

34 THE BATTLE OF JUTLAND BANK

ships of the enemy Battle Fleet.¹ *Fearless*² (Captain (D) Charles D. Roper), with the destroyers of 1st Flotilla, joined the battle-cruisers, and, when speed admitted, took station ahead. *Champion*³ (Captain (D) James U. Farie), with 13th Flotilla, took station on the 5th Battle Squadron. At 5 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Light-cruiser Squadrons, which had been following me on the southerly course, took station on my starboard bow; the 2nd Light-cruiser Squadron took station on my port quarter.⁴

The weather conditions now became unfavourable, our ships being silhouetted against a clear horizon to the westward, while the enemy were for the most part obscured by mist, only showing up clearly at intervals. These conditions prevailed until we had turned their van at about 6 p.m.

¹ Evan-Thomas, in Beatty's rear on the southward course, would meet Beatty and Hipper when the course was changed to the north. He engaged the latter as he passed him on his port bow, and then, altering course 16 points, i. e. putting about, turned up astern of Beatty and engaged the German Battle Fleet on a parallel course to starboard. See note 4, *infra*.

² Light cruiser, *Boadicea* class, 3,440 tons, 26 knots, 4-inch and lesser armament

³ Flotilla leader.

⁴ Beatty's formation was as follows :—

