



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1852.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, May 12, 1852.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Her Majesty will hold a Drawing-Room, at St. James's-Palace, on Thursday, the 3rd of June next, at two o'clock.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, May 31, 1852.

Notice is hereby given, that the State Apartments at Windsor Castle will be closed on and after Wednesday next, the 2nd of June, until further orders.

Downing-Street, May 31, 1852.

THE Right Honourable Sir John Pakington has this day received two Dispatches and their Enclosures, of which the following are Copies, addressed to the Right Honourable Earl Grey by Lieutenant-General Sir Henry G. W. Smith, Bart., K.G.C.B.

No. 56.—Military.

*King William's Town,
7th April, 1852.*

MY LORD,

MY Dispatch to your Lordship, No. 47, of the 17th ultimo, will have described the operations and movements of the troops under my command up to that date.

2. Shortly after its transmission, Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval reported that in continuance of his operations he had completely cleared the Fish River Bush of the enemy, spoiling him of 350 head of cattle and many goats and horses, capturing also several stand of arms, and slaying many of his men. I cannot too highly commend the very able, judicious, and soldier-like conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval in the performance of a very arduous and difficult duty, which he effected by a succession of movements so well combined that the service was carried out with the loss of only one man killed and one wounded. The Lieutenant-Colonel speaks in terms of great praise of the conduct of Major Armstrong of the Cape Mounted Rifles, and of the troops and burghers employed, the latter numbering about thirty-five from the district of Albany.

3. The facility with which, comparatively speaking, the Fish River Bush has been cleared on this occasion, may induce your Lordship to regard former operations as ill planned. I pray you therefore to bear in mind that the Kafir fought in this dense bush in a very different spirit, and that the numerous Hottentots, for-

merly in this stronghold, had dispersed before the late operations. I regard Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval as an officer of the highest promise.

4. The troops under Major-General Somerset, after the enemy had been dislodged from the Water Kloof and Fuller's Hoek, pursued him through the Kat River, having sent cavalry patrols into the passes of the Water Kloof. The latter slew several of the fugitives, and captured thirty-eight horses.

5. The columns of Lieutenant-Colonel Michel and Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre having joined me at the Blinkwater on the 16th ultimo, I marched on the 18th for the valley of the Chumie, on the line of the enemy's retreat into the Amatolas. From that point, on the 21st ultimo, Lieutenant-Colonels Michel and Eyre were ordered to penetrate the Inner Amatolas; while Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval, having been directed to march upon Fort Cox on the completion of his operations in the Fish River Bush, entered the mountains on that side. The instructions to these officers are annexed.

6. Colonels Michel and Eyre carried on four days' most active operations, being joined on the third by Colonel Perceval; destroying the enemy's villages, especially those of Hottentot rebels, in his most formidable holds; Colonel Eyre acting on the arc of the circle of which the operations of Colonel Michel and Colonel Perceval were the chord. They captured all the cattle they saw—about fifty head—and each officer in his report regards the flight of the enemy, and his abandonment of the Amatolas, as most complete. They could see them and their families at a distance, moving in great numbers towards the Kei. Colonel Michel thus expresses himself:—"From my own observation I am enabled decidedly to say that the Gaika tribes generally have migrated from these their strongholds. With crops utterly destroyed, and with a spirit so broken that now two companies may traverse with safety where heretofore a large column was required, I deem the war in this quarter virtually concluded, although the faithlessness of seeming allies, and bands of marauding Hottentots, may yet for a time prevent the conclusion of a peace."—The following occurs in the report of Colonel Eyre:—"We advanced through the Bomah Pass to the Quilli Quilli (Proper), thence through the Gulu Valley, ascending the heights, and back again through the Bomah Pass. The result satisfied me that this part of the mountains was entirely abandoned.