

protection of the standing camp in perfect security, whilst all the combatants have been available for active duty.

Three permanent works in the right place, viz., the Tomacha, Keiskamma Hoek, and Line Drift have already been constructed on this principle, and incalculable advantages have resulted from them; and although the numerous other posts are for the present merely field-works, equal advantages have resulted from them.

Experience will show whether all are necessary, or whether they might not be better placed; but it is my intention, in due time, to require permanent posts on the construction which experience may also show to be the most appropriate to peculiar circumstances as well as to locality.

The objects of these posts will not be merely military defensibility, but to serve as the centres of villages, capable of contributing largely, if not entirely, to their own future security and defensibility.

Around each of these military posts in British Kaffraria, which, as you are aware, is not a colony as yet, but an exclusively native district, I reserve a rayon of two miles, more or less; but in laying this out I have directed the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria to arrange with the native chiefs a boundary, not theoretical, and as described by the compasses on a map, but according to certain natural features of ground intelligible to all parties; and these must be marked on plans made for the purpose, in every instance in duplicate, one copy to be signed by me, which will be given to the Chief Commissioner.

This applies not only to those posts which are situated in the territories of native chiefs who are loyal and in possession of their undisputed rights, but also to those in the newly-acquired Gaika country, of which the Chief Sandulli has been dispossessed.

It is my intention, subject to Her Majesty's approval, to constitute the whole of this district a royal forest. In it, how-

ever, will be several military stations appointed with rayons circumscribed of two miles radius, more or less, according to convenience and natural demarcations.

I am not prepared at once and immediately to declare how much of the areas is to be considered Ordnance property; and it would be inconvenient to moot that question prematurely at starting; but an area around the central keep, which I intend invariably to reserve for defensible purposes and as a place d'armes, as also a place of refuge in case of sudden alarm, and all ground occupied by troops who have regularly hutted themselves according to plans laid down and approved by officers of the Royal Engineers, which I invariably insist upon, I will at once declare Ordnance property.

With a view to forming a wholesome organisation and system for any future arrangements which may be made for the occupation of this territory, from which the former inhabitants have been expelled, and to which, if not immediately occupied, they will strive to return, I mean in the area of the circumference having a two-mile radius of each post, to sanction, under the management of the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, the settlement by colonists, with provisional titles, and with a clear understanding that the tenure is subject to all chances, and without claim for compensation under any circumstances, according to the same rules which now prevail at King William's Town. These colonists may be allowed the use but not the right of commonage in the royal forest as regards pasture and firewood; but as to cutting timber, they must pay for their licence, according to such rules and regulations as may be found expedient.

No out-dwellers or squatters will be permitted, but all must reside within an appointed rayon at some established post.

Now, to ensure all things being done in order, and as much depends upon the first laying out of a future town or village, I have already issued a general order that no building erected within a military rayon of any of these new posts shall be

allowed to stand, unless the owners can produce a written sanction, signed by an officer of Royal Engineers of the command; and I have to request you, therefore, to communicate the whole of this policy to all the officers of Royal Engineers under your command, with which view I send you printed copies of these instructions, for circulation to them, in order that I may derive the full benefit of that assistance which they are so capable of affording. I intend also to impart the substance of this letter to the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, and all whom it may concern.

That the officers of Royal Engineers may clearly understand what I ask of them, you will be pleased to explain to them that what I wish them to bear in mind, with a view to the public service in a most essential matter, is not merely the defensibility of an apparently insignificant military post, but the nucleus upon which some future town is perhaps to be formed, and therefore to take into consideration all the advantages which its position and circumstances can afford for convenience, without losing sight of security and defensibility against Kafir inroads.

To illustrate my meaning, I would say that, for instance, even in the selection of a burying ground,—as there are generally in all colonial communities, however small, various sects which require separate places of interment,—if the sites granted for these purposes be judiciously selected and allotted, at first in the outskirts, when they come in due time to be enclosed with stone walls they may be found so disposed as to become a system of defensible redoubts; but if no forethought be exercised in the selection of these places, they are apt, when the village has grown to be a town, to be found to be placed in the most inconvenient situation, and cannot then be got rid of. Even the site of a cattle kraal ought not to be left to chance.

In all these arrangements, however, I desire that the Chief Commissioner should have the control which is inseparable from his high responsibilities in the government of the district

of British Kaffraria ; but I trust to the willing aid, advice, and co-operation of all officers of your department, and especially in matters of detail, even though they be not exclusively of a military character.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART, Lieut.-General, C. F.,
Governor, and High Commissioner, &c.

The Commanding Royal Engineer, Cape Town.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Graham's Town, November 14, 1852.

SIR,—As I reported in my last military despatch that the war of rebellion might then be considered to be at an end, I have nothing to communicate in this, further than the very active and energetic operations of Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre in perambulating the Amatolas, and hunting out the remaining Kafirs and Hottentots who still lingered in its kloofs and forests ; whilst at the same time Major-General Yorke personally superintended similar operations in that part of his district of British Kaffraria formerly occupied by the tribes of Stock, Tola, and Seyolo.

In this extensive tract of forest country from which the Gaika race has been expelled, and which, by means of the military posts marked on the enclosed plan, each occupied in sufficient force to admit of constant patrols from them, Her Majesty's troops can now completely command, there will, nevertheless, remain a few stragglers for some time to come ; but the duty of the troops in respect to them has become entirely that of police, and the consequences of rebellion must take some little time to subside before the powers of Government can recover their full energies, and entirely prevent oc-

casional attempts to steal cattle to satisfy the cravings of hunger.

Within the colonial boundary, the same return to a state of comparative security and tranquillity has followed the clearance of the Waterkloof, and the expulsion of the Gaikas, the surrender of Seyolo, and the submission of the paramount chief Kreili.

Within the colony, I have gradually withdrawn the troops from detached police duties, and concentrated them in their proper places, as far as I can ; and I find that, with the benefit of prompt and immediate support and assistance from Her Majesty's troops, whenever required, the police force has taken admirably to the duties which properly belong to them, and for which they are far better adapted than troops under a more military system of organisation and restraint can ever be, and they have already proved quite competent to deal with the marauders and fugitives from justice, who must for a time infest the woods and kloofs, and strive to steal for their subsistence ; but so effectual and severe have been the punishment inflicted on these evil-doers of late by the police, that there are but few who now dare show themselves within the colony.

I enclose a summary of military events and movements which have occurred since my last.

The satisfactory state of things in this part of my command enables me to withdraw a force of 2,000 men for the purpose of a march to the Orange River territory, which I consider a measure indispensable to the settlement of many questions and disputes of long standing between native chiefs, which it is most desirable should be investigated and adjusted by my arbitration ; and I consider it essential that I should be supported in this duty by so sufficient an armed force of Her Majesty's troops that I can enforce Her Majesty's authority, and control any native chief or other party who might otherwise be disposed to be refractory, without the necessity of calling in to my assistance either petty native tribes, or Burghers,

or Griquas, or Hottentots, and thereby sowing the seeds of future discord similar to that which it is my object now to put an end to.

The sooner this necessary work is accomplished, the sooner I shall be able to enter upon the consideration of the reduction of military establishments which it may be safe and expedient to adopt. I therefore intend to start to-morrow, and join the troops which are detailed in the enclosed memorandum of movements,* and which you will observe are already on their march.

I hope, with the aid and counsels of my two Assistant Commissioners, and the ample force at my command in support of Her Majesty's authority, to be able to settle all the business I

* ENCLOSURE.

MEMORANDUM OF MOVEMENT.

Head-Quarters, Graham's Town, November 8, 1852.

1. A force of 2 guns, 500 cavalry, and 2,000 infantry will assemble at Burghersdorp on the 20th instant, for the purpose of marching into the Orange River territory.

2. This force will be composed of a column under Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, 73rd Regiment, to consist of a rocket detachment :

Two squadrons 12th Lancers :

2nd Regiment	. . . . .	400
43rd ditto	. . . . .	300
73rd ditto	. . . . .	300
Detachment C.M. Rifles	. . . . .	90

A caoutchouc pontoon, with detachment of sappers and miners. This column to march from Fort Hare on the 11th instant.

3. A column under Lieutenant-Colonel MacDuff, 74th Regiment, to consist of—

Two guns, Royal Artillery :

74th Highlanders	. . . . .	400
Detachment C.M. Rifles	. . . . .	80

to march from Beaufort on the 11th instant.

A cavalry detachment Cape Mounted Rifles, 100, to march from Graham's Town on the 11th instant, via Cradock.

Head-quarters from Graham's Town on the 16th instant, via Fort Beaufort, with 100 cavalry and 500 infantry.

3. The Commissary-General to have his magazines formed, and to provide the necessary transport according to the scale established by his Excellency for troops moving in light marching order.

A. J. CLOETE,
Quartermaster-General.

have to transact on the Caledon River, and without having recourse to hostilities. In that case I should hope to have brought back the portion of Her Majesty's army entrusted to my command, employed on this service, in less than two months from the present time, or about New Year's day.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. CATHCART, Lieut.-General,
Commanding the Forces.

