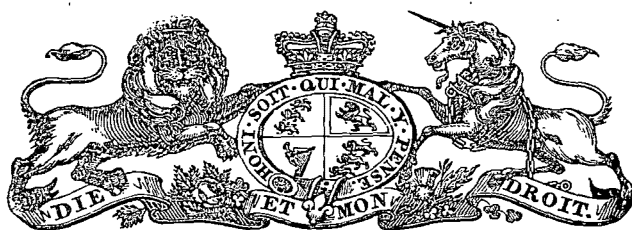


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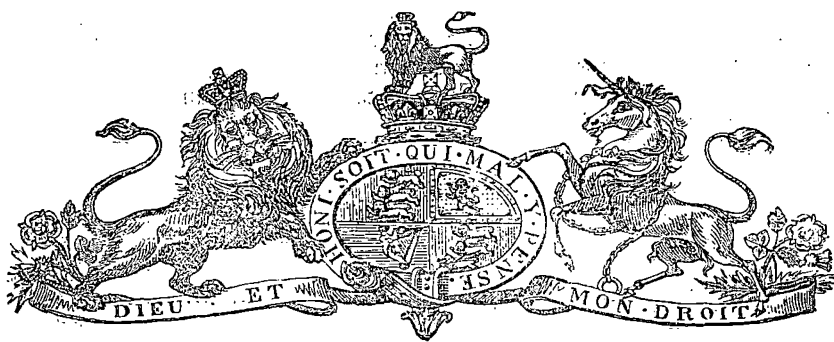
1888.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

CAMP OF EXERCISE, ELWICK:

REPORT BY COMMANDANT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



EASTER ENCAMPMENT AT ELWICK.

Head Quarters Office, Hobart, 1st May, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward you the following Report on the Easter Encampment at Elwick.

Locality and Preparations.

The site chosen was a large grass paddock behind the Racecourse, and sloping eastward to the margin of Prince of Wales' Bay. It was a sheltered spot, and, bordering the Derwent, it offered every facility for speedy embarkation of troops in case of manœuvres round the forts. There was ample room for Brigade movements close to the site, space for Infantry ball-firing, and a good, but rather short range for Artillery fire at earthworks. The ground was dry, and suited for a military camp, although in places it was much cracked owing to the long drought. The land was on the Timsbury farm, belonging to Mr. Joseph Clarke, who kindly gave permission for the holding of the Encampment on it.

Some time prior to Easter, soundings of Prince of Wales' Bay were taken, and early in March the Camp was marked out for 1000 men by the Staff Officer and myself. The work of preparation commenced on Thursday, the 22nd March, when a party of two non-commissioned officers and eight gunners of the Permanent Artillery went into Camp, and cartage of tents and stores began on the same day. On Monday, the 26th, a further party of one non-commissioned officer and seven gunners left for the Camp, and all preparations were completed on Thursday morning, the 29th March. Arrangements were made with local firms by Major Just (who was appointed Assistant Commissary-General) for the supply of meat and groceries, and with the Gaol Authorities for bread. Permission was obtained from the Municipal Authorities to draw water from the tap of South Glenorchy, and arrangements made with a New Town carter to supply 1200 gallons a day on the ground; wood was also supplied by the same man. The combined broad arrow kitchen and Aldershot oven was used, as last year at Newnham. Seven of these were constructed, with a corrugated iron tank for water in connection with each.

A plan of the Camp was drawn by Lieutenant Clarke, Torpedo Corps, and lithographed in the Lands and Works Office, for distribution to Commanding Officers of Corps, the Staff, and others.

The whole of the work in connection with the laying-out and pitching the Camp was under the supervision of Lieutenant Mathieson, the Staff Officer, who was appointed Assistant Quartermaster-General for the time being, and carried out his duties efficiently, as in the last two years when acting in the same capacity.

The positions to be taken up by the Artillery for practice, and the Infantry for ball-firing, were chosen by me during the preparation of the Camp, and a small field-work laid out on the 28th at Dowling's Point.

Going into Camp.

The Southern Division paraded at the Barracks at 7.30 on the 29th March, and marched to the Railway Station under my command, where they were entrained at 8 P.M., and arrived, after some delay, at the Camp shortly after 9 o'clock. A detachment of ten men of the Torpedo Corps, under the Instructor (Sergeant-Major Hardy, R.E.), was sent to the Alexandra Battery to construct a section of a wire entanglement, lay out a short line of ground mines, and construct a temporary jetty for the disembarkation of the troops for the manœuvres on the following Saturday. After the manœuvres this party came into Camp at Elwick. The members of the Country Rifle Clubs at Kingston, the Channel, and the Huon arrived in Hobart the same afternoon, and proceeded to Camp with the Defence Force.

