

Ogilvy and Burne, who were mostly detached from me. The names I have dealt with, as above-mentioned.

I sent a duplicate of my report to you on the operations, to Sir Redvers Buller.

13th March.—The "Terrible's" officers and men left the day before yesterday.

Lieutenant Melville with the 12 men, crews for the three 4·7-inch platform guns, arrived here last night, having handed over those guns as well as six 12-prs. vacated by "Terrible's" men to the Army Ordnance at Colenso.

Lieutenant Steele arrived with his two guns this morning.

The situation now is as follows:—

Of the 18 12-prs.—

Four are still manned by the Navy at Elandsplaagte.

Four are here still in my charge, but without crews.

Six are at Colenso, handed over to the military.

Four, considerably worn, are on trucks at the railway station under orders to be sent to Maritzburg in military charge.

Of the 4·7-inch—

Two are on wheels here with me, manned by "Forte's" and "Philomel's."

Four are at Colenso handed over to Army Ordnance.

The two 4·7-inch guns with me, will probably be exchanged for two of the "Powerful's," or platform guns, and sent back to Simon's Bay.

Numbers and details of guns will be sent.

I may mention that Sir Redvers Buller expressed to me his appreciation of the services of the Naval Brigade after the action of the 27th, and I consider that he paid a great compliment to the Brigade in requesting me and my A.D.C., Mr. Hutchinson, Midshipman, to ride with him and his staff at the head of the relieving column into Ladysmith, on the entry of the troops.

I have, &c.,

E. P. JONES, Captain,
Commanding Naval Brigade.

Rear-Admiral

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

Letter of Proceedings.
Colenso,

SIR, March 7, 1900.

SINCE my last letter dated from Springfield Bridge, I have the honour to report that I left Springfield on the 23rd February, marching with the York and Lancaster Regiment to rejoin the main column. We reached Chieveley Camp on the 24th, and I pitched camp on Gun Hill, where I found Lieutenant Drummond and the 6-inch gun. We remained here till a telegram and written orders were handed me on the night of the 26th from Lieutenant Drummond to march at daybreak with the York and Lancaster Regiment to join the 10th Brigade. We marched at 6 A.M. on the 27th with the regiment by Hussar Hill round Hlangwani. Here we found the Commander-in-Chief, who told me, on my reporting the guns, that the 10th Brigade were in Colenso; he added that it was no fault of mine that we had come out of the way, as the orders had not been clear, but told me to cross the Tugela by the Pont as quickly as possible, the pontoon bridge having been removed. At the Pont I had to off-load all my wagons, as the Drift below was impassable; and after having got one gun and ox team safely across,

the Pont was upset in the middle of the river, and all the work was jammed. During this time there was a heavy shell fire on Colenso Station from a Boer 3-inch gun, but we were not touched. I had the Pont righted, and my men baled it out before daylight on the 28th, and I took my other gun and two wagons, and loads of ammunition across, and hurried on to join General Coke. On the morning of the 1st March a body of men rode in from Ladysmith. They proved to be Ladysmith scouts, and brought General Coke his first intimation of the relief of Ladysmith on the previous evening. My guns were in position, and we bivouacked with the troops for some days, but I have now pitched camp and withdrawn the guns. Hearing many rumours here that the naval men are to return to their ships, I should like to bring to your notice the very excellent service which has been rendered me by my Captains of Guns, R. Mitchell, P.O., 1st class, and especially G. Mullis, P.O., 1st class, and the clever and hard work of F. Harvey, P.O., 2nd class (Leading Shipwright), and to mention the following names not before mentioned:—H. House, A.B., F. Long, O.S. (Bugler), S. Rattcliffe, O.S., and to state my appreciation of the work done by all.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. R. N. BURNE, Lieut., R.N.,
H.M.S. "Philomel."

Captain Jones, R.N.,

Commanding Naval Brigade.

Naval Brigade, Ladysmith,

SIR, March 6, 1900.

I BEG to bring to your notice the uniform good conduct of the officers and men who have been under my immediate command during the operations ending with the relief of Ladysmith.

I have already brought before your notice the conduct of Mr. Wright, Acting Gunner, at the Battle of Colenso, and I would further commend him to you for his constant zeal, ability, and coolness under fire.

As regards the guns' crews, where all have done so well, it is hard to discriminate, but I would specially mention—

J. Venness, P.O. 1st class.

N. Symons, P.O. 1st class.

C. Challoner, P.O. 2nd class.

F. Ryall, A.B.

Challoner was especially remarkable for his exceptionally accurate shooting, which was invariably brilliant.

I might mention that the 12-prs. have been repeatedly under rifle and shell fire, notably at—

Colenso, December 15th.

Zwartz Kop, February 5th to 8th, inclusive.

Hussar Hill, February 14th to 18th, inclusive.

Monte Christo, February 19th.

Should you deem it fit to recommend these men for any reward, I can assure you they will well deserve it.

Lieutenant Deas, now in hospital, I consider also worthy of special mention, more especially so I am sure that his unremitting hard work was largely the cause of his going down when attacked by dysentery.

I have, &c.,

F. C. A. OGILVY, Lieutenant R.N.,
H.M.S. "Terrible."

Captain Edward P. Jones, R.N.,

Commanding Naval Brigade.