The Right Hon. the
Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

*Copy of a DESPATCH to the Right Hon. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, Bart., from Lieut.-General the Hon. G. CATHCART, and referred to by himself in the Report made according to instructions of Earl GREY, as No. 43, of the date here given.**

Burghersdorp, District of Albert, Cape of Good Hope,
November 29, 1852.

SIR,—I have frequently adverted to my conviction, that the only way in which any South African Aborigines whom it may have been necessary to expel from their former locations can be prevented from returning is by immediately replacing them by some other occupants. This has, for the present, been accomplished in the Waterkloof and Amatolas by means of military occupation, and I have already explained the manner in which I hope to provide, in the course of time, a sufficient population, in the case of the Amatolas, capable of relieving in a great measure the troops now required for that object.

In this letter I would advert more particularly to the occupation of the country recently forfeited by those Tambookins who were most deeply implicated in the recent rebellion, especially the lands of the late Chief Mapassa, which were always too extensive for the tribe, and never adequately occupied, and

* See No. 51, in Blue Book, page 223—in this Volume, page 18.

now, since that tribe has been entirely dispersed, and the chieftainship extinct, the remnant, if not compelled to place themselves under the responsible rule of other recognised Tambookie chiefs possessed of land, and now returned to their duty, which they have declared their willingness to do, would continue to be a most dangerous and lawless banditti, and there not being sufficient regular troops available to check them, the necessity for continuing a large force of colonial levies in North Victoria, which I am about to reduce, would be permanent and indispensable.

In order, therefore, to provide for the immediate occupation of those valuable lands, now vacated, by a sufficiently dense population for self protection, I have lost no time in availing myself of the wish expressed by numerous settlers of Dutch as well as English origin, and have made the following provisional arrangements.

I have appointed a provisional land commission (as named in the margin*) to select and recommend in the first place a site for a village, with the advantages of water and capabilities of irrigation; these are requisites generally as difficult to be found as they are indispensable in this arid country, but a place has already been suggested which is likely to answer the purpose, on the Bush or Komane River, only 20 miles in advance of the present occupied line, and as soon as I am satisfied that there are sufficient applicants for lots or 'erven' of half an acre, in this village or future town, and that the whole has been laid out and surveyed with a commonage or town land of two miles radius reserved for it, no time shall be lost in forming the settlement.

It is necessary to bear in mind that this land, proposed to

* *President* : H. Calderwood, Esq, Commissioner of Victoria. *Members* : M. Robinson, Esq., Assistant Surveyor-General; N. Shepstone, Esq., Assistant Civil Commissioner; H. Bowker, Esq, an English Gentleman, I. I. Zeller, Esq, a Dutch Gentleman.

be settled, is already within the colonial boundary, and no new acquisition of territory.

As soon as the new town, which I propose to call Queens-ton, is well in progress, I would ask leave to depart from a stringent general rule laid down in my instructions, in respect to grants of land as farms (which are thereby ordered to be invariably put up to auction), in the settlement of this portion of land situated within the colony, recently forfeited, by rebel Tambookies, because that mode of proceeding, though founded on theory and made generally applicable in all cases in all colonies, would entirely defeat my object, of immediate and simultaneous occupation by a sufficiently dense population for mutual support.

If the lands were put up to auction in this case, the greater part would, as heretofore, fall into the hands of land jobbers, and would remain unoccupied, whilst the numerous applicants who are now ready at once to come into occupation, both burghers and Englishmen of the sort we want and can obtain, would not only be unwilling to wait for the chance, or to enter into competition as purchasers, and thereby the opportunity would be lost, but they would be unable in many cases to find the money to compete with speculators who would secure all the best places.

I propose, therefore, that the farms should be granted on quit rent, and that, whereas, according to a most pernicious and ruinous custom which has hitherto prevailed in this country of granting farms of 6,000 acres, an old Dutch custom, which is the ruin of the colony, whereby it generally happens that the dwellings are ten or fifteen miles asunder, and the country appears depopulated and entirely neglected, I intend to sanction no farm of greater extent than 3000 acres when almost entirely pastoral, or 2000 acres where a portion may be fit for agriculture, and these I propose to grant only in the first instance in the immediate vicinity of the new town and

behind it, that is, between it and the country already in occupation, until that portion be sufficiently filled up.

The applications for land on the above terms, in the place which I consider most desirable should, on the principle stated in the commencement of this despatch, be immediately occupied, have poured in upon me from all directions during my present passage through these northern districts, from men admirably adapted for the purpose. These I have referred to the investigation and consideration of the above-mentioned commission, which is to meet at Whittlesea, and who will also inquire into all circumstances connected with a project, of which I enclose a copy, drawn up by Mr. Bowker, a resident in North Victoria, and if it be practicable, I have decided to take upon myself the responsibility of departing from the letter of my instructions in respect to sale by auction in this instance, which is confined to a part of the land within the colonial boundary, from which the rebel Tambookies have been expelled, as the only means in my power of securing the permanency of the peace which has been so recently restored, I hope in an equitable manner, and, as far as I can judge, to the satisfaction of Tambookies as well as colonists.

Should this measure be approved and sanctioned, under the circumstances of the case I should wish a similar latitude to be granted in respect of the whole frontier district of Victoria; I would also wish the exception to extend to the piece of country known as the Kat River Settlement, the focus of Hottentot rebellion, for if when the lands become forfeited and disposable by legal process they must be put up to auction, I have reason to believe there is already a combination on foot to buy up these lots, and re-establish an exclusively Hottentot location, which has proved so dangerous as well as unprofitable an experiment. But if I am enabled to dispose of them by grants or payment of the usual upset prices, without having recourse to sale by auction, I could mix the community with white settlers, who might improve by their exertions and their

example a country which now much resembles the garden of the sluggard, but which possesses agricultural capabilities of rare occurrence in this country.

Connected with this subject, and with the same view of establishing a more condensed population, and more popular inducement to immediate occupation, I would recommend that that part of British Kaffraria north of the Amatolas called the Windvogel-berg country, formerly supposed to be occupied by Mapassa, but whose followers never sufficed for the purpose, should, now that it is forfeited and entirely vacated, be given over to the colony, to become part of the district of Victoria, and as it adjoins the Tambookies' forfeited land, adverted to above, it should be colonised on the same principle. This I have no reason to doubt would be in that manner almost immediately accomplished, and this would give a burgher population capable of self-protection in that quarter, which is now deserted.

There would then remain under the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria only the Gaika forfeited lands, including the Amatolas under military occupation, and the faithful T'Slambie tribes.

If I be authorised to carry out these measures, I feel confident of being able to establish a lasting peace, as regards the colonial frontier, and with comparatively reduced expense of military establishment; but unless the vacuum caused by the expulsion of rebellious Aborigines be immediately and sufficiently filled up, they will return and strive to recover occupation, either by constant fretful attempts or by a renewed Kafir war as soon as they have recovered from the effects of this.

Another most satisfactory result of this measure would be, not only the encouragement of the Dutch settlers to remain in the colony, but possibly an attraction to others to return. The numerous applications received within a week's time, since peace has been restored, fully justify this anticipation.

My two Assistant Commissioners, Mr. Owen and Mr. Ebden, who accompany me on this expedition to the Sovereignty, and who have rendered me the greatest assistance in the satisfactory termination of the Tambookie rebellion, entirely concur with me in respect to the above measures.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART, Governor.

*Proposed PLAN for the Settlement of the Waste Lands along the North-Eastern Frontier.**

1. The lands to be divided in the regular way by surveying, or, upon the old colonial plan, by a Commission of Colonists, who will measure the places, with sufficient accuracy, by means of a horse and a watch.

The district of Winburg was measured by the Civil Commissioner, Mr. Biddulph, in this way.

2. The farms to be from two to three thousand acres each, which will make room for a sufficient number of farmers to ensure the security of the district.

3. Each occupant of a farm to be bound to keep himself perfectly ready at all times to turn out armed and mounted, to act in obedience to the orders of his Field Cornet, or other authority, in defence of the district. He is also to be bound to keep arms and accoutrements, to enable him to furnish, when required, one armed and mounted man for each thousand acres of land he may possess, beyond the thousand acres represented by himself. These conditions to be entered in the title deed.

4. There shall also be upon each occupied farm one building of a single room or more, to be constructed with a fire-proof roof, for the purpose of defence in case of any sudden alarm.

* Submitted to the consideration of the Provisional Land Commission, and their report is requested.

(Signed) G. C.

5. Any wilful neglect or breach of the regulations to subject the occupant to the forfeiture of the lands, after due investigation of the case by the proper authorities.

6. The title deeds given by the Land Commission to specify the nature of the defensive service upon which these lands will be held, and, otherwise, how non-observance or refusal shall subject them to forfeiture.

7. The Magistrate of the district will refer to the Governor before he can have authority to enforce the forfeiture of the lands of such parties as refuse to perform the original conditions relative to the defence.

