

Letters from Hall to Sir James McGrigor, the Director General, Army Medical Services, reporting on military operations and the health of the troops

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DCO2/1a

Brig. Williamis From 17 Sept 1847

Sir. I have the honor to report my arrival here on the
14th Inst. with 4th Dr. from Kalama's Down, and to acquaint
you that the first division of the Troops ^{at K.H.T.} assembled ~~here~~ marched
this morning, with a train of 130 waggon, for Fort White -
Head Dr. follow tomorrow morning - and in the course
of the afternoon W. Lumsden starts on a patrol along
the base of the Buffalo Mountains, preparing to com-
mence movement into the fastnesses of the Annapolis
Mountains against Sandhill, the paramount chief
of the Snake Tribes, which will take place on the morrow
of the 20th. The force assembled here amounted to 2000 men
and 436 horses which has been divided into three divisions -
one marched today - and the two others move tomorrow
leaving a garrison of 250 men for the protection of the
post and magazines accumulated here - one division
from Fort White under the command of Lt. Col. Buller of
the Rifle Brigade will enter the mountains from Fort Lee -
another moving from Fort Lee under the command of
Lt. Col. Campbell of the R.B. 91st will advance until it joins
Lt. Col. Buller's; and W. Lumsden, after making the patrol
on which he starts tomorrow, will pass over into the
Lumber Lumber Valley and penetrate thro' the open
parts of the Shishana Park until he joins the other
two divisions proceeding from Forts Lee & White -
a division of 50 regulars - and, at present, ^{are} ~~is not~~ ^{are} ~~not~~ known
number of irregulars, will advance from Skook &
enter the mountain range on the opposite side -
The 4th Dr. division will remain in camp near
Fort White where supplies have been sent for 25 days

consumption for the whole force, which it is presumed will be sufficient for the campaign in that quarter.

The General has taken every precaution, and, I hope, the result will be what there is reason to expect. The only defect is that so fine a brigade as was received by the General yesterday ^{should} ~~has~~ not had more worthy facts to contend with than the naked Kafir Savage.

The following is the distribution of Medical Stores which I submitted to the General for his review, and which met with his approbation; but, since my arrival here, I have been compelled to alter it a little owing to the indisposition of Dr. Atterton.

I have provided equipment for a field hospital at Fort White. Two Hospital Waggon - and ~~two~~ four Spring Carts to fit into other waggons accompanying the Troops. and I have furnished each Medical Store with a proportion of Canvas covers for wounded men which I hope will enable them to have the wounded removed at once to the rear and prevent ~~the~~ a recurrence of the diarrhoea, and melancholy scenes that took place in three or four instances under the eyes of the troops at the commencement of the war last year.

I will write again more in detail when we reach Fort White send you copies of my instructions - but I was unwilling to leave this without acquainting you with the position of affairs in this place - ~~What was forgotten~~ - I have the honor -

Yours S. L. S. S.

Detail of Med. S.

Dr. Hale - Dr. Campbell and Dr. Clark	} 422m	Surgeon General	} Dr. L. Campbell ass: Surgeon General	} S. L. S. } Shob Cameroon } Cameron
Dr. Atterton Dr. S. S. Payne S. L. S. Black		} Dr. L. S. S. } Dr. S. S. S.		

King Williams Town
Sept 15th 1887

Sir.

My name having appeared in
General orders to accompany Lt Col Bullers
division of the Army into the Amatola hills,
I have the honor to inform you that my
illness has again returned during
the last few days of wet weather which
I fear will render me inefficient in the
field.

I regret this extremely, but
my health has suffered much from that
disease whilst under canvas with very
little interruption since Feb^y last.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your obedient humble Serv^t
Signed Thos Atkinson M.D.
Sept London 15th 1887

J. Hall

D^y Insp^t Comd^t of Hosp^s

Am O

King Williams Town

True copy

J. Hall

D^y Insp^t Comd^t of Hosp^s

rough copy -

Head Quarter Camp on the Doherty Falls
September 24 September 1847.

Sir.

On the 17th Inst. I had the honor of
reporting my arrival at King William's Town,
and the march of the 1st division of the
Troops from that place for service in the
Amatole mountains: and I now beg, in
continuation, to make you acquainted
with the military operations which have since
taken place.

On the 19th one division,
715 strong, under the command of Major Butler
of the Rifle Brigade, left this camp for Fort Cox.
Another division, 780 strong, with two mountain
guns, under Lieut W. Lamballe of the R.B. 9th Regt
marched from Fort Hare, and dismounted in
the mountains. W. L. Lumsden of the C. M. Rifles,
with a column of 480 men passed over a spur
of the Amatole mountains at a place called
Baillie's grave, into the Lintley Lintley valley;
and Major Lumsden of the C. M. Rifles advanced
from the direction of Shiloh with 170 men
of some native units.

at daylight on Monday

Sir James M. Sir James Burt

Durham General

Army Medical Department

London

the 20th

the divisions penetrated thro' the mountain
passes from different points, and formed
a junction, on the banks of the ²Lesda River,
a tributary of the ²Kiskamuna beyond the
half ²river, about mid day on Tuesday
the ⁴2nd, having met with little opposition
from the Kaffirs on their march, and sus-
tained no loss either in killed, or wounded
from the enemy. The only gunshot
accident I have heard of was that of a
man of the 73rd whose musket exploded
when he was cleaning it, and shot off
one of his fingers.

The Kaffirs have deserted
their kraals, and driven their cattle far
into the interior. In fact they seem to
have adopted the policy of passive resistance,
which is of all others the most embarrassing
to the authorities at the present moment.

The Boers have not responded
to the Governor's proclamation, as only
thirteen are known to have turned out.
But now that the sugar brand which
hung over the amathola region has been
dissipated by the troops traversing its

front

difficult and dangerous paper, perhaps,
they with the courage, and assistance in
greater numbers in pursuit of the cattle.

