

## The Cape Colony and the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879

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On Saturday, 26 January 1879, a depressing scene was reported in the heart of Cape Town, as the first news of the British military disaster at Isandlwana in Zululand (22 January 1879) had been received in the *Old Colony* by cable less than 24 hours earlier. Crowds of colonists and Imperial military families gathered in St George's Street outside the offices of *The Cape Argus* in anticipation of news of a loved-one or acquaintance who was serving with the army in Natal and Zululand. The press reported on the following Monday that: '*their sobs were calculated to unman the sternest soldier that ever met his death upon the field of battle*'.<sup>1</sup> This desperate scene was the first of its kind that the residents of Cape Town had ever witnessed, and was akin to the shock that reverberated through the empire when the massacres of the Indian mutiny became known. This disaster was even more unbelievable as only days previously, the Press's *spin-doctoring* reported to the effect that a war with the amaZulu was going to be brief and just.<sup>2</sup> The reality was that the *spin-doctoring* was part of the psychological conditioning process in order to prepare the public for a war with the Zulu nation. Strategically the conquest of the Zulu nation was another step towards the confederation of the South African territories, and the man charged with implementing this controversial policy was, Sir Henry Bartle Frere GCB GCSI, High Commissioner for South Africa.

Far from brief and just, this defeat, the greatest military disaster that had befallen the British Army in recent years was to have a substantial impact on the Cape Colony, not only financially, but would place immense strain on human, animal, military and material resources. The remaining Imperial troops sitting back on the side-lines in the Cape would be immediately mobilized within days and dispatched to Natal leaving the colonies Volunteer and Permanent forces to take over garrison duties, not only in Cape Town but also on the fragile Eastern Frontier. The calling-out of the Volunteers had an adverse effect on the economy as these men were drawn away from their families, employees, farms and businesses, much to their chargin,<sup>3</sup> as it had when they were mobilized for the Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War of 1877-78.<sup>4</sup>

Not everyone in the colony was distressed by the news of the British defeat. The Basotho<sup>5</sup> looked upon it with interest, as did the aged but powerful Baphuthi Chief, Moorosi who in 1879 was defiant against paying hut taxes, threatened by the prospect of disarmament and was now invigorated with confidence brought on by the news. Moorosi, a cunning and defensive strategist, drew the Cape Government Forces into his country, and from March to November of 1879, from his mountain fortress, nestled against the Orange River in South-Eastern Basutoland repelled two attacks. It was only a third attack that brought the Cape Forces a victory and ended Moorosi's reign.

By the close of 1879, the direct effects of the Anglo-Zulu War were clearly felt by the *Old Colony* as its economy suffered; was humiliated by the Moorosi rebellion and mourned for the loss of human life against the amaZulu and that Baphuthi. The cost to the Cape Government's war chest was severe and the colony was depleted in horses and mules.

This chain of historical events; Ninth Frontier War, Anglo-Zulu War, Moorosi Rebellion and the Cape Government's insistence on implementing the Disarmament Act would subsequently result in the Gun War of 1880-81 and bring further humiliation on

the Cape Government that resulted in relinquishing control of Basutoland to the Imperial Government.