The contingent from the North and the Midlands was conveyed by two special trains, provided by the Manager of the Main Line. The first, carrying men of the Country Rifle Clubs from North-West Coast, Fingal, Campbell Town, and Ross, arrived at 2 A.M.; the detachment from the first-named locality having been conveyed from Formby to Evandale Junction by Government special. The second train, conveying the Defence Force from Launceston, arrived at 3.30 A.M. Small detachments from the Country Rifle Clubs at Bothwell and the Derwent Valley came to Camp by ordinary trains on Thursday evening.

The maximum strength of the Force during Camp was as follows:—

	Total of all Ranks.
Launceston Artillery	77
Southern Tasmanian Artillery	83
Tasmanian Torpedo Corps.....	29
Tasmanian Rifle Regiment	187
Launceston Rifle Regiment, with Band	253
Garrison Band.....	24
Staff and Permanent Artillery, Officers and men.....	31
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Defence Force	684
Country Rifle Clubs	306
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Total.....	990
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The strength of the Defence Force last year in Camp at Newnham was 654, or 30 less than this year.

The strength of the Country Rifle Clubs last year was 92. This year, therefore, the numbers were greatly increased, and great praise is due to the officers and men for their zeal in coming into Camp in such strength. The attendance of the Southern Division would have been much stronger this year had it not been that dissatisfaction was created in the Rifle Regiment concerning the non-payment for Camp; and in addition to this cause, the virtual disbandment of the Hobart Infantry Reserve Companies further reduced the available strength. Owing, however, to the large attendance of Country Rifle Clubs, there would not have been sufficient Camp equipment for the accommodation of a greater number of men.

Command and Organisation of Staff.

Staff Adjutant and Musketry Instructor Captain E. Wallack was appointed Acting Brigade-Major. Staff Officer Lieutenant Mathieson, Acting Quartermaster-General; Major Just, unattached, Assistant Commissary-General. Lieutenant-Colonel Warner was in command of the Northern Division; the Launceston Artillery being commanded by Major Collins, and the Rifles by Major W. Martin. The Southern Tasmanian Artillery was commanded by Major T. Evans; the Torpedo Corps by Lieutenant Clark; and the Tasmanian Rifle Regiment by Major O'Boyle. The Country Rifle Clubs were commanded by Colonel Bernard; and Captain Walch, with Lieutenants Lewis and Buckland, were attached for duty under Colonel Bernard.

Routine.

Reveille was ordered for 5.45; on Saturday, it was at 5.15. Issue of rations at 6.30.

The hours of parade were as follows:—

Morning, 7 to 8.
Mid-day, 10.30 to 12.30.
Afternoon, 2.30 to 4.30.

Two guards were mounted—Quarter-Guard, and Rear-Guard, at 2.30 P.M. daily.

The usual Camp detail—meals, issue of orders, tattoo, &c.—were as in former years.

First Day.

At the morning parade the Corps were employed in squaring up Camp, telling off Camp duties and Corps details, in addition to which the Artillery got their guns arranged in the "park." At the mid-day parade the Artillery went to gun exercise, and both Corps furnished small working parties, in conjunction with the Torpedo Corps, for the erection of the sand-bag parapet and gun-pit at Dowsing's Point. The Rifle Regiments were exercised by their own Commanding Officers, and the Country Rifle Clubs formed into companies and a battalion organised for drill during the four days training, which was attended with the most favourable results. The working party was under the charge of Lieutenant Clarke, of the Torpedo Corps, and Lieutenant C. Lewis, of the Southern Tasmanian Artillery; and by noon the parapet and gun-pit were constructed.

At the 2:30 parade the Artillery Corps, Rifle Regiments, and Cadets, with the Hobart and Launceston Bands, were inspected in brigade by me, and exercised in marching past; after which the Army Act was read to the Force, drawn up for that purpose.

The Torpedo Corps and the Country Rifle Clubs—whose attendance was voluntary, and the men consequently not “called out” under the Army Act—were exercised during this time by their own Commanding Officers.

Immediately after the parade I embarked, with Lieutenant-Colonel Warner, on the Torpedo Boat, and took him down the river to the Bluff, for the purpose of pointing out the positions laid down on the plan furnished him for the defence of the battery on the following day.

In the evening the Hobart Rifles paraded for outpost duty, and were despatched to the westward of the Camp to protect it in that direction from the supposed advance of an enemy. Major O’Boyle was in command of the outposts, which, after their position was taken up, were visited and inspected by me, and the Regiment returned to Camp at 9:30 P.M.

All arrangements were made on this evening for the parade and embarkation of the troops at the Elwick Jetty on the following morning; full orders were issued respecting the proceedings, corps were told off for the various positions, ammunition issued, a field ration supplied, early issue of camp rations arranged for, and reveille ordered for 5 A.M.