The deserted kraals have all been
burnt, and I suppose an order will
be received today or tomorrow ^{from the Governor}, in
answer to dispatches that have been
sent to him by the general, to go in
pursuit of the fugitive Kaffirs and
their herds of cattle. The policy which
dictates the necessity of burning kraals at
this inclement season is to be deplored
as it only inflicts additional misery
on the helpless women and children.
The Troops have had a succession of cold,
wet weather since they entered the mountains,
and their bivouacs must have been wetted
enough; but supplies were sent with them on
pack mules, and I have not heard that
their health has suffered from the exposure.

The health of the troops generally
in this command may be considered
satisfactory - Some few cases of purpura
have made their appearance at Natalba
Bay and the Buffalo mouth within the last
few days; but from the measures which
have been done
needed to be

been adopted, I hope, the disease will not
be latent - The 6th Regt, has lost a ²th man
a sick list than any other Regt, in the
a regiment here; but that may be accounted
for, as I have mentioned on former
occasions, by the youth of the ~~young~~
of the men from the barracks

I have the honor to

Shall

J. L. S. A.

A. L. Camp on the Duke of the Kaffaria

25 Sept-1827

Sir - Having served upwards of thirty
years on full pay in the Regular Army;
and having this day completed one year
on the reduced pay of my present rank,
I request your wife's pleasure & sanction me
drawing the full pay of my rank, 30th pence,
in future -

I have the honor to be

Shall

The Right Honorable

The Secy at War

War Office

London

Head Q^r Camp on the Umbagog Flat's Saffron
1st October 1847.

Sir.

On the 24th ult. I had the honor of reporting to you that the different divisions of troops which had been sent into the Amakto mountains had formed a junction on the banks of the 'Gule' river after penetrating thro' the different valleys that were considered the strong holds of the Enika Affair. On the 25th three of the four columns commenced their retrograde movement, leaving Lieut W^l Buller with 353^{men} of the Rifle Brigade, and 149 of the Nottingham Levy to keep military possession of that part of the Amakto valley called the Kiskamma Hask.

Lieut W^l Campbell of the R.B. 91st Regt. returned his steps to Fort Hare; and, having obtained his tents and supplies, replaced the H^d Q^r Camp on the Deke Flats, which was removed to this place on the 29th for the purpose of keeping up a communication with Lieut W^l Buller, and facilitating, and protecting the due supply of stores for his division on the Gule.

W^l Lumsden's division returned to King William's Town to expect the horns preparing to a patrol to the Cabanaie in pursuit of Sandellie and his able, which is to be seconded by the detachment from Shiloh, which has entered

the Doorn river on the Windvogel range for that purpose

On the 26 when Wth Linn's division was returning from the Gule over the Gully Gully mountains a Sergeant of the Cape Mounted Rifles, of the name of Phillips, was found at ²by a ¹trapper, while employed in burning some huts, and shot thro' the thigh, of which wound he died on the 28th

There was considerable hemorrhage at first, and Dr. Atkinson describes the limb, when the man was transferred to his care on the 28th, in King William's town, as ~~much~~ much swollen. From these symptoms I think it probable ^{sitting} the artery ~~or vein~~ may have been wounded, but ^{I cannot speak with certainty as} I have not yet received any dissection report of the case.

The following day, the 27th, a Sergeant of the 73rd of the name of Gellandren, belonging to the Head Sth division, when escorting some waggon from King William's town to camp was thrown from the driving box, & the loaded waggon passed over his body & killed him. These are the only two accidents that have occurred since Genl. the honor starting began on the 24th. One might not have occurred as men on escort are prohibited from riding on the box ^{seat} of loaded waggon; and the other it is difficult

to give an opinion about without more precise information than I am in possession of at present.

The columns continue healthy as yet; but I fear this wet weather, and the exposure ^{the men are subjected to} will be followed by disease. On the 29th it commenced raining soon after we left the Hebe Flats and for eight and forty hours it was one continued pour. The ground where we are encamped was partially wet before we reached it, and on the second night the water was ankle deep in most of the tents so that rest was out of the question. To day fortunately the weather has cleared up and we have been able to make a better arrangement for the men and in the course of the afternoon they will be dry and comparatively comfortable.

In my last letter I mentioned before that some cases of Scoury had made their appearance at Hatteras Bay, and the Buffalo mouth; and Dr. Atkinson reports that six others, in men of the 73 Regt. have been sent into hospital at King William's Town from mouth of the Buffalo. The cases at Hatteras Bay I am happy to say, as you will notice by the enclosed ~~letter~~ communication from Ad^l before I returned of the 9th, are Convalescent. I mention

I have not heard from Seneca wrote to him on the subject; but Dr. Atkinson writes me word that he is supplying his cakes partly with wine - Potatoes - Seneca pine and sugar - and the leaves of a plant called Spider Broom (*Portulacaria*) and I hope soon to have a good account of them from him.

There is difficulty in obtaining fresh vegetables at present for the men stationed on the Buffalo line; but when things get a little more settled we shall be able, I hope, to establish gardens for them at the different military posts.

The Kaffir police, a body of men of that nation about 200 strong under the superintendence of Lt. Davis of the 90th Regt., which were organized by order of Sir P. P. B. have done good service on this patrol, and ^{if they continue faithful} prove to be the most efficient force on the frontier. They are active, sober - bold and cunning & have the advantage of local knowledge, and being conversant with the wiles of their own countrymen; besides which they are more provident than the Hattentats, and do not waste their ammunition in the absurd way that the latter do. It has been the custom of the irregular troops in this war to commence firing as soon as they entered any kloof, as the wooded savannas in this country are called, and to continue firing without any definite aim beyond that of making a noise and giving the Kaffers should there be any, notice of their approach, until they got out of it again - and in this ~~same~~ manner the expenditure of ammunition has been enormous.

