

The climate is fine, but the thermometer is seldom under 80°, which is relaxing.

I received an elephant's trunk the other day from the Chief Faku—he is chief of the Amapondas, and lives between the Bashee and Natal. This was a present in token of good will and friendship. He has always been a faithful ally. I sent him a saddle and bridle in return.

Extract from PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, May 15, 1853.

I am glad to be able to say that all goes on as well as possible, and that profound peace now reigns everywhere in South Africa, and that I am quite well.

We have got the long-expected Constitution at last, but it will not come into full play before a twelvemonth. I have fully and successfully accomplished my task, and to the satisfaction of Ministers; now, I only ask to be allowed to go home. I have asked this officially, but I do not know if they will grant it or not.

It is curious to see how the Constitution is received: some repent having asked for it, others confess they do not yet know what it means, and indeed, in my view of the case, no one can tell what it may turn out until the experiment be made; but then it has power within itself to mend itself. I mean to draw up a Blue Book of my own* here, and present it to the Legislative Council, giving an account of—

“First. How I really found matters.

“Second. What I have done.

“Third. What has been the result and is now the actual state of things; and I feel convinced that any candid observer will admit that the colony, as far as regards frontier affairs, is in a better state than it ever was before, at any period. But there have been people doing all they could to thwart me, and

* Page 189 in this vol.

keep up the war, which, from the vast expenditure of money, was making their fortunes. No doubt some unfortunate farmers who chose to place themselves on the confines, suffered losses at the beginning of the outbreak, but £1,600,000 of John Bull's money has been spent among them in two years' war, and a vastly larger gain has been made in many cases by the very people who sustained some losses at first. Your old friends the Pringles have been doing good service, and have fought hard. I have been glad to reward them.

This is our winter, and this place is stormy and cold enough at times. We had a fine comet for two or three nights here, but it must have been going a great pace, for it was soon out of sight. I do not think it would have been visible in England, for it was in the constellation of Orion, at a time when it was not visible to you. I am much disappointed in our southern stars. The Southern Cross is a poor constellation compared to my old friend the Great Bear, which, of course, we never see here, and I do not think there are so many stars in this southern hemisphere; but this atmosphere is, no doubt, clearer, and our average weather delightful.

From General CATHCART to his Daughters.

Graham's Town, September 15, 1853.

MY DEAREST JANE, ALICE, EMILY, LOUISA, AND ANNE,—
I have still a chance for the post; but we have had some rain, and the rivers which are generally all dry in this country, sometimes come down in torrents, and this has to travel 700 miles before it gets to Cape Town, where it must be on the 20th to meet the packet which touches there, and is due on that day on its way home from India.

This is your Autumn, it is our Spring. The apple blossoms are just beginning to come out, and we have had some nice rains, a very essential but rare occurrence; we have often several months without a single shower, and what is called our

rainy season is only an occasional thunder-storm, which lasts half an hour. I live in a nice enough cottage, with only room for myself and servants; but having been built for a Mess House, it has two good rooms, which can open into each other by folding doors and make one large one. In this we dine, and only on great occasions open the doors to make a large room. In the daytime one is the A. D. C. waiting room. In the drawing I have made, the walk you see was all gone to ruin; it has a border of Scarlet Geraniums, which flower all winter, and is 150 yards long. There are 100 good apple-trees planted by me, and coming into bloom; I also planted as many young oaks in four rows with them, so that some day it will be a fine avenue. Up and down this I walk and think over my despatches, and other things of this country; but I very often think of you all at home, and wish myself there.

All is peace and security here, but I doubt whether they will let me go before the new Parliament is started, if so it would be nine months before I could get home: but my last letter only said I was not to think of being relieved till December, that would make it only four or five, and how glad I should be if that were to be the case. I hope you all like your continental trip, and are all well and the better for it. When I get free I look forward to repeating it with you all.

Your most affectionate Father,

GEO. CATHCART.

Extract from PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, November 11, 1853.

I wish they would allow me to go home most sincerely now, and do not cease to tell them so, but they are so pressing that I should stay a little longer, I fear I may be detained for some months longer; but Sir George Clerk has made an end of the Sovereignty bubble, and come down here. I sincerely hope I may be able to place my government concerns on his shoulders, and then there can be no excuse for detaining me.

My excellent and faithful friend and compaignon d'armes, Major Wellesley, started this morning, going home with his wife and daughter, whom he is to pick up at Cape Town, where they have been all the time of the war. He is the bearer of a sketch in oils done by Captain Goodrich, of the Cape Mounted Rifles. He is really a very clever artist, and the likeness of both men and horses is very good indeed. The same party* has ridden with me some 2000 miles, much in the same manner, and the scene is exactly like the Orange-River Desert about sunset.† The tone of colouring is perfect, and my old horse, Rifleman, trotting twelve miles an hour, and keeping all the others at a gallop, is a perfect likeness.

I am just returned from a most satisfactory tour round the Kaffrarian borders, and through the locations of my former enemies, who are now very submissive and well behaved, and I really believe fond of me.

I also visited my new creation of the town and division of Queen's Town, in which the progress that has been made, and the promise of rapid advancement and success, is most surprising. It is quite safe now, and cannot fail. This, as the whole measure rests on my own responsibility (though the Government has approved without formal sanction), is very satisfactory to me, as you may suppose. I have peopled it with a famous set of young farmers, and among them five or six offshoots of the Pringle family, who have all done famously

* *Names of Officers in Sketch.*—1. Colonel, now Sir A. J. Cloete, C.B., Quartermaster General and Chief of the Staff. 2. Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Seymour, Military Secretary, Scots Fusilier Guards, killed at Inkerman. 3. Captain Hon. Richard Curzon, A.D.C. 4. Captain Wellesley, 73rd Regiment, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, died soon after the Alma from over exertion after recovering from illness. 5. Hon. Gilbert Elliot, Rifle Brigade, A.D.C. Lieutenant Arthur Charles Greville, A.D.C. Lieutenant Gough, 12th Lancers. Captain Knight, Cape Mounted Rifles. Captain Goodrich, Cape Mounted Rifles.

† The late General Sir Peregrine Maitland, himself an artist, and who had been, when Governor of the Cape, in that country, exclaimed with delight on seeing the truth to nature of the landscape.

throughout the war. These farmers will amount to nearly 1000 heads of families, and are building their houses, ploughing a great extent of land, have already most promising crops of wheat above ground, which will grow up there, as has already been proved, but will not grow down here in Albany. There are two inns, and I put up at the Cathcart Arms, where they gave us an excellent dinner for a party of ten. It is scarcely nine months since it was all a desert, and I then first appointed the commission which carried and are still carrying my intentions so ably into effect, that a town (Queen's Town) of forty houses has grown up, with shops, court-house, and a market. Upwards of 300 farmers are in possession of their farms. It is, all things considered, certainly the finest country in the Eastern district, and easily defended, for it is all an open plain, where mounted Burghers can act with formidable effect. It was formerly given to the Tambookie Chief Mappa, but he was an arch rebel, killed in the last rebellion; I have broken up and banished his tribe, and forfeited his land. The wreck of his tribe have mixed and merged into other tribes, and are behaving as well as possible, but now separated by a mountain boundary, a perfect ridge of precipices. You may imagine how level and good the road, or rather where the road is to be, is, in the division of Queen's Town, when I say that I rode from my camp, at the Windvogelberg, to Queen's Town in three hours and a half, a distance of 36 miles. We saw quantities of deer of all sorts, and some ostriches, but had not time to do anything with them. In the course of our tour we got two deer and one ostrich. Our commissariat contractor rode down an ostrich during my absence from camp, which took him two hours to accomplish. I heard that one of the days I was absent from the camp, between 30 and 40 ostriches came within half a mile, and were seen from camp. Two tigers also came in the night and stole two of our sheep which we had with us, for provisions for the escort of the camp.

I took no escort on my side, all being as peaceable and secure as if there had been no war.

Extract from the GRAHAM'S TOWN JOURNAL, Nov. 12, 1853.

Since our issue of last Saturday, the Governor, Sir G. Cathcart, has returned to town from his tour of the Kaffrarian frontier, and we are assured is well satisfied with the working, so far as it has gone, of the system he has adopted for the settlement of our border, and the future security of the Colony. Of course, the measures already taken are merely preliminary, their permanency and suitability having yet to be tested by time, and those contingent circumstances that are sure to arise in dealing with the barbarous people of this or any other country. We believe it is his Excellency's opinion that this journal has been somewhat sparing in its commendation of his exertions for the welfare and safety of the country; nor are we disposed to demur to the impeachment, though we may confidently submit as a sufficient reason for our caution, our oft-repeated disappointment, and the very strong tendency so apparent in every Governor, to look with peculiar favour upon his own plans, and with corresponding distrust upon those from any other source.

This being the case, it may probably be the more satisfactory, not to his Excellency himself, who avows his utter indifference to popular opinion, but to the border inhabitants, to declare our conviction, after careful consideration, that Sir G. Cathcart has done more towards securing the safety of the Colony, and advancing the prosperity of this province, than has ever been done by any of his predecessors. Acting upon his own convictions, he has set aside all ulterior considerations, and has gone straightforward to the attainment of his object, whilst with a singleness of purpose, and an unwavering confidence in the honesty of his own intention, he has laid down a system of border policy, which cannot be too highly appreciated, or too decisively commended. The bold measure of setting aside the Government land regulation, and establishing on the immediate border a living cordon of hardy practical frontier men, was a stroke of policy of the highest value, the full importance of which can only be understood by those familiar with the obstructions which stood in the way of any such arrangement. The Compensation Commission of 1847 saw the advantage of this distinctly, and aimed at a similar result; but then in doing so they

were compelled to adapt their machinery to the then existing circumstances of the case. The commission were fully aware of the immense importance of settling the vacant border districts, with experienced colonists, men accustomed to danger, and ready to brave it. But to carry out this plan, a mountain difficulty, in the shape of the Government law regulations, had to be overcome. Those regulations forbade the local authorities alienating any public lands, except by open public sale, and hence the commission had to accommodate their scheme to this peremptory restriction, and to endeavour to provide for the settlement of the border districts without infringing this inflexible rule. Their scheme of land certificate, referred to in their Report, would have accomplished this; and not only so, it would have given the frontier men confidence in the Governor, satisfied the just claims of the sufferers by the war of 1846, and excited such a spirit in the country that would, it is more than probable, have counteracted that feeling of disaffection which subsequently sprung up and produced ultimately war, rebellion, anarchy, and bloodshed; taxing severely the strong arm of the British Government as well as the pockets of the people, ere peace could be restored, and the chaos be reduced to something like order.