8. The farms to be granted free, without charges, on a perpetual and inalienable quit-rent, averaging about £10 per farm, or £5 for each one thousand acres of land per annum, the title of each to be simple, and to be furnished by the surveyors or Land Commission, and registered by the Magistrate of the district.

9. Each occupant of a farm, after three years' occupation, to be at perfect liberty to sell to any other person, the purchaser taking over the property on precisely the same conditions as will be stated in the title deed.

10. The Magistrate, Field Commandants, or Field Cornets, to muster and inspect the whole number of men, arms, and horses, once, twice, or thrice a year, as may be specified, or necessary.

11. Any farmer being a member of the rural police, such service to be reckoned equivalent to the personal service required of him.

12. The men to whom these farms will be granted to be chosen from the frontier districts, such as have been active in the defence of the frontier to have the preference, being the sons of farmers and others who are fit for active service, and who are generally possessed of a small quantity of live stock, but have no land.

13. The number chosen to consist, perhaps, of a nearly

equal number of Dutch and English, and to be located as promiscuously as possible.

14. The Field Cornets* to be chosen by a majority of voices by the farmers, in such places as they may be required, or as one to fifty, or one hundred, as may be convenient for the neighbourhood.

15. The Field Cornets to take especial care that their respective men be ready to turn out, in aid of the rural police, whenever required.

16. All occupants of farms to give notice to the Field Cornets of their temporary absence to market, or for supplies, or other business.

17. The men to whom the new farms will be given to have the recommendation of the Magistrates of their respective districts.

18. The stock possessed by the new occupants will necessarily be not very numerous, which will enable many, who are friends, relations, or acquaintances, to live for the first few years in little communities, as is frequently the case in the colony, upon an understanding amongst themselves, and the whole of the farms would thus become occupied by degrees. These arrangements will take place amongst the people themselves, if occasion requires them.

19. With the exception of the defensive regulations upon which these farms shall be held, all other things would be conformable to the colonial law.

20. A large enclosure, by a rough stone wall or earthen embankment, should be made in each field cornetcy, in which the whole of the live stock might be secured in cases of sudden alarm. Sir Benjamin D'Urban intended to establish such places all along the frontier districts.

* Field Cornets, No. 14. The law requires that they should be appointed by the Governor, but the Civil Commissioner of the District should endeavour to ascertain this before he recommends.

(Signed) G. C.

The Land Commission can report upon such places as are eligible for a village or township.

21. Should the scheme of a land commission of colonists meet with approval, the names of gentlemen who are fit and willing can be pointed out.

N.B. Some clause to secure *bonâ fide* and immediate occupation should be added.

True copy. (Signed) CHARLES SEYMOUR,
Mil. Sec., Lieutenant-Colonel.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. Sir JOHN S. PAKINGTON, Bart.

Head-Quarters, Camp, Burghersdorp, Nov. 29, 1852.

SIR,—I arrived here on the 27th instant, where I found the force with which I intend to cross the Orange River assembled,* and have made the following distribution of commands, in order to render it as available as possible for any active service that may be required of it.

The cavalry and demi-battery of artillery with horses I have placed under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Napier.

The infantry I have divided into two portions, which, however diminutive, I must call brigades.

The first, composed of four companies of the 2nd or Queen's

* Royal Artillery.—	Rank and File :—
1 demi-battery horsed,	Queen's 400
2 demi-rocket batteries.	74th Regiment 400
	800
Rank and File :—	
12th Lancers 202	43rd Regiment] 320
C.M. Rifles 250	73rd ditto 330
452	Rifle Brigade 100
	750

Regiment and four companies of the 74th, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel MacDuff.

The second, composed of three companies of the 43rd, three of the 73rd, and one of the Rifle Brigade, commanded by Major Pinckney of the 73rd, and Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, is in command of this nominal division of infantry; and the requisite portion of cavalry to act with it, when necessary, will be attached; but in the meantime the whole management of horses, as far as possible, is better in the hands of a cavalry officer, who will in any event retain a considerable proportion of cavalry united force in the country, which is peculiarly adapted to its operations.

A rocket battery carried on mules is attached to each brigade.

The floating indian-rubber bridge is in charge of Lieutenant Siborne of the Royal Engineers; and Lieutenant Stanton, R.E., is in command of a detachment of twenty Royal Sappers and Miners.

Lieutenant-Colonel Napier, with the cavalry, marched yesterday, the 28th, to a place half way to the Orange River, and was to arrive on its banks to-day; and as the ford is reported to be in a very favourable state, he may probably pass it with his forage waggons to-day. Next day he is instructed to move on towards the Caledon River, and cross it, and encamp on the other side on the 2nd December.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre moved off with the second brigade this morning to take the same route, and Lieutenant-Colonel MacDuff will follow with the first brigade to-morrow, each at a day's interval.

I intend to march with my head-quarters and cavalry escort to-night, and gain the head of the column as soon as I can, having been necessarily detained here by important colonial business.

It is my intention then to form a standing camp of the whole

force on the right bank of the Caledon, the upper drift, and about ten miles from Smithfield, by an excellent road.

At Smithfield a very sufficient commissariat magazine has been established, between which and the camp the commissariat mule waggons employed for carrying tents will constantly ply ; and till my arrival the burgher force of the field cornetcy has been called out for its protection.

From the information which has yet reached me, and upon which I can at all depend, I am inclined to think that the demonstration may suffice to enforce the restitution of or compensation for cattle stolen, often with impunity, in incessant and latterly increasing depredations, by the Basutos, from the burghers, who are restrained by law from retaliation, as well as from the chief Moroko, avowedly as a punishment for his services rendered on the side of the British Government in Major Warden's campaign.

The long-delayed adjustment of the several other matters with the Griqua chief and others, for which the British Government is responsible, will give no trouble.

Should the chief Moshesh, however, prefer the issue of battle to restitution, when the equitable demand shall have been estimated by my Assistant Commissioners, and made to him by me, it may be necessary to proceed to take it. In that case I should, in all probability, ascend the right bank of the Caledon, about three days' march, and recross it at a drift on the road leading to Letsea's Kraal, near the French mission station of Monja.

This Letsea is the eldest son of Moshesh, and his people, instigated by him, have been the principal thieves.

From the kraal of this chief to Thaba Bossiou the access is easy; and that place, which is situated on a table mountain, believed by the Basutos to be difficult of access, contains all the personal property of the chief, and great store of gunpowder, &c. Even should the requisite reprisal of cattle be ren-

dered difficult by the driving of it into the mountain, sufficient indignity will be inflicted by the destruction of this citadel. Whilst, should resistance be offered, all the enemies of Moshesh shall be let loose upon him, and the mountain will no longer shelter his cattle.

The necessity for a decided assertion of authority in this case does not merely rest on the interests of the inhabitants of the Orange River territory; but Morosi, a Basuto chief tributary to and under the control of Moshesh, is the immediate neighbour on the border of this district, and has been most active in his aggressions against the colonists of the district of Albert, and it is questionable whether the balance of advantage from depredations and reprisals does not now rest on his side.

The result of my settlement with Moshesh will materially influence the terms on which I can re-establish peace on this particular part of the border, and which I therefore necessarily defer till that is decided.

I am happy to say the small force I have here assembled, both in respect to commanders and men, is as perfect in all respects as I could desire, as well as sufficient for all purposes that can be required of them, and therefore it will be my fault if that which may, after duly consulting my Assistant Commissioners, conscientiously appear to me to be essential to the establishment of a permanent peace, and the vindication of Her Majesty's authority, be not accomplished in a satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART, Lieut.-General,
Commander of the Forces.

Right Hon. Sir John S. Pakington, Bart., &c., &c.

*Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. G. CATHCART
to the Right Hon. Sir J. S. PAKINGTON, Bart.*

Orange River Territory, Camp on the Caledon River,
December 4, 1852.

SIR,—I write this, in addition to my despatch from Burghersdorp of the 29th ultimo, for the chance of its being in time for the same packet.

I have little to add, except that I found the fords on the Orange and Caledon rivers in a very favourable state, and the force under my command is now encamped on the right bank of the latter river.

I enclose the copy of a summons I have sent to the native chiefs therein named, to meet me at Platberg, which is conveniently situated in the centre of their several countries, and only about eighteen miles from Thaba Bossiou, the "great place" of the Chief Moshesh.

I intend to leave this on the 7th instant, as it is probably six days' easy marching.

There has not yet been time for any direct answer from the chiefs; but I have learnt, from a communication with one of the French missionaries whom Mr. Owen visited the day before yesterday, at Beersheba, that the Chief Moshesh does not intend to make any opposition, but to conform to any terms I may see cause to dictate.

I also enclose my answer to a complimentary address I received from the burghers of this district, and which I intend should obtain publicity, and serve all political purposes which I consider requisite or desirable to enter upon at this moment; and will only add that, from all that I have yet seen and learnt since my arrival, whichever policy Her Majesty's Government may be pleased to adopt in respect to the Sovereignty, I see no cause to alter my opinion that their views may be at the present time carried into effect without difficulty, and, if judiciously managed, without excitement.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

GEO. CATHCART, Governor.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c.

