

**CAMP LIFE AND SPORT IN  
SOUTH AFRICA. EXPERIENCES  
OF KAFFIR WARFARE WITH  
THE CAPE MOUNTED RIFLES**

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Camp life and sport in South Africa. Experiences of Kaffir warfare with the Cape Mounted Rifles by Thos. J. Lucas

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**THOS. J. LUCAS**

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CAMP LIFE AND SPORT IN  
SOUTH AFRICA.



Zulu Warrior

# CAMP LIFE AND SPORT IN SOUTH AFRICA

EXPERIENCES OF KAFFIR WARFARE WITH  
THE CAPE MOUNTED RIFLES.

By THOS. J. LUCAS,  
LATE CAPT. R. M. ARTILLERY.



WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

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1878.

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TO  
MY OLD BROTHER OFFICERS AND  
MILITARY FRIENDS,

THE RECOLLECTION OF WHOSE GOOD FELLOWSHIP IS ONE OF  
THE GREATEST PLEASURES OF MY LIFE,

*These Pages are Dedicated.*



## PREFACE.



THOUGH prefaces are somewhat out of date, yet every Author is, I think, justified in saying a few words by way of introduction, were it only for the purpose of supplying the reader with the *raison d'être* of his work. I may, therefore, I trust, be permitted to observe, that I have endeavoured, in the following pages, to touch upon some of the salient points of life and character in South Africa, and at the same time to weave into them some of the everyday incidents of garrison life—whilst doing duty with my old regiment, the Cape Mounted Rifles, in that country. I have been the more induced to do so from the fact that the existence of that Corps has now become a matter of history, reasons which are given further on having led to its disbandment. Some record, therefore, of its constitution and peculiarities may not be out of place in these pages. Its auoma-

lous position as a cavalry regiment, to all intents and purposes, though it was only endowed with infantry rank and pay, marked it out as essentially different from any other corps in Her Majesty's service, whilst its mixed Hottentot and European elements, eminently fitting it for performing with advantage the skirmishing tactics so useful in savage warfare, carried it still further out of the usual category. With regard to the Cape *fauna*, it has been my wish to exhibit some of the characteristics of the smaller and more rarely described *fauna*, which, less important as regards size and ferocity, and therefore perhaps less sought after by the sportsman, may yet be found interesting to the general reader, as they certainly will be to the naturalist, whose researches are necessarily more comprehensive.

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