General Cathcart has taken much higher ground. Without attempting to accommodate his measures to the difficulty in question, his Excellency has swept the obstruction entirely away; he has gone straightforward, and we are glad to say he has received the reward to which his singleness of purpose was entitled—we mean the approval of Her Majesty's Government, and the confirmation of his proceedings. We say so far, our remarks having application to the Tambookie frontier, and to those portions of the Kat River settlement which have been forfeited by rebels, and by the late notorious Hermanus and his robber bands. But, besides this, there remains to be provided for the efficient occupation of the Amatolas. On this subject, however, General Cathcart must stand acquitted by the colonists of the smallest blame. The utmost has been done by him to awaken the Home Government to the importance of having this country occupied by those who should be able to hold it, and if he has not succeeded, it is to be attributed to indifference in the home authorities, and not to any want of exertion on his part to awaken them to a true perception of the case. This remarkable tract of country, as well as the tenure on which it should be held, is described by his Excellency in a despatch addressed by him to the Secretary of State (Earl Grey), on the 20th of April last

year (1852), in terms so clear and satisfactory, that for the information of our readers we are induced to make from it an extract:—

Extract of PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, January 15, 1854.

It is very tiresome to me not to be able to get away from this ; but I believe it is impossible to hope for it now till mid-summer with you and mid-winter with us ; for I am now working out the constitutional process which is to culminate in an assembled Parliament in June. Everything goes on admirably, and beyond my most sanguine expectations. Thank God for this ! for, although I do my best for the public service, I have had difficult and uncertain things to do, but all have turned out well.

Our first election process has commenced ; it is over as far as regards this principal place of the eastern province ; everything went off perfectly quiet and well. The only thing I have any misgiving about is that they are becoming too civil to me, and approving all my doings. When they said everything I was doing was *wrong*, everything went *right* ; now, by the rule of contrary, it may happen what I am now doing is wrong. No matter, I shall keep on doing my best, till the happy day comes when I may wish them good morning.

I inclose an address lately presented to me by the people of Graham's Town, voted at a general meeting, and my answer. These people have not been over civil to me at times ; but you will see I do not coax them round, or let them think I value their opinion.

EXTRACT.

Graham's Town, March 13, 1854.

. . . We must thank God for all His great mercies, and we, surely, have more to be thankful for than most people, although we have had our share of the trials and privations to which mortals are subject.

I am, as I have already told you, highly gratified by my most honourable and distinguished appointment ;* but do not suppose I should be disappointed if, by the time I got home, I should find some other arrangement made ; for, provided that arrangement did not separate me from you, or be prejudicial to the dear children, I should not be sorry ; but I will not go to any outlandish place again, if I can help it, so long as I live, and no emolument could tempt me.

This place is the least favoured part of South Africa, in respect to climate. Wind, dust, storms, rain, heat, cold, every sort of thing in the course of the same day sometimes ; no steady weather at all ; but it is never, or very seldom, better than in England. As to news, all is peace everywhere, and I shall hand over the affairs in a better state than they ever were before.

The foolish Sovereignty farce is at length over, and we have done with it.

The stories about gold are, if not entirely false, monstrously exaggerated. There is gold in Scotland and Ireland ; so there may be a little in minute particles to be found in certain places in South Africa ; but it is *proved* that some Australian bits of gold have been passed off as South African nuggets, and the object was, on the part of the land jobbers, to enhance the value of the land they had to sell. Give my love to the dear children, to whom I shall not have time to write by this post.

Extract from PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, April 14, 1854.

To-morrow I give up the command of the army, and my hope and intention is to leave this on the 22nd, and to embark in the "Dee" steamer at Algoa Bay, and proceed to Cape Town, where, if all goes well, I should arrive about the last day

* Adjutant-General.

of this month, and I hope to take my passage home in the May steamer; but I must tell you I am very far from well just now, being fairly worn out. I hope, however, that when my mind is relieved from business, the journey and sea air will do me good, and that I may be permitted to return home. My only ailment is debility and want of circulation; my mind is clear enough, but a sort of faintness comes over me sometimes when I am overworked at my desk. I do not know how I shall stand the Adjutant-General desk-work, but it is simple and light, compared to what I have had here at times, and the climate of England, bad as it is, is not so relaxing as this. If all goes right, I hope to be off by the May steamer, but I have some difficult and delicate things to settle here still.

Saturday, 15th.—I have resigned the command and taken leave of the South-African army in General Orders this day.* My head is better to-day; but I have hard work before me till this mail is off, which it must be to-morrow.

* Extract from General Order, dated "Head-Quarters, Graham's Town, 15th April, 1854:"

"His Excellency having already, at the termination of hostilities, conveyed to the officers and troops under his command his just appreciation of their gallant services, has great satisfaction in acknowledging the assistance he has derived, up to the period of his resigning the command, from the zeal and ability of all officers, and the soldier-like conduct of the men; and he desires particularly to offer his best thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel Seymour, Military Secretary; Major Smyth, Acting Deputy Adjutant-General; Lieutenant Green, D.A., Quartermaster-General; as well as to Major the Hon. R. Curzon, Lieutenant Greville, Captain Hon. Gilbert Elliott, A.D.C.; and Lieutenant Clerk, Extra A.D.C., of his personal staff, and to all the officers employed on the general staff of the army, also to the Commissariat and Medical Departments, for the zealous performance of their duties.

(Signed) "GEORGE CATHCART, Lieut.-General, Com. Forces.

"By command,

"E. S. SMYTH, Major Act. D.A.G."

On 21st April, 1854, Sir George Cathcart left Graham's Town. The 12th Cape Mounted Rifles, turned out to salute his Excellency on leaving, who having inspected them with General Jackson, rode out of the barracks, being cheered by a concourse of people, numbers of whom, with Cape Mounted Rifles, escorted him out of the town; on arriving at the top of the hill, his Excellency took leave of them in a short speech, expressing his satisfaction at leaving them in peace. 26th. He rode into Port Elizabeth, embarked on board "Dce" steamer. 29th. Landed at Table Bay. May 4th. Held a *levée*. 9th. Governor gave a ball. 26th. Embarked in "Calcutta" under a salute from the batteries, and landed at Plymouth, 31d July, 1854.

Extract from LETTER of *Lieut.-General* CATHCART to Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN, K.C.B.

Fort Beaufort, May 21, 1852.

MY DEAR TREVELYAN,—Many thanks for your kind note and the inclosures from Lady Georgiana you were so good as to send me.

The 30,000 or 40,000 head of cattle taken beyond the Kei* were brought from a remote district—200 miles—to be sold or otherwise disposed of, at King William's Town, and thereby overstock the very districts we wish to starve. Being sold, the money was distributed chiefly as "bull money," as the soldiers call it, and they had about £2 a-piece to get drunk with. I sold all I found left, and paid the money into the chest; but the whole proceeds amounted to under £2000. This I reserve as "the Kaffrarian Fund," from which I make certain payments in money, in lieu of giving cattle, as my predecessor used to do, to certain chiefs and others, which is indispensable to keep them steady; but, though I keep this under my own discretion, or that of Colonel Mackinnon† during my absence, there are explanatory vouchers for every sum taken out of it. This I call my *Extraordinary* Fund; for my *Ordinary* Fund, which, for better security, I have also now caused to be deposited in the military chest at King William's Town, consists of various small items of revenue derived from the fines, licences, &c., levied in that little Sovereignty, and which are accounted for, through me, to the colonial treasury, in order to justify the usual requisite subsidy for carrying on the management and payment of salaries in British Kaffraria.

I am glad to think that with the able assistance of Mr.‡ Maclean, Colonel Cloeté (my *chef d'état majeur*), and my military secretary, Lieut.-Colonel Charles Seymour, meeting occasionally, when their other business will allow of it, at this

* In the time of Sir H. Smith.

† Colonel Mackinnon, Chief Commissioner.

‡ Commissary-General Maclean, now Sir George Maclean, K.C.B.

my head-quarters, and considering numerous matters of economy I have to submit to them, and those which they may have to propose to me, we may not only put things on a more regular footing, so that they will work better, but that a great saving of unnecessary expense will ultimately be the result. I cannot promise any immediate benefits in respect to reduction of the general monthly expenditure, which I fear we cannot place much below £90,000 per month, for I have very much to do, and my force is insufficient, so that though I may get rid of useless people, I must take on for the present some more useful ones.

My predecessor took away with him every officer of his staff, and even his private secretary, Colonel Garvoek, on whom I had relied; so that I should have been at a great loss, had I not found, in the very place where I was sure to find, viz. "the Commissariat School," a most excellent private secretary, who is everything I could wish, and is duly appointed, with a salary of £300 per annum, paid by the Colonial Government; he was an assistant clerk at King William's Town, Mr. W. F. Liddle.

Ever yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEO. CATHCART.

Extract of LETTER to Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN, K.C.B.

Fort Beaufort, September 20, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR CHARLES,—I must defer my answer to your letter about emigration till next post, for active field duty has made me very idle in-doors, and I have had only two days to write for this post since I came down from the Kroome Heights I think you will see, by the news I now send home, that we have made good progress towards the close of this war—indeed, it is virtually at an end. I hope to make great reduction of expenditure, but cannot promise much reduction of force for

some time to come. I have the Sovereignty affairs to settle, but must wait for orders; in the meantime I take care to keep everything equally ready for abandonment or permanent and definitive occupation, as I may be ordered.