Second Day.

The whole of Saturday was occupied in carrying out manœuvres to illustrate a land attack on, and defence of, the two forts protecting the city.

The attacking force was detailed of the maximum strength which it is supposed a cruiser could land in the Derwent—250 men—and the corps selected from the Defence Force, the officers and men of which were strangers to the positions. Accordingly, Major Martin was entrusted with the attack, having the Launceston Rifle Regiment, Reserves, and Cadets under his command.

The defence of the Alexandra Battery was entrusted to Colonel Bernard, and that of Kangaroo Bluff to Colonel Warner. Reconnaissances of the positions had been made by me, and plans furnished to the two officers named of the positions to be occupied, together with details of the strength of the forces. The Alexandra Battery was manned by the Southern Tasmanian Artillery, with a few Infantry and the detachment of the Torpedo Corps to line the parapets facing the south. The positions chosen for the defence were occupied by the Hobart Rifles with two companies, Country Rifle Clubs with four companies, and the Hobart Cadets. Two 12-pound howitzers (to represent the breech-loading 13-pounders which were in Camp), were also detailed, and served by the Southern Tasmanian Artillery under Lieutenant Lewis, in connection with one of the advanced posts. The Southern Tasmanian Artillery in the Battery were under the command of Major Evans, with Lieutenant Castray. Total strength of defence, 420 men. The Launceston Artillery occupied the Kangaroo Bluff Battery, and manned the guns, while the two 7-pounders, which the corps brought with them from Camp, did duty with the Infantry on the Clarence Plains Road. The Force detailed for the defence of the Fort consisted of one company of the Hobart Rifles under Captain Reid, and two companies of the Country Rifle Clubs. Total strength of defence about 200 men.

The attacking party embarked at the jetty on board the *Taranna*, the defending forces on board the *Cygnat* and *Minx*, the latter taking the defenders of the Kangaroo Bluff Battery with the two 7-pounder guns, and landing them at Bellerive jetty. The force for the Alexandra Battery had to be landed in boats at a temporary plank jetty constructed by the Torpedo Corps. The disembarkation of 420 men took 1½ hours, and was done without any hitch.

A small jetty is badly wanted at the Alexandra Battery for landing troops, as much inconvenience is experienced there in rough weather in getting on shore from steamers.

In two hours and a half from the time of embarkation (8 to 9 A.M.) the entire force was in position for the defence of the two forts.

The attacking party for the Alexandra Battery landed near Crayfish Point, and that for the Kangaroo Bluff Battery in Ralph’s Bay.

The engagement commenced about half-past 12 by the enemy’s skirmishers opening fire, and continued until past 2 o’clock, the action being, as usual, hurried by disregard of tactical contingencies. Mistakes were made in not seeking cover while advancing or retreating; in exposing men in column to artillery fire; in not retreating at the proper moment; in carrying positions against a defence which in real warfare would have made such a thing impossible, and which, in the absence of a requisite mounted staff, could not be prevented: but on the whole, looking to the fact that it was

the first time that most of the country riflemen had been engaged in manœuvring, and that their provisional officers lacked the tactical knowledge necessary for conducting a fight, both sides behaved fairly well.

I witnessed the attack and followed it up on the torpedo boat, with a signalling party on board. His Excellency accompanied me down the river, but landed at the battery, and witnessed the manœuvres from the land.

At the conclusion of the engagement His Excellency, with the Hon. the Minister of Defence, inspected the wire entanglement, and witnessed the explosion of land mines laid out for the defence of the battery. Owing, however, to there not being as yet any equipment in this country for land mines, some experimental lecture fuzes were used, which were found to be insufficiently filled with powder, and when placed in the usual position, head downwards, would not fire, and only those which had the mines placed on their sides fired. I have given instructions, therefore, that for future experiments powder fuzes made up by the Torpedo Director shall be used.

The enemy's vessel, the *Taranna*, on coming up the river was opened fire upon by the guns in the Alexandra Battery, under Major Evans, and afterwards by those in the Bluff Battery, under Major Collins. When under fire from both batteries I estimated her position at 3500 yards from each.

The operations on the east side of the harbour were delayed by the long march which the enemy took with a view to outflank the defenders to the north of the line of outposts which they supposed had been taken up. In the end they found the left flank protected, and were driven back. Nevertheless no little credit is due to Captain Gould for the march he made along a wooded range of hills unknown to his men.

