit. A considerable amount of gunpowder and ammunition has also been destroyed.

The successful action fought near this spot on the 4th July last, has been the only engagement with the enemy since I assumed command of the troops in South Africa. In that action I took no part, Lieutenant-General Lord Chelmsford having commanded there in person, and made all pre-