Mr. Green makes an admirable Resident, and is liked and respected by all parties. I am much gratified by your saying that you think it proper Mr. Liddle, my private secretary, should have a clerkship on the superior establishment of the commissariat. I am sure he is fit to fill this appointment, and his assistance to me as secretary has been of so much use to the public service that he would be deserving of any recommendation I could make in his favour. I have communicated your favourable news to him, and he says that promotion in the department has long been an object of his ambition. I must now close this, as the post is about to start.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. CATHCART.

LETTER *from the Hon. Lieut.-General CATHCART to Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN, K.C.B., in answer to his questions respecting Highland Emigration.*

No date, supposed October, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR CHARLES,—I have read your letter about Highland colonists, and considered it well. The fact is, I have four separate governments under my control, or, I should rather say, under my responsibility, all essentially differing from each other as to their peculiar circumstances.

First as to the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, I cannot speak from experience yet much about the western half of it. There, I am inclined to think, there might be room, and even demand, for a certain number of farm servants, as in all other colonies, but no good opening for men of some little capital to set up for themselves with any prospect of advantage.

It has been ill farmed and is used up, and this has been one cause of emigration from it.

As to the Eastern districts, they are, you know, in a state of petty warfare, and the quarrel with the Hottentots has caused, no doubt, a want of servants; but the country is so insecure that there is no present or warrantable demand for them. Want of water, long droughts, and the natural conformation and soil, render nine-tenths of the country available only for pasturage; and small capitalists have become possessed of immense tracts of land, on which, when they can do so with comparative security, or even at risk, they accumulate immense flocks and herds, with very few shepherds and herdsmen; and what they would like best is, that Her Majesty should, by military posts, find a substitute for shepherds and herdsmen; and whilst those a little removed from the border might make fortunes, they care little for those who have been *induced* to try the same speculation too near the border to succeed.

We must be most cautious in giving anything like *inducement* to come out on that speculation. The unfortunate *inducement* given in 1820 to certain settlers to come out here, by a parliamentary grant of £50,000, has become a troublesome *obligation*, and has been the best excuse for the expenditure of millions.

As to Kaffraria, I hope to accomplish the expulsion of the Gaika tribe from the stronghold of the Amatolas; indeed, I have nearly secured this, and can do so by *military occupation*. Macomo is still in the Waterkloof, which he had never left, but I flatter myself go he must. That is 30 miles within the colony. Sandilh, Stock, and Seyolo are still at home; but you will see by my despatches, which only profess to tell the truth, the whole truth, and *nothing more than the truth*, that they are likely soon to be expelled, if they give me time to do it, or more adequate means to do it, in a shorter time. Now when this is accomplished, the only way to keep their country is by occupation; and nothing but military occupation, by

fighting men, will keep them out. There might be *organised* and *regimented* colonists; but old pensioners or chance colonists would be murdered, as the inhabitants of the military villages were. The country is beautiful in the Gaika territory, and capable of anything, far superior to any within the colony; but whosoever wishes to possess it must be prepared to fight for it, and organised with that view.

As to Natal I know nothing.

The Sovereignty is the finest field, but all depends upon what they may settle at home. I shall be happy to subscribe £5 to the Society; but unless you could send me out two regiments, duly organised and officered, to garrison the Amatolas in the first instance, and then become settlers, with fortified villages, I could not advise their coming here.

You may, perhaps, be able to see a very able paper I received from Assistant Commissary-General Green, with whom I had previously served in Canada, and knew his talents and merits; to him, because I could get no information from the former Resident, Major Wardle, I applied for something to guide me as to the existing state of things. You will have learnt officially by this time that I have, with the advice of my Assistant Commissioners, appointed Mr. Green to succeed Major Wardle as Resident. But the paper in question, though intended only for my private information, was so concise and to the purpose, and its accuracy vouched to me by both the Assistant Commissioners (one of whom is since dead), that I forwarded it to Sir John Pakington. That paper will give you a clear insight into the circumstances and prospects of the Sovereignty. As to Mr. Green, I have applied officially to the Secretary of State, that, in order he should not be a loser by his appointment, which if the Sovereignty be at any time given up he would be, he should be allowed to retain his half-pay, which will keep him available in the commissariat service, where his experience and talents must render him a valuable acquisition in case of emergency.

I start for the Kei to-morrow. Although I do not quite agree with you that the war is entirely a war of cattle, in this instance it is one, and on its success depends much of our influence over Moshesh and many other powerful neighbours and assumed subjects

Yours very faithfully,
(Signed) GEO. CATHCART.

To Commissary-General MACLEAN.

Graham's Town, January 26, 1853.

MY DEAR MACLEAN,—If not entirely extinguished we have got the war into a corner now, and that is on the eastern extremity of Kaffraria. Now it occurs to me that, in order to put the finishing stroke to it, and convince them there is no use in holding out any longer, it is our best policy to bring everything we now have disposable into British Kaffraria for a time—that is, to the front. The troops will be as easily fed there as elsewhere; and I intend, therefore, to bring the Cape Corps and 74th Regiment to King William's Town, as soon as they are rested, for they are of no use where they are. This will require no great matter of transport, as I do not mean to keep them there longer than necessary; but I tell you of this intention, as it may make a difference in your arrangements as to supplies.

I shall probably give orders for this as soon as I get to King William's Town, which will have given both regiments a fortnight's rest in their head-quarter barracks, and only three or four days' march into their other quarters, which, I hope, will also be stationary.

Should I have occasion for their active services they will be in the right place, and you have already provided transport and provisions at King William's Town, which must, of course, always be prepared for emergencies.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEO. CATHCART.

From Sir GEORGE CATHCART *to* Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN,
K.C.B.

Graham's Town, April 14, 1853.

MY DEAR SIR CHARLES,—I have not written to you for some time past, for the fact is I am generally somewhat hurried when the post day comes, and I know that my friend Maclean gives you the best possible summary of all important events. I am happy to think that my special mission has now been accomplished in as satisfactory a manner as circumstances will practically admit of. Circumstances I cannot make, but I have done my best to turn them to advantage.

It has long been the custom here for newspaper scribes to run down their Governor, and prepare the most false and scurrilous articles for exportation at Cape Town, just in time for the departure of the packet, so that it may serve to gull the British public as "the latest news from the Cape;" and as I am 700 miles from the point of departure, and know not when the packet may sail, they have much the start of me. There is a Latin saying, however, which consoles me—

"Magna est veritas et prevalebit;"

for although the true state of things is communicated by me to Ministers, the public do not seem to benefit. You will, however, see, that whereas all was war and confusion when I came here, now peace reigns throughout Her Majesty's South-African dominions and all parts adjacent, and I am able to reduce the expenditure to the peace establishment. I am also myself confident that with common precautions this happy state of things may be preserved with comparatively little cost to Government.

Maclean will have told you all the measures we have taken for a prompt adjustment of all claims on Government, and settlement of expenses chargeable to the imperial treasury. It

would be superfluous in me to point out to you Maclean's great merits as a head of the commissariat establishment, and I have derived a comfort and advantage from his presence at or near my head-quarters, which none of my predecessors ever possessed. He will, no doubt, call your attention to the services of the officers of his department; but I cannot refrain from making particular mention of the following officers who have come more particularly under my own observation.

1. Mr. Inglis, who from the commencement of the war was in a most important position for active duties, and as a man of resources and arrangement for field service he has been most efficient, and evinced great ability. He is, however, I fear, now too much advanced in years to render active services in the field; but I hope he may be favourably considered in anything conducing to his comfort when he retires.

2. I must, however, name another—Mr. Cumming, who is strong and active enough to do good service still, and I consider him one of the most efficient field commissaries I ever met with. He is punctual and correct, I am told, in his accounts and other office requirements, but of this there may be better judges, though, as far as I can judge, he appeared to me to be so; but the point to which I can speak is his perfect management of all matters and requirements belonging to the duty of a commissary in the field. He was with me on two expeditions, one to the Kei, and the other to the Orange River, as acting head of the department in the field, and I had every reason to be satisfied with his conduct on both occasions. I advise you to keep him in view for that branch of the service should it ever be required, for it is not every one that has a genius for it as he has, or has the advantage of the necessary activity and experience.

3. Another officer, who was no doubt selected as the fit person, Mr. Robinson, has rendered the most essential services to me, being placed in immediate relation with my military

secretary,* and through his indefatigable and able assistance our most intricate military financial affairs have been carried on in the most satisfactory manner; and I should be very ungrateful, as well as unjust, if I did not recommend him to your favourable notice.

Mr. Liddle, my private secretary, is very grateful for his appointment in the department, and continues to give me great satisfaction. I do not know whether he will draw pay, but I hope he may, as I hope very soon to obtain leave to return home; and in the meantime this is a very expensive place for him, he being a married man, and lodging and eatables very dear.

May I beg the favour of you to have the inclosed letter for Lady Georgiana posted, and

Believe me ever
Yours very faithfully,
(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART.

Extract from PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, August 13, 1853.

. . . . I will not waste paper in expatiating on what you do know, but tell you about what I know you most desire to hear of from me, viz. my own affairs. I am reposing from my labours after the accomplishment of an arduous task. Blue Books, and, possibly, my Minute to my Legislative Assembly, have told you all I can tell you as to South Africa. Everything is going on even more prosperously than I could expect; and I believe, if my measures are fully carried out, there is no chance of another Kafir war. That riots or troubles may not occur is more than the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland can ensure in his Government; and I do not do so in mine; but a great

* Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Seymour.

and disastrous war will be impossible. My mission is, therefore, fully and satisfactorily accomplished.

The K.C.B. I care little about ; but the Duke of Newcastle writes me, that "In one letter of the 1st June, the Queen expressed to me (Duke of N.) her high sense of the admirable manner in which General Cathcart has performed the arduous task entrusted to him." This is of far more value to me than the outward decoration.

I have repeatedly asked to be relieved ; but I fear I may be detained some months longer than I could wish, as they think my immediate removal might have an unfavourable moral effect among the native tribes, who, I believe, really do respect and fear me ; and the difficult business of the establishment of a new constitutional Government is also in progress. The Duke of Newcastle hopes I will not ask to go home before the end of the year. Winter weather and comparative repose have mended my health and energy, but I wish I could get home.