The positions on both sides of the river were strong, and could be held in time of war by the same numbers of troops employed on Easter Saturday. *Certain portions of ground, however, at both positions require to be cleared, and a right of occupation secured, for the purpose of establishing intrenched posts*, and it is much to be desired that this arrangement should be at once carried out by Government. Mounted infantry are much required also, and it is to be hoped that sanction may be given for the equipment of the 30 men to carry out the scheme brought forward by Colonel Bernard and myself last year. Prompt observation and speedy information of an enemy's movements cannot be acquired in the present day without the employment of this useful branch of the service.

The entire force employed on the west side of the Derwent marched into Hobart from the Alexandra Battery, under the command of Colonel Bernard, and embarked at the torpedo jetty on board the *Cygnets* and *Minx*. The force on the east side embarked at Bellerive on the *Taranna* and *Minx*, the latter then crossing to the torpedo jetty to take on board the troops that could not be accommodated on the *Cygnets*. The whole arrived in Camp shortly after 5 p.m.

No Artillery piquets were furnished on this night.

The following is the "Idea" of the manœuvres furnished from Head Quarters to the officers in command of defensive positions.

IDEA.

Two foreign cruisers have arrived off the Derwent, and information has been received that they have force enough on board for a land attack on the forts.

These cruisers for purposes of exercise are represented by the s.s. *Taranna*. She lands a force for the attack of Alexandra Battery somewhere in the vicinity of Kingston, and afterwards lands the remainder in Ralph's Bay to represent the force which would probably have landed in Frederick Henry Bay from the second cruiser. This steamer afterwards assists the force attacking Alexandra Battery by her fire, and then steams up the river to engage the batteries. She is then fired upon by the batteries and finds the river blocked on the eastern side by a line of mines. She is thus driven back.

The forces defending Alexandra Battery take up a position to prevent the enemy's advance by road and his obtaining possession of the hills overlooking the fort. Two field-guns operate with this force—12-pr. howitzers—to represent the 13-pr. B.L. guns intended for the defence of the Brown's River Road.

The forces defending Kangaroo Bluff Battery take up a position on the Clarence Plains Road to prevent an advance by the enemy from Frederick Henry Bay towards Bellerive. The road from Cambridge is also watched by a piquet. Two 7-pounder guns operate with this force, and the guns at the east angle of the fort assist the field force with their fire, while the 8-inch guns direct their fire upon the vessels attacking the Alexandra Battery.

Third Day.

The usual routine was carried out on Easter Sunday. Fatigues were detailed in the morning to get the camp ready for inspection at the dinner hour. At the mid-day parade the Roman Catholics fell in at 9.45, and were marched under the Captain of the day to the Chapel at New

Town; at 10:30 the whole of the Force in camp paraded on the left flank for Divine Service, and were, after being inspected, drawn up in hollow square, the Service being conducted by the Chaplain to the Forces, the Rev. J. B. W. Woollnough. His Excellency the Governor and *suite* attended this Service.

The whole camp was inspected by me at the dinner-hour, and every tent visited. With very few exceptions the tents were smartly arranged, and I met with scarcely any complaints as regards the rations. The Country Rifle Clubs had by this time acquired a commissariat organization, and the rationing of their lines was better carried out than on the first day.

At 2:30 P.M. the usual tent-striking exercise was carried out in all the lines but those of the Country Rifle Clubs.

At night the alarm took place. It was carried out this year in the form of an attack on the camp by one of the corps. The Launceston Rifles were paraded at 8 P.M. for outpost duty, and sent beyond the camp before orders (which were sealed) were given to the Commanding Officer. They marched to the Main Road, where ammunition was served out to them, and the order to attack the Camp was read by Major Martin. An advance was made on the front of the Camp, and the skirmishers were discovered by the inlying piquets, who had orders to patrol the wattle-grove. On the first shots being exchanged two guns were fired at the Camp, and the whole Force turned out with commendable smartness.

The defence of the front of the Camp was entrusted to Colonel Bernard, with the Country Rifle Clubs, and the S.T. Artillery, under Major Evans; the defence of the left flank was given to Colonel Warner, with the Tasmanian Rifle Regiment and the Launceston Artillery. In less than ten minutes the entire force was in position and extended for the defence of the camp. It was expected that the Launceston Rifles would attack at the left rear of the camp, approaching by way of the western arm of Prince of Wales' Bay, and that a false attack would have been made on the front; it was found, however, on engaging the enemy that he was attacking in force at the front, and he was, consequently, driven back.

The alarm was a good test as regards smartness in getting under arms. Every endeavour was made by me to keep the plan secret; but it was not found possible to take the camp by complete surprise, and some few knew of the attack a short time before the alarm was given.

Fourth Day.

At *reveille* rain was falling heavily, and, consequently, the morning parade was interfered with. The entrenchment drill for Rifle Regiments could not, therefore, be carried out. It cleared by half-past seven, and the Rifle Clubs went out to ball-firing, which was carried out in the direction of Elwick Bay. The 13-pr. and 7-pr. guns were got into position on a hill to the left front of the Camp ready for the practice at the earthwork.