Graham's Town, January 13, 1853.

SIR,—In my last despatch dated 4th ultimo, on the Caledon River, I mentioned my intention of ascending the right bank of that river to Platberg, with the force under my command, for the purpose of bringing matters to a speedy issue, and avoiding the chance of a protracted and expensive warfare, liable to end either in an unsatisfactory compromise, or the necessity for the same movement at last, after incurring all the expense of unnecessary delay. The information that the Chief Moshesh was collecting all his forces in the neighbourhood of Thaba Bossiou also convinced me that he would not submit fully to such terms as I might think it my duty to impose, except upon compulsion.

The march up the right bank of the Caledon, of 101 miles in six days, through an uninhabited country, chiefly consisting of vast plains interspersed with table mountains, and abrupt rocky eminences peculiar to South Africa, afforded nothing worthy of remark, except the admirable order and discipline preserved by the troops, the cheerful manner in which they performed their marches, and the regularity and efficiency of the commissariat department.

The army arrived at Platberg on the morning of the 13th, the day appointed in my proclamation for the meeting of chiefs.

I found Platberg to consist of the ruins of a Hottentot village, formerly the habitation of a small band of adventurers called Bastards, under a leader of the name of Carolus Batjee, the only remaining habitable dwellings being the house of a Wesleyan missionary, and two cottages occupied by European traders; for since Carolus Batjee and his followers, who held their land by a grant from Moshesh, had taken part with Major

Warden on behalf of British authority against Moshesh, they had been expelled from Platberg, and are without any location ; but the house and property of the missionary had been respected, and even the gardens of the Bastards had not been destroyed by the Basutos.

The enclosed consecutive statement of events and series of documents will put you in possession of subsequent occurrences, ending in the entire submission of the enlightened and powerful Chief Moshesh, and his first recognition of vassalage to Her Majesty's authority, for in all former intercommunications his acknowledgment only extended to alliance and friendly relations.

The severe loss inflicted on his people in killed and wounded, the precise amount of which can never be ascertained, but which concurrent native rumours place at from 500 to 600, as well as in cattle, and the conviction that the preservation of his villages and rich corn lands, and even his own residence, from destruction, only rested upon the forbearance and discipline of Her Majesty's troops, and which his armed force has not power to resist, will, I hope, secure the permanency of the peace now re-established, and the sincerity of his endeavours to prevent collision between his people and the border farmers, which, I trust, may put an end to a system of plunder and reprisal—a course which, so long as he remained under the denunciation of which he complained in his letter of the 13th October, 1851, to Sir Harry Smith, of having been declared “an enemy to the Queen,” he felt justified in countenancing if not openly instigating.

Thus, I trust, he may be found, should occasion require it, a valuable and willing ally of no small power, instead of continuing to be a troublesome and fretful neighbour.

I deeply regret that this object has not been accomplished without the loss of so many gallant soldiers, occasioned chiefly by an accidental circumstance, to which operations in a most difficult and unknown mountain country, defended by a warlike

and well-armed race, acquainted with every pass, must always be liable, and are beyond the reach or control of the general in command, who can only be present and personally direct in one part of so intricate a field at a time; but, considering the respectable nature of the Basuto force, consisting of from 5000 to 6000 cavalry, and, it is said, 2000 infantry, well armed, generally with fire-arms as well as assagaais, the cavalry almost all clothed in European costume, and with saddles—in short, evincing not only by their equipments, but their movements, a degree of military efficiency little inferior to irregular Cossacks or Circassians—I am of opinion that, had it not been for the loss unfortunately sustained by the 12th Lancers, the casualties would not have been more than proportionate to the unavoidable consequence of the conflict, in which from 5000 to 6000 head of cattle were wrested from the pastures of the Thaba Bossiou territory in defiance of all opposition.

When day dawned on the morning of the 21st ult. on the plains of Thaba Bossiou there was no enemy to be seen; and as the cavalry had not joined me, and 1500 head of cattle, captured and brought into the bivouac by Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre on the previous evening, were an incumbrance, I directed Colonel Eyre to march back to the camp with them, taking them round by the same route by which I had advanced, that being the only one practicable for guns, and which passes round the western and northern base of the Berea Mountain, a distance of about fourteen miles, intending to resume operations in a day or two, as soon as the captured cattle could be removed to the standing camp at Platberg for security, and my object would have been the chief's residence, the first day's work having, as it was originally intended by me, served as a reconnoissance of the approach practicable for guns through an intricate and unknown country, as well as of the nature of the post itself, and the numbers and character of the enemy.

No opposition was made to our march to the camp, and,

except some groups on the summit ridge of the Berea, apparently watching our movement, no enemy appeared; whilst a stray herd of cattle and some horses, seemingly abandoned in the plain, were seized, and added to the capture, within their view.

A few hours after my arrival in the flying camp on the Caledon, the bearer of a flag of truce presented himself opposite the camp with the letter from the Chief Moshesh, written at Thaba Bossiou, in council, at midnight after the battle, and in the handwriting of the chief's son Nehemiah, who was educated at Cape Town, and speaks and writes English perfectly.

On my receiving this document—in my responsible position, where all rested on my decision, for, from the distance from home and other circumstances, a Governor in these colonies has seldom the advantage of any definitive instruction, and is generally, as I have been, left entirely to his own discretion,—I recognised an important crisis, in which one false step might involve the nation in a Basuto war, and embarrass the Government, by perhaps irretrievably compromising the free option which now exists as to their future policy, in respect to the retention or abandonment of the sovereign rights and obligations of this territory, and at the same time leaving a state of irritation and excitement which might aggravate and perpetuate the evils I came to allay, and requiring an army of occupation to counteract the consequences; whereas the abject and complete submission of the enemy, the sincerity of which I have no cause to doubt, and the forced payment of the penalty which had been accomplished and admitted, were all the solid advantages I could ever hope to gain.

Under these circumstances, I thought it my duty to accept the chief's submission, without further prosecution of the war.

I have to request that you will be pleased to bring to Her Majesty's gracious notice the names of all those who are mentioned in the enclosed lists, as well as the non-commissioned

officers and men under their command, who on this occasion, as on all others during this most arduous and intricate warfare, now I hope arrived at its conclusion, have done their duty cheerfully and nobly, and on every occasion sustained the honour of the British arms.

The troops will all have returned to the respective stations which they occupied previously to the recent expedition by the end of next week.

The Orange River territory is at peace, as well as the whole extent of frontier, 400 miles of which I have traversed on my return.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART, Lieut.-General
Commanding Forces, Governor.

The Right Hon. the
Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

ENCLOSURE.

On the 2nd of December the following summons was sent to the Chiefs Moshesh, Molitsane, Sinkonyella, Moroko, and Gert Taibosch:

CHIEF MOSHESH,—Referring to my proclamation, bearing date Graham's Town the 15th of November last, which is enclosed, I now hereby call upon each of you, Chiefs Moshesh, Sinkonyella, Molitsane, Moroko, and Gert Taibosch, to meet me at my camp at Platberg on Monday the 13th of December next, in order to enable me to carry out the terms of the said proclamation. Given under my hand at my camp, Commissee Drift, Caledon River, this 2nd day of December, 1852.

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART,
Governor and High Commissioner.

On the morning of the 13th his Excellency the Governor having arrived and encamped at Platberg, which place was

entirely deserted except by the venerable missionary, the Rev. Mr. Giddy, the two sons of Moshesh arrived in the evening, having swam the Calcdon River with their horses, that river being in a state of flood. His Excellency did not receive them; but next morning Mr. Assistant Commissioner Owen undertook to accompany the two chiefs to their father's abode at Thaba Bossiou, swimming the Calcdon, and to be the bearer of the following message:—

Platberg, December 14, 1852.

CHIEF MOSHESH,—When I was sent by the Queen to be Governor, and to command Her army in this part of the world, about six months past, I wrote to acquaint you and other chiefs, and I told you I would visit you as soon as the rebellion of the Gaikas and the Tambookies and the Hottentots was ended. This has been done, as you have no doubt learnt; and I am now come to visit this country, as I have promised, and desire to see you and the other chiefs as my friends at my camp at Platberg without delay.

My proclamation will have told you the righteous cause in which I am come, and what it is my duty to do.

As I told you in my letter, I hope my visit to you may be in peace; but I must do justice, whether it be by war or in peace. I have been told that you are a great chief and a good man; but I find that though you are a man of good words, you have not done what you promised. I find, not only that you have not paid the fine of cattle imposed on you by the Assistant Commissioners, Major Hogge and Mr. Owen, and which you promised to pay, for the robberies of cattle and horses committed by your people, and with your knowledge, up to the time of your agreement with them, but since then you and the people over whom you rule, including Molitsani and Morosi, and your own son, Letsie, and certain robbers called Leteli and Bushuli, with their people, have been stealing cattle from your neighbours, and otherwise doing them

harm ; even murders have been committed by them, and this village has been plundered and destroyed. In short, the Basuto people under your rule have become a nation of thieves. This state of things must not be, and I have come to put an end to it, and to restore peace between you and your neighbours, if I can ; and if not, to put you and your people out of the way of doing them wrong, and thus I must do promptly.

