

Enclosure in Letter No. 155 of 7th March, 1900, from the Commander-in-Chief on the Cape of Good Hope Station.

Telegram from General Buller, Ladysmith, to Admiral Simonstown.

March 5, 1900.

I much appreciate your congratulations.

I can hardly tell you how much of our successes are due to the Navy; their gunnery was admirable.

Enclosure to Letter No. 177 of 14th March, 1900, from the Commander-in-Chief on the Cape of Good Hope Station.

H.M.S. "Powerful" at Simonstown,

SIR, March 12, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copies of three letters addressed by me to the General Officer Commanding Ladysmith.

In accordance with telegraphic instructions received from you, and with the sanction of Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., G.C.B., the "Powerful's" Naval Brigade left Ladysmith on Wednesday morning, 7th March.

Three convalescent officers and 9 men were picked up at Intombi en route.

Lieutenant Heneage and 18 men remain behind in hospital at Ladysmith. Nominal list enclosed.

We reached Durban at 2 p.m. the following day, and sailed the same evening in the transport "Columbian" for Simonstown, where we arrived this morning about 10 a.m.

I have, &c.,

H. LAMBTON, Captain.

Rear-Admiral

Sir Robert H. Harris, K.C.M.G.,
Commander-in-Chief.

Report of Proceedings of Naval Brigade during Boer Attack on Ladysmith, Saturday, 6th January, 1900.

Naval Brigade Camp, Ladysmith,

SIR, January 8, 1900.

AT 2.45 a.m., on Saturday, 6th January, a heavy rifle fire was heard at Waggon Hill, which gradually extended right along Cæsar's Camp.

2. At daybreak the enemy's artillery commenced a heavy fire from all positions, which was kept up until sunset.

The Naval guns under my command engaged the Boer batteries as heavily as the small amount of remaining ammunition permitted.

The 4.7 gun, on Cove Redoubt, under Lieutenant Lionel Halsey, fired 28 rounds at the Bulwana 6-inch gun, making excellent practice at 8,500 yards, and repeatedly striking the parapet; this accurate fire was probably the cause of the poor shooting by this 6-inch gun at our Field Artillery, who were posted on the plain below Cæsar's Camp, and were shelling the Boers who had occupied the extreme south-east end of that position.

3. The 12-pr. at Gordon Post also engaged Bulwana, and the hill beyond Cæsar's Camp, where the Boers' reinforcements were supposed to be collecting, but the range was too great to be really effective.

4. The 12-pr. at Leicester Post fired at the enemy's 12-pr. on Rifleman Ridge, and also at the 4.5 gun on Surprise Hill, making good practice at the latter, and placing one shell right into the embrasure.

5. The 12-pr. on Cæsar's Camp in charge of the Hon. Ian Carnegie, midshipman, was actively engaged during the day with the

enemy's guns on Middle Hill, and to the left of Flat-topped Hill, making good shooting, and receiving a hot fire in return, one shell bursting in the embrasure, without however, doing any harm.

6. The 4.7 gun from Junction Hill was taken over late on Friday night to be mounted in a new position on Waggon Hill, but before this could be accomplished, the enemy's attack commenced, and the gun's crew under Mr. Sims, gunner, accompanied by Mr. Sheen, engineer, participated in the defence of that position under Colonel Ian Hamilton during the day.

I have, &c.,

H. LAMBTON, Captain, R.N.

Lieutenant-General

Sir George White, V.C., G.C.B., &c.,
Commanding at Ladysmith.

Naval Brigade Camp, Ladysmith,

SIR, January 11, 1900.

IN compliance with your orders I have the honour to forward herewith a list of officers and men, whom I wish to bring to your notice for services rendered.

Lieutenant Algernon W. Heneage, since the regrettable death of Lieutenant Frederick G. Egerton (who died on Thursday evening, 2nd November, 1899, from wounds received that morning when fighting his gun), has conducted the duties of Senior Executive Officer entirely to my satisfaction, and like all the officers and men under my command, was under constant shell fire during the first weeks of the investment.

Lieutenants Lionel Halsey and Michael H. Hodges have respectively been in command of the 4.7 guns at Cove Redoubt and Junction Hill, and have fought them with great skill and coolness, under, at times, a very accurate and plunging cross fire from guns of much heavier calibre, especially at Lieutenant Hodges' gun, during the first fortnight.

The shooting of these guns has been brilliant, and it is generally accepted that the 6-inch gun at Pepworth Hill was eventually knocked out of action by Lieutenant Hodges' gun, at a range of 7,000 yards, to the great relief of the inhabitants of Ladysmith, and though the same good fortune has not attended the firing of the Cove Redoubt gun at the 6-inch gun on Bulwana, yet the emplacement of the latter gun has been repeatedly struck by its fire, and many of the enemy killed and wounded, at a range varying according to the wind and temperature, from 8,200 to 8,900 yards, which shows the nicety of calculation required.

Retired Lieutenant Edward C. Tyndale Briscoe, R.N., who handsomely volunteered his services on 1st November, 1899, has been of the greatest assistance to me, his experience in the Soudan, 1884, and Matabele, 1893 to 1897 campaigns, rendering him a very valuable and reliable officer.

Lieutenant Edward Stabb, R.N.R., also volunteered his services, which I gladly accepted, the necessary distribution of my guns rendering me very short of officers, and I found him very useful.

The experience gained by Fleet Paymaster William H. F. Kay, in Abyssinia, on the Nile, and in Burmah, has enabled him to look after the Commissariat and comforts of the Naval Camp, with activity, facility, and ability.

Surgeon James G. Fowler has been most assiduous in his attendance and duties towards the sick, of which, unfortunately, there has been a heavy percentage.