

THE LATE SIR GEORGE COLLEY.

The news of General Colley's death and the almost entire extinction of the 58th regiment under his command, has produced a most depressing effect in England. There are few modern commanders of whom more favourable results have been prophesied; and the shock to those who expected, in spite of the reverses which he had already met, that the Commander-in-chief was on the point of satisfactorily ending the war in Natal has been great.

Sir George Colley was the son of the late Hon. George Francis Colley, and grandson of the third Viscount Harberton. He entered the army in 1852, became Captain in the 2nd Regiment of Foot in 1860, Major in 1863, Lieutenant-Colonel in 1872, and Colonel in 1874. He was engaged in the Campaigns on the Cape frontier in 1858-9 and 1861, and was twice thanked by the Government for his services; throughout the China War of 1860, for which he received a medal and two clasps; and in the Ashantee War of 1873-4; after which he was made a C. B., and was awarded the medal with clasp. From 1876 to 1879 he was in India with Lord Lytton as Private Secretary to the late Viceroy, and in 1879 he was appointed chief of the Staff to Sir Garnet Wolseley in Natal. He was created a C. M. G. in 1878, and a K. C. S. I. in 1879. Almost immediately after the outbreak of the revolt in the Transvaal Sir G. P. Colley, without waiting for reinforcements from England or India, started from Newcastle with his little army of 1,300 men to relieve the beleaguered garrisons of Pretoria and Botchefstroom, and it will be fresh in our readers' recollection that he received a decided check at the hands of the Boers when attempting to force his way through a pass in the Drakensberg at Laing's Nek, his losses being

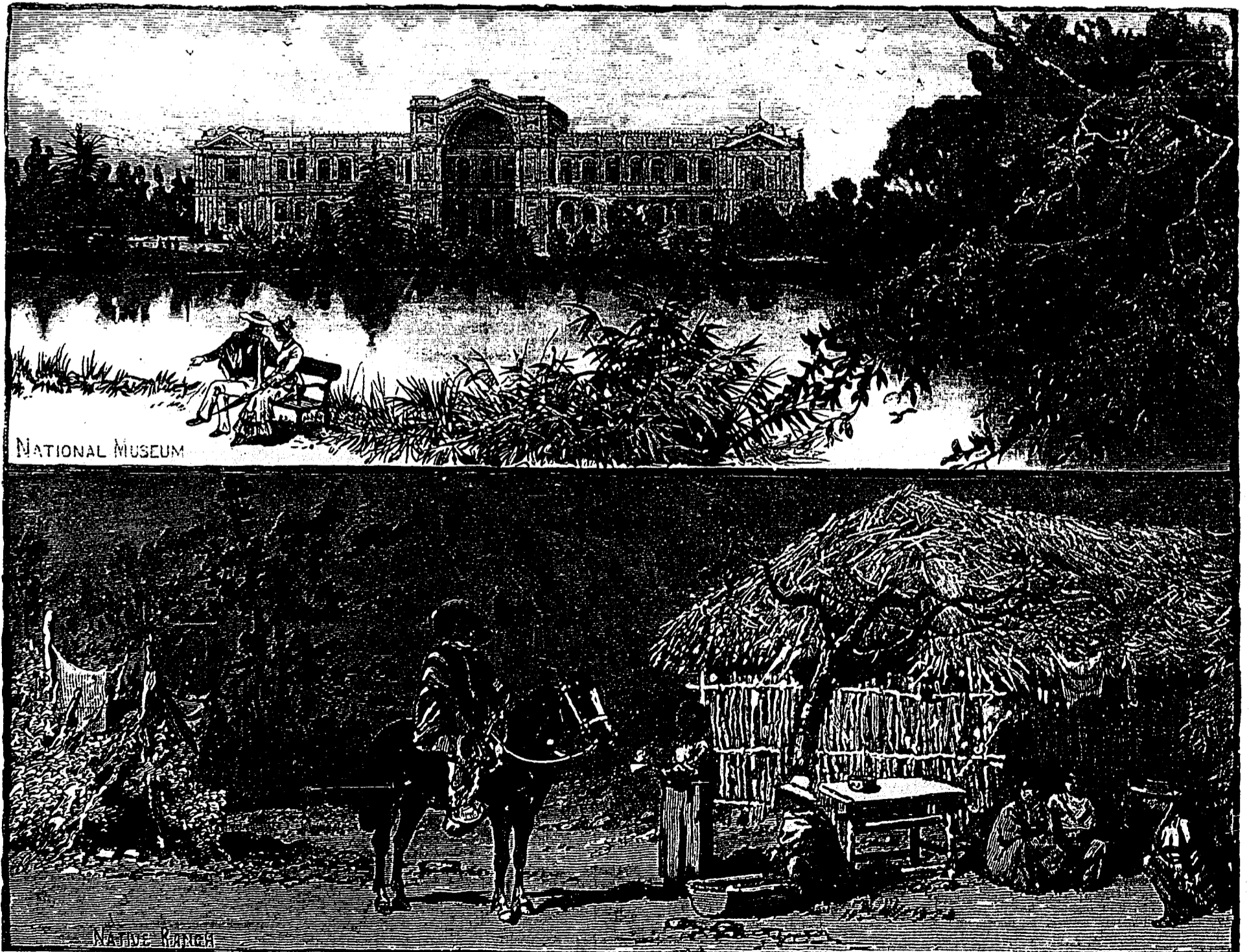


MAJOR-GENERAL SIR GEORGE POMEROY COLLEY, K.C.S.I.

195 officers and men killed and wounded. A few days afterwards Sir G. P. Colley had another almost equally disastrous engagement with the enemy on a plateau near the River Ingogo, in which he lost 150 men and eight officers killed and wounded.

In spite of this however, it was generally believed that the Boers were upon the point of capitulating and that the war would speedily be at an end, when all England was electrified by the telegram which announced the catastrophe of Sunday week. Imperfect details only have as yet reached us of the struggle, but the accounts agree in the fact of the almost entire extermination of the gallant 58th, only seven members of which escaped, and they more or less seriously wounded. The battle commenced by the attack of the Boers in Magela mountain, which had been occupied by Sir George Colley with apparently too weak a force. For a time the enemy were repulsed, but their fire was most deadly, and when after a desperate resistance the ammunition of the soldiers began to give out the slaughter became terrific. Shot down mercilessly by the advancing enemy the men made one attempt to break the line, Sir George leading them, when a bullet struck him in the head, and as their commander fell, the remnant of his force turned and ran.

General Sir Evelyn Wood is in temporary command of the forces, while General Roberts, the hero of Candahar, is on his road to take command, and the War Office has ordered the Admiralty to get the troop-ship *Orontes* ready to embark the 9th regiment at Bermuda, the *Euphrates* the 85th regiment at Bombay, and another steamer at Colombo to take the 106th regiment and 2nd regiment to Durban, with the greatest promptitude.



S. AMERICA.—SKETCHES IN CHILI, THE VICTOR IN THE LATE WAR.