I will not, therefore, stop to talk, but tell you now, once for all, that having carefully inquired into the business, and judging as mercifully and justly as I can what is the amount of cattle and damage you should be required to restore, I demand of you ten thousand head of cattle and one thousand horses, to be delivered over to the British resident at this place within three days' time, in order to be restored to those from whom they have been stolen.

If this be not done I must go and take either cattle or other things from you and your people, and from Molitsani and his people ; and if resistance be made it will then be war between us, and I must then take three times the amount of cattle, as well as kill many of your people, and destroy their dwellings and kraals, which I should be very sorry to be obliged to do ; but if this cattle be paid within three days, and that I am assured peace is restored, I will take the army back again in peace.

Now, chief, if you are an honest man, it is for you to pay the just fine, which is not more than the cattle stolen, and save yourself and your people from ruin, or else prepare for war, for on the fourth day I must bring you to an account.

You must also pay back to Sinkonyella what you have stolen from him, and be at peace with him. Carolus Baatje and his people must return to Platberg, and the boundaries fixed by Governor Sir Harry Smith must be respected.

When all this is done, you must remain at peace with all your neighbours, and the Basutos must cease to be a nation of thieves, for if I come again it will not be talk, but to make

an end of the Basuto nation, as has been done of the Gaikas and the Tambookie tribe of Mapassa.

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART,
Governor, and High Commissioner.

The next day the chief himself came to talk. This ultimatum was repeated to him. He returned home the same afternoon, professing and promising to endeavour to collect the cattle within the given time. His sincerity was, however, doubtful.

The following is a minute of the conference which took place on the occasion :

Governor.—I am glad to see you, and to make your acquaintance.

Moshesh.—I am glad to see the Governor, as since his arrival in this country I have been expecting a visit from him, which his letter to me in October last led me to expect.

Governor.—I told you in that letter that I hoped to meet you in peace, and I still hope so, as I look to you as the great chief in this part.

Moshesh.—I hope so too, for peace is like the rain which makes the grass grow, while war is like the wind which dries it up. You are right in looking to me, that is in accordance with the treaties.

Governor.—I will not now talk much, but wish to know whether you received my message yesterday, in which I made the demand of cattle and horses. I have nothing to alter in that letter.

Moshesh.—Do you mean the letter I received from Mr. Owen ?

Governor.—Yes.

Moshesh.—I received the letter, but do not know where I shall get the cattle from. Am I to understand that the 10,000 head demanded are a fine imposed for the thefts committed by my people, in addition to the cattle stolen ?

Governor.—I demand but 10,000 head, though your people have stolen many more, and consider this a just award, which must be paid in three days.

Moshesh.—Do the three days count from yesterday or to-day?

Governor.—To-day is the first of the three.

Moshesh.—The time is short, and the cattle many. Will you not allow me six days to collect them?

Governor.—You had time given you when Major Hogge and Mr. Owen made the first demand, and then promised to comply with it, but did not.

Moshesh.—But I was not quite idle. Do not the papers in the commissioners' hands show that I collected them?

Governor.—They do, but not half of the number demanded.

Moshesh.—That is true; but I have not now control enough over my people to induce them to comply with the demand, however anxious I may be to do so.

Governor.—If you are not able to collect them, I must go and do it; and if any resistance be made it will then be war, and I shall not be satisfied with 10,000 head, but shall take all I can.

Moshesh.—Do not talk of war, for, however anxious I may be to avoid it, you know that a dog when beaten will show his teeth.

Governor.—It will therefore be better that you should give up the cattle than that I should go for them.

Moshesh.—I wish for peace; but have the same difficulty with my people that you have in the colony. Your prisons are never empty, and I have thieves among my people.

Governor.—I would then recommend you to catch the thieves, and bring them to me, and I will hang them.

Moshesh.—I do not wish you to hang them, but to talk to them and give them advice. If you hang them they cannot talk.

Governor.—If I hang them they cannot steal, and I am not

going to talk any more. I have said that if you do not give up the cattle in three days I must come and take them.

Moshesh.—I beg of you not to talk of war.

Governor.—I have no more to say. I must either leave this in peace in three days, or go to Thaba Bossiou. I therefore advise you to go and collect the cattle as quickly as possible.

Moshesh.—Do not talk of coming to Thaba Bossiou. If you do, I shall lay the blame on the Boers, from whom the cattle were stolen, and whom I requested to come and point out to me their cattle, that I might restore them. I will go at once, and do my best, and perhaps God will help me.

After leaving his Excellency's tent, but before returning home, Moshesh sent to request that the day on which the interview took place might not count in the three. This request his Excellency acceded to; and on the 18th instant, the appointed day, Moshesh's son, Nehemiah, came in with 3500 head of cattle, which were received, and disposed of as follows:—

*MEMORANDUM relative to Cattle received from the Chief
Moshesh.*

500 head of the best cattle will be selected to be sold to the contractor at £4 per head, or otherwise to be driven with the column.

The remainder to be driven to Bloem Fontein, and there distributed and disposed of as follows:—

1000 head, a mixed but fair lot, to be given to Moroko in reward for his loyalty, and as some compensation for his losses.

250 to be given to Carolus Baatjie.

250 to be given to Gert Taibosch.

The remainder, or Government portion, to be handed over to the commissariat officer, to be sold on account of Government.

The condition is, that the three named chiefs cause the

whole to be driven to Bloem Fontein, and to be answerable for their safety on the road.

Lieutenant Smyth, Cape Mounted Rifles, with twenty men of that corps, will proceed with the cattle, and see that they be not lost or exchanged on the road, and will rejoin at Smithfield.

(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART,
Governor, and High Commissioner.

Head-Quarters, Platberg, December 19, 1852.

On the 19th instant, no more cattle appearing, his Excellency directed Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre to move with the cavalry brigade, two horsed guns, and one brigade of infantry, and encamped on the Upper Caledon waggon drift leading to Molitsani's country.

The following morning, 20th, this force, accompanied by his Excellency in person, marched at daylight in three columns. The results of its operations will be learnt from the following reports:—

Camp, Caledon River, December 21, 1852.

SIR,—Of the three columns that marched on the 20th instant from the flying camp at the Caledon River, to chastise the Basuto Chief Moshesh, I have the honour to report the operations of that which was placed under your Excellency's more immediate personal observation.

This force consisted of detachment 12th Lancers, under Lieutenant Gough; a demi-battery, twelve pounder howitzers, under Captain Robinson, R A.; two companies 43rd Regiment, under Major Phillips; detachment Cape Mounted Riflemen, under Ensign Rorke. Its object, by moving along the western and southern base of the Berea Mountain, the summit of which Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre's column was to sweep, whilst Lieutenant-Colonel Napier with the cavalry would act round its northern and eastern faces, to prevent the escape of cattle

from the mountain, and to form a junction with the two columns on the Thaba Bassiou plains.

The determination of the Basutos to defend their vast droves of cattle on the Berea Mountain was early indicated by their firing upon Captain Tylden and myself, when approaching the craggy cliffs in which they had posted themselves.

On rounding the southern angle of the Berea, armed bodies of mounted Basutos were observed, formed in patches, closely observing our movements; and approaching one of them, your Excellency, advancing in person to give them an opportunity of a parley, was answered by a shot, upon which the cavalry was ordered to extend and advance, and the enemy retired amongst the rocky ground under the mountain. A couple of rounds of shrapnel having, with admirable effect, been fired into them, they fled and dispersed towards Thaba Bossiou.

The infantry, which had been strengthened by a company of the 43rd Regiment from Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre's force, under Captain the Honourable Percy Herbert, were now brought up, and the column advanced, crossed the deep mountain stream "Rietspruit," and were posted on a commanding knoll at the junction of this stream and the Little Caledon River, on the Thaba Bossiou plains, covering the approaches by which Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre's and Lieutenant-Colonel Napier's columns were to join.

Whilst in this position the enemy were collecting in fresh patches of horsemen in all directions; those approaching within distance were driven back. On the clearing away of a thunder-storm and rain the enemy suddenly displayed his whole force. Masses of horsemen were observed to move from the Thaba Bossiou Poort to turn our right, whilst large bodies of them extended along our front. These movements were conducted with the utmost order and regularity.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre's division joined at this time, 5 P.M., in possession of about 1500 head of cattle, which it was necessary to secure, for which purpose some kraals in a com-

manding position were ordered to be occupied. The enemy, who had now mustered not less than 6000 horsemen, made every effort to assail the troops moving into their bivouac, repeating their attacks upon both our front and rear, but were repulsed in every attempt by the gallantry and steadiness of the troops. Nothing could exceed the soldierlike bearing of the three companies of the 43rd Regiment, the cavalry detachment, and the valuable service rendered by the demi-battery under Captain Robinson, who by a round of canister silenced the enemy's fire, which had kept up until 8 P.M., when the enemy retired and disappeared from the field, having suffered severely.

