

consequences of a native inroad, which those at a distance from the frontier line seem to treat with the same apathy as nine-tenths of the farmers do in the colony. The wily chief Moshesh has been at work by means of letters addressed to the Boers, and which have been widely circulated, to lead them to believe that the Basutu people are their friends; a translation of one of these letters I enclose herewith for your Excellency's perusal. The farmers in Captain A. Kok's country and about the Riet River, in excuse for not turning out when ordered, say that they are afraid to leave their families exposed to the Griquas, who are not to be trusted even for a day, owing to the sympathy they openly expressed towards the Hottentots within the colony. Captain Adam Kok, although somewhat tardy in calling out his people, joined our camp with 180 men on the evening before the affair at Vier Voet; he left the camp with one and a few of his people on the 4th instant, and has now gone to Phillipolis to bring up more of his men.

Both the Boers and Griquas are fortunately so far involved that they cannot retreat, and Moshesh must give up the hope of gaining them over to his side. The chief Sikonyela took advantage of the enemy being engaged with us, and made his escape home; he will now be prepared to take the field with a considerable force on the 21st instant. I am glad to be able to acquaint your Excellency that with the exception of two men slightly wounded, there were no casualties either among the troops or Burghers.

I have, &c.

H. D. WARDEN,  
British Resident.

*His Excellency Sir H. G. Smith, Bart. G.C.B.  
Her Majesty's High Commissioner.*

*Camp, near Thaba Uchu,  
4th July, 1851.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, that the patrol detailed in my letter of the 20th ultimo,\* accompanied by about 800 Borolongs, under the chief Moroko, and 120 Burghers, marched from Thaba Uchu, on the 19th, and reached Platberg on the following day, when the British Resident sought an interview with Moshesh, which, however, that chief declined.

The chief Sykonyella who accompanied Major Warden from Bloem Fontein, attempted to cross the country the following day, under an escort of 80 men, to reach his home, but was attacked by a large body of Basutus, and compelled to take refuge on a "Kopie," where he made a bold stand till the next day, when I sent a party to his relief, which brought him back; on the 29th, the whole force, with the Platberg Bastards, and Fingoes and their families, who were afraid to remain behind, proceeded to the Vierfoot mountain, from whence it was expected that Sykonyella might proceed to his own mountain in safety; on reaching which the advanced guard was fired upon, but not a single shot was returned. The force bivouacked near the mountain, and was joined the following day by Captain Adam Kok and his party (180 men). During the whole of Sunday the enemy was seen in great force on the mountains, and during

\* Royal Artillery, 1 officer, 21 men.

45th Regiment, 1 officer, 93 men.

Cape Mounted Riflemen, 1 officer, 45 men.

Total.—3 officers, 159 men. Two guns, 6-pounders.

the night wounded a Fingoe sentry. Having made arrangements to attack them at daylight, next morning the greater part of the force moved towards the mountain, which they ascended in gallant style, covered by a 6-pounder, driving the enemy before them and capturing an immense number of cattle; unfortunately, the Borolongs remained on the mountain until surrounded by three large bodies of Basutus, who suddenly made their appearance and rescued the cattle, killing 138 Borolongs (including two of Moroko's brothers) and about fourteen other natives, with a loss, however, on their own side of about the same number.

The chief Moroko dreading an attack upon his town, and being, moreover, encumbered with about 500 women and children, the British Resident recommended that the force should retire and encamp at this place where it is intended to remain until considerably augmented by a Burgher force which the Resident has again called on.

It will be seen by the enclosed letter from Captain Bates, 45th Regiment, that the enemy made a bold attempt to capture the gun, which, however, was most gallantly defended by Captain Bates and the party under his command.

I have, &c.

THOS. DONOVAN, Major,  
Capt. C. M. Rifles commanding.

*Lieut.-Colonel Cloete, K.H.*

*Dy. Qr. Mr. General,  
King William's Town.*

SIR,

*Camp, Vierfoot, 1st July 1851.*

I HAVE the honour to report that in compliance with your verbal orders, I marched yesterday at sun-rise with a patrol, strength as per margin\*, to cover Moroko's commando in their ascent of Maritzanis Mountain.

One division ascended without opposition by one of the two practicable passes.

I then proceeded to support the second division in their ascent by the other pass. My route to this led round the northern point of the mountain, a distance of about ten miles from the camp; here I halted according to your instructions, but being informed that it was necessary to move further up the valley to support our allies in their ascent, I did so, and they succeeded.

Having thus effected the object for which I was sent, I was about to return, when I found that a large commando of the enemy, who must have lain concealed, had placed themselves across my route, one division occupying the rocks on my left, the other resting in a deep ravine on my right. This placed me in a critical position, and seeing their number increasing, I resolved at once to dash through them, which was done, under a heavy fire from both sides; this threw the natives of the Cape Mounted Rifles into considerable confusion, notwithstanding Ensign Somerset's cool example and endeavours to maintain order. I therefore halted and fired some rounds of "common case," which checked the fire of the enemy. I limbered up, and proceeded at a smart pace, under an incessant fire, to join the open country. The enemy, however, continuing to press us from

\* 1 6-pounder Artillery, horsed as Horse Artillery, under command of Lieutenant Singer, with 12 gunners and drivers.

35 rank and file Cape Mounted Rifles, under Ensign Somerset.

50 Burghers, under Commandant Erivee.

Staff Assistant-Surgeon Cameron, M.D.