

on every duty, and the works received an increased impetus.

At fifty feet below the surface they found sweet water, an inestimable blessing to the Ishmaelites of Zoulla, who in their gratitude were ready to worship the Punjaubees. There is no part of the way which does not bear marks of the labour of this regiment, either on the roads or the telegraph.

The 33d Regiment was never idle; at Senafe and Antalo every man was employed not only in making the roads and entrenchments, but in cutting and bringing in grass and wood for the Commissariat, and poles for the telegraph. When joined by the 4th King's Own Regiment they bore the first brunt of opening the way through the rocky mountains of Lasta to Magdala.

The A and B Batteries, 21st Brigade, Royal Artillery, under Lieutenant-Colonel Penn and Captain Twiss, took over the steel mountain guns on landing; they broke in mules, fitted their harness, and made extraordinary progress in the organization of these batteries, which maintained their thorough efficiency during the march to Magdala and back.

Whilst waiting for the time when they could advance, and when the provisioning of Senafe was of the first importance, these batteries carried up several convoys of stores and provisions to that post.

The 5th Battery, 25th Brigade, Royal Artillery (brass rifled mountain guns), under Major Bogle, arrived from Calcutta complete and efficient in every particular of equipment.

The circumstances of the campaign did not permit this battery to join the advance troops; but while waiting at Zoulla before they advanced to Senafe, Major Bogle volunteered the services of his battery for every useful work. In carrying treasure and stores to Senafe the battery marched nearly one thousand miles. It furnished a detachment, under Major Hills, V.C., which manned two 8-inch mortars, a valuable battery on elephants, which was carried to Magdala and employed in the attack on that fortress. In case of a protracted defence these mortars would have been invaluable.

Elephants have frequently been employed for the transport of artillery in Indian warfare, but it has been generally by means of draught; when guns have been carried it has only been for short distances.

It has been the privilege of this campaign to prove that elephants could carry Armstrong twelve-pounder guns and eight-inch mortars over steep mountains for many hundreds of miles.

There were forty-two elephants employed in the conveyance of ordnance and ammunition, and of these five have been lost from hard work and want of water during the operations before Magdala.

The Royal Naval Rocket Brigade, under Commander Fellowes, furnished chiefly by Her Majesty's ship "Octavia," broke in their own mules, quickly learned duties and a drill which were new to them, carried stores and provisions to Senafe, marched well, and were with the leading brigade in the advance on Magdala. They have added to the high reputation which the Royal Navy have ever held when serving with the army in the field.

The 45th Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Parish, arrived at Zoulla early in February, and remained there employed on the railway and other works until the 19th of March, when at length the obstacles to their advance being overcome, the head-quarters and six companies making most strenuous efforts to reach the front, arrived at Dalanta in time to share in the opera-

tions against Magdala, after having marched 300 miles in twenty-four days, accomplishing the last 70 miles across the Wandach Pass, 10,500 feet high, and the Taccassi and Jeddah ravines in four days—a rate of marching in such a country hardly to be surpassed. Four companies being urgently required, were detained at Koomeylee until late in March, when they were sent to garrison Addijerat and Antalo.

In addition to the severe mountain marches in which each soldier carried a heavy load, regiments of ten worked at the roads on the line of march, or immediately on arrival in camp. Not unfrequently every available man of a regiment has been on working parties or outlying picket.

The constant storms of rain, and the cold nights of the high altitude were encountered cheerfully on rations reduced to eight ounces of flour, and meat only. An increase was made to the allowance of meat it is true, but that increase gave no compensation for the articles of rum, sugar, and compressed vegetables which had to be left behind.

The 2d Bombay Grenadiers and 18th Bombay Native Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonels Muter and Combe, and the 21st Bengal Native Infantry (Punjaubees), by Major Thelwall, C.B., while longing for an order to advance, contributed most cheerfully their labours for many weeks to the railway, the roads through the Pass, the wells, the water supply, and the conservation of the Pass.

Of the regiments of the 4th Brigade, which had been held in readiness in Bombay, the 26th Cameronians, under Lieutenant-Colonel Henning, alone landed, and were moved as quickly as possible to Senafe; but short as was the detention of this regiment at Zoulla it also contributed its labours to forward the work at our base.

The 5th and 8th Regiments, Bombay Native Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonels Taylor and Sandwith, both regiments with a high reputation, returned to India on the fall of Magdala, without having landed in Abyssinia.

These three regiments were all wanted earlier, but were not sent for because they could not have been moved to the highlands for want of food and transport.

Before the arrival of the Cameronians, when the connecting posts of our line had been numerically much weaker than I desired, I had obtained the services of 200 seamen and marines, under Captain Colin Campbell, from Her Majesty's ship "Octavia." They marched towards Senafe; but the arrival of the Cameronians rendered their proceeding onwards no longer necessary.

The cavalry service has been such as to call for the fullest powers of that arm as light cavalry.

The long line of communication required that the cavalry should be in many detachments.

They have had peculiar responsibility thrown upon their officers and soldiers. Left in isolated positions, far from control, entrusted with commissariat duties, while charged to be conciliatory to the people of the country they have been firm in maintaining inviolate the respect due to their position as soldiers. The supplies for the troops marching to join the main force in advance frequently depended on the ability and trustworthiness of a non-commissioned officer of cavalry; and I have had repeated testimony to the efficiency with which these duties have been performed.

Seldom or never have cavalry had such a variety of duties in maintaining communications for so many miles, climbing over mountains and