

Officer Commanding. N. Z. Military Forces. will shortly be retiring under the age clause. You will remember he did remarkably well in Valerine in Command of the Angou Mounted Brigade. I understand that he contemplates journeying to England - his son obtained a Colonial Cadetship for the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, and in August next: completes his two years at the R. M. A. and will become a "Sapper" or "Gunner": according to his merits.

It is understood that Colonel G. W. Melville, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., p.s.c. New Zealand Staff Corps, will be the new G.O.C. - you may have met him as a Brig. General Comd. N. Z. Infantry Bde in France. I remember his father, the late Lieut. Tregmouth Melville, V.C. 24th Foot, who escaped along with the late Lieut. Coghill V.C. 24th Foot, with the Colours of the Battⁿ after Sandheda. 1879. but they were overtaken by the Zulus & killed. The Colours were recovered months later - by a search party under Major B. de la Blaine 24th Foot.

The present Col Melville was for about 9 years in the South Lancashire Regt & left as Capt & Adj. He joined the N. Z. S. C. in 1911 - and