Where the gallant conduct of every officer and soldier during this long and trying day has fallen so immediately under your Excellency's personal observation, it is beyond my province to bring them especially to your notice, although I may be permitted to name Major Phillips, commanding the three companies 43rd Regiment, Captain Faddy, commanding Royal Artillery, Lieutenant Gough, 12th Lancers, commanding detachments of cavalry, and to particularise the officers attached to my own department, Captain Wellesley, D. A. A. General, who was wounded, and had his horse shot under him; Captain Lord Alexander Russell, D. A. Q. M. General, Captain Tylden, and Lieutenant Stanton, R.E., who assisted me in my duties; all these officers having displayed qualities in the field as conspicuous as those they possess in the general knowledge of their profession.

The casualties of the portion of the force whose operations I have reported, upon this occasion are,

Wounded :

Captain Wellesley, D. A. A. G.

Lieutenant the Honourable H. Annesley, 43rd Regiment.

Privates five, 43rd Regiment, severely.

“ one do. slightly.

Nor can I omit to report especially the attentive care bestowed upon these by Staff Assistant Surgeon Dr. Campbell.*

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. J. CLOETE, Colonel,
Quartermaster-General.

His Excellency Lieut.-General
the Hon. G. Cathcart, Commander of the Forces, &c. &c.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-General the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c.

Graham's Town, January 13, 1853.

SIR,—As regards the affairs of this immediate part of the colonial frontier, and of British Kaffraria, I am able to report in the most satisfactory manner.

There has not been an attempt to re-occupy the Waterkloof since its final clearance in September last; and, indeed, its present military occupation by three field works, garrisoned only by small detachments of the 91st Regiment, render it impossible for an enemy, or even a marauding party, to harbour there.

The Gaika District is now entirely evacuated by Kafirs, with the exception of the obstinate and cunning old Chief Macomo, who, with forty followers, lurks about its intricate recesses and forests, and has hitherto evaded pursuit; but unless he surrenders, which he appears disposed to do, he must ere long fall into our hands; in the meantime, he is perfectly harmless.

Sandilli is in the country of Kreili, across the Kei, and the greater part of his tribe have dispersed, and appear to have settled in that country; so have the majority of the outstanding rebel Hottentots, and their leader Uithaalder; but a desperate member of that band, named Brander, who went also beyond the Kei, but found the absence of game or excitement in that country irksome and unsuited to his taste, he, with forty fol-

* See General Order, Letter E in Appendix to Minute addressed to the Legislative Council.

lowers, came back, and attempted to establish himself, with marauding views, in the Zuurberg, which is in the heart of the colony. He has, however, been most gallantly hunted up by the Albany police, who, assisted by a detachment of the 12th Regiment, brought his band to a desperate engagement, in which, although the police suffered the loss of one officer killed and one wounded, and three men killed, sixteen dead bodies of the Hottentot band remained on the field, and no doubt as many more were wounded, so that this attempt to disturb the peace of the colony is not likely to be repeated, and could not succeed.

I will not fail to turn my attention immediately to the means of reducing all war expenses as far as possible, and hope by next post to be able to report satisfactory progress.

In the meantime the earnest desire for pardon and peace evinced by the Chief Kreili, who is now the only remaining neighbouring native chief with whom we are still at war, and his good conduct in the restoration of some stolen horses on a recent occasion, as well as his efforts to collect the remaining portion of a fine imposed by my predecessor, amounting now to less than 1000 head, have induced me to instruct the Chief Commissioner to offer him pardon and peace on the terms specified in the enclosed letter to Colonel Maclean.* These I have no doubt he will willingly subscribe to; and I think they will complete the final accomplishment of the task imposed on me when I assumed this command, that of the reduction of the rebellious Kafirs and Hottentots to complete submission, and the restoration of permanent peace and security to the colonial frontier.

I enclose a copy of the last report received from Colonel Maclean.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CATHCART,

Governor, and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

* See Proclamation in Letter U of Appendix to Minute.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-General the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

King William's Town, February 11, 1853.

SIR,—I have already, on assuming the government of British Kaffraria, acquainted you that the government of this district was carried on under martial law; and I forwarded a printed copy of the one only proclamation which contained all the regulations required for this government in its infant state, with certain alterations I then made to it.

The provisions contained in that simple code have proved sufficient for all purposes, and I received your sanction and approval of it as a provisional measure, until some more regular form of government should be established.

I had not been informed, nor had any documents been delivered over to me which could make me aware at that time, or indeed till within a few weeks past, that there was then laying in the Colonial Secretary's office at Cape Town, Letters Patent under the Great Seal, with accompanying Royal Instructions, constituting British Kaffraria a regular government, bearing date 16th December, 1850. Having caused these to be forwarded to me, I received them here a few days since; but there is no copy of correspondence extant to show whether they were in force or laid aside, and as a short time since the Great Seal of the territory was sent out to me with orders to use it, I think it possible the state of the case may not be known to you.

I have carefully read and considered these Letters Patent and Instructions. There is nothing in the existing practice which is not perfectly in accordance with the Instructions, and I cannot see why they should have remained in abeyance, because they are admirably adapted for the government of this country, and are in no way incompatible with the exercise of martial law.

When I first assumed the government as Commander-in-

Chief and High Commissioner, Colonel Mackinnon, then Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, being a colonel on the staff, could exercise martial law, and, therefore, in the absence of the High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief, his power and authority was paramount, even in matters of a civil nature ; but he having been succeeded in the functions of Chief Commissioner by Colonel Maclean, formerly the T'Slam-bie Commissioner, and on whose admirable management and influence over the Chief Pato, and other faithful chiefs, so much depended the possibility of maintaining this possession in the early part of the rebellion, has, with your sanction and approval, succeeded to the appointment, which he fills in the most satisfactory manner ; but having previously retired from the army, cannot, properly speaking, be invested even with deputed authority under martial law.

This defect has been provisionally remedied by the presence of a Major-General in command, who is always ready to support his authority. I understand martial law, in its relation to constitutional law, to be merely a paramount power given to the Commander-in-Chief to go beyond the law, where, in cases of emergency, the regular law may be insufficient or unable to act, but not to interfere with it where it can act and is sufficient.

I find that if the Letters Patent were now to be carried into effect, and the Chief Commissioner to receive a warrant as Lieutenant-Governor, it would precisely place him in a position which I think he ought to hold, without in the slightest degree altering the deputed powers or the mode of government which he now exercises, but that they would then become legal and constitutional ; and all that would be necessary to give immediate effect to this regular form of government would be to change the existing code of regulations into the form of an ordinance, and any subsequent additions, alterations, or amendments would be made in the form of separate ordinances, under the seal of the Government, as well as the primary one, as en-

joined in the Royal Instructions, duly forwarded for confirmation to Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

No increase of salary or expenditure of any kind would be required.

I should not have hesitated to have acted upon the Letters Patent and Instructions the moment I had seen them ; but from the circumstance of their having remained so long in abeyance, to which I have no clue, I think it now right to wait for your orders.

I have already reported to you the existence of a similar state of things in respect to the Orange River territory ; but in that case everything must remain in suspense until Her Majesty's Government shall have come to a final decision whether the Sovereignty is to be retained or abandoned.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART,
Governor, and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon. Her Majesty's
Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. G. CATHCART to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c.

King William's Town, February 12, 1853.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copies of letters received this day from the Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria, by which you will learn that subsequently to closing my despatch on the affairs of the frontier, two counsellors of the Chief Kreili had arrived to sue for peace, and make submission to Her Majesty's authority.

There is now no obstacle to making peace with that chief ; and I have every reason to think it will not be likely to be again disturbed after the severe losses he and his people have sustained during the last war.

I do not intend to enter into any treaty, but to dictate terms in Her Majesty's name, to the effect that he shall remain a true and faithful ally.

That he shall recognise and respect the line of the Indwe and the Kei as the boundary.

That he shall do his utmost to restrain and punish all attempts on the part of his people to disturb the peace of Her Majesty's subjects, whether Tambookies or others, on this side the line.

That if missionaries or traders be again suffered to live in his country, it must be with his consent, and they must conform to such agreement as they may make for themselves with the said chief; the Governor, on behalf of the British Government, will have nothing to do with any such agreement; but the Governor will hold the Chief Kreili answerable for the security of the lives and property of those British subjects whom he may allow to live within his territory.

Also of the usual clause in respect to restoration of stolen cattle, and delivering up fugitives from justice who may take refuge in his country, if demanded.

It is my intention, on his acceptance of these terms, to proclaim peace with the Chief Kreili and the Ama-Gaika people.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART,
Lieut.-Gen., Governor.