During the present patrol about 350 head of cattle have been seized - a number of horses have been ^{burnt}, and some ten or a dozen Kaffers shot. The Kaffers are dispirited - Sandilli has made overtures of submission, and ^{it is the} ~~Shaped~~ ^{inferior, and therefore} they have been done over -

I have the honor to
Sir James R. Chaper }
Yours }
Shake

No. 2. Camp on the Umbagog Plate.
10th October 1857.

Sir. Since I had the honor of writing to you on the 1st Inst. the Troops in the field have continued to enjoy good health, tho' the weather has been most inclement, and their duty of scout, and patrol severe. Every precaution has been taken by the general to have supplies regularly forwarded to the different camps; and as the soldiers' ration in the field embraces the principal articles of Coffee, Sugar, Rice, Salt, Soap, and Tobacco in addition to their ~~staple~~ and a beef steak, and twelve ounces of meal or biscuit he is well off, and if means suited of obtaining vegetables for him, demanded, in point of food, have nothing to complain of. Many people however have an idea that wine, or spirit is absolutely necessary for the men's health, particularly during wet weather, and advocate its issue to Troops on service. My view is different. A cup of hot Coffee I consider infinitely better for them, and the result of the present patrol, I think, bears me out. In point of weather nothing could have been more inclement - the men were exposed with few a whole week without shelter of any kind - their duty was as fatiguing, and harassing as any that troops usually have to undergo; and I think the following copies of the weekly states will bear a comparison with ^{those of} any troops in camp or service who have the full benefit of wine or spirit.

Sir James McEwen Bart

Director General

Army Medical Dept

London

[illegible]

The troops with the
field on the 18th - &
the death in a mass of
the Holstenitz Levy assumed
premises to that date

This Cases of Gums both
found in men of the
regular forward form
of the jaw bones of the
regular form were
transferred to the book
at Williams' house on the
27 Sept^r -

The return from Hilak not
having arrived until 10th
Sept. it was concluded to
take return - however -
437 regular books and 170
irregular - the 4 men of the
brigade force that landed
under the same night
Sept. belonged to this force

* Including Return
from Ethel M.
Lutzgum 201.

The forces are taking the field on the 18th Nov in high health - and since then only ~~4.75~~^{2.66} per cent of the regular troops - and 2.02 of the irregular troops have been taken sick
2.49 x

On the 2nd Inst a packet from Lt
L. Campbell's camp on the Dine flats, into the
Tribu Soda. hills, was attacked by an armed
party of Apaches and three men of the rear guard
belonging to the ABgt^s were wounded. One thro'
the fleshy part of the left upper arm - another in
the back between the 9th & tenth ribs about two
inches from the spine on the left side, and the
third thro' the lower ^{upper part} ~~part~~ of the left thigh - the
ball entering the hamstrings and slightly grazing
the right thigh in its passage -

Right before were shot on this occasion and
several wounded. - The wounded men of the
9th are doing well, and will soon be
sent to the ^{2nd} Hospital ^{of the 45th} at Fort Mear-

The different parties in the Amakute
Taku Dake, and Inlier Inlier Mountains
have burnt a number of traps - occasionally
shot a Kipper or two, and made some trifling
capture of goats &c; but W^h Lovers of

division, which went to the Cahoonie has
sized 1000 head of cattle since I was
here last - and is in expectation of capturing
more as the Kri river is flooded and will
prevent the herds from escaping in that
direction - and ^{they} ~~they~~ cannot drive them
back into the Anatota Mountains as
the General has left Lieut W. B. Bulvers
division encamped in the Shikamma
Hack and ~~they~~ ^{to} ~~would~~ intercept them -

If Sir Harry Smith, the new Governor sent
to South Africa, take the same view
as Sir G. B. Bulvers of the importance of the
Shikamma Hack as a military post -
Imagine the present camp will be
converted into a permanent station -
The site is good - there is abundance of
wood, and pure water, and it commands
an important portion of Sandili's country -
In addition to what a practicable road for
baggage from the Umbagogie Plains over the
hills has been discovered which will
secure easy and ready transport
for supplies for the troops that are quartered
there -

in the 73rd

The cases of Scourge at the Buffalo
Smith, eight in number, are not improving
and as the accommodation for the sick there,
an old constructed Indian hut, is indifferent

and Dr. Strehlson has not the means of
obtaining vegetables, or wild herbs such as
Kaffir Spinach &c. for them. I have directed
him to send the men into Hospital at
Fort Seddie by the earliest opportunity.
The cases at King Williams Town Dr. Thomson
reports as improving. The ^{men} in camp here
are slightly affected - and those at Nataloo
Bay ^{under the care of Dr. Thomson} are nearly well. The 73rd Sufferers
much from this disease both at Monte Video
and at Sea - and most of the cases
now under treatment are in men
who have suffered from the complaint
before. I have spoken to the General
about getting the 73 removed to station
where they can have more varied
diet and enjoy the advantage of
vegetable food - and when the troops
return from the field into fixed cantonments
it will be carried into effect by sending
them either to Fort Hare. or Fort Beaufort.

I have the honor to

Yr
Obedt
Stake

Head Q^r. Camp King William's Town Cape Province

21st October 1897

Sir

I have the honor to report to you that the H^q. Q^r. Camp moved from the Umbagogie flats to this place on the 11th Inst. ~~to this place~~; and on the 14th a combined patrol from this and all the other camps was made into the Buffalo mountains, where a few horses and goats, and about 120 head of cattle were captured by the Kaffir police.

