

Major George Edward Phillips, Royal Engineers. (Expedition against the Mullah in Somaliland.)

Major Charles Louis Rowe Petrie, the Manchester Regiment. (Expedition into the Lango country.)

Major Edmund Howard Gorges, the Manchester Regiment. (Turkana Punitive Expedition.)

Captain Charles Godfrey, Indian Staff Corps. (Ashanti Expedition.)

#### BREVET.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Sparkes, C.M.G., employed with the Egyptian Army, to be Colonel, in recognition of his services during an Expedition in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province. Dated 29th November, 1900.

Major J. T. Evatt, D.S.O., Indian Staff Corps, to be Lieutenant-Colonel in recognition of his services during operations in Uganda. Dated 24th April, 1901.

The Brevet Majority dated 5th February, 1901, conferred on this Officer in London Gazette of 15th November, 1901, is hereby cancelled.

Major E. J. E. Swayne, Indian Staff Corps, to be Lieutenant-Colonel in recognition of his services during the Expedition against the Mullah in Somaliland. Dated 18th November, 1901.

Captain W. C. G. Heneker, the Connaught Rangers, to be Major in recognition of his services during the operations in the Ishan and Uliya Country. Dated 31st July, 1901.

Captain T. A. Cubitt, Royal Artillery, to be Major in recognition of his services during the expeditions to Kontagora. Dated 21st March, 1901.

The King has further been pleased to approve of the grant of the Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field to the undermentioned Non-commissioned Officers:—

Battery-Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Heffernan, Royal Field Artillery, late West African Frontier Force. (Tawari Expedition.)

Corporal F. West, Royal Highlanders, late Colour-Sergeant West African Frontier Force. (Bida Expedition.)

Corporal H. Edwards, Royal Lancaster Regiment, late Sergeant West African Frontier Force. (Bida Expedition.)

Sergeant Adada, 2nd Battalion Central African Regiment. (Ashanti Expedition.)

#### ADDITIONAL NOTICE.

The undermentioned Officers are noted for consideration as follows:—

For the Brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel on attaining the substantive rank of Major:

Captain and Brevet Major W. G. L. Beynon, D.S.O., Indian Staff Corps, in recognition of his services during the expedition against the Mullah in Somaliland.

For the Brevet rank of Major on attaining the rank of Captain:

Lieutenant H. A. Porter, 19th Hussars, in recognition of his services during the expedition to Bida.

For early promotion to the rank of Captain:

Lieutenant G. H. F. Abadie, the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), in recognition of his services during the expedition to Kontagora.

War Office,

April 25, 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, 8th March, 1902.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 8th February, 1902, I have the honour to forward herewith an account of the operations which have taken place since that date:—

1. The constant pressure which has been brought to bear upon the Boers in the Eastern Transvaal during the past three months by General Bruce Hamilton's columns resulted, about the middle of February, in such a complete dispersion of the enemy that it became almost impossible to locate formed bodies of Boers in any part of the district.

So untenable indeed did this portion of the country become for the enemy's commandoes, that General Louis Botha found it necessary, apparently, to quit the district altogether.

On the 13th February he moved south with a considerable following, and, passing through Swaziland, north of the Wakkerstroom—Piet Retief line of blockhouses, made straight for the neighbourhood of Vryheid. His actual motive for making this move must necessarily, at present, be a matter of guess-work. It may have been prompted by a desire to cause fresh unrest in Natal and Zululand, but was more probably the outcome of an urgent need for temporarily disengaging his harassed men from the close and unceasing pursuit to which they have for so long been subjected.

No time was lost, when General Botha's departure from the Eastern Transvaal had been fully verified, in following him up; and General Bruce Hamilton, with the columns under Brigadier-General Spens, Colonels Mackenzie and Allenby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, marched by Wakkerstroom towards Vryheid in pursuit of the Boer force.

This movement was commenced on 25th February, and on 6th March General Bruce Hamilton reported that he had again recovered touch with the enemy in the neighbourhood of Vryheid.

The troops under Brigadier-General Plumer, Colonel Pulteney and Lieutenant-Colonel Wing remained to operate in the angle formed by the upper waters of the Vaal River and the Standerton—Volksrust Railway, and to continue the pursuit of those Boers who had failed to effect a junction with General Botha when he quitted the district. Some of these men were known to be within the angle just alluded to, and General Plumer and Colonel Wing at once commenced a combined sweep of the country from a line Blaauwkoop—Paardekop right up to the apex of the triangle at Standerton Railway Station.

This movement terminated on the night of 28th February. Only some 40 Boers had been seen, of whom General Plumer's Queenslanders captured 12, and Lieutenant-Colonel Wing's men 8. In the district east of Springs, where Brigadier-General G. Hamilton has continued his operations, the enemy has received some accession of strength.

About 15th February, at least 150 Boers were pressed north out of the Zuikerboschrand by the action of our columns operating east of Heidelberg. They effected a crossing of the Standerton Railway, near Botha's Kraal Station, and moving north, attached themselves to the commando which has for some time been concealed in this district.