Extract from PRIVATE LETTER.

Graham's Town, September 13, 1853.

Everything goes on well here, and all is profound peace. The measures I have taken to secure the permanency of this happy state of things are already so far advanced, and so clearly defined and well understood, that I really wish they would let me go. No doubt I am of use here ; but there are others who should take their turn of duty, and who would carry on all that remains to be done just as well as I can. I send you a copy of a letter I wrote to Darling from King William's Town, which I made Brodribb copy on purpose. You will see what a capital clerk's hand he writes.

The weather is fine to-day, but you will be surprised to hear that I have felt more uncomfot from cold than heat in this climate, take the whole year round.

This place is particularly cold, owing to the hills which surround it, and form valleys, which act like blow-pipes for the sea gales. This is our spring; the peach-trees are in blossom, but the pears and apples show no signs as yet of vegetation. We have had two or three days' rain, which is very valuable at this season, but very rare; we do not get above three or four showers in a month; it is wonderful how anything can grow at all. We had frost in the mornings some weeks since. September here answers to about March at home. My establishment is so far changed, that I have lost my first A. D. C., Dick Curzon, who, now a major, has accepted, with my consent, the appointment of A. D. C. to General George Anson, in India. He said he should not have thought of it if I had intended to remain. He is an amiable fellow, and we miss him; but I have two excellent A. D. C.'s—Arthur Greville and Gilbert Elliot, who are both all that I could wish. I have taken provisionally, as an extra A. D. C., a son of Sir George Clerk's, who is now up in the Sovereignty, with his hands full of work, which I am too happy to have been able to transfer to him. Young Clerk is waiting here for an exchange into the Cape Corps, is quite a lad, but very gentlemanlike, and well brought up. I have made him over to Charles Seymour, my Military Secretary, as a sort of assistant in his very arduous office duties. The lad likes it, and his father will thank me for placing him in a position in which he may, and I have no doubt will, learn much of the interior management and economy of a large army, which may qualify him for being a Military Secretary some day himself.

* * * *

I should be too glad of the excuse to join you abroad; for they will not let me alone when I get home for some time to come, if they can catch me, but will be constantly bothering me about Cape and other colonial affairs; and I aspire to nothing more than domestic comfort for the rest of my days.

Give my love to dear Jane, Alice, Emily, Louisa, and Anne.

Tell Alice* I have got on her waistcoat at this moment, and that I have worn it all through the winter. It is not a bit too warm, even for to-day, though the thermometer stands at 70°; but such is, I suppose, the effect of habit, that this, which would be hot in Europe, is only moderate heat here. My public business is so much lighter, I have had time for this long letter.

LETTER to *Lieut.-Governor DARLING.*

Graham's Town, September 4, 1853.

MY DEAR DARLING,—I returned yesterday from a very satisfactory visit to British Kaffraria. It is curious that the Prophet Umlangani gave up the ghost, I believe, the very day I crossed the Keiskamma, and was buried last Sunday without any fuss or honour. The Kafirs speak of the occurrence with the utmost unconcern; but, as they are always reserved and cautious in their expressions, it is not easy to know what they think and feel.

The T'Slambie chiefs came of their own accord to see me at King William's Town. One day, I had Umhala and Pato to luncheon, and we had a long conversation. I told them I had no business to talk about; for that Maclean was my *mouth*, which is their mode of designating a plenipotentiary; but I told them all about Seyolo, and why I determined to detain him. In fact, that he had been sentenced to be shot; but that I had saved his life, and now kept him at Cape Town, because his return would put all the fat in the fire. Umhala said he was a young man, and had done foolish things; he ought to be punished; and that, for the reasons I gave, he thought I was quite right in keeping him out of the way. He repeated this twice as his opinion; once in answer, the second time spontaneously, in course of conversation, as his own opinion. Next

* Died June 14, 1855.

day, Siwani and his mother, Princess Nonebi, came, with Seyolo's brother by the same mother, and half-brother to Siwani, who was as well dressed as any English gentleman could be, with a cloth shooting-jacket, a quiet waistcoat, and some sort of light-coloured trousers, all new, and of the finest materials. His manners and conversation are quite like a gentleman; he is very good-looking, and of a lighter complexion than most Kafirs, Princess Nonebi, his mother, claiming English blood from the traditionary descent from one of the two ladies (Miss Campbells, I believe) wrecked on the coast, and about whom there is a romantic story. One, it seems, married the chief of the Amapondas of that day, who was Nonebi's ancestor. The chief Toise was also of that party; but he was overdressed, having an embroidered satin waistcoat.

My object was, to put them at their ease, and conciliate; for, having the power, and sufficiently convinced them that we have it, there is no use in making them hate us.

With the same view, I sent to Sandilli to come and see me on a particular hill in Umhala's country, where we last met, telling him, as I did the others, it was a friendly meeting I desired, and no business; that I would come without escort, and unarmed; for he had expressed to Brownlee that he feared treachery, and did not like to venture near a military post, for that he had been warned to be on his guard. Who the rascals are who strive to make the mischief I have not yet found out; but that there are such is quite certain. Accordingly, we met on 31st ultimo at noon. I had with me some of my staff, and no escort but an orderly to hold my horse. Some 300 Kafirs came from neighbouring villages to see the meeting, on foot and unarmed. I sent Dundas, Sandilli's brother, who had come over to King William's Town the night before, on purpose to ride out with me, to tell Sandilli I was on the ground. In a short time he made his appearance on the horizon at a gallop, with some fifty mounted followers, but when he came near walked up the hill. These late rebels wore their carross.

I made them all sit down in a semicircle, the chiefs in front. Macomo and Botman were the only chiefs with him, for I had only desired a personal interview with Sandilli. I laid myself down in the centre of the circle, tapping my boot with my ijambok, a little whip made of hippopotamus hide. I commenced a familiar conversation, which was duly interpreted by Mr. Brownlee, Gaika Commissioner, who stood up, as did the half-dozen of my staff present, and who completed the ring. I told Sandilli the object of my meeting him was to convince him that I had no evil designs; but if he would trust me, he would find I was disposed, now that he was forgiven and at peace, to be his best friend. They seemed unmistakably pleased and grateful for my confidence in them, and we had a long conversation. Of course, Sandilli made a request to be allowed to return to the Amatolas; but I explained to him that, although I had forgiven him, and we were now friends, and I hoped would always be so, I could not say that the colonists had yet forgotten or forgiven their wrongs; and that, even if I wished it, I could not let him or his people come back, either to the Amatolas or the Keiskamma; for if they came in contact with the colonists, little quarrels would begin, which would soon again make a great war; that therefore I gave them no hopes whatever of being allowed to go back to the Amatolas; for that I must keep that strong country between them and the colonists, as it was as much my duty to keep the colonists from injuring them, as it was to keep them from injuring the colonists.

I allowed Macomo to speak a little, but my whole political dialogue was with Sandilli. Macomo began about being allowed to return to the Keiskamma; but I cut him short by telling him that, as regarded the colonists, they had by no means forgiven him, and that I had fixed the boundaries now, so that there could be no mistake about them; and that they must be contented with the fine country I had given them. I promised to send them two dozen spades, and advised them to

begin gardening. I had observed that Dundas had bought two spades when he came into King William's Town the night before. Sandilli thanked me much. He said the spade gives bread, but the spade is of no use without the garden; and the garden ground on the banks of the Kei is stronger and not so good as in their old location. I said, I could not help that, for I had no other land to give them.

He thanked me again for the spades, and asked for some axes, which I also promised, and have ordered. I shook hands with the chiefs, and then got up, mounted my horse, and walked away, leaving them sitting, evidently pleased. I have since heard that this meeting has had an excellent effect in restoring confidence. I am convinced that with good-will towards them, at the same time with vigilance and the requisite power at command, the existing state of peace may be preserved without any serious interruption, for all time to come, during which the progress of civilisation in its natural course, not rashly pushed on by false policy, will render the task of keeping the peace more and more easy every succeeding year.

I have given one of my horses to old Pato, who thanked me, and said I had given him legs. The poor old man suffers from an old wound, and cannot walk much. I promised a good bull, well bred, to Siwani, which I have for him, of an Ayrshire breed; and I gave old Nonebi, who is not so very old, by-the-bye, and very arch, a South American "poncha," which I happened to have, of all sorts of colours. She put it on, and, no doubt, rode home with much satisfaction to her kraal. To Kama, whom I had not time to see, I have promised a house. A Missionary Institution, with a school of the Wesleyan Society, having been arranged for him in his new location (for he is really, I believe, a Christian), I have promised to build him a good stone house, as soon as he decides upon the site, which will depend upon the advice of his missionary, no doubt, as he likes to live near him.

In the meantime, Major Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, is

admirably carrying out my views in respect to road-making and defence in the Amatolas.

Besides my military field works, I have already moral outposts in operation, one of which I visited at the Yellow Woods, on the verge of Sandilli's territory, and within it at Peel Town.* This has been restored by a Mr. Birt; and I saw at school, having arrived quite unexpectedly, upwards of fifty Kafir scholars, little children of all ages, but with at least six native teachers. I heard one class reading the Bible in English, and others learning their letters, &c.; they also learn to plough, and have seven ploughs going.

Yours, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART.

LETTER to Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN.

Graham's Town, September 18, 1853.

MY DEAR TREVELYAN,—I regret I have not time to write more at length; but my news may be summed up by saying that all is peace, and settling down as I could wish. I have now nearly done all I can ever do towards it, and hope soon to be relieved. Umlangani, the notorious Kafir prophet, is dead and buried—a good riddance. I have had a long and satisfactory interview with Sandilli and Macomo since in their new country. They would like to get back into their old country—now, the Crown Reserves, and under military occupation; but I told them they must not think of it, for I must keep it between them and the colonists; that it is as much my duty to keep the colonists from injuring them, as to keep them from injuring the colonists; and if I suffered them again to be in contact, little quarrels would begin and worse troubles, perhaps, ensue. I gave Sandilli twenty-four spades and twelve

* His Excellency the Governor, it appears from a paper of Mr. Birt, dated April 15, 1854, subscribed at that time £10 for this establishment.

pick-axes, and sent them home well enough pleased to cultivate their new gardens, for this is our spring.