The kraals were all burnt, ^{some} ~~some~~ Kaffirs shot, and the whole country laid waste from this to the foot of the mountains.

Mr Somerset has captured altogether on the Cabaussie about 2000 head of cattle, and on the patrol of the 14th foot prints of a herd, which had been recently driven from Sandillie's country into that of a friendly chief of the name of John Tzoge, were observed; and at day break on the morning of the 16th the kraals, into which they had been herded the previous day by some of the Kaffir police, were surrounded by a party of Dragoons; and, Mr Tzoge, having been taken with the military to say whether the cattle belonged either to him, or any of his people, was compelled to confess that they did not, altho' they were found in his own brother's kraals. 430 head - 6 horses, and some goats were, therefore, driven off, and the kraals committed to the flames, as a warning to others. They measure

Lieut. James M^r. Major Bart

Director General

Army Med^l. Dept

Yours faithfully

Lieut.

the desired effect, for in the course of the day Fitzgans
own people followed up another spear, as foot prints
are termed in this country, and seized, and brought
in ahead more of Sandilli's cattle. Another chief
of the same gumkata place country admits that of
Fitzgans, and who had shown symptoms of
insubordination took the alarm, and came in to
the civil commissioner to make his peace &
promised to give or drive out of his country
any cattle that might be there belonging either
to Sandilli or his people.

The 17 & 18 were ant. cold and
inclement days, and on the morning of the
19 Captain Ripst of the Cape Mounted Rifles rode
into H. G. with a despatch from Lieut Col. Bullen
commanding the camp in the Kuis Kamma
hark. stating that Sandilli and 80 of his principal
men had delivered themselves up to him
as prisoners. Captain Ripst rode into Graham's
Town with the despatch for the Governor, a distance
of 50 miles, in most inclement weather, with
the Kuis Kamma, and 700 men flooded, both
of which he had to cross. and returned last night
at eleven a clock with instructions from the
Governor that Sandilli and two of his men
are to be sent into Graham's Town and the
remainder kept in Col. Bullen's camp until
further orders.

Captain Ripst started for Col. Bullen's

Camp

this morning at six o'clock, and we saluted
him back tonight with Landilli, as small
waggon have been sent to carry the
park.

This Surrender of Landilli is looked
upon as a great step towards the settlement
of the Indian question; as the chances are that
Jato & Spili will be anxious to submit
and make their peace with Government
when they hear of the severe example
that has been made of Landilli & his
tribe. and if not a movement will be
made across the Rio to punish them.

The troops in the field Landilli
to acquaint you are in good health,
and the cases of Scurvy are improving.
The case of Chronic Dysentery in Hospital
here, which I noticed on a former occasion,
has proved fatal; but all the other cases
under treatment are doing well.

The General and all his staff I am glad to
say are in good health, and Dr. Thomson,
his 1st Lieut. Comptroller, I am happy to inform
you is better -

I have the honor to be

Yours
Hall

J. L. M.

Nov 6.

DCO2/6

Head Q. Camp on the Kankana near the Kik
5 November 1847

Sir

On the 21st ultimo I had the honor of reporting before that
Head Q. had removed from the Ambogine Flat into King
William's Town, and that operations against Sandellie, and
his Tribe had ceased, in consequence of that chief and 80
of his principal followers having given themselves up to
Lieut. W. Bullen of the Rifle Brigade who was encamped in
the Kiskamma Bush.

On the night of the 21 Sandellie and ten
of his connections reached King William's Town; and on the
following morning proceeded, under a cavalry escort,
to Graham's Town to be placed at the disposal of the Governor,
who, now that he has got him ~~in~~ safe custody, seems
rather puzzled what to make of him; and has reserved
him as a legacy for his successor Sir Harry Smith. The
Commandant of Graham's Town, Lieut. Johnson of the 27th Regt.
appears ^{also} to have been still more puzzled than the Governor
how to dispose of him. At first he decided on confining
him and his followers in the Military Hospital in
the Dr. Barracks, but on Staff Surgeon Cohen's remon-
strating against this, he changed their destination to a
house near the Hospital used for keeping shorn in-going
directions that they should be taken to the back yard of the
Hospital daily, a confined disagreeable place, for the benefit
of sun, and air. To this Cohen thought it useless to object;
and on our bringing the subject under the notice of the
General he was unwilling to interfere thinking the
arrangement might have received the Governor's approval.
However, what we were unable to accomplish Sandellie
settled at once for himself. For the first day he was taken
there - after waiting a few minutes - he requested to be removed
and when he got back to his place of confinement he

demanded why they had taken him amongst the
 sick men: For you must know the Kaffers have the
 greatest dread of sickness - and to touch a dead body
 defiles them for a year. Even when anyone falls sick
 and dies in a kraal, it is considered thing for
 them to abandon it altogether. So that Lt. Col. Johnson's
 arrangement was the most cruel aggravation of his
 captivity that could have been inflicted on him.

On the 27th ult^o a fresh distribution
 of the troops in the field having been made - Lt. Col.
 Campbell's camp, and division on the Debe Flats broken
 up and a force of 1450 men, partly regular

7 th Regt.	63
Ordnance	18
78 fresh	433
91 de	109
C. M. R.	250
Hugger's	560
Troops	20
	<u>1453</u>

and partly irregular troops, collected. The General
 marched for this on the 29th and arrived here on
 the 31. On the 30th when the troops were halted
 at mid day on the Grootvlei W. Somerset

in consequence of some information he had
 received from a Kaffer spy, left the General
 with his own troops, the C. M. R. and Hogg's
 Levy of Hottentots. expecting by a rapid night march to surprise
 Pato in his kraal, and seize his cattle. But the wild
 Savage was much too cunning for them, and the next
 morning when they reached his country they found the
 kraals all deserted. and mounted servants on all the hills
 watching their movements. A little after noon when the
 men, fatigued by their long, and forced march during an
 unusually sultry day, were looking out for a piece
 of ground to encamp on for the night. they observed
 the neighbouring hills covered with armed Kaffers in
 place of cattle. The Kaffers advanced and took up a strong
 and well chosen position on the top of a hill which was
 covered with rocks and bush. and had dense kloofs
 in its rear. and as they evinced a hostile intention.

