



The London Gazette.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1879.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
December 8, 1879.*

THE Queen has been pleased to appoint Major-General Sir Michael Anthony Shrapnel Biddulph, of the Royal Artillery, K.C.B., to be one of the Grooms in Waiting to Her Majesty, in the room of Rear-Admiral Sir John Edmund Commerell, R.N., K.C.B., resigned.

Foreign Office, October 1, 1879.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint John Henry Stevens, Esq., now British Vice-Consul at Tunis, to be Her Majesty's Consul for the Ports of Stettin and Swinemünde and the whole Province of Pomerania, to reside at Stettin.

Downing Street, December 8, 1879.

THE Queen has been pleased to appoint Peter Leys, Esq., to be a Member of the Legislative Council of the Island of Labuan.

BY virtue of an Act passed in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of His Majesty King George III, intituled "An Act to repeal so

"much of two Acts made in the tenth and "fifteenth years of the reign of His present Majesty, as authorizes the Speaker of the "House of Commons to issue his Warrant to "the Clerk of the Crown for making out writs "for the election of Members to serve in Par- "liament, in the manner therein mentioned, and "for substituting other provisions for the like "purposes;" and of an Act passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to further limit and define "the time for proceeding to Election during the "Recess:"

I do hereby give notice, that the death of the Right Honourable John Arthur Roebuck, late a Member serving in this present Parliament for the borough of Sheffield, hath been certified to me, in writing, under the hands of two Members serving in this present Parliament; and that I shall issue my Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the said borough, at the end of six days after the insertion of this notice in the London Gazette.

Given under my hand this seventh day of December, 1879.

H. BRAND, Speaker.

War Office, December 6, 1879.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the undermentioned Officer of Her Majesty's Army, whose claim has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his gallant conduct at Afghanistan, as recorded against his name:—

Regiment.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
Royal Engineers ...	Captain (now Major), Edward Pemberton Leach	For having, in action with the Shinwarris near Maidanah, Afghanistan, on the 17th March, 1879, when covering the retirement of the Survey Escort who were carrying Lieutenant Barclay, 45th Sikhs, mortally wounded, behaved with the utmost gallantry in charging, with some men of the 45th Sikhs, a very much larger number of the enemy. In this encounter Captain Leach killed two or three of the enemy himself, and he received a severe wound from an Afghan knife in the left arm. Captain Leach's determination and gallantry in this affair, in attacking and driving back the enemy from the last position, saved the whole party from annihilation.