All is well everywhere else; not a single theft reported for the last six months. There never was a time when peace and security have been so complete all along the whole extent of the colonial frontier. I inclose a Memorandum of the Assistant Surveyor-General, whom I have got up from Cape Town, and established in a branch office at Fort Beaufort, to carry out my policy of *filling up*. Time will not allow me to say more. Sir George Clerk is at Bloem Fontaine, and I have no doubt will make a good job of his important business when he gets his instructions, but the delay is very inconvenient.

You must not mind the open-mouthed clamour of the Cape press about giving up the Sovereignty. They are all interested; for the Sovereignty was to them—the English speculators—a great gaming-table, and, moreover, out of the reach of the police. Outlaws for debt in the colony are great land speculators in the Sovereignty; and the mortgagers in the colony, particularly at Cape Town, Graham's Town, and Port Elizabeth, say they have £50,000 at stake.

No doubt a slice of the desert is good security for a *bad debt*. The Dutchman has no newspaper, and has not had time to open his mouth yet; but he is not of the same way of thinking.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEORGE CATHCART.

To Commissary-General MACLEAN.

Graham's Town, December 11, 1853.

MY DEAR MACLEAN,—I shall be much obliged to you to let me have an estimate in round numbers of the probable demand on the commissariat chest for service of *British Kaffraria* by itself, exclusive of the rest of the command, distinguishing the ordinary (I mean what the troops would

cost anywhere else) from the extraordinary in all matters connected with the troops in Kaffraria, but not those refunded by the colony, and taking the force of regiments as they now exist at this time, which, although appearances lead me to hope that in due time some gradual reduction may be effected, is likely to be the permanent establishment for some years to come. You are aware that Kaffraria is about to become a Lieutenant-Government. Its ordinary revenue already more than suffices for its ordinary expenses. We have a balance of £17 on last quarter in our favour, and this without the customs of East London, which are a considerable source of revenue at present to the colony.

Although we may not want to call upon the colony for aid from the Aborigines' reserve of £14,000 per annum for the Kaffrarian civil service, as the whole measure of this occupation is to fend off the Aborigines from the colonists, it is just they should be made to pay something towards the expense of the military establishment in due season, and considering the really good prospects of Kaffrarian increasing "inland revenue" and great improvement of the East London customs. Although it would be premature to make any estimate as to their prospects, I really think that the Lieutenant-Government will ere long yield a surplus available for paying some small portion of the military expenditure; and if it shall do so, it will, I believe, be a rare instance in colonial finances. Everything seems to prosper beyond my most sanguine expectations, and all our black neighbours are obedient and contented. Scarcely a theft or irregularity has occurred along the whole frontier, or in the Sovereignty, or in Kaffraria, for nearly a twelvemonth since the peace.

I should like to have one of your little financial memoranda, showing me the state of our present financial affairs and prospects in matters connected with your department.

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

GEORGE CATHCART.

MEMORANDUM for the Information of the Commander of the Forces, showing the Reductions which His Excellency has directed shall come into operation from April 1 next, and the consequent saving to the Public:—

| | Per Annum. |
|--|------------|
| For battalion horses at Natal | £ 600 |
| For forage rations generally | 6,500 |
| New contracts for provisions on the frontier | 4,000 |
| Commissariat subordinate establishment* | 1,000 |
| Commissariat mule train, reduction in ration of provisions | 387 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total per annum | 12,487 |
| | <hr/> |

Graham's Town,

March 4, 1854.

(Signed)

GEO. MACLEAN, C. G.

LETTER written to the Chief MOSHESH at the request of Sir GEORGE CLERK, by Hon. Sir GEORGE CATHCART, on the occasion of the withdrawal of H.M.'s Sovereign Rule, and his departure from the Government of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

Graham's Town, March 13, 1854.

CHIEF MOSHESH,—I am about to leave this part of the world, and return to my own country, where the Queen commands my service in another capacity.

When I entered your country, a vexatious warfare had too long prevailed between the people of European origin and the native tribes; and these were, in many instances, warring with each other, to the interruption of peaceful trading and friendly intercourse, which are things so necessary for the happiness and prosperity of all parties.

I then made known, by proclamation, that I came amongst

* Writers, issuers, labourers, and horses.

you in the Queen's name to administer justice and right equally to all ; not to make war, but to settle disputes and establish the blessings of peace.

Since that time, more than a year has passed away ; and from that time you have been true and faithful to the promise I received in full confidence, and which you have kept faithfully. As you promised me, you have kept your people in order ; and on the other hand, your neighbours of European origin have, from that time to this, resumed their peaceful relations with you.

I thank the Great Creator and Disposer of all things that I was allowed to be the humble instrument in restoring this happy state of things, which I pray God may long continue.

When I entered upon this task, I commanded all classes and tribes of Her Majesty's subjects to remain quiet within their countries, and await and abide by my judgment and decision. For had I allowed them to take part, although I might have restored peace for the time, I should have left the seeds of future quarrels, which would have ripened into war as soon as I had withdrawn the Queen's troops ; and I am happy to think that no such cause of quarrel between you and your neighbours now remains.

My friend, Sir George Clerk,* the Special Commissioner appointed by the Queen to withdraw the British sovereignty from the countries beyond the Orange River, who writes to me in terms of high respect for, and full confidence in, you, had informed you of all the particulars of this measure, and has made the necessary arrangements with you, in all that concerns yourself and people.

I will only remark on this subject that the Sovereignty rule was originally assumed by the British Government from the benevolent motive of benefiting the various people, European

* Extract from Letter to Duke of Newcastle, 14th March, 1854.—“ Sir G. Clerk, whose energy, patience, and prudence in all this troublesome business appear to me to have been beyond all praise.”

as well as native, inhabiting that distant country. But it has been found that, in a country so extensive and so remote, such interference is calculated to do more harm than good in many ways, but especially by tempting different people or tribes to quarrel with each other, in hopes of British support being unduly obtained by the aggressor. But there is now reason to believe, that when the hopes of such interference by the British Government are taken away, each party cannot fail to see that their own best policy and interest is, not to seek a quarrel with its neighbour, but to live on good terms with each other, and cultivate peace. War is only just when it is necessary for self-defence, or when its sole object is the re-establishment of peace, with as little injury to unoffending people as possible.

That these are your own opinions, worthy Chief, I have reason to know; for you yourself expressed them to me in your own true and eloquent saying, "That peace is as the rain from heaven, which nourishes the land and makes the corn grow; but war is as the hot wind, which dries up the earth, and blasts the fruits of the soil."

I rejoice to think that, as the enlightened paramount Chief of many people, you have manifested the power and the will to govern them according to their best interests; which power you could not possess, unless they justly esteemed and respected you as their father.

I rejoice to believe that you are, and always have been, well disposed to the British Government, and a true and loyal friend of our gracious Queen; and I will not fail to assure Her Majesty of this my favourable and sincere opinion, as soon as I have an opportunity; and you may be assured that Her Majesty will ever be favourably disposed towards you, so long as you continue so.

I request you to remember me to your sons, David and Nehemia, who are the only two with whom I am personally acquainted; but I have also every reason to be satisfied with

your son Letsea, who, since the peace, has on many occasions evinced his loyalty and good disposition in the most satisfactory manner.

I rejoice also to believe that, whilst you will, at all times, be disposed to use your best endeavours to preserve the peace, yet when the sovereign rule and interference of the British Government is withdrawn from the countries beyond the Orange River, you will not be left without ample means of your own for the protection of your just rights. I request you to remember me to Mr. Casalis and the other missionaries—worthy men, whom you so wisely protect and patronise within your territories—and assure them of my respect and esteem ; and in all matters of difficulty, or in relation with the British Government, or your European neighbours, you cannot have more trustworthy or judicious advisers.

I now take leave of you, great and enlightened Chief, and subscribe myself,

Your sincere friend,
 (Signed) GEORGE CATHCART, Governor.

NOTE.—Extract from Letter of W. F. Liddle, Esq., to Hon. Sir G. Cathcart, K.C.B., dated Cape Town, 8th June, 1854.—

“ MY DEAR SIR GEORGE,

“ I enclose a copy of a letter, received since your departure from the colony, from the Rev. Mr. Casalis, being the Chief Moshesh's reply to your letter of 13th March. It cannot but be gratifying to you, and I therefore avail myself of the departure to-morrow, for England, of H.M.S. *Salamander* to forward it.”

Moshesh's letter, the Editor of this Record regrets, is not to be found.

AMATOLAS.

LETTER to Chief Commissioner Colonel MACLEAN from Hon.
 Sir GEORGE CATHCART.

January 19, 1854.

I find that I have not sufficiently explained to you the object and intention of the policy which I recommend to Her

Majesty's Government, in retaining possession of the Amatolas and the intervening country between that mountain district and King William's Town, recently forfeited by the rebellious Gaikas, and now held as a Crown Reserve.

You are aware that this Reserve is shaped something like a triangle, that its northern side touches the Colony, but that projecting like a wedge as far as King William's Town, which is nearly in the centre of Kaffraria, both the other sides of the triangle are in contact with the densely-populated Kafir lands which surround it on those two sides, the solid contents of which contiguous Kafir lands are five times those of the Reserve, and contain a Kafir population of 60,000 souls. King William's Town itself, you are aware, is 45 miles from the sea at East London, the only road to which passes the whole way through the location of the Chief Pato, and, with the exception of one or two small military posts, is exclusively inhabited by Kafirs. On the other hand, the whole white civil population in the province is estimated at 1210, exclusive of the troops, giving a majority of black over the white civil inhabitants of possibly about sixty to one; and of the latter 703, or more than one-half, are inhabitants of King William's Town. Now, since the war, King William's Town being the apex of the triangle, which projects into Kafir land, has a direct communication through the Crown Reserve with the colonial boundary, which forms the base about 30 miles distant; but this depends entirely upon the maintenance of our position in the Amatolas. The proper use of this state of things, and this advantage gained by a long and costly war, is the main point upon which I rest my confident hope of a permanent peace. The improper use of it would infallibly, ere long, bring on another war precisely similar to the former one.