Lt. Somerset directed part of the force under him to dislodge
 them which was speedily done. with the loss of the men on
 the part of the Kaffers left dead on the field, and only

more of Kaffers being wounded tho' the flinty part of the thigh
on the part of the Troops - a man of the Cape Corps, however,
who was riding after Captain Sammers at an earlier
period of the day, is supposed to have been thrown
from his horse, and ^{there} fallen into the hands of the Kaffers
^{as he was found with} and ~~lost~~ his throat cut. When the account of Lt.
Sammers' encounter with the Kaffers reached Camp
the general immediately detached some of the 75th Bns.
and 1st Regular Infantry to a place called Fort Warden
about 6 or 8 miles nearer the Kie than this - but the
weather became so wet - thick, and tempestuous
that they could effect nothing - and they returned to
Camp with Lt. Sammers and the men of the Cape Corps
on the afternoon of the 2^d leaving Kaff, and his
Hottentots to look after Pato, and his cows.

Yesterday Kaff and his men returned
having captured about 400 head of cattle principally
cows and calves which the Kaffers had been
unable to get across the river, and had hid under
the cliffs which border the stream on this side. The
great bulk of their cattle, however, are supposed to have
got across before the river rose and became impassable.

Tomorrow Lt. Sammers with the Cape Corps
one Co. of the 73rd and Kaff's Levy move from this and
encamp near Fort Warden taking with them about
and 20ft that have been brought up to ensure a passage
across the river - The Engineer Officers accompanying
them - and suppose their arrangements will be completed
in a few days - and measures taken to prevent a repetition
of the miseries and disasters of last year - when the troops
were left for 20 days without food, shelter, or blankets
owing to the swelling of the river sending all cows -

communication from one side to the other impracticable -

About 100 Boers and Burchers rode into camp this morning anxious, now that the fear of the Amatola mountains is no longer before their eyes, to share in the plunder of Kaffer cattle. Their virtuous and conscientious scruples about being considered partakers, under which they cloaked themselves when personal danger was apprehended, suppose, are thrown to the wind now that cattle can be obtained without risk -

I have made the following disposition of the Medical Officers. Surgeon Pomer R. B. 91st, when the camp on the Dike Flat was broken up rejoined the H^q. Dr of his corps in Fort Beaufort. Asst^{nt} Surgeon D. Barker R. B. 45. accompanied the men that moved on to take up the camp at Fort Hatter on the Kumbazine Flat. Asst^{nt} Surgeon Payson remains with the head Dr of his Regt in the Shikamma Hask. Dr. Atkinson, and Asst^{nt} Surgeon Faxon of the R. are at King William's Inn; and I have brought with me on this service. Asst^{nt} Surgeon D. Clark & Dr. I. Good. Dr. Campbell and Dr. Hodgson of the 73rd Regt. Asst^{nt} Surgeon Allen C. M. R. and Asst^{nt} Surg^{ns} Mandeville & Black who are attached to Kagg's Corps.

Asst^{nt} Surgeons Mandeville - Allen and Black accompany W. Somerset - Dr. Campbell and Hodgson remain at H^q. Dr.

The troops in the field I am happy to inform you enjoy an unusual share of good health which is the more remarkable considering the wet and inclement weather they have been exposed to.

I have &c

Wm Somerset

Dr. Campbell
Dr. Atkinson

Shall

At a Dr. Camp on the Gambia
 September 18th November 1827

Sir. In my letter of the 5th Inst. I mentioned to you that Col. Somerset was to form a separate camp the following day, nearer to, and lower down the River, which was to be composed of his own Regiment, the Cape Corps - The Staffutal Army, and some Briers and Bushes, that had just joined the Camp, ^{amounting in all to about 1100 men}. The move was delayed until the 8th, on account of the inclemency of the weather, and when it did take place a continuation of rain - thunder and lightning prevented any military operations from being undertaken until the 11 & 12th when the whole country between the River and the Pooligha was swept by a fatal in three divisions, and four ^{more} ~~hundred~~ shot, and 160 head of cattle captured; but the

Sir James M. Pringle Bart
 Director General

Army Medical Dept

Sir James

Stabbed 50 of their finest and fattest oxen
 rather than that they should fall into
 the hands of the Troops - Since then
 about 20 head of cattle have been taken
 by the Saltwater Army, and some con-
 vention ^{has been} carried on by them across
 the river with the Chief Pato. who
 says immediately the Troops cross
 the Rir he will enter the Colony
 with his followers, and burn, murder,
 and lay waste the whole country
 as far as the Buchanan's River - This
 may be an idle threat. or if he
 have courage to under take it. knowing
 the country so well as he does, he
 might do great damage before
 Troops could be assembled to oppose
 him

On the afternoon of the 13th June Dr Campbell
 Officers from this camp, who had imprec: ^{Surgeon 73}
 dently ventured to go a distance of ^{Captain Baker 73}
^{Lt Farnish 73}
^{Ensign Burrows 73}
^{Dr Cook}
^{ass't Surgeon}
^{7 Dr Guards}
 about 24 miles. part of it thro broken
 and difficult ground, for the purpose of visiting
 a remarkable looking table hill on the
 banks of the Rir.

were

waylaid on their return and slain
by ~~the~~ Kaffirs, and their bodies accom-
panying to Kaffir custom, mutilated.

