

but enemy being soon driven off, force again proceeded.

30th September.—Marched to Krugersdorp, 15 miles; bivouacking at 1 p.m. Lieutenant Ferguson, with No. 2 gun and party, here rejoined Brigade. I enclose Lieutenant Ferguson's report of proceedings for the month.

The health of the Brigade has been excellent, only one man (J. Vallence, stoker) having been discharged to hospital with dysentery at Welverdiend.

Field state.—Four officers and 58 men.

Marquis of Graham accompanies the Brigade for duty, in addition.

Rounds expended by main body:—Common, 22; Lyddite, 101; Shrapnel, 64; Total, 187.

I have, &c.,

WM. L. GRANT, Commander, R.N.

12-Pr. Naval Guns.

SIR, Pretoria, 7th October, 1900.

I HAVE the honour to forward a report of proceedings of the 12-pr. Battery under my command, operating under Lieut.-General Pole-Carew, from 6th September to the present date, when I rejoined your command.

6th to 10th September.—In camp above Waterval Onder.

11th September.—Moved down the hill to Waterval Onder in readiness for the following day's advance up the valley.

12th September.—Marched to Nooitgedacht with 11th Division, 8 miles.

13th September.—Marched to Godwaan's River, 12 miles.

14th September.—Marched to Kaapsche Hoek, 10 miles, passing over mountainous and rough country.

15th September.—Marched to Kaaf River, 10 miles.

16th September.—Marched to Twelve Mile Horse, 12 miles.

17th September.—Marched to North Kaaf Junction, 10 miles.

18th September.—Marched to 4 miles beyond Avoca, 14 miles.

19th September.—Marched to Leeuwspruit, 9 miles.

20th September.—Marched to Kaaf Muiden Junction, 7 miles.

21st September.—Marched to 6 miles W. of Hector Spruit, 22 miles.

22nd September.—Marched to Hector Spruit, 6 miles.

23rd September.—Marched towards Koomatie Poort, 16 miles.

24th September.—Marched to Koomatie Poort, 8 miles.

28th September.—Received orders from G.O.C. (Pretoria) to return to Pretoria, leaving transport at Koomatie Port, and to hand over guns and ammunition on arrival.

30th September.—Entrained guns, ammunition and men, and left by rail, reaching Pretoria on October 5th. During the journey an accident occurred, the train we occupied colliding with one which was shunting at Hector Spruit.

Two trucks of the latter were completely smashed, and two men killed. None of the Naval Brigade were injured. There being practically no troops on the spot, the work of removing the wrecked trucks was carried out by the 45 men under my command.

By the aid of drag ropes and "Jacks" this was expeditiously carried out, the line being reported "clear" to Headquarters in less than two

hours. In this work the armourer and three stokers were of great service.

On your arrival at Pretoria on October 7th, I rejoined your command.

I have, &c.,

ERIC BACK, Lieutenant, R.N.,

O.C. 12-pr. guns.

To Captain John Bearcroft, R.N.,

Officer Commanding Naval Brigade,  
South Africa.

Forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief with reference to my Letter of Proceedings of 13th instant.

JOHN E. BEARCROFT, Captain.

Simonstown, 17th October, 1900.

Naval Brigade, Simon's Town,

SIR, 7th October, 1900.

IN continuation of my letter of September 30th, I have the honour to report the proceedings of the Naval Brigade under my command, as follows:—

On Monday, October 1st, an order was received from the Field-Marshal Commanding, directing the Naval Brigade to return to their ships, the guns, &c., being turned over to a party of Garrison Artillery then leaving Pretoria.

The relieving artillery arrived at Krugersdorp on Tuesday at 10 a.m., when the two 4.7-in. guns, horses, and all equipment beyond the men's personal arms were turned over, and the Naval Brigade entrained at 3 p.m.

The train left Krugersdorp at 3.30 p.m. on the 2nd, arriving without incident at Simon's Town at 8 a.m. on the 7th, when officers and men repaired on board their respective ships.

Before leaving Krugersdorp, the Naval Brigade had the honour of receiving the following memorandum from the Major-General Commanding the Potchefstroom Column, with whom they had been serving since July last.

W. L. GRANT, Commander, R.N.

From General Hart to Commander Grant, Commanding Naval Brigade, Potchefstroom Column.

I SEND you a copy of a telegram received from Headquarters, and, in doing so, I desire to express my great regret that the requirements of Her Majesty's Service compel the removal of yourself and the Naval Brigade under your command from my Column.

Your war services in the force under my command, both before and after the formation of this column, have been in a high degree valuable, and the work and deportment of the Naval Brigade in your hands have appeared to me at all times admirable.

Well assisted by your subordinates, you have overcome serious campaigning difficulties with a ponderous gun, which has deservedly become the terror of the enemy.

I now wish you, your officers, and all hands of the Naval Brigade, Good-bye and God-Speed.

R. FITZROY HART,

Major-General,

Commanding Potchefstroom Column.

Krugersdorp,

1st October, 1900.

In submitting the names of the officers and men for favourable consideration, I forward a brief summary of the work they have done since leaving Simon's Town in January last:—