Now, the proper use and that on which my hopes are founded, will be explained by the following points.

1st. By the possession and military occupation of the Amatolas, the commanding key to the whole territory, it is intended

to keep the Kafirs in subjection by force of arms, until it may be safe and prudent to trust to a sufficient moral influence over them; to obtain which can only be a work of time, the establishment of a friendly intercourse and mutual good-will, and the acquirement of property by the Kafirs, by means of agriculture and a taste for the wants and luxuries of a civilised state of society; that they may have something to lose, and the inevitable loss of property and social enjoyment would serve as a restraint against the savage propensity to rush into war on slight provocation or pretence.

2nd. On the other hand, being placed beyond the colonial boundary, this Reserve is intended as a salutary check against the reckless propensity of colonists to struggle beyond the bounds of legitimate and recognised colonisation as detached squatters, tempted by visions of large profits on extensive farms, and regardless of all risks.

Colonisation, the full development of the resources of the small portion, the fifth part of the province called the Crown Reserve, is entirely secondary to the military occupation; therefore, no civil or political measure can be entertained by me which, in the slightest degree, militates against the primary object, that of military occupation.

I wish you most distinctly to understand that I abide by the principles laid down in the Government notice of the 14th of February, 1853, which it is my intention shortly to republish, with some slight alterations as to its details.

Those principles are:—

1st. That the territory called the Crown Reserve is to be held as the property of the Crown.

2nd. In it, in the immediate neighbourhood of certain military posts, and under certain regulations already provided, even, or lots of land, may be granted for building houses, with the requisite garden ground.

3rd. That farms of the requisite dimensions, and in suitable places for agricultural purposes, may be let on lease; but these must be in all cases enclosed.

4th. No detached farm-houses will be allowed to be built on these farms if beyond one mile from a military post, and no such farms will be granted at all unless the tenant be a resident in possession of an erf, and with a suitable dwelling in the village, authorised to be built within the rayon of the military post.

5th. The privilege of free commonage for grazing purposes and fire-wood and wood requisite for fences and building purposes, is granted to all proprietors of erven.

6th. Any detached farm-houses erected in contravention of this rule, the officer commanding the troops will have orders to clear away as military impediments and incumbrances. As administrator of this province your attention will still continue to be much more called to the judicious management and control of the Kafir majority of Her Majesty's subjects within the government in which you have proved so eminently successful, than to any premature attempt to colonise the small portion of it which is now left vacant by the forfeiture of the Gaikas, or only partially tenanted by the faithful Fingoes according to certain regulations and special permission ; and whilst it is, no doubt, your duty to attend to the welfare and interests of those inhabitants of European extraction who have settled, for the sake of trading or other motives, within the rayon of certain military posts, and that you are at full liberty to provide for any who desire to cultivate the soil under the above regulations, I must remind you that military control, not colonisation, is the principle of policy which has induced me to advise the retention of Kaffraria as a separate government independent of the colony of the Cape, instead of annexing it as a new colonial division, or abandoning it altogether, and therefore the greediness of land speculators must be resisted, for, if yielded to, it would entirely defeat the object desired, which is the maintenance of a permanent peace.

I have, &c.,

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

KA FIR TRIBES.

*Extract from LETTER of HON. SIR GEORGE CATHCART to
Colonel MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner, &c.*

King William's Town, March 29, 1854.

SIR,—As I am about to be relieved in the government and command of Her Majesty's South African continental possessions, I think it necessary to give you in writing the principles by which my own policy has been guided, and which I believe to be in strict accordance with the meaning and intention of Her Majesty's Government as conveyed in various despatches to my predecessor and to myself.

1. British Kaffraria is a Crown possession, and all inhabitants of this province, of whatsoever race or extraction, are Her Majesty's subjects.

Ample experience has led to the conviction that the only true and safe policy, for the present at least, is, to govern the several Kafir tribes within this province through their respective chiefs, that is, not to attempt to take away the long-established and now existing magisterial power of the chief over his followers, or attempt suddenly to Anglicise his whole system of government, but rather to respect the chief; hold him responsible as a vassal of the Crown for the good conduct of his people, allow him for the present to govern his clansmen according to the accustomed Kaffrarian usage. The opposite course has been tried, and proved a failure, as might, indeed, have been expected, if the knowledge of this peculiar people and their circumstances and prepossessions had been as well known as they now are.

2. With respect to interference in disputes between native tribes generally, we must draw a wide distinction between the cases of those clans of Amakosa Kafirs which remain located by authority of the British Government within the province of British Kaffraria, being Her Majesty's liege subjects, and, on the other hand, all others who inhabit lands beyond the pale of

the established British dominion, which dominion, as regards British Kaffraria, is limited by the Indwe and Kie; all those chiefs and tribes, which are beyond the pale, are best left to the entire settlement of their own intertribal disputes, so long as they do not infringe the boundary of Her Majesty's dominions, or injure those within the pale, who, as Her Majesty's subjects, are entitled to protection; for it has been found that interference never fails to produce evil instead of good. I have taken every occasion to make known to all missionaries or traders, being British subjects, who think fit to sojourn beyond the boundaries of Her Majesty's dominions, that they must make their own bargains with the independent chiefs, calculate their own risks, but not lay claim to any indemnification from the British Government; and I have not committed the British Government by any stipulations which might be made use of to support them in aggression, and give them undue influence, whether they be extra-provincial missionaries or traders, in their pious or commercial callings and private speculations, or take from the independent chief his right of self-defence. Armed interference should not be carried beyond the border, without previous reference to Her Majesty's Government. Interference in the way of advice, and offers of mediation, are admissable, but these must be unaccompanied by any menace, for a threat, if unavailing, must involve its enforcement.*

Extract of a LETTER from His Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., Governor of the Colony of South Africa, to Lady GEORGIANA CATHCART.

' Cape Town, July 3, 1855.]

Never was man more regretted by a large and grateful colony than your husband was here.

* Full details are also given in this letter for the government of the native chiefs Her Majesty's subjects, bound to obedience and entitled to protection.

Wherever I have been, in retired villages, in large towns, one universal feeling has prevailed of regard for him, of sorrow for his loss, and of sympathy for your suffering.

I have had put up for your perusal some papers and documents connected with this subject, which it will, I think, interest you to read.

NOTICE *by His Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.*

It is with sincere regret that His Excellency the Governor directs it to be notified to the inhabitants of this colony that a despatch has been received by Her Majesty's Secretary of State, from Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., commanding the British forces in the Crimea, announcing the fall, in the victorious battle of Inkerman, of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir George Cathcart, K.C.B., late Governor of this colony, whose successful exertions in putting an end to a prolonged and mischievous war on the frontier of the colony will be fresh in the grateful recollections of its inhabitants.

His Excellency cannot pay a more respectful tribute to the memory of this highly distinguished officer than by quoting the terms in which Lord Raglan announces this painful event:—

“Of the services of Lieut.-General Sir G. Cathcart, it is almost unnecessary to speak. They are known throughout the British Empire, and have within a short space of time been brought conspicuously before the country by his achievements at the Cape of Good Hope, whence he had only just returned when he was ordered to this army.

“By his death Her Majesty has been deprived of a most devoted

servant, an officer of the highest merit, while I personally have to deplore the loss of an attached and faithful friend."

By command of His Excellency the Governor,
RAWSON W. RAWSON, Colonial Secretary.

December 30, 1854.

*Extract from an ADDRESS presented to His Excellency
Sir GEORGE GREY, 25th January, 1855, at Graham's
Town.*

This impression is materially deepened by the consideration that your Excellency is the immediate successor of the late lamented Sir George Cathcart, whose memory will ever be gratefully cherished by the people of this province, not merely as the gallant defender of their hearths, but as the originator of measures which, if fully matured, must, in their opinion, insure the future prosperity of all classes.

While they profoundly mourn the severe loss sustained by his country in the fall of this devoted and able officer, they are cheered by the reflection that the conceptions of his powerful mind in reference to this frontier, and the natives beyond it, will be worked out by one whose large experience, mature judgment, and public character, give the best guarantee that can be afforded of ultimate success.

Signed by upwards of 450 inhabitants.

A true extract.

(Signed) W. F. LIDDLE.

*Extract from the REPLY of His Excellency Sir GEORGE
GREY, K.C.B., to the preceding ADDRESS.*

I thank you most sincerely for your expressions in relation to Sir George Cathcart. That great and good man loved this

country well. Pressed as he was for time in England, during his short stay there, he still always found time to work with me in doing all that he thought would benefit you. To do this, because he had, from the nature of his office, so much other public business to attend to, he stole from that family, from whom he had been so long separated, from whom he was so soon again to be separated, minutes most precious to them, and which they very grudgingly gave up. His last words to me were most earnest recommendations of the interests of this country to my care.

*Extract of a LETTER from THOMAS HOLDEN BOWKER, Esq.,
to Lady GEORGINA CATHCART.*

Cape Town, June 11, 1855.

I trust that the respect and esteem I bore your late honoured husband, Sir George Cathcart, will soften the abruptness of self-introduction. I was the last man who took leave of him as he came down the deep mountain-pass of Howisans Poort, leading from Graham's Town to Port Elizabeth. He then told me he had carefully packed up the portrait,* with his own hands, and that he should greatly esteem it for my sake. After some further conversation on frontier matters, he introduced me to General Jackson, now our Lieutenant-Governor. I took a reluctant leave of him who had done so much for us, and wishing him, in my heart, God speed, returned to Graham's Town.

I did not expect that he would so soon be required to take the field in the active service of his country, and on that account had delayed giving him an account of the continued success of the new settlement of Queen's Town, in which I had been entrusted with so considerable a share in the carrying out his measures for the defence of our troublesome border.