Yesterday morning the General
ordered a strong patrol from this, and
Col. Samuels' camp to proceed to the
site of the foul deed and punish
the perpetrators if. This patrol he accom-
panied himself, and directed the operations.

The Troops marched at two in
the morning and reached their ground
a little before day break. at day light
they commenced operations, and after
making their way over ground that
was considered impassable, even by
the Kaffirs, they came in contact
with the Enemy on a narrow ledge
about eight in the morning, and dis-
lodged him from his strong position
with the loss 25 men killed - 300 head
of cattle & 8 horses, and several
thousand of arms, amongst which was
a double barreled gun that was
in possession of one of the officers
where

he was murdered on the 13th March.

The loss on the part of the Troops
was one man, a Malak, belonging to
~~the~~ ^{the} Levy, killed, and one Turk horse
mortally wounded.

From the east herds of cattle
that were seen on the other side of
the river a patrol was sent with
be sent across immediately the
river is fordable.

The Troops in the field are
found to be in good health. I am
very glad to hear of this.

I have the honor to be

Dear Sir

Yours most obedient
Humble servant
J. H. H. H.

J. H. H. H.

Head Camp on the Sanche

4 December 1847

Sir.

I mentioned before in my last letter that it was the intention of the General to push a patrol across the Rio as soon as ever the river became fordable, and I have now the honour to acquaint you that, on the morning of the 19th ult^o, Col^l Somerset effected a passage across at the Beidle, & Sheshaba drifts, with the Cape Corps, mounted Burghers, and Hagg's Hattentat Levy without any loss of either men or horses; and in the course of the same day his camp was moved up the river some miles nearer to Fort Harden. The following morning two companies of Infantry, and a party of the 7th Dragoon Guards were detached from this to form a camp between Fort Harden, and the drift of that name, for the purpose of keeping up a communication with Col^l Somerset, and affording him protection should he have occasion to send captured cattle across the river.

To Sir James MacGregor Bart.

Director General

Arms Medical Dept

In the course of the 19th Lt. Lumsden's
division, after it had crossed the Kis
file in with some herd of cattle, and
captured about 300 head: but at day
light the following morning they discovered
Pato re. crossing the river to the western
bank with an immense number of his
finest oxen. Captain Stagg with his
Hattentat's Levy, and a troop of the Cape
Mounted Rifles was immediately
detached in pursuit; but from the advance
the Kaffirs had gained before the pursuit
was commenced, and their more intimate
knowledge of the country, they baffled all
his efforts to come up with them, altho'
the pursuit was continued for three days
without intermission, over most difficult
ground, until both men and horses
were so exhausted that he was compelled
to discontinue it, and return into
camp to recruit them. having only
succeeded in cutting off 400 head of
cattle. many of which were branded with
Colonial ^{and had consequently been stolen sometime or another} marks. In this flight the Kaffirs
killed many of their exhausted oxen to
prevent

them from falling into the hands of their pursuers;
and when Pato at last found himself
hard pressed he divided his herd and
made his followers drive them in different
directions so as to distract the attention
of the Troops and prevent them from making
any considerable seizure. One herd of about
1500 he drove into Umhala's territory,
and another of about equal number down
towards the mouth of the Shi. Umhala
being a friendly chief the Troops did not
feel justified in pursuing the cattle
into his country without reference to the
civil authorities, and Hagg's men
were too much exhausted to ^{follow} those
that had gone in the opposite direction.
Satisfied by this bold and cunning man-
oeuvre the worthy Savage saved his cattle.
And in a few days, when Umhala,
at the request of the civil Commissioner,
turned out his warriors to seize or drive
them forth Pato ~~and his cattle~~ ^{he} laughed
at them, and said, as the Troops had failed
in taking ^{his cattle} ~~these~~, it was useless for Umhala
and his men to attempt it. Perhaps.
an understanding existed between Pato
and Umhala. At all events the latter
was worsted in the contest which ensued

and

Compelled to retire without having
effected anything - the object which lay before him
in going out with his men

During Agge's pursuit the
only ^{accident} casualty that occurred was the
wounding ^{seemingly} of a young officer of the Cape
Coast, of the name of Green, who was found
at by five Kaffers from behind a bush,
at a distance of 15 yards, and ~~was~~ ^{was}
struck by a musket ball behind the left
Thigh which ^{Dr. Adm. Surgeon Black extracting on the field from} ~~was cut out~~ ^{about the middle of the upper third -}
river side of the thigh ~~he was quite up there for some time~~ ^{he was quite up there for some time} and the wound
which ~~he was quite up there for some time~~ ^{he was quite up there for some time} the medical officer
attended to the patient - Mr Green had
a narrow escape, and his wound, I am
happy to say, is going favourably -

On the 24th the two Companies,
which were detached from this on the 20th,
and encamped between Fort Marden
and the Kie, crossed the river with
some Haggons and Supplies, and
joined W. L. Lumsden at a place called
the Springs, ~~where~~ ^{at which} the troops
suffered no more privations during
the unfortunate patrol across the Kie
in January last; and Captain Scott of the
R. Battalion of 91st Reg^t, with W. L. Lumsden
and his camp took up their position so

as to maintain the communication with the troops on the other side of the river.

On the 26 a combined patrol up both banks of the river was decided on. Lt. Samers at with the Cape Corps, and Burghers on the Eastern bank; and Captain Hagg & his household being on the Western. The general with a force from this camp ~~took~~ ^{went} part on the top of the Quagga-hill. (the one where the officers were murdered on the 13th) to watch the fords, and intercept ^{any} cattle ~~that~~ the Kaffers ^{might} attempt to drive ~~them~~ across the river there. The ground on the banks of the river in this neighbourhood is much broken, consisting of deep intricate ravines, and high hills with ^{very} steep sides, and is considered by the Kaffers themselves the strongest, and most secure part of all Kafferland. Hagg, who continued his patrol on the 27 and 28, succeeded in capturing 500 head of cattle, and had again the mortification seeing large herds escape his grasp from the nature of the ground preventing his coming up with them. Lt. Samers, on the Eastern bank, succeeded on that occasion in capturing 1700 head of cattle, and since

then

after the arrival of Sir Harry Smith.

