

as a matter of fact, by my mounted troops. The 3rd Battalion Grenadiers and 2nd Battalion Coldstreams advanced to within 1,100 yards of the enemy, lay down, and held their own. Captain Heneage tried to advance further, and lost four sergeants."

Meanwhile the 9th Brigade had advanced the Northumberland Fusiliers along the east side of the railway line, supported by half a battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The Yorkshire Light Infantry advanced along the west side of the railway, supported by the remaining half battalion of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The half battalion Loyal North Lancashire prolonged the line to the left, and endeavoured to cross the river and threaten the enemy's right flank. The six companies Northhamptons acted as a baggage guard.

The 9th Brigade had the same hard task before it that faced the Guards Brigade—on the extreme left an outcrop of rocks and small kopjes on the left bank of the river, considerably in advance of the enemy's main position, were strongly held by the enemy, and checked the advance of the Loyal North Lancashire. Some 600 yards east, the same side of the river, a farm house and kraal on a slight eminence covering the dam and drift at the west end of village, also strongly occupied, checked the advance. A withering fire from these buildings checked the advance of the Brigade. They were, however, carried, early in the afternoon by two companies of the Yorkshire Light Infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Barter, together with some Highlanders and Northumberland Fusiliers. Lieutenant Fox, Yorkshire Light Infantry, gallantly led this assault; he was severely wounded. Almost at the same moment the rocks and kopjes on the extreme left were carried by the Loyal North Lancashire. We had now won the river and west side of village, out of which the enemy were soon chased. Major-General Pole-Carew led his men in a gallant manner for three-quarters of a mile up the bank, when he was forced back, and had to content himself with holding a fairly good position he had gained on the right bank.

I had promised Major-General Pole-Carew to send him what troops I could get, and it was in this successful endeavour that Lieutenant-Colonel Northcott, who never left me, fell mortally wounded. The Army has lost one of the ablest Officers in Her Majesty's Service, and I cannot express the grief his death has caused me. He was beloved by every one who knew him. I received a flesh wound shortly after 5.30, and told Major-General Sir H. Colville to take over the command.

During the entire action, the 75th and 18th Batteries had vied with one another in showing gallantry and proficiency. I dare not write more than Colonel Hall has written, his modest account scarcely doing justice to the splendid conduct of our gunners. The 62nd Battery, marching from Belmont, came straight into action, and were of great service.

Colonel Paget, having taken over command of the Guards Brigade, Major-General Sir H. Colville quite rightly did not care to rush the passage of the river with tired troops.

Colonel Hall points out it would have been better that he should have known the point of attack, but the truth is that when no one can get on a horse with any safety within 2,000 yards of the enemy, orders cannot be conveyed, and, personally, I am first to admit I was for most of the day in positions I had no right to be in, because I could only see how the fight was progressing by going to the front.

I have much pleasure in bringing to your

notice the names of the following Officers and rank and file who distinguished themselves during the day:—

Major Count Gleichen, C.M.G., for the coolness shown by him throughout the engagement, especially in attending to the wounded under a heavy fire.

Sergeant Brown and Private Martin, 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards, who helped him, were both shot.

Sergeant-Major Cooke, 3rd Battalion Grenadiers, displayed remarkable coolness under fire.

Lieutenant the Honourable A. Russell showed great coolness in working the machine gun, which he did with marked success.

Major Granville Smith, Coldstream Guards, in volunteering to find a ford, which he did in dangerous mud and a strong river.

Captain and Adjutant Steele, Coldstream Guards, for excellent service during the day.

Sergeant-Major S. Wright, Coldstream Guards, showed great coolness when a change of ammunition carts was being made, and was of great value at a critical time.

Native Driver Matthews for making the other natives stick to their carts, when they would otherwise have bolted.

Drill and Colour-Sergeant Price, Coldstream Guards, at Belmont, and at Modder River, rendered excellent service whilst commanding half a company.

Drill and Colour-Sergeant Plunkett, Coldstream Guards, collected 150 men, and helped the 9th Brigade crossing the river under Captain Lord Newtown Butler.

No. 1825 Lance-Corporal Webb, Coldstream Guards, twice asked leave to go into the open to bind up the wounds of a Grenadier; under a heavy fire, he succeeded in his object.

Captain Hervey Bathurst, Grenadier Guards, was of great value in rallying a number of Grenadiers and Coldstreams shaken by the fire.

I again call attention to Colonel Paget's cheerfulness and intelligence under the most trying surroundings.

He draws attention to Captain Moores, Royal Army Medical Corps, who, although wounded in the hand, said nothing, but continued his duties. Also, he draws attention to the good services of the Master of Ruthven, Scots Guards. The valuable services of Captain Nugent, Aide-de-Camp and Captain Ruggles-Brise are again noted.

The names of Lieutenant-Colonel Barter, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, and Major the Honourable C. Lambton, Northumberland Fusiliers, are mentioned for having rendered invaluable assistance to their Brigadier. Captain Bulfin, Yorkshire Regiment, did his duty admirably.

Lieutenant Percival, Northumberland Fusiliers, managed with great difficulty to establish himself with a small party on a point near the railway, from which, by his judgment and coolness, he was able to keep down the fire of the enemy, many of his small party being killed.

3499 Lance-Corporal R. Delaney,

4160 Private J. East,

4563 Private Segar,

4497 Private Snowdon,

Northumberland Fusiliers, under a very heavy fire picked up and brought in a wounded man of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, No. 8955 Private Smarley, Northumberland Fusiliers, No. 1 of a Maxim detachment, who showed great coolness and judgment when wounded.

Major Lindsay, Royal Artillery, 75th Battery, ignored a painful wound, and continued in command of his battery. Lieutenant Begbie, Royal