

respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

On the 8th November 1916, a series of explosions and fires occurred at Bakaritsa, Port of Archangel, on merchant ships and on the wharves. The S.S. "Baron Driesen" had blown up at 1 p.m. and part of the S.S. "Earl of Forfar" forty minutes later, and fresh explosions were expected every instant. It was thought that all their crews had either escaped or been killed or rescued, but after dark cries of distress were heard from the "Earl of Forfar." The ship was a mass of flame at the time, and burning embers from the fire which was raging on shore were continually showered over her. She had a cargo of explosives on board and was abreast of the main conflagration. The flames were blown towards her by the wind, and the remaining portion of the ship was expected to be blown up at any moment. Captain Bevan, however, on hearing the cries proceeded on board, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander MacMahon, and, hearing moans from under the smouldering débris of the fore-castle, cleared away the wreckage and extricated the mate, who had an arm and a leg and his collarbone broken, and passed him into a tug.

Captain Bevan displayed the utmost gallantry and disregard of his personal safety.

The KING has further been graciously pleased to approve of the Award of the Albert Medal to

Lieutenant Edward Henry Richardson,
R.N.R.,

2nd Engineer Christopher Watson,

A.B. James Dixon Henry, and

A.B. Malcolm Thompson,

for gallantry in saving life at sea.

The following is the account of the services in respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

On the 8th November 1916, a series of fires and explosions occurred at Bakaritsa, Port of Archangel, on merchant ships and on the wharves. The S.S. "Baron Driesen" had blown up at 1 p.m. and part of the S.S. "Earl of Forfar" forty minutes later. The latter ship, with a cargo of explosives, was on fire, and might have blown up at any moment, and explosions were continually taking place in the immediate vicinity. The ship was alongside the main fire on shore, and burning embers were constantly showered over her.

Lieutenant Richardson, 2nd Engineer Watson, and Able Seamen Henry and Thompson, of the Tug "Sunderland," nevertheless volunteered to board the "Earl of Forfar" and effected the rescue of a considerable number of wounded and helpless men who would otherwise have perished.

They displayed the utmost gallantry and disregard of their own personal safety in saving the lives of others.

War Office,

8th July 1918.

His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve of the award of the Military Medal to the undermentioned Ladies for distinguished services in the field, as recorded:—

Unit-Administrator Mrs. Margaret Annabella Campbell Gibson, Q.M.W.A.A. Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy air-raid when in charge of a Q.M.W.A.A.C. camp which was completely demolished by enemy bombs, one of which fell within a few feet of the trench in which the women were sheltering. During the raid Unit-Administrator Gibson showed a splendid example. Her courage and energy sustained the women under most trying circumstances, and undoubtedly prevented serious loss of life.

Miss Sarah Bonnell, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

Miss Evelyn Gordon-Brown, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

Miss Aileen Maude Faulkner, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

Miss Evelyn Faulder, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

Miss Nellie Dewhurst, V.A.D., attd., First Aid Nursing Yeomanry.

For gallantry and conspicuous devotion to duty, when an ammunition dump had been set on fire by enemy bombs and the only available ambulance for the removal of wounded had been destroyed. These ladies subsequently arrived with three ambulances, and, despite the danger arising from various explosions, succeeded in removing all the wounded. Their conduct throughout was splendid.

War Office,

4th July 1918.

ARMY COUNCIL ORDER.

THE SOLE LEATHER (MINERAL TANNED) ORDER, 1918.

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by the Defence of the Realm Regulations, the Army Council hereby order as follows:—

1. No person shall without permit issued by or on behalf of the Director of Raw Materials purchase, sell or make or take delivery of or payment for any Mineral Tanned Sole Leather having a substance of less than 9-iron, otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Sole Leather (Conditions of Sale) Order, 1917, which are hereby applied to Leather of the description aforesaid.

2. Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Army Council to take possession of all Mineral Tanned Sole Leather having a substance of 9-iron and over.

By Order of the Army Council.

R. H. BRADE.

Civil Service Commission,

9th July 1918.

Notice is hereby given that upon a special recommendation from the Minister of Pensions, and with the assent of the Treasury, Mr. Thomas Cairns, having served as a Clerk of the Second Division for upwards of eight years, has been promoted to a First Class Clerkship (Intermediate Grade) in the Ministry of Pensions, with a special certificate granted exceptionally by the Civil Service Commissioners.