At the mid-day parade the two Artillery Corps carried on practice, the Rifle Regiments drilled and carried out their ball-firing, and the Country Rifle Clubs completed theirs, and afterwards were drilled by the Commanding Officer. The Torpedo Corps, which was now strengthened by the party from Alexandra Battery,—the latter having come into camp on Saturday evening,—were exercised in drill for the afternoon review.

A strong wind was blowing across the range, but notwithstanding this the Artillery practice, particularly from the 13-pr. guns, was very fair, as good results as could be expected with such small shell being obtained against the earthwork. The results, however, with shrapnel shell were nullified owing to the strong gale which sprung up having blown down the "dummies" in the gun-pit; owing likewise to this cause, the Nordenfeldt practice was deferred to a future occasion.

The results of the practice are recorded in an Appendix attached to this Report.

The Infantry ball-firing was carried out this year at small wooden targets representing only the head and shoulders of a man as they would appear when firing in the prone position. This was an excellent test of what the firing would have been against an enemy attacking line, and considering that it was the first time the troops had been exercised at similar targets the firing was satisfactory. The range was, however, short—from 300 to 100 yards. The practice was carried out both advancing and retiring, with the following results:—

Infantry Defence Force.—Hobart Rifle Regiment and Launceston Rifle Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Warner—

- (1.) Hobart Rifle Regiment—
 - 10 rounds per man.
 - Number of men, 70.
 - Number of hits, 119.

(2.) Launceston Rifle Regiment—

10 rounds per man.

Number of men, 92.

Number of hits, 130.

Country Rifle Clubs under the command of Colonel Bernard—

10 rounds per man.

Number of men, 258.

Number of hits, 401.

At 2:30 the Force was drawn up on the Brigade Parade Ground to the left rear of the Camp for inspection by His Excellency the Governor, who was present at the Artillery practice in the morning, and visited portions of the Camp at the dinner hour. After the inspection the Brigade marched past, and was then drawn up in line of quarter-columns and advanced in review order; hollow square was then formed, and His Excellency presented Sergeant Paul, Tasmanian Rifle Regiment, with the "Lefroy Cup," won by him at the recent competition for this trophy, given by Lieutenant-General Lefroy, R.A., K.C.M.G. Subsequently Major-General Tottenham's Cup, shot for by the Southern Rifle Clubs as a trophy for skirmishing fire, was presented by His Excellency to the Bothwell Club, who won it at a competition held at the Sandy Bay Rifle Range on the 10th March last. His Excellency and the Honorable the Minister of Defence both addressed the Force, and spoke in complimentary terms of the drill of both the Defence Force and the Country Rifle Clubs. The total strength of the parade was 888 of all ranks.

Breaking up Camp.

The Northern Division struck tents and packed up equipment immediately after the parade, and marched out of Camp at 5:30 p.m. Arrangements had been made for the despatch of the Division at 5:40 p.m., but owing to the rolling-stock being all engaged in taking back excursionists to Hobart, the first train did not arrive until 7:15 p.m., and it was then found that the trains had been inverted, and that intended for Country Rifle Clubs (who had the shortest night journey in coming to Camp) sent first, instead of last. This portion of the Force was accordingly despatched first, and the Northern Division did not leave the Station until 8:30 p.m., arriving at Launceston at 3:30 a.m.

The Southern Division entrained at Elwick at 9 p.m. and arrived in Hobart at 9:30 p.m.

General.

The conduct of the Force was, on the whole, very satisfactory, only two military crimes of a serious nature having occurred. The training given this year was of a practical nature, and more instructive, as regards the defence of a fortified position, than any of its predecessors. The bringing together of a number of the detachments of Country Rifle Clubs, and forming them into companies to act together as a battalion, did more service to this branch of the Force as a fighting unit than a long course of instruction and drill as detached bodies at their respective head-quarters. It further disseminated a brotherly spirit among the corps, in teaching them to act together for a common object, the importance of which cannot be over-rated. Under the careful instruction of their Commanding Officer, Colonel Bernard, assisted by Captain Walch and Lieut. Lewis, they acquired a fair knowledge of drill in the four days they had at camp; and all that is required to make them a valuable accessory is the existence of trained officers to command them.

The various corps of the Defence Force carried out their work well, and the officers who had to perform all the routine of camp orderly duty did it to my satisfaction. Copies of Orders issued from Head-quarters appear in the Appendix.

The commissariat arrangements were carried out satisfactorily by Major Just; but owing to the failure of the water contractor to carry out his contract properly on the first day, and very much more than the proper allowance of water having been used in all the tents early on the first morning, there was a difficulty in cooking the dinners. This matter was adjusted, however, before the expiration of the day.

