

two 12-pr. Q.F. guns with a column under Lieut.-Colonel E. C. Bethune, 16th Lancers.

The 10th Company, Western Division, R.G.A., also did good service, and Captain G. V. Davidson was always noticeable for the excellent manner in which he handled his 12-pr. Q.F. guns.

The 6th Company, Western Division, R.G.A., were in charge of 4.7-inch guns and did very good service. The health of Major G. J. F. Talbot unfortunately broke down, and he was succeeded by Captain F. Prendergast, R.G.A. (attached to the Company), who, with a capital knowledge of practical gunnery, is cool and full of resource. I strongly recommend him for consideration.

Corps Troops Ammunition Column.

Major N. D. Findlay, R.F.A.—I consider Major Findlay one of the best Officers I met. He was an admirable commander of an Ammunition Column, loaded with ammunition of many different natures. His batteries were complete every night, and he never made a mistake. He has all the qualifications for the Staff and for high command, and I desire to bring his name most prominently to your notice as deserving of all consideration.

The following Officers who served in the Ammunition Column deserve mention:—

Captain F. C. Poole.

Captain J. Byron.

Lieutenant H. W. Newcome.

Divisional Ammunition Park.

Captain F. R. Patch, R.A.—Organized this Park in January, and up to the relief of Ladysmith was the only Officer with it. He has commanded it throughout, and there has never been a hitch in the supply, notwithstanding the great difficulties of transport. He is an exceptionally able Officer, and his services are deserving of special recognition.

Captain C. E. Hill, R.G.A.—Commanded a detachment of Vickers-Maxims, and proved himself an able Officer.

Captain H. Cleve, Army Service Corps, commanded the Corps Troops Supply Column very satisfactorily throughout the campaign, and Lieut.-Colonel J. A. W. Falls, Army Service Corps has been nearly the whole time commanding the Supply Park, and has carried out this difficult duty well, and has shown considerable tact in managing the strange mixture of individuals he has had to deal with.

The Supply Park has been always up when due and never given any trouble. The credit of this is due to Lieut.-Colonel Falls.

I cannot close this Report without alluding to the great assistance I have received throughout the war from the Colonists in Natal. Colonel (local Brigadier-General) J. G. Dartnell, C.M.G., will, no doubt, report through the proper channel upon the Natal Volunteers. I can only say that their services were invaluable to the Empire; that they took part in every engagement in Natal and willingly remained in the field, though at great inconvenience to themselves, until they knew that their services could be spared.

I have dealt with the 1st Cavalry Brigade and some of the Irregular Corps in a separate despatch of even date with this.

I have, &c.,

REDVERS BULLER, General,
Late Commanding Natal Army.

Lord Great Chamberlain's Office,
Palace of Westminster,
February 8, 1901.

ALL Peereesses on announcing their intention of being present on the occasion of the Opening of Parliament on Thursday, the 14th February, will have places reserved for them in the House of Lords, if the announcement be made at this Office before four o'clock on Monday, the 11th February.

Peers' eldest sons will have tickets for the Peers' Eldest Sons' Box forwarded to them upon a written or personal application at this Office.

No Strangers can be admitted, except by Ticket from the Lord Great Chamberlain.

Tickets for the interior of the House of Lords will be admitted at the Peers' Entrance.

Tickets for the Royal Gallery at the Victoria Tower Entrance.

The doors will be opened at twelve o'clock.

CHOLMONDELEY,
Great Cham'rlain.

AT the Court at *Saint James's*, the 30th day of *January*, 1901.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS under section twelve of "The Coinage Act, 1870," His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, has power, by Order, to make regulations respecting the trial of the Pyx and all matters incidental thereto, and by virtue of the same section any such Order may be revoked and altered by any subsequent Order made under that section.

And whereas by an Order dated the twenty-ninth day of June one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and made in pursuance of the said Act, Her late Majesty Queen Victoria made regulations respecting the trial of the Pyx, and it is expedient to amend those regulations as appears in this Order.

Now, therefore, His Majesty King Edward the Seventh, by and with the advice of His Privy Council in pursuance of the said Act, and of all other powers enabling His Majesty in that behalf, is pleased to order as follows:—

1. This Order may be cited as "The Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1901," and the Order of the twenty-ninth day of June one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one (making regulations respecting the trial of the Pyx) may be cited as "The Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1871."

2.—(1.) The regulations made respecting the trial of the Pyx by "The Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1871," as amended by this Order, apply and extend to the trial of any coins coined at any branch of the Mint which are for the time being subject to the trial of the Pyx.

(2.) The trial of coins coined in England and coins coined at any one or more branch mint or mints may be included in the same warrant for a trial of the Pyx, but a separate examination shall be made and a separate verdict given with respect to coins coined in England and coins coined at each branch mint.

(3.) In the application to a branch mint of the provisions of "The Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1871," respecting the setting apart of coins for trial, the Deputy Master shall be construed to be the Deputy Master of the branch mint.

3. The Treasury may on such occasions as they think fit appoint some person other than the