The Right Hon. Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

LETTER *from* His Excellency *the* Governor *to* His Honour
the Lieut.-Governor.

Graham's Town, May 20, 1853.

SIR,—When I assumed the responsibility of the government and chief command in the colony, in the year 1852, the critical

state of the frontier affairs called for the most active and unremitting exertions, not only of Her Majesty's regular troops, whose zeal, endurance, and gallantry is beyond all praise, but of a numerous body of colonial levies and assembled burghers, acting under their respective commandants and field-cornets, all of whose patriotic services in defence of their country must ever claim for them the admiration and gratitude of their fellow-countrymen.

During the progress of active operations there are many causes which render it impossible to communicate to the public either the policy of the General or a regular journal of occurrences. General orders, Government notices, and proclamations have been duly published from time to time, but the very natural public demand for something more than what is published by authority is apt to induce a supply of very apocryphal intelligence and reasonings; and speculations founded on a false basis cannot fail to lead to error.

Under the impression that this has been peculiarly the case during the period that the responsibility of conducting operations for the suppression of rebellion and termination of the war on the eastern frontier has been imposed on me, I think it no less due to the Colony than to myself to take the earliest opportunity which an abatement of a hitherto almost overwhelming pressure of business will allow me, of preparing and laying before the Legislative Council a Minute explanatory of the policy I have pursued, and its result at the present time, when peace has been restored, and, as I believe, with every prospect of permanency, which circumstances as I found them, and the nature of things over which there can be no human control, will permit.

It would have been very gratifying to me to have met the Legislative Council personally on this occasion, when I have to congratulate the Colony on the announcement of Her Majesty's gracious Orders in Council, by which the most liberal constitution for self-government hitherto granted to any of the pos-

sessions of the British Crown, is about to become the law of this land.

And it would have been no less gratifying to me, by a plain statement of facts, verbally to have placed the present state of frontier affairs before them in its true light; being myself convinced that it is only necessary, in order to dispel a mist occasioned by erroneous intelligence, and unsound speculations founded thereon, to satisfy the unprejudiced public that scarcely at any former period of colonial history did there ever exist a more promising aspect of their frontier affairs, and that all that could be done has been done.

Having, however, the advantage of your Honour's able and cordial co-operation at Cape Town, which has supported me so essentially during the performance of my laborious and responsible task on this frontier; and considering that being here, although my more active duties have ceased, I have still some arrangements to complete, which I think will tend to the better ordering of frontier affairs, I now request you to take an early opportunity of laying the accompanying Minute, in the shape of a printed Blue Book, before the Legislative Council, with the assurance of my highest respect for that Honourable Board.

I have, &c., &c.,

GEO. CATHCART, Governor.

HIS Honour the Lieut -Governor, &c. &c.

MINUTE.

Graham's Town, May 20, 1853.

The Hon'ble the Members of the Legislative Council.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN,—It will be in your recollection that as soon as certain measures were taken by Governor Cathcart, immediately on his arrival in the colony in the month of April, 1852, in respect to the passing of the ordinance for the establishment of a Representative Assembly, and the transmis-

sion of that instrument to Her Majesty's Government for final confirmation, the General proceeded without delay to relieve his predecessor in British Kaffraria, and assume the command of the army, at that time still engaged in a frontier war of rebellion; and that, having arrived at King William's Town on the 9th April, the responsibility in respect to the conduct of the late war then first devolved upon him from that date.

The state of things as he found them at that time was as follows:—

1.—The Gaika Chief Sandilli and his associate chieftains, with their numerous followers, though somewhat disheartened by fifteen months' active and successful operations, and less well provided with ammunition than they had been at the beginning of the war, were still in occupation of their several locations, and though repeated patrols had traversed their intricate country, and the rebels had been chased about from one haunt to another, they had never been permanently driven out of their forest strongholds, and there was no evidence to show that the Gaika tribe, originally amounting to 27,000 souls, and probably counting 5000 effective warriors, had been yet dispersed or materially reduced in numbers. Their crops of Indian corn had, to a great extent, been destroyed; and of their cattle, some had been captured, some had been driven across the Kei into Kreili's country, or into other locations, by the Kafirs themselves, for security; and but little remained to supply their immediate wants in respect to food.

This was the position of the hostile Kafirs who occupied the Amatolas and northern portion of British Kaffraria; whilst of the T'Slambie chiefs, whose tribes occupy the southern portion and sea-board of British Kaffraria, Pato and Siwani had proved faithful to their allegiance, and the Chief Umhala, although suspected of insincerity as to his professions of loyalty, had never openly taken part in the rebellion.

Had this been otherwise, it is manifest that British Kaffraria would have been untenable, King William's Town must have

been abandoned as the base of operations, and the lost territory would only have been recoverable by re-conquest from some other base.

2.—Some thirty miles within the colony, in the district of Fort Beaufort, stands the Kroome Mountain Range, in which the too notorious Waterkloof is only one of five or six deep and densely wooded concentric ravines, each several miles in length, radiating to various points of the compass. This mountain fastness, although it had been several times patrolled through, with more or less effect and loss on each occasion, and had been the scene of most arduous and gallant enterprise and hard service on the part of Her Majesty's troops and levies, was, nevertheless, at the period at which this Minute commences, again in full and entire possession of the enemy. Indeed it is asserted by the Chief Macomo, that he and his two or three thousand followers had never been driven out of the district; but had dodged from one kloof to another, and re-occupied their former position as soon as the troops had been withdrawn.

At that time this obstinate and crafty chief had associated with him the rebellious Tambookie chieftain Quesha, with numerous followers, as well as a very considerable body of Hottentots; most of whom had formed a portion of the band of the rebel Hermanus, and had sought shelter in the Kroome mountains since the death of that chief and dispersion of his followers, and had been joined by deserters and others. The more enterprising of these, issuing forth in marauding parties, well mounted and armed, had long been the scourge of the colony, extending their depredations far into the districts of Cradock and Somerset, and appeared to be carrying on their nefarious doings with increasing audacity there, though not without severe encounters and loss of life on both sides; and, in spite of the vigilance and noble resistance of the farmers of those districts, too often succeeded in carrying off their booty,

lodging it in security, beyond the possibility of rescue, in their impenetrable receptacle for stolen property.

3.—The petty Kafir chiefs, Seyolo, Stock, and Tola, each at the head of daring and adventurous followers, among whom were also rebel Hottentots, had established themselves also within the colonial border, and were lurking in the Keiskamma kloofs and Fish River bush, frequently extending their marauding excursions far within the district of Albany, carrying off their booty into their almost undiscoverable retreats; and from the commencement of the war, these freebooters had not only cut off all communication in the direct line between King William's Town and Graham's Town by Line Drift, but rendered travelling in the district of Albany and Fort Beaufort, except under strong military escort, impracticable; and even carried devastation and terror to the suburbs of Graham's Town; whilst, with the exception of Fort Peddie and Alice, two concentrated Fingo locations, the whole district of south Victoria was in their full possession.

4.—The district known as the Kat River Settlement, or Stockenstrom, which might be considered as the soil in which the seeds of the rebellion had principally been sown, or spontaneously germinated, was now deserted, and its population dispersed, one half at least having joined in active rebellion:—but of the other it would be unjust not to notice that a large portion had been enrolled, and was doing good and gallant service on the side of Government; and the remainder had rallied for protection, and to avoid suspicion, round the military station at Eland's Post.

5.—North of the Katberg Range, in the Tambookie country, the faithful regent Nonese, widow of the deceased great chief Umtirara, had migrated beyond the Bashee, with as many of her followers as she could influence, in order to withdraw them from contamination. Those Tambookie tribes that had become involved in the rebellion were still engaged in acts of

spoliation, and destruction of the property of the farmers in the districts of North Victoria, Albert, and Cradock; and these, associated with the rebel Hottentots of that northern district, still continued to be a very formidable symptom in the general disordered state of things.

Without entering into the origin of this portion of the war (as regards the Tambookie participation in it) in this place, there is no doubt that it had become a part of the general war of races; and had it not been checked by the gallant and able exertions of Captain Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, who was sent to Whittlesea at the outbreak, to take the command of such local force as he could there collect; and who had organised and made good use of the burghers and other native levies of that district, it might have proved at least as formidable as that on the Kaffrarian frontier.

This war, though much subdued, was not extinguished; and a system of captures and reprisals still prevailed, leaving the frontier in a state of insecurity and alarm, and obliging the abandonment of all border farms.

6.—The paramount Chief Kreili, who resides beyond the Kei, but whose hereditary and feudal influence was acknowledged as extending over the whole of the Kafir tribes, had recently taken part in a formidable combined hostile movement against the district of North Victoria, which was repulsed and defeated, with the infliction of great loss, by Captain Tylden,—and was still decidedly aiding and abetting in the cause of the war of races. He contumaciously refused to comply with an injunction imposed by the former Governor, when he withdrew his troops from an expedition beyond the Kei, after capturing some 30,000 head of cattle,—which injunction was a payment of a further fine of 1500 head of cattle, in compensation for damage done to certain missionaries and traders' property within his territory, and in token of submission. A letter of demand of payment, as a pledge of sincerity in his promises to the former Governor, was returned, with no promise of compliance

The participation of his people in the war could be proved, but it was not then known that he had been personally engaged.