### **Justifying the path to war: conditioning the public of the ‘Old Colony’**

In January 1878, as the Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War was being fought against the amaXhosa chiefdoms of the Gcaleka and Ngqika, Sir Bartle Frere was at his zenith in implementing his chartered mandate to confederate the South African territories. He was, however, being met with dogged resistance from the Prime Minister of the Cape, the Honorable, Sir John Charles Molteno and a passionate and arguably progressive minister, John Xavier Merriman. Molteno and Merriman fought confederation ferociously, resented imperial meddling of any kind and felt that the Colonial forces deployed at the front should not fall under Imperial Command.<sup>6</sup> At loggerheads, Molteno insisted upon Colonial independence and resigned in a fit of rage, retracted his resignation and was then duly dismissed by Frere, who himself was showing signs of stress.<sup>7</sup> Frere requested that Mr John Gordon Sprigg assume the leadership of the Cape Government and Sprigg, although formerly against federating the colonies, accepted the offer and provided the cooperation and support Frere needed. The Frontier War was soon brought to a close under the command of a the newly arrived Lieutenant General, the Honourable, Sir Augustus Thesiger CB who replaced Sir Arthur Thurlow Cunynghame as General Officer Commanding, Imperial Forces in South Africa. With adequate supporters around him in the Cape, Frere began to justify a case for using military force against the amaZulu in order to gain control of Zululand and move closer to confederation.<sup>8</sup>

In order to condition the public to the notion of a war against the amaZulu, the Cape press was used as the mass media of its day. As the Eastern Cape Frontier War was being reported heavily in the press, periodical reports appeared in the Cape papers about the Zulus. Almost as a subliminal message, the theme was played out that a far greater threat awaited Southern Africa than dealing with the likes of Sandile and Kreli, but that of a 40,000 strong Zulu army, under the leadership of King Cetshwayo kaMapande that was poised to raid Natal and the Transvaal. Throughout 1878 and in early 1879, Cape newspaper columns and editorial headings regularly read as follows; to highlight just a few: ‘*The Zulus*’ (15 October 1878, ‘*the insolence of the Zulus appears to be increasing*’); ‘*The Zulu Difficulty*’ (25 January 1878, ‘*Boer’s laagering in fear of Zulu attack*’) and ‘*Slaughter in Zululand*’ (9 January 1879).<sup>10</sup>

With the press reporting more adverse news from Zululand than positive, the majority of Colonists, regardless of their confederation views, in face of such reports were naturally supportive of the campaign, as it ensured their personal security. Many of the informed residents had seen through the charade as did Mr James Sivewright, Manager of the South African Telegraph Company. Sivewright was Scottish-born and had found himself based in King William’s Town during the Frontier War playing an important communications role and working closely with both the Colonial government and Sir Bartle Frere’s staff. An energetic and intelligent man, in late 1878 he was requested by Frere to move from King William’s Town to Pietermaritzburg to ensure the smooth running of the Telegraphic Department. Sivewright was a close friend of the Merriman family and was privy to all the telegraphic communication in relation to the impending invasion of Zululand. His private views regarding Frere’s case for war with the Zulus were often expressed to the Merrimans, and in a letter to Mrs Merriman on 12

January 1879 (The day the action at Sihayo's homestead was fought, not far from Isandlwana) he wrote: *'Never let any of your friends put their children to be telegraph men. If they succeed in their profession, they will rise to positions in which they will know a deal more than enough to completely shake all their faith in human nature'*.<sup>11</sup>

With the drive to war gaining momentum, during the months of November and December 1878, the Cape press openly reported that the Imperial government was recruiting in the colony of which there were two main efforts occurring; that of European Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers for the Natal Native Contingent (NNC)<sup>12</sup> and a 100 man force being raised by the popular frontiersman, Commandant Frederick Xavier Schurmbrucker<sup>13</sup> and former German Army officer, Captain Carl Immanuel Muller<sup>14</sup> from the German community residing in Kaffraria.<sup>15</sup>

When the Frontier War concluded, there was an abundance of colonial and foreign adventurer's available that had experienced colonial warfare first hand. Whilst the campaign was not a war of pitched battles, there were however, frequent skirmishes with the occasional battle against several thousand enemy. It was a campaign of arduous patrolling, coordinated drives, movement of large columns across vast tracts of land that required detailed coordination and logistical planning. If anything, despite the Molteno and Frere friction, both the Imperial and Colonial veterans had endured these drives in all weather conditions and were now well accustomed to campaign life. They developed an intimate understanding of each other's capabilities that by the close of the campaign had honed their operational procedures, not to excellence but to a more acceptable standard than in early 1877; the Frontier War could be viewed as a rehearsal for the Anglo-Zulu War.