The want of an organized Quartermaster's Department in the Country Rifle Clubs lines caused some confusion on the first day as regards the apportioning of the rations to the various Clubs after their issue from Head-quarters. The Commanding Officer having been directed to organize a department for the due apportionment of the rations in his lines, and extra rations having been issued to the Clubs to make up for what had gone astray in their lines, matters improved by the following day. The cost of rations per man was 8·08*d.* per diem.

I received every assistance from my Staff in carrying out the work preparatory to and at the Camp, and my thanks are due to the Officers composing it for the zealous manner in which they

performed their duties. Commanding Officers of Corps likewise rendered me valuable assistance in maintaining discipline in their Corps, and carrying out the usual routine of Camp duties.

Appended will be found a Statement of the Expenditure of the various services, excluding pay. That of last year's Camp, without pay, for 747 men, was £458 19s.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. V. LEGGE, *Lt.-Col. (R.), R.A.,*
Colonel Commandant.

The Hon. the Minister of Defence.

APPENDIX I.

EASTER ENCAMPMENT, 1888.

REPORT of the Acting Commissary-General.

Latrobe, 21st May, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report upon the Commissariat arrangements of the late Easter Encampment held at Elwick, near Hobart, from 29th March to 2nd April last.

2. I received my appointment and orders on 27th February, and at once proceeded to arrange with contractors for supply of stores, &c. I proceeded to Hobart on 28th March to take up Camp duties.

3. The usual marquee was provided as a store tent, and the Commissariat appliances were in good order, with the exception of the weighing apparatus, which was not reliable. It should be tested before being sent into Camp on future occasions.

4. The rations were, as usual, issued to Corps, being received by Quartermasters or their deputies. A little confusion, and consequent grumbling, occurred on the first day, owing to want of proper organisation in some Corps, within their regimental lines, for the reception and re-issue of rations to the several messes. It is essential to the successful working of a Camp that Commanding Officers should see that their Quartermasters understand their duties, and that their Corps are provided with necessary appliances for the re-distribution of the rations to the men.

5. I again call attention to paragraph 3 and 4 of my Report for 1887. Excepting in one or two instances, the regimental cooks did not seem acquainted with the working of the Broad Arrow kitchens and Aldershot ovens, the consequence being badly-cooked meat.

6. *Meat.*—Mr. Johnson Sharp, jun., supplied beef and mutton of excellent quality, which he delivered with regularity, at 28s. 5d. per 100 lbs. : also saveloys, at 7d. per lb. He also rendered valuable assistance in dividing the meat.

7. *Bread*, in 1½lb. ration loaves, was provided from H.M. Gaol, at 10s. per 100 lbs. This was of superior quality, but was not as well liked by the men as the ordinary baker's bread supplied at Newnham in 1887.

8. *General Rations.*—Groceries and general rations were supplied by the Government contractors Messrs. W. Murdoch & Co. ; green vegetables by Mr. Ah Ham ; potatoes by Mr. A. W. Williams ; and tea and sugar by the Colonial Storekeeper. All these were of excellent quality.

9. *Special Rations.*—For the Field-day on 31st March a special "Haversack" ration was issued, consisting of biscuits, saveloys, or cheese, and was much appreciated by the men.

10. The total number provisioned during the Camp (*i.e.*, rations issued) was 4898. This includes 736 rations of bread, butter, coffee, and sugar issued to the men who marched in on the night of 29th March. Owing to the want of regimental organisation, referred to in paragraph 4, a number of extra rations had to be issued. The cost of all supplies, including carriage, was £186 17s., making the daily cost per man equal to 8-08d.

11. I desire to express my obligations to the Colonial Storekeeper for the assistance rendered in providing necessary supplies. Corporal Tom Robinson, Tasmanian Rifle Regiment, acted as Store Clerk, and Gunner Mortimer, Permanent Artillery, as Weigher, and both performed their duties to my entire satisfaction.

12. The usual detailed Return is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS. C. JUST, *Major T.D.F., A.C.G.*

The Colonel Commandant,
The Barracks, Hobart.

APPENDIX II.

Head Quarters Office, Hobart, 18th April, 1888.

HEAD QUARTER ORDERS.

THE Commandant has pleasure in conveying to the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men of the Tasmanian Defence Force his approval of the generally efficient manner in which all Camp and Military duties were carried out by them at the recent Encampment at Elwick.

As in former years, a heavy programme had to be carried out in a short time; and the zealous manner in which officers and men applied themselves to the work gives satisfactory evidence that the training undergone at past encampments had not been thrown away.

