

and I decided to utilize the stream as a barrier to prevent his returning in any strength to bring pressure on the now pacific inhabitants of Wunde with a view to again raising them in his cause.

Meanwhile Chief Yigbo had joined the camp and been of the utmost assistance in enabling me to get touch with the principal men of the country.

These minor chiefs, extremely nervous at first about putting themselves into my power by entering the camp, soon became reassured on seeing their friends and messengers well treated.

The great difficulty, however, was to get in those from the outlying parts of Wunde and Tungi, who had only seen us in war guise and could not be got to believe that I was prepared to let bygones be bygones, and only wished to show them how to settle the country for good.

Meanwhile, the town of Wulade was completely occupied by the force and taken over as a post. A strong stockade was built round and the place made impregnable to native methods of warfare.

"Palavers" were held whenever a fresh batch of chiefs could be got together, the advantage of adopting a peaceful form of government pointed out, and the blackened waste of the Wunde towns held up as an object lesson.

The spirit of their replies and questions rapidly improved, and these meetings culminated on 5th July in a highly representative gathering, who, having by arrangement previously elected fresh chiefs among themselves, came to put forward their nominees for my sanction and formal election.

This ceremony was at once gone through, and the following chiefs were elected or confirmed in their chiefdoms respectively, viz. :—

1. Chief Yigbo to Lingobengu (confirmed).
2. Chief Kimbo to Western Wunde (elected).
3. Chief Bawa to Eastern Wunde (elected).
4. Chief Moniko to Tungi (elected).

These countries embrace the whole of the disturbed area except the Northern Kissi portion, especially 2, 3 and 4, which were formerly under Kafura's influence. All the sub-chiefs present, who amounted to a considerable majority of those concerned, were sworn to loyalty to their newly elected chiefs by the most binding oath known to them, and to this they willingly subjected themselves, and any collusion with Kafura was expressly denounced in the oath.

7. The Kissi Field Force, as such, ceased to exist on 28th June. From that date an outpost of two companies, in all some 200 strong, remained to hold Wulade in order to impress the people with the idea that we were ready to enforce, if necessary, the arrangements which they had sworn to undertake; and further, to afford to the newly elected chiefs the support of our presence in enforcing the allegiance of any still remaining reluctant to altogether abandon Kafura's cause.

8. I have purposely refrained in the above narrative from clouding the sequence of events by details of a personal nature.

I should, however, be guilty of injustice to the Officers and men under my command did I fail to represent in the most emphatic manner the zeal, efficiency, good discipline and contempt of hardship with which they carried out these operations. To their zeal I am indebted for that enterprise and readiness to volunteer for arduous and dangerous service which was often of the utmost value. To their efficiency must be ascribed that amazingly small loss of life in the face of a numerous and well-armed enemy, fighting in a

country familiar to them, to the last inch, while to us it was unmapped and unknown. Nothing could have exceeded the excellence of the scouting work to which this immunity is due. The favourite tactics of the enemy, i.e., lying concealed close to the path and pouring in a deadly fire at close range on Officers or unarmed carriers, were entirely defeated by the incessant activity and vigilance of the scouts. To their good discipline is due that harmony and smooth working which characterised the operations from start to finish.

To their contempt for hardship I cannot pay too high a tribute. On a minimum of food, in wet weather, in rank bush and grass, more often than not was it their lot at the end of a long day's march to have to construct from such materials as the bush afforded the shelters which were to be their only protection against the almost nightly fury of the tornadoes.

It cannot be denied that Officers and men contributed to a record worthy to rank with the best traditions of the West African Frontier Force.

That the physical difficulties to be contended with were no slight matter is well borne out by the fact that on 7th June, when entering upon the 3rd phase of the operations, of 13 officers who had originally been with the force at the commencement of operations only 4 remained actually fit for full duty, while of the remainder 6 had been invalidated down country, while 3 were either too sick to march out or only fit for very light duty.

9. I have excluded from this report all details of either a political or highly technical nature, considering that such may well form the subject of separate documents.

10. I append a sketch map showing the routes followed by the Expedition.

A temporary casualty list and ammunition return are also attached pending the receipt of full details from Sierra Leone.

C. E. PALMER, Major, W.A.F.F.,

Commanding Kissi Field Force, Sierra Leone Battalion, W.A.F.F.

23rd August, 1905.

KISSI FIELD FORCE.

Casualty Return—27th March to 28th June, 1905.

Date.	Rank and Name.	Nature of Casualty.
27.3.05	One Private, "A" Company	Gunshot, severe
28.3.05	One Private, "B" Company	Gunshot, slight
17.5.05	Lieutenant R. H. Haseldine	Gunshot, severe
17.5.05	Sergeant Kalfalla, "C" Company	Gunshot, killed

Note.—This return is complete in numbers but lacks detail of names and numbers of soldiers.

C. E. PALMER, Major.

Commanding Kissi Field Force, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

3rd August, 1905.