

*Whitehall, July 15, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, granting the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto the Right Honourable John Blair Balfour, Lord Justice General and Lord President of the Court of Session in Scotland, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Kinross, of Glasclune, in the county of Haddington.

*Whitehall, July 15, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, granting the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto the Right Honourable Sir Ughtred James Kay-Shuttleworth, Baronet, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, in the County Palatine of Lancaster.

*Whitehall, July 15, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, granting the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto Sir Francis Wallace Grenfell, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Lieutenant-General in the Army, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces with the rank of General in Malta, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Grenfell, of Kilvey, in the county of Glamorgan.

*Whitehall, July 15, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, granting the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto Sir Francis Knollys, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Private Secretary to His Majesty the King, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Knollys, of Caversham, in the county of Oxford.

*Whitehall, July 15, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, granting the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto Algernon Bertram Freeman-Mitford, Esquire, C.V.O., C.B., and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Redesdale, of Redesdale, in the county of Northumberland.

*Whitehall, July 17, 1902.*

The KING has been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to grant the dignity of a Baron of the said United Kingdom unto the Right Honourable William Lawrie Jackson, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Baron Allerton, of Chapel Allerton, in the West Biding of the county of York.

*War Office,*

*18th July, 1902.*

The following Despatch has been received from Lord Kitchener, G.C.B., &c., Commanding-in-Chief, South Africa:—

From Lord Kitchener to the Secretary of State for War.

Army Head-Quarters, South Africa,

SIR, Pretoria, 1st June, 1902.

1. I have the honour to forward a continuation of my despatch of the 8th April, 1902.

At this latter date the Boer leaders were just arriving at Klerksdorp to hold a preliminary conference, which resulted, on the 9th May, in a request for an informal meeting at Pretoria with his Excellency the High Commissioner and myself.

Into the details of what occurred at the discussions which followed between the 11th and 17th April, I need not here enter. It is sufficient for me to state that, representing themselves to be without mandate from their burghers to terminate hostilities, the Boer leaders again left Pretoria on the 18th, under safe conduct, to consult their commandoes and elect delegates to attend a general conference to be held at Vereeniging on the 15th May, at which the acceptance or otherwise of the conditions of peace communicated to them could be fully discussed and voted upon.

No armistice was granted during the period required for consultation with the burghers, but the necessity of avoiding interference with the prearranged meetings of commandoes, the dates and places of which were communicated to me by the leaders prior to their departure from Pretoria, necessarily somewhat circumscribed the operations which have been conducted by our troops during the past few weeks.

Every possible assistance was given to the Boer leaders to facilitate the work of consulting their followers. They were granted safe conducts, under flags of truce, and passes for their officers and messengers, and our troops scrupulously avoided the localities selected as the meeting places of the different commandoes. Nevertheless, good progress was made with our operations, up to the conclusion of hostilities, as the following narrative will show:—

2. After his return to Ermelo on the 5th April, Major-General Bruce Hamilton, with the columns under Brigadier-General Spens, Colonel Mackenzie, Colonel Allenby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart moved north to Carolina, and, having been reinforced there by the troops under Colonel Park, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Williams, and Lieutenant-Colonel Wing, proceeded to take up a position, facing south, between Carolina and Groot Olifant's River Station, preparatory to a sweep down to the Standerton—Greylingstad Railway about Val Station.

By the 11th April our columns were in position ready for this movement, Colonel Park being on the right, and then in order, from right to left, Lieutenant-Colonel Williams, Lieutenant-Colonel Wing, Brigadier-General Spens, Colonel Mackenzie, Colonel Allenby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart. The advance commenced on the 12th, and the same evening our troops halted upon a general line which extended from Welstand (129) (on the Olifant's River) to Klipstapel (145) (on the Carolina-Ermelo Road). On the night of the 13th the position occupied ran from Vriessgewaagd (182) (to the west of Bethal) to Uitzicht (32) (south-west of Ermelo), and on the 14th our columns closed into the railway at the following points:—Colonels Park and Williams at Val