

A force (7 Officers, 6 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 326 rank and file, 6 Maxims, 1 2·95 gun, 1 Gardener gun, 9 marine Officers, 1 sternwheeler, 4 launches, 3 armoured canoes, 1 steel canoe, E. J. Kelleher, Medical Officer, A. A. Whitehouse, Political Officer, 85 crews of crafts) assembled at Akassa, under the command of Colonel A. F. Montanaro, Royal Artillery; garrisons were placed in the principal settlements on the creeks up the Nun River. These prevented several townships from assisting the enemy. Bibikala was hunted from creek to creek, and finally, on the night of the 1st of October, was captured by canoe-men under Lieutenant H. C. V. B. Cheetham, Royal Naval Reserve, of the Southern Nigeria Marine. He was afterwards tried, found guilty of murder, and hanged. The success of the operation was largely due to the co-operation of the Marine Department, under the management of Lieutenant H. A. Child, Royal Navy. Colonel Montanaro commends Lieutenant G. A. S. Williams, Royal Fusiliers, for his work as Intelligence Officer.

4. Operation No. 2 under the command of Major A. M. N. Mackenzie, Royal Artillery, saw undertaken with the object of inflicting punishment on several towns in the Eket District, implicated in an attempt to murder the Assistant District Commissioner, Mr. E. C. Crewe-Read.

A Force (5 Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 185 rank and file, Mr. Cruickshank, Transport Officer, 2 Maxims, C. Azzopardi, Medical Officer, A. C. Douglas, Political Officer, left Eket on the Kwa Ibo River on the 16th September. Resistance was first experienced near Efoi on the 20th and 21st September, and subsequently, whilst marching thence to Ikpa, pits were found dug in the bush. The latter place was held in some strength, and Captain E. L. Roddy, Cheshire Regiment, commanding the advance guard, was one of the first wounded during the attack upon the town, which consisted of scattered compounds with high fences and thick intervening bush. Fighting continued until the 25th of September, after which date organized opposition ceased.

5. Operation No. 3 was undertaken to enforce the fulfilment of promises made by the people of Mkpani, in the Obubra Hill District, on the left bank of the Cross River, not to close their roads to the surrounding tribes, and to give up cannibalism.

A Force (8 Officers, 5 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 288 rank and file, R. E. Little, Medical Officer, A. B. Harcourt, Political Officer), commanded by Major A. M. N. Mackenzie, Royal Artillery, concentrated at Ugep on the Calabar River on the 1st December, 1903. It was attacked immediately upon entering the Mkpani country. Trenches had been dug on each side of the paths as well as round the Mkpani town itself. The enemy finally submitted on the 5th of December; the force suffered 14 casualties, including Sergeant-Major A. E. Klee, Royal Artillery, severely wounded, and Colour-Sergeant H. Pritchard, 3rd Coldstream Guards. A quantity of live stock was seized. Major Mackenzie commends No. 688 Sergeant Ali Bakare, B Company, Southern Nigeria Regiment, who remained at his post in the firing line though seriously wounded in three places.

6. Operation No. 4.—A force (15 Officers, 5 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 2 2·95 guns, 428 rank and file, R. E. Little, Medical Officer, M. E. O'Dea, Medical Officer, A. L. Phillips, Transport Officer, R. Morrissey, Political Officer), under the command of Colonel A. F. Montanaro, concentrated on the 12th January at Mbiakpan, on the right bank of the Cross River, its

object being to bring under control the hostile Northern Ibibio district. The force was split up into columns which patrolled the country during a period extending from the 16th of January to the 4th of February. Considerable opposition was encountered, more especially by the columns under the command of Captain H. C. Macdonald, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Lieutenant C. V. Fox, Scots Guards, and Captain W. J. S. Hosley, Lancashire Fusiliers.

On March 6th, Captain Macdonald was left in command of a force in order to complete thoroughly the disarmament of the towns in the district. By the end of the month this was reported to have been successfully accomplished, but not without determined opposition on the part of the enemy. Captain Macdonald reported that a search for a missing private ended in the discovery of the body cooked and half eaten in a village market place.

Colonel Montanaro brings to notice No. 2197 Private Ojo Otan, who in the action of the 16th January, at Mbiabon, though wounded in the face and knocked over, pursued his assailants, killing one out of three and bringing in Private Mandu Ibadan, who had suffered injury. Lieutenant G. A. S. Williams, Royal Fusiliers, Lieutenant H. A. Kirkby, Lancashire Fusiliers, and Captain Hosley are also specially mentioned in the Commanding Officer's report.

7. Operation No. 5 was conducted under the command of Captain I. G. Hogg, 4th Hussars, with the object of punishing the towns of Osea, Ori, and Ndoto for attacking the District Commissioner, Mr. R. D. N. Raikes, during the previous month, when visiting the Ishan country, on which occasion 32 of the party with Mr. Raikes were wounded.

The force (7 Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, E. J. Moore, Medical Officer, Major Winn Sampson, R. D. N. Raikes, E. F. Pryce (Political Officers), 241 rank and file, 1 7-pr. gun, 2 Maxims) left Asaba on the 24th December, and at Osea encountered stubborn opposition, which was overcome by the 15th January.

8. Operation No. 6 was undertaken with a view to suppressing a rising among the natives of the Asaba Hinterland. Under pressure of a secret society known as the "Ekumeku" or "Silent Ones," several mission stations had been destroyed and numerous friendly natives murdered.

A force (6 Officers, 4 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 215 rank and file, 1 7-pr. gun, 2 Maxims, W. E. B. Copland Crawford, Political Officer, assisted by J. Davidson and W. S. Boyle) left Asaba on the 17th January, commanded by Captain I. G. Hogg, 4th Hussars. Severe fighting took place, Colour-Sergeant W. Mendham being killed in an attack on the town of Ukunzu on the 28th January. On the 11th February Captain Hogg's command was reinforced by 1 Officer, 2 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 90 rank and file, 1 2·95 gun, under Local Captain H. P. Gordon, 4th Battalion Connaught Rangers.

On the 14th and 15th of February a final stand was made by the hostile natives in the town of Okuruku; stubborn resistance was met with, and the enemy was not completely routed until the King's compound, about a mile distant from the town, had been destroyed. This was effected after some 3 hours' fighting. By the 25th of April over 300 of the "Ekumeku" Society had been captured, and have since been tried by the Courts.

9. Operation No. 7.—On the 21st March, 1904, Captain I. G. Hogg assumed the command of a force of 9 Officers, 2 British Non-Commissioned