

Enclosure 5.

*Nominal Return of Non-Commissioned Officers  
and Privates MISSING; from 11th to 13th  
May, 1855, inclusive.*

MISSING.

11th May, 1855.

68TH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

2314. Private Robert Woolley

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT,  
Adjutant-General.

Before Sevastopol,

My LORD, May 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a letter from the Inspector General of Hospitals, forwarding the weekly report on the sick of the army under my command. I deeply regret to have to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that cholera has reappeared here,\* that 20 men have died, and that 52 men were yesterday labouring under the fatal disease.

The troops had been free from it for several months, and I was in hopes that we should have had no return of it.

General Canrobert informs me that it had never ceased to prevail in the French Army in a greater or lesser degree.

I have, &amp;c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

Enclosure.

Head Quarter, Camp before Sevastopol,

My LORD, May 14, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report on the weekly state of sick of the Army serving in the Crimea, from the 6th to the 12th instant, and to observe that the following are the proportions, which are extremely moderate; viz.:

Ratio of admissions to strength during the week, 3.92 per cent.;

Ratio of deaths to strength during the week, 0.20 per cent.;

but I regret to have to add that, since the 12th instant, spasmodic cholera has considerably increased, and as many as 18 deaths, and 52 cases under treatment, have been reported within the last twenty-four hours.

The 4th, including the Buffs and 71st, the 2nd and the Light Divisions, with B G and P batteries of Artillery have suffered most; but as yet the disease can hardly be said to exist in the cavalry, 1st and 3rd Divisions, nor in the siege train. This exemption, however, there is reason to apprehend, will not be of any very long duration.

Hitherto the disease has chiefly attacked new comers and many of the cases have occurred when the men were either actually in the trenches, or immediately after their return from duty in them. This may have been owing to the combined causes of fatigue and local miasma, but to neither in particular; for we find the men of the B G and P batteries, who never go into the trenches at all, and who are not overworked, have suffered nearly as much as any others. All the men attacked in

them, with I believe one exception, had recently arrived in the Crimea. In the P battery, two of the men attacked had only just landed, one I think had been about 24, and the other 36 hours on shore when they were attacked, and in both the disease followed intemperance.

The weather, which for some days previous to the 10th had been extremely warm, was followed on that day by heavy rain which continued, alternating with periods of dense fog during the whole of the 11th and 12th, but it has now cleared up again and the temperature has been considerably reduced.

The Buffs and 71st, which had only just marched up to their new encamping-ground before the rain set in, were ill prepared for such an occurrence; and their tents, which had not been properly trenched, were speedily flooded.\*

The 48th Regiment, in the 4th Division, and the 2nd battalion of the Royals, in the 2nd Division, both newly arrived regiments, had been a few days longer in camp and were somewhat better prepared, but the sites of their camps are not good, nor are those of the Buffs or 71st either. The 48th are on a level piece of ground, where the 63rd hospital establishments were in the winter; the soil is tenacious and the water lodges in pools, and remains until evaporated by the sun's rays. The Buffs and 2nd battalion of the Royals are on low ground between the 2nd and 4th Divisions, with the same disadvantages as the 48th; the 71st occupy rather better ground, as their tents are pitched just where the ground begins to rise to form the hill on which the huts of the 14th and 39th have been built; but, I think all these regiments might be removed with great advantage to their health to the higher and drier ground, and I hope, from the short distance, without any very material detriment to their military position.

The health of the 1st Division continues to improve, and the number of fever cases in the 79th and 93rd is considerably reduced. The men are well supplied, and the duties and fatigues comparatively light.

In the left siege train and attack some cases of low continued fever have occurred, arising, Mr. Elliot the Superintending Surgeon thinks, from fatigues in the heat of the day and exposure to damp at night. Two serious accidents have occurred during the week, one requiring amputation of the thigh, on account of cannon-shot injury of the knee; the other an injury of the foot, occasioned by the same shot, requiring removal of the heel and a bone adjoining it, called the astragalus. These injuries occurred on the 7th, and are both doing well. There is another interesting case in the hospital of the left siege train, where the greater part of the lower jaw on both sides was carried away by a cannon shot. This case, under the able and indefatigable care of Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A. H. Taylor, is rapidly proceeding to a cure; and, by judiciously drawing the parts together, the deformity will by no means be so considerable as might be imagined. The man is now walking

\* The camps of the Buffs, 48th, and 71st, have all been changed to the only available sites, but to a greater distance to where their services will be required; and it is altogether problematical what degree of benefit may be derived.

All the ground is now dry.

Although the weather was beautiful when these regiments encamped, the rain came on with its usual suddenness and violence, causing the mud to be nearly a foot deep over the whole surface of the country, in a manner that must be seen to be believed. They had no time to intrench their tents, although they were supplied with the proper tools.

JAMES SIMPSON,  
Chief of the Staff.

\* A telegraph has been received of a subsequent date to the above, announcing that the cholera was decreasing.