

out place. The enemy's reply was not so vigorous as usual.

The numbers of Chinese to the west of the native city have increased either by reinforcements or by withdrawal of troops formerly on the other side. With Boxers, their number cannot now be less than 20,000 men. The forces of the Allies are:—Austrian, 50; French, 2,160; Great Britain, 1,420; German, 400; Italian, 40; Japanese, 3,090; Russian, 4,450; United States, 560; total, 12,170.

The operations of the Allied Forces, owing to want of numbers and guns, have been limited to what is necessary for protection of the troops and defence of the Settlement.

The most difficult positions to defend have been the railway station, and the French Settlement. The former was held by a mixed force of 100 seamen or marines in turn, 100 French, and 100 Japanese or more, as their General feels able to add to them, all these nations forming a reserve for their own men. At first the Russians held it, but declined to do so after the 4th instant. The French Concession is that part nearest to the Chinese city, hence its danger. It is mainly held by the French troops, but we and the Japanese offered protection also. The south-east part, so called German Concession, has been quite quiet.

The river has been open throughout and traffic undisturbed; there has been no difficulty in forwarding supplies as far as lighter accommodation admitted. The railway is being repaired by the Russians, and should be open in a day or two.

With the foregoing exceptions the operations have not been of importance. Frequent small attacks on our defences have been made by the Chinese and repelled, and they have been continually "sniping" from cover near, and every day for some hours shelling the Settlement, occasional outbursts being followed by a corresponding lull.

Before closing my despatch I feel it right specially to recommend for their Lordships' favourable consideration the following officers:—

Lieutenant Thomas W. Kemp, H.M.S. "Aurora," has been brought very favourably to my notice by Commander Cradock in the advance to Tientsin. I can also recommend him for zeal and usefulness, and his services as Russian interpreter have been of very great assistance.

Lieutenant John E. Drummond, of the "Terrible," in command of guns on and near south wall of defences, a very important and exposed position. He has, with all under his command, rendered most valuable service there, and merits their Lordships' recognition.

Lieutenant Frederick A. Powlett, my Flag Lieutenant, was with me throughout the expedition towards Peking, and since. He has been most useful at Tientsin, in addition to his other duties, in arranging the signals and communications with the tower and our batteries for firing on the Chinese guns, also in trying to surprise and capture Chinese signallers at night.

Sub-Lieutenant Edward C. Kennedy, H.M.S. "Barfleur," recommended by Major L. W. F. Waller, United States marines. Placed himself under Major Waller with a maxim, and was most useful firing on the enemy or Chinese guns of the arsenal as they retreated.

Mr. George Ellis, signal boatswain of "Centurion." With me through all the operations hitherto, and has shown the zeal he always does; he was slightly wounded at Tientsin.

Mr. Joseph Wright, gunner (act.) "Terrible," with Lieutenant Drummond. I have noticed the

great coolness, energy, and valuable service performed by this officer.

Mr. Edward O. B. S. Osborne, Midshipman, of "Centurion," has been with me the whole time, and shown great zeal, coolness, and courage.

Mr. James Attrill, carpenter, of H.M.S. "Centurion," has been with the expedition towards Peking, and at Tientsin, and showed great zeal and energy, first working hard at repairs to railway; secondly, in the mounting of guns. He has been very often under fire.

On the evening of 11th July, the Allies having received reinforcements of United States and Japanese troops, the officers and men of "Centurion" were sent back to their ship, and I then returned with my staff to the flagship outside Taku bar.

I have, &c.

E. H. SEYMOUR,

Vice-Admiral.

The Secretary, Admiralty.

Statement of Casualties, 26th June to 11th July, 1900.

"Centurion": officers, wounded, 2; seamen, &c., killed, 5; wounded, 10; Marines, wounded, 2. "Barfleur": officers, killed, 1; wounded, 1; seamen, &c., killed, 1; wounded, 5; Marines, wounded, 2. "Terrible": officer, wounded, 1; seamen, &c., wounded, 4; Marines, killed, 1; wounded, 6. "Aurora": seamen, &c., killed, 1; wounded, 5; Marines, killed, 1; wounded, 1. "Orlando": seamen, &c., killed, 1; wounded, 5. "Endymion": officer, wounded, 1; seamen, &c., killed, 1; wounded, 4; Marines, killed, 1. "Alacrity": officer, wounded, 1; seaman, &c., wounded, 1. Wei-hai-Wei detachment, Marines, killed, 1; wounded, 2; making a total of officers, killed, 1; wounded, 6; seamen, &c., killed, 9; wounded, 34; Marines, killed, 4; wounded, 13.

Summary.

Killed: 1 officer, 13 men, total 14; wounded: 6 officers, 47 men, total 53; making a grand total of 67 officers and men killed and wounded.

Letter No. 429 from the Commander-in-Chief on the China Station, dated 23rd July, 1900.

Report of Occurrences in connection with the Attack on the Native Walled City of Tientsin on 13th and 14th July, 1900.

The attached reports are submitted for information. The following officers and men have been brought to my notice on this occasion:—

Lieutenant Valentine E. B. Phillimore, H.M.S. "Barfleur," who commanded A Company, went to the support of one half-battalion of American Marines, who had so many wounded that they would have been unable to save themselves had it not been for the able and timely support which he gave them.

Mr. Basil J. D. Guy, Midshipman, H.M.S. "Barfleur," for the great coolness and bravery he displayed in stopping with and attending to a wounded man under an excessively hot fire, eventually assisting to carry him in across a fire-swept zone.

Ernest Whibley, Ordinary Seaman, H.M.S. "Barfleur," for the great coolness and gallantry he displayed in assisting to carry in three men across a heavy fire-swept zone.

Thomas Garduer, Sick Berth Steward, H.M.S. "Barfleur," for the great coolness and attention he displayed whilst attending to and caring for the wounded (including the Americans) under a very heavy fire.

James Drew, Petty Officer, 1st Class, H.M.S. "Barfleur," for his coolness and attention to the wounded under a very heavy fire.