General Thesiger had daily contact with the Cape Colonial officers during the campaign and had identified among them competent commanders whom he mentioned in his despatches of 26 June 1878;<sup>16</sup> they were: Commandants, F.X. Schermbrucker, Rupert Latrobe Lonsdale,<sup>17</sup> William John Nettleton,<sup>18</sup> Frank Newton Streatfield,<sup>19</sup> and Wilhelm Carl Ferdinand Von Linsingen.<sup>20</sup>

In anticipation of war with the Zulus, these trusted Commandants in November 1878 were put to work in recruiting from the Eastern Cape the majority of the Europeans for the 2nd and 3rd Regiments of the NNC.<sup>21</sup>

Lonsdale, Nettleton and Von Linsingen actively secured from King William's Town, Grahamstown and the East London districts as many Frontier War veterans as they could enroll; their muster roll contained a wonderful plethora of names synonyms with that campaign: James McTaggart, Herman August Johan Ludwig, Orlando Edward Murray, Charles Robert St Leger Shervinton and many more.<sup>22</sup> Nettleton recorded in his notes from King William's Town on 2 November 1878 annotations against candidates' names that not only make interesting reading, but reveal the process he went through during the NNC Officer selection process: *'D. Drummond wants better position than Lieut'*, *'W. Dick would only accept a Company'*. He commented that both Drummond and Dick were regarded as being *'desirable officers'*. However neither was appointed.<sup>23</sup>

In November, 1878 as the recruiting for the NNC in the Cape was ongoing, Albert Herbert Halder, a German civil engineer and former Bavarian cavalry officer residing in Cape Town corresponded with Von Linsingen in relation to 66 veterans, described as *'all good men'* who were ready to embark.<sup>24</sup> All had claimed service in either the German Army or in the local Cape Volunteer regiments. Halder, himself, was appointed a

Lieutenant in the 1/2<sup>nd</sup> NNC and it can be assumed that some of his men also joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> NNC as Non Commissioned Officers.<sup>25</sup>

In early November 1878, Commandant F.X. Schermbrucker and Captain C.I. Muller started recruiting a 100 man unit that was named in the press as the Kaffrarian Vanguard.<sup>26</sup> Some three weeks after recruiting began, *The Cape Mercury* proudly reported that the Vanguard's ranks were full and the men signed on for six months service. Of the 100 all ranks, 38 were English and the remainder either Germans or Danes of whom no fewer than 12 were reputed to be holders of the Franco-German war medal.<sup>27</sup>

In Cape Town, at the Grand Parade on Saturday, 11 January 1879, the very day that Frere's ultimatum to the Zulu's expired and Lord Chelmsford's army invaded Zululand a general military review was being held. The Prime Minister, J.G. Sprigg, the Colonial Secretary and Lieutenant Colonel Edward Yewd Brabant reviewed three Volunteer Regiments and when addressing the troops, Sprigg thanked them for their good response during the Frontier War but very deliberately reminded them that, under the revised Volunteer Act of 1878, they could be placed at the disposal of the Government at any time, to serve both within the colony or beyond its borders. Sprigg concluded by stating: *'I do not make these remarks from a fear that there would be any hesitation on your part in responding if called upon'*. Clearly the Cape Volunteers had been placed on notice; they may soon be called upon to mobilize for active service once more.<sup>28</sup>