* Of Mr. Bowker.

At Queen's Town we are commencing arrangements for the erection of the "Cathcart Memorial." This the Committee, of which I am a member, have determined shall be a "Public Library," which is to be erected in the hexagon, in the centre of Queen's Town, where will be placed a tablet, with an appropriate inscription. We have been anxious to acquaint your Ladyship of this our wish to testify, in the above manner, our respect and esteem for one who has conferred, during his short stay, such lasting benefits upon a people who were "scattered and peeled" by their relentless enemies, and who are now, by the wise and prudent measures adopted, banded together for the public defence and their own, in a manner which is worthy of being imitated and followed by the whole colony.

From a GRAHAM'S TOWN JOURNAL, sent by L. H. MEURANT, Esq., to Lady G. CATHCART.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE KAT RIVER.

June 9, 1855.

The advantages which were expected to result from the introduction of intelligent, respectable, and industrious white men into this locality, are already visible. Substantial and decent houses and cottages are springing up in various localities, such as the village of Lower Blinkwater, Bay's Kraal, Fort Armstrong, Hirzay, Eland's Post, where a village is progressing. Not the least of these improvements is the completion by Mr. C. H. Meurant, jun., of an overshot water-mill, which it is said will grind ten muids of wheat in the twenty-four hours, and is so constructed that by the addition of another pair of stones, or a larger pair, it will grind at least double the quantity. When it is considered that the Kat River is an agricultural district, with capabilities for irrigation, second to no other in the colony, in which an immense quan-

tity of wheat can be raised, it will be seen that the erection of a water-mill is a very important improvement.

On the 2nd of June, 1855, the mill was set going. The magistrate and his family, the officer commanding the post, and a few friends, being present, when Mrs. Meurant, mother of the proprietor, named the structure, "Cathcart Mill," in remembrance of our late lamented Governor.

Enclosure in Sir G. Grey's Letter.

QUEEN'S TOWN.

A meeting of the inhabitants of the division of Queen's Town was held on the market ground on the great Muster Day, 1855, W. G. B. Shepston in the chair.

Gentlemen, I feel gratified that I am called upon to preside at this meeting because you are met to hand down to posterity the recollection of one whom I can never call to mind without the highest esteem and regard. Our sudden bereavement of him you feel, and his country mourns the loss it has sustained by his death. It will afford me the highest gratification to aid and assist in this undertaking, which is virtually to commemorate the wise and honest purposes of an individual and an indefatigable servant of Her Majesty. You are here to pay a tribute to the memory of the late Sir George Cathcart, but allow me to impress upon you that you have also to discharge a debt of gratitude, due by yourselves, to a faithful administrator of your government, the discharging of which will, I trust, stimulate you to similar acts in future.

Proposed by J. Sutherland, Esq., J.P.

Seconded by F. W. Barker, Esq.

Supported by E. B. Bell, Esq.

1. The inhabitants of the division of Queen's Town, viewing the measures and policy of the late Governor Cathcart with gratitude, as a servant of Her Majesty, who, in accepting a trust to be discharged to the Imperial Government, never forgot the trust due to the people over whom he presided—who sought not only to promote peace and prosperity in the frontier districts, but to civilise the warring tribes on their borders:

Resolved, therefore, that it is due to the memory of this excellent

man to subscribe funds to erect a Monument to his memory. There is a monument less perishable than brass. He will live in the esteem of the present generation, but this testimonial will tell those who come after us that we are not unmindful of, or ungrateful for, the many benefits he has conferred upon this division and the frontier generally, and point him out to posterity as the promoter of every good work and general benefactor of the country.

Mr. Bell, in supporting the resolution, said,

Sir, I am pleased that one of our farmers has seconded the resolution, and I rise in support of it. Every public man, early in his career, engraves on his breastplate his motto. Sir George Cathcart was cradled as a soldier, and early emblazoned on his shield "Valour and Honour," and when called upon by his Sovereign to discharge high diplomatic duties, he engraved on his breastplate, "Firmness, Integrity, Talent." This he carried with him to the grave. It is to such a man you are called upon to raise a memorial—not a painted post or pillar, but a memorial such as he would have approved of, which may afford instruction and amusement, not only to ourselves, but to our posterity. When you contemplate the career of Sir George Cathcart after he left our shores—called upon by his country to discharge the high office of Adjutant-General of the forces, willingly casting all his fancied plans of good government behind him, and at once taking his post. Then called upon to lead the British troops into battle as *one of their* generals, he shrank not, but fell, in the midst of victory, at their head, his death unparalleled save by James of Scotland at Flodden, who fell with the flower of nobility round him. So Cathcart fell, with his faithful Seymour, and all his staff in the field killed or wounded. It is to him I call upon you to carry out the intentions of this committee, and I feel assured you will be proud to attach your names to the subscription list before you.

Proposed by Gus. Chabaud, Esq.

Seconded by A. Bowker, Esq.

2. That the fund subscribed be expended in the erection of a suitable building with a tablet thereon, and the purchase of books, maps, &c., for the purpose of establishing a Public Library, to be denominated the

CATHCART LIBRARY.

Mr. Chabaud said,—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I rise to move this resolution without hesitation, as I feel it will neither require eloquence nor

persuasion on my part to ensure your hearty co-operation on behalf of the object desired by the committee.

It is necessary, if we desire to erect a testimonial to Sir George Cathcart, it should be done without delay. We must be unanimous. I feel satisfied this resolution will be so passed, forming, as it will, not only a substantive benefit to the town, but a lasting monument to the hero of Inkermann.

Proposed by the Rev. E. Green, M.A.

Seconded by J. J. Millar, Esq., J.P.

3. That his Excellency the Governor be solicited to grant a site for an hexagonal building, to be erected in the centre of the Market Square, according to the original intention of the late Sir George Cathcart.

Proposed by S. J. De Beer, Esq.

Seconded by R. Pringle, Esq.

Supported by J. Staples.

4. That the committee and collectors be requested to use every means for the prompt completion of the intentions of the subscribers.

B. W. B. GIDDY, Hon. Sec.

Among the printed extracts enclosed by Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., is also this, from a Cape paper.

THE LATE GENERAL CATHCART.

The following is an extract of a letter from an old experienced and upright colonist, and shows the esteem in which the above lamented officer was held by him.

“I observe in a late Journal that the inhabitants of Queen's Town and district are grateful to the memory of our late Governor, and intend to evince their gratitude in a practical and becoming manner.

“If ever there was a man since we arrived in this colony who deserved public approbation, that man is, undoubtedly, the good, the brave and victorious General Cathcart. Can any man blame me for giving this singularly just man his merits? You know, Sir, I am not in circumstances to give much, but I will give my mite: hence you can put my name down for £1 towards the contemplated memorial.”

Not only in England and at the Cape was the loss of General Cathcart deplored, but in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions it was lamented as a national and individual calamity. Of this more than one touching evidence was by the kindness of friends sent to his sorrowing family.

There are many scattered in various parts of the world, who may read with interest some passages here extracted from the *Montreal Herald* (Canada), of December, 1854. They are from a letter addressed to the Editor of that paper.

LETTER to the EDITOR of the MONTREAL HERALD, December, 1854.

SIR,—In the imperfect details which have reached us of the last action of the 5th of November, we learn only the fact that the Lieut.-General of the Fourth Division is amongst the killed, and the melancholy tidings seems to have been officially communicated.

In common with many others, I read this intelligence with a sadness, which even strong national feelings of exultation could not subdue. We cannot but feel that a most gallant soldier has been taken from an important command, for which he possessed singular requisites. One who united with chivalrous honour and a high sense of duty, a nature warm, generous, and unaffected as ever gladdened society, and whose influence, in every department of life in which he mixed, was as great as it deserved to be.

I observed in your paper, which reached me this morning, a short obituary of this remarkable man; and with a full sense of the responsibility of the duty, I, who had an opportunity of seeing much of him when in this country, will endeavour to add something to the store of recollections which will doubtless be given to the world. I do not pretend to give any consecutive sketch of his career, for I have not the materials at hand; but much that I will include in this tribute of deep and sincere respect is what has

* In January, 1838, Lieutenant-Colonel Cathcart, then on half-pay unattached, was sent to Canada on a particular service, and in the spring and summer of the same year the 7th Hussars and 1st (or King's) Dragoon Guards were sent out. He was appointed to the command of the latter regiment, and subsequently, by (Sir J. Colborne) Lord Seaton, of all the troops, regular and irregular, south of the river St. Lawrence, amounting to about 5000 men. Here he was called upon for incessant activity, in protecting the whole line of frontier of Lower Canada towards the States of Vermont and New York, from the perpetual inroads of refugees and sympathisers. Also as a magistrate he was instrumental in carrying out the views of Lord Seaton.

fallen under my own notice, and the remaining part, is, I believe, substantially true.

The Honourable George Cathcart, born in London May 12, 1794, came from a race of soldiers, in whom, among the most sterling qualities, was ever found a rare and instinctive modesty. He was barely eighteen years of age when the great events of 1812 occurred, and as his father was ambassador at Petersburg, the mind of the young Lieutenant of Carabineers (6th Dragoons) naturally turned to the theatre of war.

Throughout the whole of the campaign of 1813 in Germany, and 1814 in France, he was with the grand army as aide-de-camp to Lord Cathcart,* and had the advantage of being present at eight great battles, including Lutzen, Bautzen, Dresden, Culm, Leipsic, and subsequently Brienne, Bar-sur-Aube, and finally the taking of Paris. Young as he then was, he diligently made notes of the occurrences of this period. For years he kept them by him, and employed at different times many leisure hours in their revision and arrangement; but it was not until the year 1850† that he published what he terms, with the modesty which accompanied him through life, "Commentaries on the War of 1813-14."

This book I have carefully read, and I am sure that no military man will consider his library complete without it. The language is forcible and the style condensed with a rare severity, and being the production of an irreproachable eye-witness, the book will retain its place in the literature of the country, equally with the fame of its author in her military annals.‡

* Who was, as a British General, attached to the Russian army, and his advice considerably aided in closing the campaign at Leipsic.