The conduct of the Force was on the whole satisfactory; and there was a marked improvement as regards silence in camp after "Lights out." There is, however, room for further exertions on the part of Commanding Officers as regards the individual smartness and soldierly bearing of their men when called out under the Army Act; although the Commandant had pleasure in observing the marked improvement in this respect in the Southern Tasmanian Artillery this year. The discipline and soldierly feeling to which this individual smartness bears testimony are valuable proofs of the efficiency of a Corps as defenders of the Country.

The Commandant tenders his thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel Warner and all the Officers of his Staff, —combatant and departmental— for the zealous manner in which they assisted him in carrying out the work of the Encampment.

He has further to express regret that the Northern Division, after mustering so strongly, should have met with such untoward delay on the return journey.

W. V. LEGGE, *Lieut.-Col., (R.), R.A., Colonel Commandant.*

Head-Quarters Office, Hobart, 18th April, 1888.

HEAD QUARTER ORDERS.

THE Commandant requests that the Superintendent Country Rifle Clubs will be good enough to convey to the various Clubs who attended the recent Encampment his approbation of the zeal which prompted their attendance in such large numbers. The exercises gone through at Elwick, and more particularly the formation of the various Club detachments into a Battalion for drill and manœuvres, will have imparted most valuable experience to those present, and advanced very considerably their efficiency as a military body; and the Commandant trusts the lesson learnt will not be thrown away.

The Commandant was much pleased at the general smartness of the various detachments, and noticed with satisfaction their desire to acquire as much proficiency in their work as possible.

In order to prevent the recurrence of internal disorganisation as regards the Commissariat Department in the Club lines, it will be necessary for a Regimental Department to be organised among the Clubs to supervise the control and sub-issue of the rations; and the Commandant trusts that those who have an aptitude for this work will volunteer their services to the Superintendent another year, and hopes that no inconvenience will in future be felt in regard to the Commissariat arrangements.

W. V. LEGGE, *Lieut.-Col., (R.), R.A., Colonel Commandant.*

Superintendent Country Rifle Clubs.

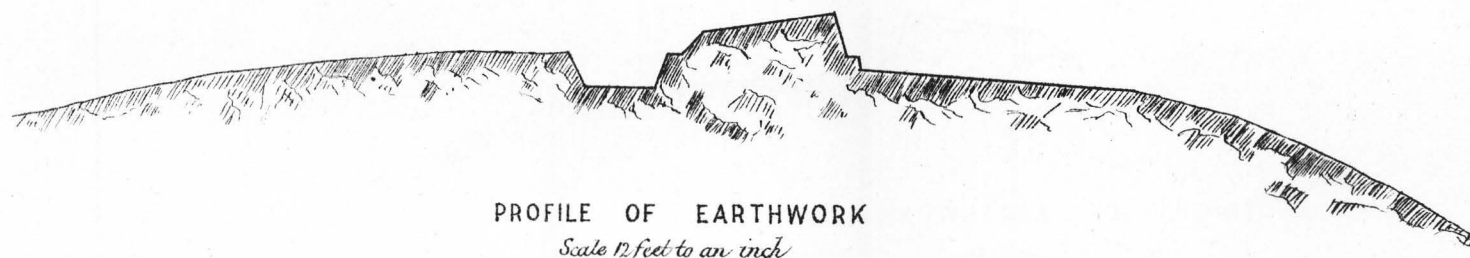
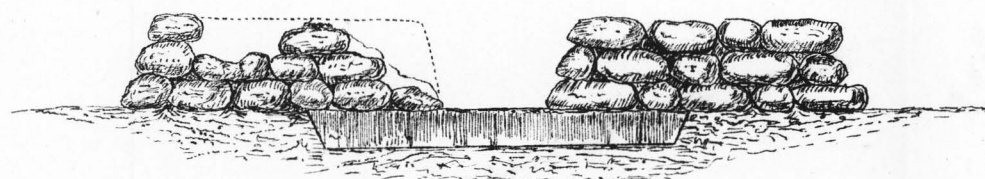
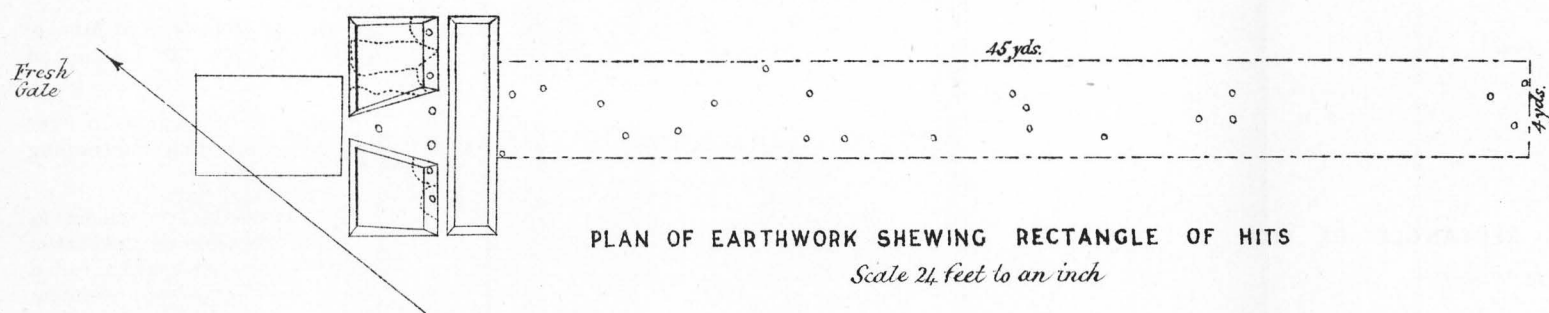
APPENDIX III.

