

RECRUITS FOR SCOTTISH HORSE.

IN addition to the Contingents, authority was given for enrolment of 250 men for the Marquis of Tullibardine's Scottish Horse, in South Africa.

These men were selected by the acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Victoria, and handed over to Lieut.-Colonel Creagh, who acted for the Marquis of Tullibardine.

A large portion of those chosen were men who had passed all tests for the 5th Victorian Contingent, but who were thrown out in the ballot.

This Contingent proceeded to South Africa in the *Orient* as indulgence passengers, 15th February, 1901. They were noted by the Officer Commanding troops as amongst the very best on board. On arrival they were all accepted for the 2nd Battalion, and they gave a good account of themselves during their service. Many of them were in the heroic defence of the guns at Brakenlaagte, 30th October, 1901, of which Lord Tullibardine in his despatch, wrote:—"The next fight was a big one at Brakenlaagte, where Colonel Benson and Major Murray were both killed. The men did magnificently, trying to save the guns; only 96 were engaged at this point, and they stuck it out until only 6 were left unhit. Their casualties were—5 officers, 28 men killed; 4 officers, 36 men wounded; total, 73 out of 96—all the officers being hit. I don't think I ever heard of better or more determined fighting. Although we lost the guns, the camp was saved by the delay, and the men really did cover themselves with glory." The officers killed were—Major F. D. Murray, Captains M. W. H. Lindsay, A. Inglis, Lieutenants C. Woodman, J. B. Kelly. Wounded—Captain A. C. Murray, Lieutenants W. Campbell, T. Finis, A. C. Wardrop. Captain Murray, though wounded, was the only senior officer available to take temporary charge of the residue of the party. He was subsequently elected to proceed to England in charge of the detail of Scottish Horse to attend the coronation of King Edward VII.
