

lost several wounded, six horses killed or captured.

August 14th.—The mounted troops entered Carolina, driving out about 40 Boers who offered some resistance. The remainder of the enemy had retired down the Komati River.

The 2nd Cavalry Brigade advanced to Twyfelaar and the main column halted at Kranspan.

Communication by heliograph was opened with General French's force, of which the Inniskilling Dragoons were at Goedehoop.

August 15th.—Advanced to Twyfelaar and halted on the north bank of the Komati River. The 3rd Mounted Brigade found the enemy in some strength about 5 miles north-east of Twyfelaar with whom they were engaged. They had two men severely wounded. The enemy retired to a strong position from which they fell back during the night.

I here received your instructions to halt until the 22nd.

I have, &c.,
REDVERS BULLER, General.

APPENDIX A.

Head-Quarter Staff.

2nd Cavalry Brigade.

Brigade Head-quarters (Major-General J. F. Brocklehurst, M.V.O.).

5th Lancers (2 Squadrons).

18th Hussars (2½ Squadrons).

19th Hussars (3 Squadrons).

Supply Column.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Field Hospital.

3rd Mounted Brigade.

Brigade Head-quarters (Major-General Lord Dundonald, C.B., M.V.O.).

"A" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery.

No. 2 Field Troop, Royal Engineers.

South African Light Horse.

Strathcona's Horse.

Supply Column.

3rd Mounted Brigade Field Hospital.

Colt Gun Detachment.

4th Division.

Divisional Head-quarters (Lieut.-General Hon. N. G. Lyttelton, C.B.).

4th Division Mounted Infantry Battalion.

Brigade Division, Royal Field Artillery. 21st

Field Battery, 42nd Field Battery, 53rd

Field Battery, and Ammunition Column.

23rd Field Company, Royal Engineers.

7th Brigade.

Brigade Head-quarters (Brigadier-General F. W. Kitchener).

1st Bn. Devonshire Regiment.

1st Bn. Manchester Regiment.

2nd Bn. Gordon Highlanders.

2nd Bn. Rifle Brigade.

Supply Column.

7th Brigade Bearer Company.

7th Brigade Field Hospital.

8th Brigade.

Brigade Head-quarters (Major-General F. Howard, C.B., C.M.G.).

1st Bn. Liverpool Regiment.

1st Bn. Leicestershire Regiment.

1st Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

1st Bn. King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Supply Column.

8th Brigade Bearer Company.

8th Brigade Field Hospital.

4th Divisional Supply Column.

4th Divisional Field Hospital.

Section No. 6 Field Veterinary Hospital.

Corps Troops.

No. 16 Company, Southern Division, Royal Garrison Artillery (2—5-inch guns).

No. 6 Company, Western Division, Royal Garrison Artillery (2—4.7-inch guns.)

No. 2 Company, Western Division, Royal Garrison Artillery (2—12-pr. guns).

No. 10 Mountain Battery (2—12-pr. guns).

61st Howitzer Battery, Royal Field Artillery (6—5-inch howitzers).

Nos. 3 and 4 pom poms.

Corps Troops Ammunition Column.

Movable Remount Depot.

Supply Park.

Indian Mule Train.

No. 11.

From Field-Marshal Lord Roberts to the Secretary of State for War.

SIR, Pretoria, 15th October, 1900.

I have the honour to submit herewith a despatch from General the Rt. Honble. Sir Redvers Buller, G.C.B., V.C., &c., dated 13th September, 1900.

I have, &c.,

ROBERTS, Field-Marshal,
Commanding-in-Chief, South Africa

From the General Commanding the Natal Army to the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief the Forces in South Africa, Machadodorp

Headquarters, Natal Army,

Spitzkop, Transvaal,

SIR, 13th September, 1900.

As I have already reported, the troops under my command were concentrated on the night of the 26th August at Vogelstruispoort Farm, about 5 miles due south of Bergendal, which occupies a prominent position on the Belfast—Dalmanutha ridge. This latter is the watershed of the Crocodile and Komati Rivers, and is the highest point of the high veldt.

Bergendal Farm itself is situated at the junction of the Carolina and Dalmanutha—Belfast roads, at almost the highest point of the ridge. About 300 yards to the west of the farm a peculiar kopje, formed of a conglomeration of immense stones covering about 3 acres in extent, rises suddenly from the smooth grassy slopes which prevail over the rest of the ridge. The formation is an unusual one, as, except at the kopje itself, which, with its immense stones and rocky crevices, forms a sort of natural fortress, the ground for 2,000 yards round affords no shelter of any sort to advancing troops. The slopes within 500 yards of the kopje being gentle and easy. We could see that the kopje was occupied in some force; we were able to locate 2 guns posted on the ridge to the east of it, and it was evident that several trenches had been dug, and that the ridge itself was held in considerable force.

Early in the morning of the 27th August, the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, under Colonel (local Major-General) J. F. Brocklehurst, M.V.O., "A" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, under Major E. A. Burrows, the 53rd Battery, R.F.A., under Major L. G. F. Gordon, two pompoms, and the 4th Division Mounted Infantry, under Captain (local Major) H. K. Stewart (Reserve of Officers), were sent forward with directions to cover the front of the advance, and at the same time to throw their left forward across the Belfast—Dalmanutha ridge, and obtain Artillery positions whence they could shell from the north Bergendal and the northern slopes of the ridge, thus attacking in reverse any of the enemy who might attempt to reinforce Bergendal and the ridge