### **Post Isandlwana: The initial impact on the Colony**

When Frere's ultimatum to the Zulu's expired, Lord Chelmsford invaded Zululand with five main Columns<sup>29</sup>, of which Cape born, or former Cape residents were serving in each. During No 3 (Central) Column's first engagement at Sihayo's homestead on 12 January, two former members of the Cape's Frontier Armed and Mounted Police were both wounded during the attack and thus became the first European casualties of the war.<sup>30</sup> They were 37 year old Scottish-born, Lieutenant Thomas 'Tom' Purvis<sup>31</sup> and the 20 year old, Irish born, Corporal Jesse Handcock Mayor<sup>32</sup> both of the 1/3 NNC. Both Purvis and Mayor were evacuated to the Rorke's Drift mission station (converted into a commissariat store and military hospital) near the Buffalo River where Mayor was to find himself amidst the severe fighting at the hospital on the night on 22/23 January. On the 22 January, No 3 Column, following the superficial success at Sihayo's homestead ten days earlier, fought a defensive action at the Column's camp beneath the Isandlwana feature. Some 15,000 Zulu's routed the British camp and inflicted approximately 1,300 casualties of which many Cape men serving in the NNC perished; only a few escaped across the Buffalo River to Natal.

On 25 January, three days after the Isandlwana disaster, the almost unbelievable news was received in Cape Town by telegraph. The following day, St George's Street was inundated with Cape Colonists crowding *The Cape Argus* office, desperate to obtain more details of relatives or friends and a shroud of depression and anxiety was cast over the Cape. It was only by the 28th that the officers' names were released.<sup>33</sup>

The same day the officer casualties were published, the remaining three Companies of the 2nd Battalion, 4th (*The King's Own Royal Regiment*) of Foot posted to Cape Town were mobilized for immediate embarkation to Natal in order to rejoin the remainder of their regiment. These men, high in emotions, made some patriotic passing

comments to the press: *'If I do get killed, said an intelligent soldier to us, I'll render an account of a few Zulus first, and I'll not be satisfied with merely striking them, I'll kill them'*.<sup>34</sup> Mr John X. Merriman who first learnt of the disaster on the 24th, (presumably from Sivewright in the telegraph office) recorded in his diary for several days the shock that was felt in the Cape and on the 26th wrote: *'Excitement and gloom still continues. No fresh news'*.<sup>35</sup>

Chief Justice, Sir John Henry De Villiers, presided over a meeting at the Cape Town Commercial Exchange on 29 January along with a respected cross-section of Cape politicians, clergyman, businessmen and volunteer soldiers. The purpose was to conduct a meeting where the town's residents could express their opinions of the Isandlwana disaster before the mail steamer left for England. As the meeting concluded, it was decided that firstly, sympathy must be extended to Natal amid cheers of *hear, hear!* Secondly, that volunteers should come forward as Natal offered assistance to the Cape during the recent Frontier War. Major Richard Southey CMG, a supporter of imperial expansion, was applauded for having already offering to raise volunteers for Natal. Lastly it was suggested that a War Relief Fund Committee should be formed of which £2500 was also immediately pledged; £500 from one citizen alone.<sup>36</sup>

As the Imperial Forces in the Colony departed for Natal, the Cape Volunteers were mobilized for 'Active Service' in as much as to assume the garrison duties of the colony; including that of the Eastern Frontier. The Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteer Rifles (The *'Dukes'*) had already taken on some minor garrison duties as early as 9 November 1878, when 5 Companies of the 2/4th Foot embarked for Natal; their areas of responsibilities being the provision of guard detachments at Government House, Main Barracks, Castle, Military Hospital and at the Amsterdam Battery. The *Dukes*, being an infantry regiment was relieved of this duty by Prince Alfred's Own Cape Field Artillery<sup>37</sup> as Major R. Southey was ordered to mobilize from the 8 Companies of the *Dukes*, a composite force for immediate deployment<sup>38</sup> to the frontier aboard the *Couland*.<sup>38</sup> On 1 February, 7 Officers, 16 Non-Commissioned Officers and 200 Privates marched through Cape Town and embarked for the Transkei where they were destined to garrison Ibeka, Butterworth and Malans Mission near Fort Bowker. They were under the command of Captain Edward James Whindus, a former Colour-Sergeant of the 86th (*Royal County Down*) Regiment who recorded their mission: *'To relieve Imperial Forces so as to allow of their being despatched to Zululand, on the receipt of news of "Isandhlwana"'*.<sup>39</sup>

