

SUPPLEMENT

TO

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War Office, November 2, 1882.

A DESPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been received from the General Officer Commanding in Egypt by the Secretary of State for War.

SIR, Cairo, September 24, 1882.

1. IN my Despatch of the 16th instant, I promised to forward for your information at a future date the names of those who, in my opinion, should be specially brought to your favourable notice for the good work they have done during the campaign.

2. It is usual to make a report of this nature at the termination of a war, and to do this justly and fairly is one of the most difficult tasks that devolves upon a General Commanding in the Field, especially when, as in the present instance, almost all those employed in any other than regimental positions have been carefully selected, either on account of the ability they have displayed in former wars, or because they have passed the prescribed course of study at the Staff

College.

3. In my previous Despatch I referred to the good services performed by the General Officers Commanding Divisions and Brigades, or holding superior positions on the Staff of the Army. It is therefore unnecessary for me to repeat their names, but before passing on to those who have rendered good service in less prominent positions, I would wish to avail myself of this opportunity of expressing how deeply I have been indebted, from the beginning until the termination of this war, to General Sir John Adye, my Chief of the Staff, for the cordial, loyal, and efficient assistance I have at all times received from him. His ability as an administrator is well known to you, and the highest praise I can give him is to say that his soldierlike qualities are fully on a par with his administrative capacity.

Sir John Adye brings to my notice the able manner in which Major the Honourable N. G. Lyttelton, Rifle Brigade, who acted as his Secretary, has done his work, a fact to which I have

great pleasure in bearing testimony.

His Aide-de-Camp was Lieutenant the Honourable F. W. Stopford, Grenadier Guards.

4. Lieutenant-Generals G. H. S. Willis, C.B., and Sir E. B. Hamley, K.C.M.G., C.B., led their Divisions in a very gallant manner at the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir. General Willis commanded at Kassassin, when it was attacked by the enemy on the 9th instant, and, with a very small loss, drove him back within his entrenchments.

5. The services rendered at Alexandria by Major-General Sir A. Alison, Bart., K.C.B., previous to my arrival, are already well known to you. No one could have led his Brigade more gallantly, or with greater skill, than he did on the 13th instant, when he showed it the way into the enemy's entrenchments. He is both zealous and capable.

6. Major-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., Commanding 1st Brigade, has evinced upon all occasions throughout this war the utmost zeal for his profession. No one could have taken greater care of his men than he has done, providing for their wants and comfort, and setting them an example of cool courage under the very heavy musketry fire by which they were assailed on the 13th instant. He brings to my notice the valuable assistance he invariably received from Colonel Sir John McNeill, V.C., K.C.M.G., and Major Lane, Rifle Brigade, the former, in my opinion, one of the best officers in the Army.

7. I regret very much to say that the necessity of keeping a large garrison at Alexandria deprived me of the active services in the field of Major-General Sir F. Wood, G.C.M.G., Commanding the 4th Brigade. He had, however, responsible duties to perform at that station, especially when, on the capture of Cairo, the enemy laid down their arms at Kafr Dowar. He was also employed in obtaining the surrender at Damietta, all of which duties he performed to my entire satisfaction.

8. The brunt of the fighting throughout the campaign fell to the lot of Major-General G. Graham, V.C., C.B., Commanding 2nd Brigade, and it could not have been in better hands. To that coolness and gallantry in action for which he has always been well known he adds the power of

leading and commanding others.