

armament of the former, and until rain and squally weather interfered, their practice was good, and their constant change of position, rendered them difficult objects to hit, though the fort guns were well served, using hot shot, which frequently passed near and over them.

On the weather clearing the gun-boats opened fire, and the Blenheim and Exmouth likewise took an opportunity of a couple of hours' practice, covering the gun-boats with good effect, which were ably manœuvred by Lieutenant C. A. C. De Crespigny, in command of the Snap, and Lieutenant Steward, in command of the Pincher, in the former of which I had placed Lieutenant Travers, R.M., with ten gunners of the Royal Marine Artillery of the Exmouth, who did good service. Mr. Harper, Assistant-Surgeon of this ship, was likewise on board the Snap, he having volunteered for that service.

As it was evident, from the first, that no serious attempt could be made on the enemy's position, and as a large expenditure of ammunition would have been useless, I considered that enough had now been done to occupy the attention of the troops in the neighbourhood, and no advantage appearing to offer itself for a longer continuance

in Narva Bay, the signal was made to discontinue firing, and I proceeded, in compliance with your orders, to rejoin your flag.

I enclose a return of a casualty which, I regret to learn, occurred to Captain Searle, R.M., of the Blenheim, the effects of which, I trust, will not prove serious.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) M. SEYMOUR,
Rear-Admiral.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, C.B.

Sub-Enclosure.

Return of Wounded at the attack on the Forts at the entrance of the River Narva.

*Her Majesty's ship Blenheim,
18th June, 1855.*

William R. Searle, Captain Royal Marines, contusion of left side of chest from splinter.

(Signed) ROBERT POTTINGER,
Surgeon.

Approved (Signed) WM. H. HALL.

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