† When doing duty in the Tower of London as Deputy-Lieutenant.

‡ This book is thus mentioned in the "Gentlemen's Magazine" of January, 1855, in the Obituary.

General Cathcart published, in 1850, a volume of Commentaries on these campaigns, which prove that, though so young an officer, he was an earnest observer of the lessons in the art of war given in the several hard-fought fields from May to November, 1813, when Napoleon (with the broken remnant of the vast army which, to the amazement of all Europe, he had brought into Germany after the terrible disasters of the Russian campaign) was compelled, with the shadows of his coming fall gathering thick around him, to re-cross the Rhine. A valuable introduction explains the several systems of discipline amongst the Allies and their enemies, and exhibits the influence of national character under the several circumstances of attack, defeat, and during long and arduous marches. The general line and movements in line system acted upon in all the armies of the world from the time of Gustavus Adolphus is contrasted with that which Napoleon was compelled

After these events had restored peace to Europe, and Napoleon, exiled to Elba, had returned, we find Lieutenant Cathcart in the field as aide-de-camp to the great Duke at Waterloo. He continued on the staff of the Duke of Wellington to the end of the service of the army of occupation, and was reappointed when his Grace accepted the office of Master-General of the Ordnance. In that capacity he accompanied the Duke of Wellington to the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1818, to Verona in 1822, to Russia on a mission of condolence to the Emperor Nicholas, and to attend the funeral of the Emperor Alexander in 1826, but during the years he held the post of aide-de-camp he was usually engaged in regimental duty with the 7th Hussars as Captain. In 1828 he was gazetted to the command of the 57th Foot as Lieutenant-Colonel, but exchanged to the 8th* to adopt, partly by the fraternity and equality nations, so adverse to discipline, but universal among the multitude of conscripts, partly by the impossibility of bringing into perfect order such enormous masses of troops as his ambition and impetuosity rendered essential; and it is observed, "It is not just to disparage the old system, or unreservedly to approve the new one."^a

Two advantages were, however, attained—celerity of movement in the field, and the right use of reserves. A judicious commander will combine the systems according to circumstances.

The book is altogether a plain soldier-like chapter of history, written by an eye-witness, who never allows himself to be tempted by opportunities for brilliant description from the force of purely professional narrative.

* It would appear almost an act of justice to that fine regiment, the 8th Foot, to give in a note a few words recorded by Lieutenant-Colonel Cathcart himself of the period he passed with it.

"I was at Enniskillen to receive the regiment on its marching in.

"At this time it was under the command of Major Ball,^b who delivered it over to me in perfect order, and to whose experience and cordial assistance I was much indebted for some time, until I had made myself master of those details of the service which are peculiar to infantry and differ from the cavalry, in which latter service I had served my 'apprenticeship;' and I have never found that cordial support and assistance wanting in him or any other officer of the 8th since it has been under my command, whenever occasion required it. At this time party spirit was at its greatest height, as it was at the period of that agitation which, in the next session of Parliament, was yielded to though not terminated by the Emancipation Bill. My regiment was composed of two-thirds Irish, and of its whole strength nearly one-half were Roman Catholics. With regard to party spirit, I at once took care to establish the principle that, as soldiers, we had nothing to do with politics, our duty being to support the lawful authorities, but not to interfere or take part of our own accord, in the disputes of the country. The regiment

^a See page 5 of Commentaries.

^b This regiment in India has now two Lieutenant-Colonels who were in it when commanded by General Cathcart.

(or King's) Regt. of Foot, with which he served for about seven years in Ireland, Nova Scotia, Bermuda, and Jamaica.

Peace succeeded the occupation of Paris, and there was little to

gave me no trouble, and in the midst of the most violent party excitement we remained perfectly tranquil in our armed neutrality. I occupied myself in compiling a code of 'Standing Orders' for the regiment, which I had printed at Enniskillen. It has been of great use ever since in keeping up a uniform, steady system of discipline, and has saved the necessity of frequent occasional orders.

"In the winter, when the ground was sufficiently hardened by frost to carry the men, I never lost an opportunity of taking them out in marching order, and by some extended skirmish, or outpost practice, improved myself and the regiment very much in the details of those duties which can only be acquired by practice. The steady barrack-yard drill was also not neglected. Dublin was the head-quarters in the next year, and in 1830 came an order to form the dépôt, and prepare for foreign service."

Lieutenant-Colonel Cathcart embarked in July with his family, and the head-quarters of the regiment, and, after forty-one days' sail, they made the coast of Nova Scotia. On reaching Halifax, the adjutant, Mr. J. Irwine Whitty, was sent to Sir Peregrine Maitland (who was then Governor Commander-in-Chief) with the effective state of the division on board ship. ¶

"Nothing could be more agreeable or instructive, in a military point of view, than the frequent exercises and practices—sometimes under the command of the General, frequently with his permission—between the several regiments, 96th, 34th, 8th, and 52nd, under the command of Colonel Ferguson; Rifles, Colonel Eccles, in a country formed by nature in every respect for light infantry practice on a great scale and within easy distance of our barracks; besides this, Sir Peregrine Maitland, who was very fond of these exercises, used to avail himself of one day of the assembled militia to have a still more extensive manœuvre, aided by a combined attack of gun-boats from the fleet—about 400 sailors and marines. On these occasions we had between 4000 and 5000 men in the field, with a good proportion of militia as well as regular artillery. I valued these practices, in one of which I had nearly all the militia with my own regiment—the Sappers and Miners—and had to fall back, occupying and disputing all tenable ground for a distance of two or three miles against the Rifle Brigade and 96th—as useful practice in the management of irregular troops, and, with the aid of two inspecting field officers whom I appointed brigadiers, I found the Nova Scotia Militia perfectly manageable; and in their own country, which only admits of irregular, or light infantry warfare, I am convinced that with a small nucleus of regular British troops to support, they might be rendered more available in a short time than a body entirely composed of regiments drilled to the highest pitch of barrack-yard proficiency, according to the system of the present day."

This agreeable life was not destined to be prolonged beyond three years; for in consequence of the emancipation of the negroes, it became necessary to draw all disposable forces from the north as well as south, to place them within reach of reinforcing the troops in the West Indies.

perform which would have its reward in honourable notices, promotions, and decorations ; the superficial observer would conceive that, in the monotony of garrison duty, there is a narrow field for the energies and abilities of a commander. But the case is otherwise. Any officer, with any sense of duty and responsibility, will bear in mind that the happiness of many is entrusted to him, and he will by his conduct and influence show that he is never forgetful of the trust.

It was in Canada that Lieutenant-Colonel Cathcart assumed the command of the King's Dragoon Guards, and it is of this portion of his career the writer would more immediately speak. On joining the regiment, shortly before the rebellion in autumn of 1838, he found that though the discipline, so far as field operations went, was sufficiently good, there was some disorder in the interior economy, owing to change of officers, &c., which demanded his immediate control. He must have paid the greatest attention to his duties, for he was acquainted with all the minutiae and detail, which can be only obtained by careful observation.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cathcart was distinguished as a cavalry officer. No dragoon of any rank had a more thorough knowledge of every branch of that service. While with the 7th Hussars, it is believed there was not a better swordsman in it, either with the small sword or sabre ; and he was a splendid horseman ; nor must we omit his own peculiar way of manœuvring cavalry. A small pamphlet* published by him on the subject, as usual for private circulation, is a masterpiece of the kind. He did away with the word *canter*, as only fit for the *manège* ; he made regulations for fencing parties, introduced a movement for troops to pass uneven ground, and handled them with astonishing facility. Only those in command of the frontier troops know the interest and care he took in their formation, and he was well repaid by the admirable and efficient corps they became. We allude to the troops of Captains Sweeny, Jones, and Ermatinger.

Generally in cavalry regiments there is less distance between officer and men than in the infantry. The horse is the great link of union, and they meet on common ground in so many places that the tone of address and manner become more friendly and frank. In this regiment the line of discipline was never passed. Insolence or disrespect to an officer was unknown. Indeed the captains were

* Sir Benjamin D'Urban read this pamphlet, and recorded his approval in marginal notes.

looked upon as guardians of the rights of the soldier; and if any felt aggrieved by the petty tyranny of the sergeant, the retort usually was that an appeal would be made to the captain at mid-day stables. Until Colonel Cathcart's time there was no fixed rule. "Contrary to standing orders," was an expression often in the mouth of men in authority; but it had no meaning. His great work was a codification of the duties of every rank in the regiment. This book is written concisely; yet fully explanatory on all points. It is unknown, for it was published privately in this city by Armour and Ramsay, fifteen years ago, and distributed in the regiment. We question much if the copies are not nearly all lost, for it was entirely confined to those for whom it was written; and that it should be a text book, it was put into the hands of the private as well as the officer. With a very distinct recollection of its contents the writer affirms that there are few military works which can be studied so profitably, and if these lines should ever meet the eye of any high in power at the Horse Guards, he would add that it would be an act of the greatest public benefit to publish these "standing orders"* for the use of the British army. A civilian could study them with great profit, for they are indicative of the man; the pervading principle is a high sense of duty, that each rank should fulfil the trust delegated to it; then, that trust was defined and the mode of fulfilment pointed out.

To the humble he held out a hope; he encouraged and cheered on by his written words, as he did in the bright example of his own pure life; to those rising in the profession he dwelt forcibly on the urgent need of self-control and exertion; to those higher in authority he inculcated the necessity of example and propriety of life; in every page is the author's consideration for others apparent, and a high sense of duty is blended with the purest common sense and the greatest professional skill. Few regiments could be compared with the King's Dragoon Guards when under the command of this great and good man.

During the whole period of Sir George Cathcart's stay in Canada (about five years), he took much interest in the development of the resources of the province. He was one of the Commissioners of the Chambly Plank Road, which was nearly the first of this character made in the country. With considerable knowledge of engineering, he superintended the whole work. It was in those

* "They are framed in strict accordance with Her Majesty's General Regulations."