COUNTRY RIFLE CLUBS.

RETURN of Men at Camp, Elwick, 1888.

No. and Name of Club.	Strength of each.	No. and Name of Club.	Strength each.
1. Scottsdale	12	18. Longford	3
2. Mersey	16	20. Fingal	12
3. Midlands	27	21. Somerset	20
4. Ulverstone	6	22. Franklin	10
5. Bothwell	10	23. Don	12
6. Forth	11	24. Kingston	20
8. Channel	16	25. Stanley	13
9. Latrobe	10	26. Penguin	14
11. Hollow Tree	12	27. Sheffield	8
13. Table Cape	14	31. Ross	20
14. Ouse	8		
15. Emu Bay	20		
17. Northdown	18		
		TOTAL	312

H. BERNARD, *Colonel,*
Superintendent Country Rifle Clubs.



SANDBAG BATTERY DOWSING'S POINT

APPENDIX V.

PRECIS of Artillery Practice, 2nd April, 1888.

Two 13-pounder breech-loading, and two 7-pounder 2·5-inch muzzle-loading guns were used.

Proportion of projectiles as follows:—13-pounder breech-loading—15 common shell, 10 shrapnel; 7-pounder 2·5-inch muzzle-loading—20 common shell and 10 shrapnel. The range was between 1200 and 1300 yards, the site of the guns being about 100 feet above sea level, and the site of the battery about 15 feet.

The battery, or earthwork, consisted of a gun-pit of the ordinary dimensions, with an embrasure nine feet wide at the mouth, and a parapet nine feet long on each side of it, the interior crest of which was 3 feet 6 inches high.

The embrasure and interior slope were revetted with large sand-bags, and the earth of which the parapet was composed was light and sandy, mixed with shells. A gun detachment of dummies was posted in the gun-pit. A strong wind was blowing at the commencement of the practice, 9 A.M., which increased to a fresh gale during the morning. Notwithstanding, the shooting was good, the width of the rectangle of hits short of the battery being only 4 yards. No hits beyond could be recorded, as the work was constructed on the crest of the rise next the water, so that any shot passing a few inches only above the sill of the embrasure fell into the river. The dummies were blown down by the wind, and but little result was obtained on them from the practice.

Result of Practice.

Rectangle of hits with 13-pounder breech-loader, 30 yards by 4 yards; including three short grazes of 7-pounder muzzle-loaders, the rectangle of total hits about 45 yards by 4 yards. Three bursts, common shell, on the sole of the embrasure; two bursts forming craters from 2 to 3 feet wide in the exterior slope of the right parapet. Left side of embrasure carried away down to bottom layer of sand-bags. Large gap at crest of parapet at left corner; two craters (bursts up of common shell) in exterior slope of left parapet. Head of No. 5 dummy carried away.

The results from shrapnel practice were *nil*, owing to the dismounting of the dummies, chiefly by the wind, but those on the right of the supposed gun probably by the burst of the shell which carried away No. 5 dummy.

The fuses used with the common shell were the “Armstrong bolt percussion,” which acted well on this as on former occasions. There were no premature bursts.

Owing to the high velocity, flat trajectory, and position of this work on the crest of a hill, the effect of the 13-pounder common shell was greater than I expected. The hits tended to carry away material by sheer force of impact as well as by burst of shell.

*STATEMENT of Expenditure for Camp of Exercise at Elwick.
Strength of Force, 990.*

	Transport and Incidental.	Rations, including Straw, Wood, and Water.	TOTAL.
Expenditure	£ s. d. 361 7 4	£ s. d. 233 1 6½	
TOTALS	£361 7 4	£233 1 6½	£594 8 10½

W. V. LEGGE, *Lt.-Col., (R.), R.A.,*
Colonel Commandant.