

message to inform Colonel Rowlands of his intention to attack them on the 15th, and considering his force weak for the duty, asked him for the assistance of some Swazies.

Lieutenant-Colonel Buller left Luneberg on the 15th at four a.m., for the Intombi Valley, where Manyanyoba's stronghold was situated.

Commandant Schermbucker accompanied him with a detail as per margin.*

Dividing his force, part proceeded along the Krantzes, among which were the hiding-places, while the remainder attacked them in detail from below.

Five of the principal fastnesses were thus attacked and taken. Colonel Buller states about 34 Zulus were certainly killed, and probably more; 375 cattle, 254 goats, 8 sheep were taken.

A list of the casualties is attached, which considering the ground he considers to be comparatively small.

8. Lieutenant-Colonel Buller refers to the behaviour of the Native Contingent as follows:—
"Wood's Irregulars fought well, owing much, I think, to the admirable manner in which they were led by Major Leet, 1st Battalion 13th Foot, Lieutenant Williams, 58th Regiment, and Captain Hook, 2nd Battalion Wood's Irregulars."

I am anxious this should be recorded, as Colonel Wood had, when organizing this native force, originally endeavoured to appoint as officers only those persons who could speak Zulu. He has however since found it necessary to appoint British officers who had no such knowledge.

9. I also append an extract from his report regarding the conduct of a Mr. William Peters.

"Mr. William Peters, a sawyer, living in the bush about 15 miles from Luneberg, hearing the firing thought that Luneberg was being attacked, and at once marched on foot to the assistance of the garrison, bringing up with him all the natives he could muster, about 40. Such conduct is beyond praise, and contrasts strangely with that of the inhabitants of Luneberg, not one of whom so much as offered to join us. I gave Mr. Peters 25 head of cattle, and five for the family of one of the natives who was killed while assisting us."

10. In consequence of the manner in which the Zulus had spared neither women nor children in their late raid, orders were given to burn the kraals, in the propriety of which instructions under the circumstances I fully concur.

11. On Colonel Buller's return to Luneberg late that night he heard of Colonel Rowlands moving on the same place with what he believed to be a strong force, so he gave up his intention of again attacking Manyanyoba the following day, as he believed Colonel Rowlands would do so.

12. Colonel Wood, in forwarding this report, brings to my notice the good service again performed by Lieutenant-Colonel Buller, C.B., Mr. Puys, likewise Major Leet. Colonel Buller also refers to the value of the assistance given him by Commandant Schumbrucker.

13. On the same day that this force left Colonel Wood's camp, another left Derby, under Colonel Rowlands, C.B., V.C., as per margin.† This reached Tolako Mountain at 9 a.m. on the 15th instant; the enemy held the south side, their fastnesses among the rocks being concealed by bush.

197 cattle, 70 goats, 46 sheep were captured.

1 Zulu prisoner; 40 women and children came in.

* Kaffrarian Rifles, Captain Miller, 8 men; Luneberg Natives, 100.

† 103 Transvaal Rangers, 15. Boers, 240 Fairlie's Swazies, 75 Vol Corps Natives,

On our side the casualties were:—6 of Fairlie's Swazies wounded. 1 Horse Transvaal Rangers killed.

Five kraals below Umbileni's Caves were burnt. From the statement of the prisoner, it would appear that the chief, Magaleni, was killed, together with ten men in the same cave.

14. Of the state of health of the troops, it would seem the Ekowe force is in good health, the place being favourably situated.

The troops at Lower Tugela are so in a less degree. The force at Helpmakaar, Rorke's Drift, and Dundee is suffering from diarrhoea and fever in many cases. Several officers now at Pieter Maritzburg who have lately returned from that column are suffering; no doubt the severe work they went through is telling on them.

I regret to say that Colonel Hassard, Commanding R.E., and his adjutant, Lieutenant Baxter, R.E., are both obliged to leave Natal this mail from ill health.

I have &c.

(Signed) CHELMSFORD, L.G.

RETURN of such Casualties as have been officially reported up to the date, from 22nd January to 15th February, 1879.

22nd January, 1879, at Isandhlwana.

KILLED.

Corporal Mansfield, Royal Engineers.
Canteen Steward Seaton, 1st Battalion 24th Foot.

10th February, 1879, at Kambula Hill.

WOUNDED.

Trooper Hans Bridenbach, Burgher Corps.

15th February, 1879, at Labuscaynes.

WOUNDED.

Six Swazies, Colonel Wood's Column.

16th February, 1879, at Intombi River.

KILLED.

Two Natives, Colonel Wood's Column.

MISSING.

One Native, Colonel Wood's Column.

WOUNDED.

One Native, Colonel Wood's Column.

W. BELLAIRS,

D.A.G.

Natal, 23rd February, 1879.

Enclosure in A.A.

Ekowe, February 18, 1879.

DEAR LORD CHELMSFORD,

ON the 11th instant I wrote to you to the following effect. I acknowledged your letters of the 6th and 8th received that morning, also a telegram from Lieutenant Kingscote, R.N., informing me that two regiments had been sent out from England and ought then to have reached the Cape. This, however, was not to interfere with your orders to me. (These orders, you will remember, were that you wished me to retire to the Tugela with a portion of the garrison; but that if it was true there were very large forces of Zulus in the neighbourhood of the Ingoni, as you had been informed, I was not to risk having to face too great odds.) I wrote to say that I was prepared to leave this at 12 midnight last Sunday, with 99th Regiment, about 850 men; Naval Brigade, 155 men; Royal Engineers, 50 men, which would leave one section here; Native Pioneers, 90 men; and about 150 Native Contingent and spare drivers and leaders.

This would leave here six companies Buffs,