7.—In the Sovereignty, 400 miles removed from the base of operations,—with which district, from the nature of the intervening country and the interrupted course of postal arrangements, communication often occupied a fortnight or three weeks' interval,—a mistaken policy had provoked a system of petty warfare between the burgher population and the powerful Basuto people along their whole extensive frontier. Although in this warfare both parties had hitherto abstained from destruction of property, captures of cattle and reprisals, often with loss of life on both sides, were of frequent recurrence.

In this quarrel, the agent of Government appears to have adopted the cause of the burghers, without taking the course of investigation and mediation, with a view to amicable adjustment of certain boundary questions, where justice not only would have warranted but demanded that observance; and, having no military force to support his authority, had called in to his aid certain petty chieftains and their bands, whom he still openly instigated to vex and annoy the Basutos, whose powerful, and by no means ill-disposed chief, he had denounced as an enemy to the Queen.

Although there did not appear to be any immediate danger to the colony from that quarter, reports led to the belief that if this state of things were long suffered to continue, and the authority of the British Resident held in contempt, a war, more difficult to manage and more expensive than the Kaffrarian war, must sooner or later be the result; and one in which it is very questionable whether justice and good faith would be found to be on the side supported by the British Government. The influence of this paramount chief on his dependant Morosi, who resides on the colonial frontier of Albert, and was associated in mischief with the rebel Tambookies, also kept that district in a constant state of warfare and alarm.

Added to these difficulties, which, contrary to the too sanguine expectations entertained in many quarters as to the possibility of speedily terminating the war, remained to be disposed of, a new feature in the border warfare had recently sprung up. This was an organised system among all the rebel Hottentots in arms, who, though separated in various "laagers" or camps, under their respective commanders, had acknowledged the supreme authority of an able and influential Hottentot leader of the name of Willem Uithaalter, who exercised the most arbitrary control over them. The force obedient to his command, when all concentrated at his bidding, might amount to 400 well armed and mounted men, many of whom were trained and disciplined deserters.

The advantage of secret information, derived from unsuspected confederates in the colony, and the facilities of sudden concentration, and, when the deed was done, of equally sudden dispersion among the hostile Kafirs, rendered these enemies difficult to deal with—so that on one occasion, at the Koonap, they proved but too successful; and once only, by the judicious arrangements of Major-General Yorke and the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre and the gallant troops under his command, was it found possible to hunt them up or surprise them, with any real effect, by the movement of regular troops.

The true state of things, as they existed on the northern and eastern frontier of the colony, when the responsibility devolved upon the new Commander-in-Chief in the month of April, 1852, having been faithfully set forth, it is necessary in the next place to advert to the measures which were adopted to meet them; and as the leading facts are already in possession of the public, it is needless to enter into any military details.

The policy adopted by the new Commander-in-Chief, and

from which he has never swerved, may be explained in a few words:—

1st. To remove the principal base of operations from King William's Town to a point within the colony, and commence systematically working outwards from that base.

2ndly. To make good every advantage gained, so that the enemy when once expelled should not be suffered to return.

3rdly. To establish a mounted police force within the colonial boundary, for the security of the frontier districts against marauders.

4thly. To clear the Waterkloof and other strongholds held by Kafirs, and abolish all Kafir locations within the colony.

5thly. To clear the Amatolas; and, after the total and final expulsion of the rebellious Gaikas, to secure military occupation of that vantage ground by a sufficient force and a system of field works, or intrenched camps, easily defended by a few hands, thereby multiplying the efficient strength of the disposable force.

6thly. Finally, when these things should be accomplished, and that the rebels should be sufficiently punished and subdued, and compelled to submit and sue for pardon, then to exercise the royal prerogative of mercy, entrusted to the discretion of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in granting pardon and peace to the subjects recently in rebellion—not treating with them, but dictating such terms as should appear practicable, just, and expedient, and such as it might, in the nature of things, be possible to enforce with the means at his disposal, so as to secure the prospect of as lasting a peace as existing circumstances, which human power cannot change, would permit.

It is unnecessary in this paper, which is not intended to serve as a chronicle of events, to carry on a narrative of military operations, or to recount the noble and indefatigable exertions made by Her Majesty's troops and paid levies during a two years'

uninterrupted warfare. Trusting to the documents already published for those details, it is only necessary briefly to remind you, seriatim, of the manner in which the ends proposed have been carried out and accomplished:—

1st. By the establishment of the post on the Temacha, and the restoration and occupation of that at Line Drift, the direct communication between Graham's Town and King William's Town, which had remained closed since the commencement of the war, was re-opened.

The Temacha post, also, at once served as a separation between the loyal and disloyal, and rendering the country of Seyolo no longer tenable, shortly induced the surrender of that chief.

2ndly. Although all the advantages to be derived from the port of East London and the garrison of King William's Town were duly appreciated and kept in operation, the head quarters were removed to Fort Beaufort, as the point within the colony from whence military operations might be directed in a systematical manner, with a view not only to the suppression of rebellion within the boundary, but the removal of hostilities far beyond it, according to the system above enunciated.

3rdly. In addition to the existing organisation of paid levies and numerous burgher stations, which appeared to be insufficient for the purpose, the measure of the establishment of an efficient mounted police for the better protection of the border districts was carried out with as little delay as possible. The importance of this measure, proved by its successful operation, is sufficiently manifest to require no argument in support of it.

4thly. The next step was to provide, with all possible attention to the other numerous points then in difficulty, for the better restraint of the lawless forays which emanated from the Waterkloof, as far as the means then available would admit; but a due regard to other exigencies did not render those means sufficient for a final clearance at that moment.

Some active operations, however, ending in the establishment of a permanent military post, garrisoned by a battalion in the centre of the Kroome Range, and the restoration and re-occupation of the post at the Koonap, and other precautions, rendered it possible to leave the frontier of the colony in sufficient security whilst another urgent service called for the absence of the Commander-in-Chief, and a considerable portion of his available force.

This occasion was the necessity for an expedition beyond the Kei, called for by circumstances which have already been explained.

A proclamation was issued, calling forth the colonial energies in support of their own cause, founded on reasons therein stated, and although many excuses were received, on account of the disturbed state of things and the necessity for domestic protection, many noble-spirited and loyal burghers, led by Commandants Kruger and Van Aardt, met the Commander-in-Chief at Bram Neck, on the appointed day.

From the districts of Albany, Port Elizabeth, Victoria, and Fort Beaufort, a very efficient and public-spirited body of volunteers, armed, mounted, and equipped by voluntary subscriptions raised by the more wealthy part of the community, to whom it was not convenient to render personal service, and a well-appointed band of mounted volunteers from King William's Town, who took the field at their own expense, also joined the force, and worthily completed the colonial contingent.

These, supported by the detachments of Her Majesty's troops under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Michel and Lieutenant-Colonel Napier, sufficed in one foray to levy the fine of 15,000 head of cattle, which the Commander-in-Chief considered sufficient penalty, for as much as the fine itself only amounted to 1700 head, and that same chief had within two years been mulcted of not less than 60,000 head of cattle, the

value of which to the owners deprived of them, and including numbers dispersed and killed by over-driving, cannot be computed at less than £100,000.

The acquisition of cattle was no object, and all that was taken was divided, at Balotta, among the burghers and other colonists who had assisted in its capture; but in point of policy, it was the desire of the Governor to show the promptness and facility with which a similar penalty could be enforced, should it be justly incurred at any future time; and that the colonial energies, unaided by Her Majesty's troops, if heartily put forth, would be sufficient to do it.

This having been accomplished in a nine days' foray, the Governor lost no time in traversing the deserted country of the Windvogelberg and Kabousie, in a straight line to King William's Town, where his sudden and unexpected appearance, with the knowledge that the force which had gone beyond the Kei would return to their former stations in a few days, could not and did not fail to produce a salutary impression.

He then assembled all the friendly chiefs at Fort Murray, the residence of the T'Slambie Commissioner, Captain Maclean, whose judicious management, founded on strict equity and carried out with firmness, had secured their confidence and esteem; and giving them due credit for their loyalty, and pointing out to them the advantages of their prosperous circumstances, as contrasted with those of their misguided and rebellious brethren, he had reason to feel convinced that even if their fidelity had ever wavered, it was then confirmed and secure. Of this he has since experienced ample proof.

As soon as the troops had returned from the Kei, and that, leaving all things safe, he could withdraw a sufficient available force, the next object became the final clearance of the Waterkloof. This was accomplished by the unparalleled exertions of some 2000 of Her Majesty's troops and some Fingoes and loyal Hottentots, in three days' and nights' unceasing vigilance and exertion; for they slept at nights in the place where they