

Tamai, who, when the enemy made a rush upon his gun, knocked down one of them with his rammer, thereby saving the life of a comrade.

In my Despatch of the 3rd March, I have referred to the cool deliberation and remarkable efficiency with which the 7-pr. naval guns were worked at El-Teb by the 6th Battery 1st Brigade, Scottish Royal Artillery, when opposed to the heavier Krupp guns of the enemy. These guns advanced with the Infantry, and sustained several of the enemy's desperate charges. On one occasion those brave blacks succeeded, in spite of a storm of fire from Artillery and Infantry, in charging up to the guns and penetrating among the gun detachments.

One was knocked down by Gunner Isaac Phipps with a rammer, another by Gunner James Adan with a blow on the face from a round of case which he was carrying in his hand, and a third was shot by Bombardier Treadwell with a revolver. At Tamai, on 13th March, the 7-pr. camel battery was attached to the 1st Brigade, and did good service at close range with case on the enemy. In this action M Battery 1st Brigade of four 9-prs. distinguished itself by the steady way in which it stood and plied the enemy with case during the attack on the 2nd Brigade, although during the retirement there was no Infantry to protect it.

**Royal Engineers.**—The Royal Engineers have worked to my entire satisfaction throughout the expedition.

On them devolved the arduous duties connected with the disembarkation and water supply.

They had also to provide for entrenching the depôts at Fort Baker and El-Teb. This work had to be undertaken with a very insufficient Engineer force and equipment, a portion of the latter having been lost in the "Neera."

The 26th Company numbered in all on disembarkation, 5 officers and 86 non-commissioned officers and men, of whom 26 were drivers, leaving only about 50 artificers available for works and camp duties.

The Officers and men worked with the greatest zeal.

Major Todd made excellent arrangements for supplying the deficiencies in materials, and Captain Dorward showed great practical ability in the construction of jetties, &c., and the other Officers all had hard work and did good service.

Major Todd brings specially to my notice the following non-commissioned officers and men of 26th Company, Royal Engineers, for zeal and efficiency in their work, particularly in the construction of piers, which exposed them to great fatigue and to blistering by the sun while working naked in the water, viz.:—Second Corporals Bruce and Martin; Lance-Corporal Jones, Sappers Brown and Kirwan.

**1st Infantry Brigade.**—The 1st Infantry Brigade was commanded by Brigadier-General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., K.C.M.G., C.B., A.D.C., who, by his coolness in action, his knowledge of soldiers, and experience in the field, combined with his great personal ascendancy over Officers and men, has been most valuable.

Besides the ordinary command of his brigade, Brigadier-General Buller was in charge, as Senior Military Officer, of the re-embarkation at Trinkitat, a laborious and responsible duty, which he performed to my entire satisfaction.

Brigadier-General Buller reports that he has received every assistance from his Staff: Captain Kelly, Sussex Regiment, Brigade-Major; and Lieutenant St. Aubyn, Grenadier Guards, Aide-

de-Camp. Captain Kelly was severely contused by a spent case-shot at El-Teb, but remained at his duties.

**King's Royal Rifles.**—The 3rd Battalion of the King's Royal Rifles was commanded by Colonel Sir Cromer Ashburnham, K.C.B., A.D.C., an officer of well-trying capacity for leading troops in the field.

At El-Teb, the 3rd King's Royal Rifles were in reserve, but at Tamai they assisted in repulsing the attack of the enemy on the 1st Brigade, and delivered their fire with great coolness and steadiness.

The names of the following Officers are submitted for favourable notice:—Lieutenant-Colonel Ogilvy and Major Fraser.

Sir Cromer Ashburnham has also submitted to me that No. 2213 Sergeant William Nix is deserving of notice for his conduct in action.

**1st Gordon Highlanders.**—The 1st Gordon Highlanders were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hammill, C.B., and showed great steadiness on all occasions.

Colonel Hammill mentions Major Cross and Captain Menzies as having specially distinguished themselves.

Private Daniel McPherson received a spear wound in the face at El-Teb, and after being taken to hospital was, at his own urgent request, allowed to march with his battalion next morning to Tokar.

**2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers.**—The 2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, and were conspicuous for steadiness in formation during action, and for good discipline on the march.

Captain Gordon performed duty as Major at action of Tamai, and commanded the battalion during advance on Tamanib, when the senior officers of the battalion were on the sick-list; and I beg to recommend this Officer to your notice for the zeal and ability displayed by him.

Captain and Adjutant Rogers is also favourably mentioned; and Surgeon Pedlow, A.M.D., showed great devotion to duty.

**2nd Infantry Brigade.**—The 2nd Infantry Brigade was commanded by Major-General Davis, who has done his utmost to preserve steadiness and good discipline on all occasions.

Major-General Davis, as Senior Military Officer, superintended the disembarkations at Trinkitat and at Suakin, both which operations were very successfully carried out.

**2nd Brigade Staff.**—Major-General Davis wishes to bring to notice his Staff—Captain Hitchcock, Shropshire Light Infantry, Brigade-Major, and Lieutenant C. C. Douglas, Scottish Rifles, Aide-de-Camp.

**1st Royal Highlanders.**—The 1st Royal Highlanders were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Green, whom I noticed exerting himself to keep order and discipline at both the actions of El-Teb and Tamai.

In my Despatch of the 2nd of March, I referred to the 1st Royal Highlanders as having been somewhat out of hand at El-Teb, by their over-eagerness to fire on the enemy. I have now, however, the satisfaction of reporting that since that action this fine battalion has shown an excellent spirit and a determination to prove itself worthy of the high reputation earned by a century and a half of splendid service in all parts of the world.

At Tamai the Black Watch charged most gallantly, only fell back when forced to do so,