The Troops in the field, I am happy to say continue to enjoy good health, and not a single death from disease has occurred since the commencement of the Campaign in the middle of September last.

In my letter of the 10th of October I sent you an abstract of the Weekly Returns from the 15th of September to the 5th of October

and I now annex a continuation from the 6th of October to the 30th November by which you will observe that although some importance has at any time prevailed ~~no one period has there been any~~ amongst the troops which is the more remarkable amount of sickness ~~worthy of comment~~ as there have been great deal of hardship, and exposure: ~~ment, and this is the more remarkable~~ sometimes reports of illness to most violent as the weather has frequently been very ~~working~~. The last weekly return shows an increase of sickness, and the troops have been confined chiefly to the Cape Corps & the Central Force and have had and much exposed to the ~~and may be~~ ^{and may be} ~~disrupted~~ ^{disrupted} ~~by their recent fatigue~~ ^{by their recent fatigue} ~~and exposure~~ ^{and exposure}; but the complaints are

for the most part trifling nature, and I have no doubt by the end of this week the number will be greatly reduced.

I have the honor to be

Yours most obedient
Humble Servant
John Bullard Esq
D. Inspector Genl of Forces

Reported

Abstract of weekly states of sick of the Troops in the
Field from 1 Oct. to 30 Nov. 1847

Period	Name of Force	Strength	Remained	Admitted	Discharged	Dead	Remains in	While afflicting	Chick afflicting	March & Battle	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Remains do	Total
6 Oct	Regular Troop	302	20	22	14	-	28	5	2	5	1	0	3	2	4	-	3	1	28
12 Oct	Irregular	703	8	12	12	-	8	-	1	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	8
	Total	2005	28	34	26	-	36	5	3	6	2	2	3	4	4	1	3	2	36
13 Nov	Regular	1494	28	26	31	-	23	3	3	6	4	-	3	1	-	2	1	23	
13 Nov	Irregular	536	8	6	6	-	8	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	
	Total	2330	36	32	37	-	31	3	5	8	6	-	3	1	-	2	3	31	
19 Nov	Regular	1552	23	22	29	-	16	4	2	3	1	-	2	2	2	-	-	16	
20 Nov	Irregular	682	8	8	10	-	6	-	1	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	6	
	Total	2234	31	30	39	-	22	4	3	3	3	-	3	4	2	-	-	22	
27 Nov	Regular	1601	16	20	20	-	16	2	1	1	5	-	0	5	1	1	-	16	
28 Nov	Irregular	570	6	8	11	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	
	Total	2271	22	28	31	-	19	2	2	1	6	-	1	5	1	1	-	19	
3 Dec	Regular	1564	16	15	12	-	19	2	1	2	4	-	6	2	1	-	1	19	
4 Dec	Irregular	743	3	10	5	-	8	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	8	
	Total	2307	19	25	17	-	27	2	3	2	6	-	7	5	1	-	1	27	
10 Dec	Regular	1495	19	27	17	-	29	7	2	1	4	2	9	3	1	-	-	29	
16 Dec	Irregular	657	8	9	11	-	6	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	6	
	Total	2152	27	36	28	-	35	7	4	1	5	2	10	5	1	-	-	35	
17 Dec	Regular	1545	29	23	29	-	23	3	2	3	7	-	4	2	1	-	1	23	
23 Dec	Irregular	666	6	12	9	-	9	1	3	1	1	0	1	-	2	-	-	9	
	Total	2211	35	35	38	-	32	4	5	4	8	0	5	4	1	-	1	32	
24 Dec	Regular	1508	28	33	26	-	30	4	8	4	8	-	2	1	2	-	1	30	
30 Dec	Irregular	571	9	28	25	-	12	3	4	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	12	
	Total	2079	37	61	51	-	42	7	12	4	8	-	2	6	2	-	1	42	

The admissions but gave average strength of 1540 Regular Troops in the field during the above eight weeks has been 12.2 percent; and amongst the irregular Troops but gave average strength of 705-10.2 per cent for the same period. The average daily and whole camp may be taken at 26 or 1-11 per cent of the whole force

W. H. H. H.

No 9

DCO2/9

Bahama's Town 20 December 1847

Sir. In my letter of the 4th Inst I mentioned before that the sudden swelling of the Rio had prevented the general from withdrawing Col. Somerset, and the cable he had captured, from the Eastern bank of that river; but on the 8th it had fallen sufficiently to admit of its being passed with safety, and both men and cable passed over without any accident.

On the morning of the 7th Sir George Berkeley left the camp on the Yuma for Bahama's town, having secured an express the previous night informing him of the arrival of Mr Harry Smith, and since then all military operations have been suspended. I think the contest may now be considered at an end on this frontier as Pato, it is stated, has offered to surrender on the terms that were proposed to him, and orders have been issued since the arrival of Mr Harry Smith to withdraw the troops from the Rio to the Buffalo line - at the date of my last letter I stated to you that fatigue, and accidental circumstances had increased the number of sick in the field force to 42. The following week, as I anticipated, it was reduced to 28 - and on the 14th when the last returns were sent off it had only risen to 31 so that the health of this portion of the Army; and, indeed, that of the whole Command may be considered satisfactory -

Sir James Mc Birr Bt
Donation Genl. Armstrong - Dep^y
London

The

The delay in the transmission of the returns
has given me much uneasiness; but as
Mr Eddis' Annual Return of sick, I hear,
reached the office on the 6th I hope to be
able soon to complete and despatch
all that are due.