From Port Elizabeth, in what was known as the *'Third Active Service'* Detachment, the Prince Alfred's Volunteer Guard (PAVG)<sup>40</sup> mobilized 3 Officers, 6 Non-Commissioned Officers and 65 Privates for garrison duties in King William's Town in order to relieve the 88th (*Connaught Rangers*) Regiment and was destined to serve from 28 January to 28 April.<sup>41</sup> The PAVG received 25 immediate volunteers with the remaining 75 being selected by ballot. However only 64 turned out for embarkation as many felt the ballot system was unfair and the press speculated that force may need to be used, but hoped this was not the case.<sup>42</sup> The full 100 man quota was eventually reached and the *Eastern Province Herald* proudly named every man that deployed on active service.<sup>43</sup> Apart from this detachment of the PAVG, some 15 individual members of the regiment are recorded to have taken leave and served with the army in Zululand; one man, Private Gordon Clarke Sidney Christian was reported killed at Isandlwana whilst serving with the Natal Carbineers. Christian had served in the Frontier War with both the PAVG and Baker's Horse.

The Government of the *Old Colony* gladly accepted and took on the routine garrison duties. However, this was the minimum requirement to ensure the security of the Colony. News was spreading among the amaXhosa and Basotho that the British had been defeated and the Transvaal Boers were defiant about their annexation in 1877. It was believed that the Eastern Frontier could once again be destabilized. Steps needed to be taken to ensure that the disaster of Isandlwana did not ignite a rebellion and on 31 January, the Commandant General issued orders for 1,000 of the Cape Mounted Rifles (CMR), Volunteers and the newly raised Cape Mounted Yeomanry to be posted to key locations along the frontier.<sup>44</sup>

The Colonial Government's response was not only commendable, but it proved that the Colonial Volunteers could be relied upon to mobilize at short notice, albeit not to full strength. It must be reiterated that the volunteers held down day jobs, worked farms and filled critical government positions; they, for the most part, responded both in body and spirit to the Natal disaster.<sup>45</sup> There were isolated cases where men refused to leave their businesses, as was the case of the PAVG ballot system debacle; there were also other knock-on effects when mobilizing volunteers. The Civil Commissioner for Port Elizabeth having let one of his clerks, Private J.G. Blanckenburg proceed on service with the PAVG, needed to back-fill the vacancy and applied to his superior in Cape Town for permission to appoint a temporary clerk. The Commissioner even went as far as to request that Blanckenburg draw his full salary whilst on active service; clearly a case of double dipping and at additional cost to the Government.<sup>46</sup>

The Cape public opinion and general support for the war remained constant during the months of January and February, and in March the Colonial Secretary received a formal letter from Commandant Louis Henri Meurant of Riversdale stating that during a town meeting, a resolution was passed '*expressing sympathy and approval with measures of Sir Bartle Frere in Zululand*'.<sup>47</sup>

