

2. Sub-Lieutenant Heugh, with two 7-pr. guns and their crews are attached to the rear of the 2nd Division of No. 1 Column, they are here but occupy a different position.

3. The men of "Tenedos" except one who is attached to the "Active's" men, are stationed at Lower Tugela.

4. Staff-Surgeon Norbury, is Principal Medical Officer of the Column, and with Surgeon Thompson, 1 sick berth steward, 1 attendant, and 1 marine servant, are attached to the Field Hospital, the sick of the Naval Brigade are treated by them, as well as I believe the greater part of the 1st Division of the Column, they are encamped here.

Order of March for 1st Division of 1st Column generally preserved from Tugela to Ekowe.

Cavalry.	Cavalry.	Company Native Contingent.	Company Native Contingent.
		Company of Buffs.	Company of Buffs.
		Company Native Contingent.	Company Native Contingent.
	Detachment Royal Engineers.		
	1 cart.		
	Half Company Natal Native		
	Pioneers.		
	1 cart.		
	2 Companies Buffs.		
	Royal Artillery.		
	2 guns.		
	2 Companies Buffs.		
	H and B Companies Naval		
	Brigade, with 2 24-pr. rock-		
	ets and crews.		
	Company Royal Engineers.		
	Wagons.		
	Rear Guard.		
	3 Companies Native Contingent.		
	Gatling and crew.		
	Royal Marines.		
	2 Companies Buffs.		

5. The 1st Division of the Column marched from the Tugela at 6 A.M. of 18th January, camping that night at Inyoni River.

The 2nd Division was ordered to march at same time the following morning.

On the afternoon of 19th the 1st Division camped north of Umsimdsusi River, and was joined there by the 2nd Division.

The 20th was spent preparing for the passage of the Matakula River.

At 5 A.M. of 21st the whole Column, accompanied by 130 wagons with other vehicles, marched from camp, the whole day spent on the passage of the Matakula River, in evening encamped 4" north of river.

An expedition composed of half of the Naval Brigade, 2 Companies Buffs and other troops, destroyed a large military kraal 5" E. by S. of camp.

Order of March.

2 Companies Native Contingent.  
 1 Company 99th Regiment.  
 2 Companies Native Contingent.  
 Cavalry.  
 2nd Division No. 1 Column.  
 20 Natal Native Pioneers.  
 2 Companies 99th Regiment.  
 1 Company Native Contingent.  
 Wagons.  
 Wagons.  
 1 Company Native Contingent.  
 2 7-pr. Naval Brigade.  
 Guns with crews.  
 1 Company 99th Regiment.  
 2 Companies Native Contingent.  
 1 Company 99th Regiment.  
 2 Companies Native Contingent.  
 Cavalry.

22nd, 5 A.M. marched. After passing 5 miles along a fertile valley the path turns suddenly

to the left, and the ascent of the high land on which Ekowe is situated commences, the head of the column reached this turning, and was preparing to halt for breakfast, when it was suddenly attacked along the entire right flank and on both fronts by the enemy, who had evidently been lying concealed in the bushes; they boldly advanced to within 160 yards in extended order rushing from bush to bush and firing with great rapidity. Two 7-prs. Royal Artillery and two 24-prs. Naval Brigade rockets were placed on a knoll at the foot of the pass, but commanding the valley from which the flank attack was proceeding, these supported by two companies of the Buffs and A and B Companies of Naval Brigade opened a heavy fire on the enemy, checking their advance. This knoll continued to be the head quarters of the column during the engagement.

From head quarters to the head of the pass, the road or path to Ekowe leads along the top of a low ridge for about a mile; this ridge is commanded on both sides by two higher ridges running parallel to it and distant 800 to 1,000 yards.

On these high ridges the enemy were posted in large numbers, they also occupied a position B, 300 yards from head quarters on the same ridge, and had commenced to open fire from this latter post when a well-directed rocket from the Naval Brigade was driven right through the Kraal B instantly expelling the enemy.

6. Having been instructed to defend this part of the position I advanced A and a part of B Companies of the "Active's" men in skirmishing order along the ridge above-described, leaving the remainder of B Company with the rockets, to assist in protecting the head quarter position, which throughout the day was exposed to an irritating fire from the bushes on the sides of a mountain opposite, as well as from the enemy in the plain, the colonel commanding having already had a horse killed under him.

7. My attention was now wholly directed to the advance along the ridge (see sec. 6, par. 1), along the top of which runs the track to Ekowe. Notwithstanding the heavy fire directed against our small party from front and both flanks, steady progress was made, and the enemy driven back step by step for about three-quarters of a mile, when he posted his troops for a final stand in a strong position perpendicular to the road parallel to which the Naval Brigade were slowly advancing. By this time four men of the Naval Brigade had been sent to the rear badly wounded, and another temporarily stunned by a bullet passing through his helmet, when the arrival of a company of Buffs under Colonel Parnell enabled the attack very rapidly to be pushed to within 100 yards of the Zulu position. A final rush was then made, headed by the Naval Brigade, and the position carried by assault. The first unmounted man in the enemy's position was Thomas Harding, Ordinary of H.M.S. "Active," closely followed by the remainder of A Company, under Lieutenant Hamilton.

Two other hills were carried as soon as the men had recovered breath, thus breaking through and driving back the right horn of the Zulu army, dispersing it in all directions, and clearing the road to Ekowe, along which the column shortly after advanced without molestation, camping for the night five miles south of that place.

The action lasted nearly three hours, and resulted in the enemy being driven back on all sides with a loss of 300 dead; only one wounded Zulu was found on the field, so it is to be presumed the wounded were removed by their companions.