On the 23 I commenced
my tour of inspection of the frontier posts
for the purpose of seeing the Hospitals, and
examining the Invalids of the different
posts.

I have &c

Shall

(2pp)
 Graham's Town 8th January 1848 - DC02/10

Sir - Since my letter to you of the 20th ultimo (209). matters
 on this portion of the colony have progressed to a favorable extent
 much more rapidly than could possibly have been anticipated,
 and peaceful relations with the Grika. Tsimbiri, Congo & Amboke
 Tribes of Caffers may now be considered as fully established -
 You will notice by the Governor's proclamation of the
 17th Inst^{ce}, which I enclose, that he has made the Grikal
 territory an integral part of the colony. and has
 defined a better line of boundary than formerly
 existed. By his proclamation of the 23rd the country
 between the Grikalanna and the Kei has been
 taken under British rule, and all territorial
 sovereignty of the chiefs abolished. The country
 has been divided into districts named after counties
 in England, and each chief's location has been
 strictly defined. In place of entering into hostile treaties
 with them which were never observed, they have been
 placed under British magistrates, and an entirely
 new, and, I think, judicious, line of policy adopted
 toward them, which, if carried out with steadiness
 and sugar, is calculated to make them ^{both} better neighbors
 and a happier people. Yesterday there was a grand
 assembly of the chiefs ^{at the} where the Governor's decision
 and no opposition seems to have been made by
 any of them to the plan proposed - on the contrary
 all appeared anxious to meet their Griksal neighbors
 amicably. His word ~~was~~ ^{is} and so long as he remains
 at the head of affairs in this country every thing
 I doubt not will continue quiet - His very name

~~Some~~ ^{has} ~~who~~ had a magical effect on the entire
~~people~~ ^{people}, many of whom remember him personally
and all appear to have heard of his name - and this
great prestige will enable him to do more, and to
carry out measures that none of his predecessors
could have accomplished -

Already he has been enabled to
^{and diminish the number of military posts}
reduce the force, on the frontier and the number
of posts ~~has been diminished~~ -

The 90th, details of the 62nd - 27th 182nd Battalion
of the 91st, and 7 Dragoon Guards are under orders
for embarkation for England, ^{and will proceed} as soon as transport
can be procured for them - One company of Artillery
and the 6th Regt are to go immediately to take
Tun - and the light company of the 15th Bn
of the 45th which has been employed on this frontier
for some time past is to join the 4th Dragoon
Regt, and will embark from the Buffalo
mouth ^{with much delay} as soon as transport can be procured
for it - In Natal things are unsettled

and more troops may be required there -
The Dutch Boers on the Klip River are disputing
^{have refused to take the oath of allegiance and are migrating to their farms on the}
^{other side of the Drakensberg} and Sanda, the Solo chief, ^{is reported to have} has advanced, ^{in his} toward
the colony, and threatens to make an incursion
into it - By the last accounts the Lt Gov^r had deemed
it prudent to detach a small mounted force
toward the Bushman's River to protect the work disposed
in that quarter, and a larger detachment was held in
readiness to march at a moment's notice -

DC02/10

Major Gardner the civil commissioner at Blauveltburg on the other side of the Orange River, has taken alarm at some garconade of the Boers on the Windberg - but he has made a demand for 500 additional troops for 6 months - but as he has made similar demands on former occasions on very slender grounds I suppose the Governor will judge for himself of the necessity of the measure before he complies and incurs the heavy expense of moving a body of men to such a distance beyond the frontier. Sir Harry starts tomorrow for Colerberg, and it is supposed he will visit Blauveltburg and perhaps extend his journey to Katat.

I have just returned from a tour of inspection of the Hospitals, and Inspected at the different parts on the frontier - and when I have seen Fort Elizabeth and Cape Town I will forward my report again. I am anxious to get down to Cape Town to bring up the arrears business of the Office, and I have written for the Governor's permission which I expect to receive in two or three days - He wished me to dispose of the Hospital before I went, and told me to write to him when I had finished with them - which I have nearly done now.

Dr. Atkinson has quite recovered from his Rheumatism and I have stationed him in Graham's Town.

Private

DCO2/11

London 21st December 1848.

My Dear Sir

I have so thank you for
your Letters of the 23rd Aug^r & 8th Sept. as well
as that of the 30th Aug^r - Your interesting account
of the stirring events which had occurred was most
agreeable. I congratulate you on the notice which
Sir Harry has taken of your services in the Field
which is most gratifying to me & I request you
will offer my congratulations to Sir Harry on
his having conquered a Peace with the Enemy
for his Country. That Country cannot do too
much for him. I have recommended Mr
Braser of whom you reported so favorably for
D. Hall

Promotion

Promotion passing over my Namesake of whom
many unfavorable Reports have reached me. I
requested you to place him under proper surveillance
but I do not learn that you have done so; if you
decline to do so I request you will send him
to this Country on the reduction of the Establish^{ment}
in order to enable me to account for having
passed him over for Promotion.

Lady M. sends her kind regards to
you & unites with me in wishing you a
merry Christmas & many happy returns of a
New Year

And I remain, my dear Sir

Very yours
J. M. G. N. 86



Pa

[Large handwritten signature]

Inspector Gen. of Hospitals

Good Hope.

London 21 December 1848
 Dr James McTear
 enclosing his letter of the 14th inst.
 has been taken up by the Admiralty as
 the point by Mr. Roberts at
 Brompton only on the 29th Sept 1848.
 I am sorry to hear that the
 Admiralty has not yet sent
 your letter - but sorry
 to hear of your illness
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, J. McTear

Private

