

I remember well some of our critics severely criticising the offers made by Australians, but now have become converted; an army approaching 10,000 has assured them that here is the right kind of men. The nations must look on, and reckon with this factor in future struggles with the Empire. The page of British history will prove exceedingly interesting from this on, containing accounts of colonial bravery on the field, and her noble contribution towards the building up, and cementing together, a great nation and a company of nations.

It will give to the colonies a stronger voice in imperial affairs. In the accounts of the departure of the various contingents, I intend to be as brief as possible, and to reserve some portion for the mention of the appreciation of our men, by those in a position to judge.

On the 11th day of October, 1899, the Australian Lancers were accorded a tremendous ovation on their departure from London for the seat of war. The English newspapers spoke highly of them, and the massed bands of the Grenadier Guards led them on, amid the cheering of the crowds who lined London streets.

SPLENDID SPECTACLE AND LOUD CHEERS.

On the 29th day of October, the departure of the New South Wales contingent and army medical corps was a magnificent and imposing spectacle, witnessed by thousands of people; the enthusiasm was intense, and the line of route extending through Oxford St., Bourke St., William St., Park St. and Circular Quay was lined with an enthusiastic populace, who cheered them vociferously. Every balcony, window, and available space was occupied by those anxious to get a farewell glimpse of, and to cheer the brave men, who were leaving for the battlefield.

Inspiring addresses were delivered; the men more than ever determined to show the people of Australia, who loved every man in the contingent, the stuff they were made of, and to make the Boer feel the impetus of the energy of Australian soldiers.

The departure of the second and main body of the New South Wales contingent a week later, is spoken of in the local press as a