## Notes and References

1. *The Standard Mail*, 29 January 1879
2. *The Standard Mail*, 9 January 1879
3. Wilmot, A., *The History of Our Times in South Africa* (J.C. Juta & Co, London 1897). The issue was that Cape Volunteers were compelled to leave their jobs, abandon their farms and businesses that over a protracted period placed volunteers under financial hardship and possibly ruin.
4. During the Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War of 1877-78 all Eastern Cape districts mobilized Volunteers, Burghers and Native Levy's for service in the field. Volunteers were also mobilized from Cape Town and Griqualand West (Diamond Fields Horse).
5. The Basotho were skilled fighters, who used Fire Arms with great effect and were easily adaptable to fighting on the offensive and defensive. They usually attacked mounted, en-mass wielding their battle-axes that presented a daunting spectacle. During the Gun War 1880-81 the Cape Forces faced thousands of mounted Basotho on several occasions.
6. *Selections from the correspondence of J.X. Merriman* (The Van Riebeeck Society, Cape Town 1960). Molteno and Merriman in order to retain control of the Colonial Forces, raised units styled as 'Special Constables' apposed to a military designation.
7. Wilmot, A., *The History of Our Times in South Africa* (J.C. Juta & Co, London 1897). The friction between Frere, Molteno and Merriman had become so intense that Captain H. Hallam Parr (later Colonel), Frere's competent Military Secretary refused to interface with Merriman on military matters. Sir John Kotze in his *Biographical Memoirs and Reminiscences* recorded of Parr: '*Captain Hallam Parr I found an agreeable and well-informed personality*' and wrote of Merriman that when he arrived on the frontier during the Gcaleka war he cabled Cape Town; '*No cause for alarm: I am here*' which Kotze stated '*which at the time was typical of the man*' and offended Frere.
8. Knight, Ian., *Zulu Rising, The epic story of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift* (Macmillan 2010)
9. C.2220: *Further Correspondence Respecting the Affairs of South Africa*, August, 1878. The number of Zulu warriors was stated by some to have been as high as 60,000.
10. *The Eastern Province Herald* and *Eastern Star*, January 1878 – January 1879
11. *Selections from the correspondence of J.X. Merriman* (The Van Riebeeck Society, Cape Town 1960)

