

rebel. Retaliate he will. His patriotism is not dead, but sleepeth, and I perceive that, if provoked in the present crisis of physical destitution, he has the spirit to deal a blow let the recoil on himself be what it may."

Warlike rumours increased among the colonists, and many of them moved their cattle to a distance. Things had a disturbed appearance, and the civil authorities strengthened, as far as they could, the military posts. On the 20th of October, Sir Harry Smith, governor of the colony, arrived in Caffreland, and summoned the chiefs to appear before him at King William's Town, on the 26th of that month, "to answer for their conduct, and to renew their allegiance to her Majesty the Queen." A number did so, and denied all intentions of war; but Sandilli, the paramount chief of the Gaikas, did not appear, alleging that he was afraid of being imprisoned.—Being again summoned, and refusing to come, he was, on the 30th, "deposed from his rank as a chief," and the direct control of the tribe given to Mr. Charles Brownlee, the civil commissioner. Sandilli fled to the bush, was of course exasperated, and did what he could to provoke the people to arms. Again, on the 19th of December, Sir Harry summoned the chiefs and their people to meet him at Fort-Cox. At this meeting the Rev. Henry Renton was present. "The spectacle," he says, "of a camp, and still more, of nearly 3000 red Caffres, headed by their chiefs in uniform, was to me novel, and, from the occasion, deeply interesting." The chiefs present denied the charges brought against Sandilli, and begged for an opportunity to disprove them. This was refused, and Sandilli was declared an outlaw and a rebel, and £500 set on his head, and £200 on the head of Anta, a brother. Still the missionaries present left the meeting persuaded that peace would be maintained, provided that an attempt was not made to seize Sandilli. Mr. Niven declares that all was peaceful in his region, and that there was not an individual of unfriendly feeling towards the English government. But, on the 24th of December, only five days after the meeting, Colonel M'Kinnon marched 600 troops up the Keiskamma Glen, the place of Sandilli's concealment, with no other design apparently than to march them down again, and thus serve

as a demonstration. They were attacked by some of Sandilli's men, and blood was shed. The spark was kindled, the flame spread like lightning, and in a few hours the whole country was filled by bands of armed men. The sad results are partly stated in the following communications from the Rev. Mr. Niven.

NARRATIVE OF THE REMARKABLE ESCAPE OF THE REV. R. NIVEN AND HIS FAMILY, ON THE BREAKING OUT OF THE CAFFRE WAR.

The following thrilling account of the dangers which Mr. Niven and his family encountered in their journey from Uniondale to Chumie, on the 25th of December, is given in a letter dated Chumie, 2d January 1851.

*Outbreak of the War.*—Uniondale is in ashes—its infant religious society scattered, and the missionary and his family refugees under the roof of dear Brother Cumming.

On Tuesday the 24th ult., 600 troops, without warning, or apparent reason, marched up the Keiskamma Glen in which Sandilli has been lurking for two months, and encamped near Uniondale. Colonel M'Kinnon, in command, sent for me, and related that some Caffres fired on his rear, killed ten men, one of them a military surgeon, and wounded five, two of them officers. Nothing remarked the Colonel, was intended by this movement up the glen one day, and down to Fort-Cox the next, beyond a demonstration. A general rebellion among the Gaikas has been the result.

Vika, the principal man of our district, was with me when I visited the Colonel. His surprise at the occurrence, coupled with his readiness to send two men, and their readiness to go, the one to inform the governor at Fort-Cox of the "affair," and the other to Colonel Erye on the Kabousi, twenty-five miles higher up, led me to think that Sandilli's body-guard was alone concerned. However, there was no time to be lost for securing the removal of my family, and, if possible, to prevent a rising in the district.

*Consultation as to the Disposal of the Family.*—After supplying Dr. Fraser with what he required for the wounded, and five stretchers to bear them on the next day's march, I had a consultation with my family. The ladies supported by the view of judicious natives, thought it best