THE WAR IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

and sent word to Lord Kitchener that he intended to undertake to drive him out before the wet season began in May. He sent mounted troops with motor transports, machine guns and a mountain battery, under Major-General Stewart, to encircle the northern end of the mountain and attack Moshi from the west while he delivered a frontal attack from the other side of the mountain. The enemy, attacked in both front and rear, left behind 380 dead and many prisoners. Some of their forces retired along the Tanga railway, while the main body retreated south to contest General Smuts' advance towards the Central Railway. The Uganda Railway was linked up, by an extension from Taveta, with the German terminus at Moshi and a force was detached to follow the enemy along the latter line to Tanga on the coast. The fighting for control of this railway was severe, as the enemy had the cover of the Pare Mts. through which the line runs. Gradually, however, the work was accomplished and Tanga was captured July 7th, 1916.

Meanwhile, General Smuts seized Arusha, where important caravan routes meet, and then pushed on to Köthersheim and Solanga in the direction of the Central Railway. Kondoa Irangi, about 75 miles from the railway, was occupied by General Van Deventer April 19th after a stiff fight. The Germans retired towards Kilimatinde, but being reinforced returned to the attack under the personal command of General von Lettow-Vorbeek the Imperial Commander. The attack was continued during the 9th, 10th and 11th May but was repulsed with heavy losses. The British forces reached the Central Railway 31st of July.

On August 5th General Smuts began a general attack on the main enemy forces and on the 11th defeated them at Matamondo, on which date General Van Deventer occupied Mpapua. On the 15th naval forces occupied Bogamyo and General Smuts forced his way through the Nguru Hills, crossing the River Wami on the 18th. Van Deventer entered Kidete August 20th, and on the 22nd captured Kilosa. August 31st Dar-es-Salaam was bombarded for the fourth time during the war and on September 4th, 1916, surrendered to naval forces. On the 15th of the month General Smuts' forces reached the south of the Uluguru hills and effected a junction near Kissaki, while Van Deventer was approaching the Great Ruaha River on the road to Mahenge. On November 19th the enemy was again defeated at Lupembe, and this dosed the work of the year, but on New Year's day, 1917, our forces in the vicinity of Kissaki, south of the Uluguru hills, again assumed the offensive. They stormed the enemy's strongly entrenched lines in the Mgeta valley, inflicting heavy casualties and capturing several guns and howitzers. Pursuing the enemy our troops on January 3rd approached the Tiogowali River, eleven miles north-west of Kibambawe, on the north bank of the River Rufigi. On January 5th they occupied a German