

Printed Forms for this purpose can be obtained at the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

It is particularly requested that the names of the Lady to be presented be *very distinctly written* on the presentation cards to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain at the Drawing Room, in order that there may be no difficulty in announcing them to The Queen.

The number of Presentations is limited to 200.

It is not expected that Gentlemen will present themselves at the Drawing Room, except in attendance on the Ladies of their families.

Any Gentleman who under these circumstances should desire to be presented to The Queen will observe the same regulations as are in force for Her Majesty's Levees.

The State Apartments will be open for the reception of Company coming to Court at two o'clock.

LATHOM,

Lord Chamberlain.

War Office, February 18, 1898.

A DESPATCH, with enclosures, having been received by the Secretary of State for the Colonies from the High Commissioner for South Africa, the following is published for information:—

Government House, Cape Town,

SIR,

December 13, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Despatch, dated the 15th November, which I have received from Sir R. Martin, containing a general report on the recent operations in Mashonaland.

This document will sufficiently explain the nature of the operations and the difficulties which had to be overcome. It is unnecessary for me to do more than briefly point out how exceptional those difficulties were. The native rising did not gather head at any one point, so that it could be dealt with by a single decisive engagement. There were a number of centres of resistance, and the physical features of the country, full as it is of rocky kopjes which appear at first sight quite impregnable and afford splendid defensive positions, made the task of subduing the scattered bands of rebels as tedious as it was dangerous. During the rainy season, moreover, our forces suffered terribly from fever, as well as from the difficulties of transport. At the beginning of the year their numbers were quite inadequate to the work to be done, so that for some months it was impossible to attempt a vigorous offensive, and even when the police had been largely reinforced, these reinforcements consisted to a great extent of untrained men. Bearing all these facts in mind, I think that the manner in which the operations were conducted and brought to a completely successful issue reflects the greatest credit upon the Commandant-General, upon Commandant Eveleigh de Moleyns, who was, under Sir R. Martin, in general command of the forces, and upon the officers and men of the various forces, which co-operated in the suppression of the rebellion. The losses have unfortunately been heavy in proportion to the numbers engaged, but considering the character of the many natural fastnesses which had to be carried, it is a matter for congratulation that they were not much heavier. Upon the individual courage required to attack positions of that kind, and which was exhibited on so many occasions, it is not necessary to dilate. The discipline also appears to have been generally excellent, and considering that the forces employed consisted largely of new recruits, volunteers, and

natives, this fact is most honourable to the officers commanding them.

Sir R. Martin mentions a number of persons whose services have been specially meritorious, and I venture to hope that these services may receive some recognition. You will no doubt bring under the notice of the Secretary of State for war the names of the officers of the Army, who distinguished themselves during the operations, whether in command of the local forces or of the two squadrons of the 7th Hussars which took part in a number of the engagements. The latter force certainly rendered invaluable service by co-operating in that combined attack upon Mashingombi, the success of which contributed as much as anything to bring the war to a close, and thanks are due to the War Office for allowing this regiment, before leaving Rhodesia, to help in stamping out the Mashona Rebellion. The excellent work done by the Hussars, both in Mashonaland and Matabeleland is, I am glad to say, gratefully acknowledged by the local authorities as well as by the whole body of the white settlers.

I can only say, in conclusion, that, after more than a year of extreme anxiety, Mashonaland is now, to all appearance, perfectly quiet. During my recent visit to the country I passed through districts which had been greatly disturbed, and close to the scene of some of the hottest fighting, without requiring any escort. The natives were peaceable and the settlers have recovered confidence and resumed their ordinary employments. It will probably be necessary to send strong patrols, as soon as the present rainy season is over, to scour the outlying districts, but from all reports no resistance is to be expected, and I think we may regard the rebellion as at an end.

I have, &c.,

A. MILNER,

Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, M.P.,
Colonial Office.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Bulawayo,
To the High Commissioner, Cape Town.

Deputy Commissioner's Office,

SIR,

Bulawayo, November 15, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to report for Your Excellency's information, that the detachment of the 7th Hussars having now left the country and the volunteers having been disbanded, I have directed the police in Mashonaland to resume their ordinary duties.

The natives in Mashonaland are now settling down throughout the country, and the rebellion may safely be said to have terminated.

A large number of chiefs have surrendered, including the Mandora (Kagubi, the Mashona witch doctor), and within the last four weeks 1,094 guns and rifles have been given in.

The rebellion has been one of great difficulty to deal with owing to the fact that there was no paramount chief in the country against whom a decisive blow could be struck, that operations had to be conducted against a large number of small chiefs occupying very strong positions, and that the reduction of one of these had little influence upon the rebels except in the immediate neighbourhood.

As Your Excellency has received from time to time information by telegram of the different engagements, and also a full report of the operations from Commandant the Honourable F. Eveleigh de Moleyns, D.S.O., I do not propose in this despatch to give a detailed account of the various