12. *Eastern Province Herald*, 12 November 1878. The article stated that Lonsdale was selecting officers and men vigorously for service in the Transvaal. The term "Transvaal" could have been used in reference to the possibility of them fighting Sekhukhune or it could have been a deception to draw attention away from the fact that recruiting was on-going before the ultimatum to the Zulu's was issued.
13. SCHERMBRUCKER Frederick Xavier, *Honorable* (1832 – 1904); Lieutenant, Bavarian Army 1850; Ensign, British German Legion, Crimean War; Auctioneer, Cape Colony 1857; 'MLA' 1868. Commandant, Schermbrucker's Horse, Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Raised Kaffrarian Vanguard, Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Commandant Luneberg district 1879; Officer Commanding, Basutoland Mounted Police, Gun War 1880-81; 'MLC' 1882.
14. MULLER Carl Immanuel, (1854 – 1923); Prussian Army c1873; To South Africa 1876; Lieutenant, Stutterheim Mounted Police 1877; Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Captain, Kaffrarian Vanguard, Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Captain, NNC. Author of: *Stutterheim, Luneberg, Ulundi: Erlebnisse eines Offiziers in den Friegsjahren, 1878-79*.
15. *Eastern Province Herald*, 5 November 1878. Many German's settled in Kaffraria during the 1850's, namely the redundant British-German Legion formed for service during the Crimean War. Free settlers also arrived in the region as colonists.
16. C.2144: *Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of South Africa*, August, 1878
17. LONSDALE Rupert Latrobe CMG (1849 – 1888); Lieutenant, 71st Foot 1868-74; Magistrate and Commandant, Keiskamahoe and Mfengu Levy; Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Commandant, 3NNC, Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Raised and commanded Lonsdale's Mounted Rifles 1879; Special Service Officer to Coomassie 1881-82; Levy Battalion Commander, Zulu Disturbances 1888.
18. NETTLETON William John (1833 – 1897); Commissariat Department, Eight Eastern Cape Frontier War 1850-53; Captain, Queenstown Volunteers 1870, Commanding Officer, Port Elizabeth Volunteer Horse, Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Commandant, 2/2NNC Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Commandant, Maseru Native Levy, Gun War 1880-81.
19. STREATFIELD Frank Newton CMG (1843 – 1916); Farmer, Soldier, Magistrate and Author; Commandant, Streatfield's Mfengu Levy, Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; He declined a commandants position in the NNC to join the Cape Civil Service as a Magistrate. Resident Magistrate, Kuruman c1880's.
20. VON LINSIGEN Wilhelm Carl Ferdinand CMG (1822 – 1880); Hanoverian Army Officer; Captain, British German Legion 1855; Farmer and Soldier, Eastern Cape 1856; Officer Commanding, No2 Company, Buffalo Volunteer Rifles, Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Recruited European for the NNC, Anglo-Zulu War 1879; He declined command of an NNC regiment in order to accepted a Superintendent's position at the Breakwater prison; Commandant, Gun War 1880 until he was killed in action alongside his 16 year old son on 14.11.1880 in a scene very reminiscent of the Uys and Weatherley family tragedies of fathers and sons being killed together.
21. In November 1878, the 2nd Regiment, NNC was being referred to as the '*Second Division, Natal Native Levy*'. This title was soon dropped as the men embarked for Natal (Cape Archives Repository, DD1-272).
22. Cape Archives Repository, DD 1-272
23. Cape Archives Repository, DD 1-272
24. Cape Archives Repository, DD1-272. Halder stated that he had 6 Lieutenants, 30 Sergeants and 30 Corporals. The lack of Privates suggests that Halder had recruited specifically for the NNC as no white Privates were required.
25. *Ibid*
26. *Eastern Province Herald*, 5 November 1878
27. *The Cape Mercury*, 1 December 1878
28. *The Standard Mail*, 14 January 1879
29. Greaves, Adrian., *Crossing the buffalo, the Zulu war of 1879* (Cassell 2005)
30. Norris-Newman, Charles.L., *In Zululand with the British Throughout the War of 1879* (W.H. Allen & Co 1880)
31. PURVIS Thomas (1842 - 1923); 2nd Dragoon Guards 1871; FAMP 1877-78 including the Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Lieutenant, 1/3NNC Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Mason of Grahamstown.
32. MAYOR Jesse Handcock (1859 - 1915); FAMP, Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78; Corporal, 1/3NNC and Lonsdale's Horse Anglo-Zulu War 1879; Corporal, 'A' Troop, Baker's Horse, Gun War 1880-81; Company Sergeant Major, Cape Garrison Engineers 1887-92; Private, DEOVR 1892-99; Second Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902 served as Trooper, Robert's Horse (Deserted) 1900, Private, Western Province Mounted Rifles 1901 and Trooper, Colonial Light Horse (2DEOVR 1901).
33. *The Standard Mail*, 28 January 1879
34. *Ibid*
35. *Selections from the correspondence of J.X. Merriman* (The Van Riebeeck Society, Cape Town 1960)
36. *The Standard Mail*, 29 January 1879. By April, the War Sufferers Relief Fund committee had raised just over £5,000.
37. *The Standard Mail*, 27 February 1879
38. *The Standard Mail*, 27 February 1879
39. *The Standard Mail*, 30 January 1879
40. Cape Archives Repository, DD1-275
41. Hall Richard.T., *Prince Alfred's Guard; Its history* (Port Elizabeth 1906). Each time the PAVG mobilized detachments on active service they were numbered accordingly; the First and Second 'Active Service' Detachment's were mobilized during the Ninth Eastern Cape Frontier War 1877-78 and the Fourth and Fifth detachments were mobilized during the Gun War 1880-81. Other Cape Volunteer regiments adopted this system also.
42. Cape Archives Repository, DD1-275 and AD1-50
43. *Eastern Province Herald*, 4 February 1879
44. *Ibid*
45. Cape Archives Repository, DD1-6
46. Cape Archives Repository, CCP (A49-79)
47. Cape Archives Repository, CO 3306. It's not known if Blanckenburg was permitted to draw two salaries whilst on active service, and if he was, no doubt he would have been happy to service. Interestingly, when he returned to the Commissioner's office he took leave that would suggest he wasn't financially disadvantaged.