

probably escaped early in the fight, and was brought in upon the pony of the scout sent out to see what was happening.

The numbers of the enemy's dead, as stated by witnesses, vary, but the Somali or Yao cannot be relied upon to estimate numbers with any approach to exactitude. The Yao can only count up to 10.

The evidence of Somalis points to the fact that some outside tribes (Adones, probably) were engaged in the attack.

The evidence of Yaos speaks of fair men (probably Arabs) and others (probably Adones), who are negroes, and Somalis, as having been seen in the fight.

The whole evidence goes to prove that the fight was a most gallant one, and that the majority of the men had finished their ammunition before the square was broken by an overwhelming rush of spearmen.

Most of the men who returned appear only to have had 100 rounds on the person. These men belonged to Captain Olivey's Company, the Sikhs; the other company took out 150 rounds per man.

G. FORESTIER-WALKER,

Chief Staff Officer.

From Brigadier-General W. H. Manning, Commanding Somaliland Field Force, to the Secretary of State for War.

Bohotle,

SIR,

28th June, 1903.

I have the honour to enclose a despatch from Major J. E. Gough, commanding the flying column of the Berbera—Bohotle force, forwarded to me through Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Swann, commanding the Berbera—Bohotle line of communication.

After the occupation of Galadi I instructed Lieutenant-Colonel J. Swann to employ the flying column in a reconnaissance in the direction of Wardair, to coincide as to time with the movements of the Obbia force in that direction.

Major J. E. Gough describes in his despatch the operations undertaken by him with this object in view.

I enclose the remarks made by Lieutenant-Colonel J. Swann upon the manner in which Major J. E. Gough conducted the reconnaissance to Daratoleh. I consider that his skilful handling of a small force in difficult bush country, when surrounded by superior numbers of a brave and fanatical enemy is worthy of high commendation.

Major J. E. Gough, in his despatch of the 23rd April, attached to the report of the operations of the Berbera—Bohotle flying column—has brought to my notice the names of two officers whom he recommends for the Victoria Cross for an act of conspicuous gallantry during the action of Daratoleh.

I beg to forward for favourable consideration the names of those two Officers—

Major W. G. Walker, Indian Army, Bikanir Camel Corps.

Captain G. M. Rolland, Indian Army, Intelligence Officer, Flying Column, Berbera—Bohotle force.

Major J. E. Gough also brings to notice the names of the following Indian and African soldiers for acts of conspicuous gallantry on the same occasion, and recommends the bestowal of the Order of Merit upon the Indian soldiers and the Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field upon the African soldiers.

I beg to forward, for favourable consideration, the names as given in Major Gough's despatch:—

For Order of Merit—

B.C.A. No. 126, Regimental No. 2376 Lance-Naik Maieya Singh, 26th Beluchistan Regiment, Indian Army, serving with the Indian Contingent, British Central Africa.

For the Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field—

No. 66 Sergeant Nderamani, 2nd Battalion King's African Rifles.

No. 87 Corporal Surmoni, 2nd Battalion King's African Rifles.

Sowar Umar Ismail, Somali Camel Corps, 6th Battalion King's African Rifles.

The behaviour of all ranks during the action of Daratoleh appears to have been excellent. The Somali Mounted Infantry and Somali Camel Corps of the 6th Battalion King's African Rifles, contrary to expectation, behaved with great steadiness.

Major J. E. Gough also brings the names of the following Officers and Non-commissioned officers to my notice as having performed exceptionally good work on the occasion of the fight at Daratoleh:—

Captain (local Major) H. B. Rowlands, 2nd Battalion King's African Rifles.

Captain R. E. L. Townsend, 2nd Battalion King's African Rifles.

Captain J. E. Hughes, Indian Army, Bikanir Camel Corps.

Captain T. N. Howard, 6th Battalion King's African Rifles.

Captain L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, 3rd Battalion King's African Rifles (attached to 6th Battalion King's African Rifles).

Lieutenant J. H. Horton, Indian Medical Service.

Armourer-Sergeant A. Gibb, Army Ordnance Corps (attached 6th Battalion King's African Rifles).

Jemadar Ki-shen Singh, Bikanir Camel Corps.

No. 2333 Colour-Havildar Jai Singh, 24th Beluchistan Regiment, Indian Contingent, British Central Africa.

Interpreter Ahmed Sheri, 6th Battalion King's African Rifles.

Interpreter Ahmed Jibril, 6th Battalion King's African Rifles.

No. 88 Havildar Ahmed Ismail, 6th Battalion King's African Rifles.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MANNING, Brigadier-General,

Commanding Somaliland Field Force.

Report on the Engagements of Daratoleh.
From Officer Commanding Flying Column to Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, Lines of Communication, Berbera—Bohotle.

Bohotle,

SIR,

28th April, 1903.

I have the honour to forward the following report describing the operations of the Flying Column from 13th to 28th April, 1903:—

After seeing Lieutenant-Colonel Swann, Officer Commanding, Lines of Communication, it was decided that the Flying Column would leave Bohotle on 13th April, with the object of co-operating with the Galadi force in a south and south-westerly direction from Bohotle, and if possible to seize the water at Danop and use that place as a pivot for further operations. The information about water at Danop, from Somali sources, was to the effect that there was a pool of