



SUPPLEMENT

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DESPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received by the Secretary for War.

From Major-General Sir G. Graham, Commanding Tokar Expeditionary Force.

Camp, Tokar, March 2, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the operations of the Tokar Expeditionary Force since the 28th ult.

In the Despatch then sent I informed the Chief of the Staff in Egypt that on the evening of that day I sent an officer to the front of Fort Baker, carrying a white flag on a staff, to which a letter was attached, calling upon the Sheikhs of the tribes to disperse their forces now in arms before Suakim, informing them that the English were not at war with the Arabs, and recommending them to send delegates to Khartoum to meet General Gordon.

Captain Harvey, who is on General Baker's Staff, and now attached to my Intelligence Department, advanced about two miles, the latter part of which was under an ill-directed fire of musketry, and after planting his staff he retired according to my instructions. The following morning at daybreak the same officer went out to see if any answer had arrived, but the staff with all attached had been taken away.

At about 8 o'clock A.M., I gave the order to advance in the formation of a rectangle, having an interior space of about 200 by 150 yards.

In front were the 1st Gordon Highlanders, in rear the 1st Royal Highlanders, on the right the 2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers (supported by four companies of the 3rd King's Royal Rifles), on the left the 1st York and Lancaster, supported by 380 of the Royal Marine Artillery and Light Infantry.

On the march the front and rear faces moved in company columns of fours at company intervals, and the flank battalions in open columns of companies.

Intervals were left at the angles for the guns and Gatlings, the Naval Brigade occupying the front and the Royal Artillery the rear angles.

The men marched off with their water-bottles filled and one day's rations.

The only transport animals were those carrying ammunition and surgical appliances, all being kept together in the centre of the square.

To secure my base I had left a company of the 3rd King's Royal Rifles, all sick and weakly men and all departmental details armed, under Lieutenant-Colonel Ogilvy, and three companies of the same corps at Fort Baker, with a Krupp gun and two bronze guns at each place manned by the Royal Marine Artillery.

About an hour before daybreak, on the 29th of February, there was a short, but heavy fall of rain, which caused the ground for the first two miles of the march to be very heavy; the Naval Brigade and Royal Artillery dragged their guns by hand so that frequent halts had to be made to rest the men.

The front and left of the square was covered by a squadron of the 10th Hussars, the right by a troop of the 19th Hussars, the Cavalry being in rear under Brigadier-General Stewart. About 10 A.M. reports came in from the front that the enemy were entrenched on our left, on which I inclined the square to the right, but about 11.20 A.M. I found that we were immediately opposite to a work armed with two Krupp guns, whose position had not been reported to me by the reconnoitring party, so I moved the column still more to the right, on which the guns of the enemy opened fire with case and shell. Fortunately aim was bad so that few casualties occurred, and I succeeded in getting on the left flank of the work which was on the proper left rear of the enemy's line.

The square was now halted, men ordered to lie down, and four guns of the Royal Artillery and machine guns were brought into action at a range of about 900 yards, the practice from the guns was carried on with remarkable accuracy and great deliberation, and with the help of the machine guns of the Naval Brigade, which poured in a stream of bullets, the two Krupp guns were completely silenced, as they were taken slightly in reverse and the gunners were driven from the guns.

The Infantry now advanced, the square moving by its left face, which, by the flank movement, was opposite to the work attacked. The fighting

line was, therefore, composed of the 1st York and Lancaster supported by the Royal Marines. The 1st Gordon Highlanders and 1st Royal Highlanders moving in column of fours on either flank, the rear of the square being formed of the 3rd King's Royal Rifles and the 2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers. The York and Lancaster advanced steadily till within a short distance of the works, when, with a cheer, a rush was made to the front, and, assisted by the Bluejackets on the right, who managed to bring their guns into the fighting line, the work was carried and the guns captured; the enemy made several desperate counter attacks, sometimes singly and sometimes in groups, on the advancing line, many hand-to-hand fights taking place with the York and Lancaster and men of the Naval Brigade.

About 12.20 P.M., the battery which is marked "A" on the accompanying plan was taken, with two Krupp guns and a brass howitzer.

At this period, the Cavalry, under Brigadier-General Stewart, moved round the present right flank of the square, and charged in three lines across the plain to its right front where the enemy were in large numbers, who attacked the flanks of the lines, so that they had to change front in order to shake them off. Colonel Barrow, of the 19th Hussars, was severely wounded in executing one of these charges, when, I regret to say, many other casualties occurred.

The enemy, as reported by Brigadier-General Stewart, fought simply with fanaticism and spared no wounded or dismounted men, although, in most cases, instantly paying their penalty with their own lives; and it is to the desperate character of the struggle that the large proportion of deaths in the Cavalry Brigade is to be attributed.

The enemy were still in possession of the village and wells of Teb, but by the capture of the work on his left flank, my Infantry had got in rear of his position, and the captured guns were turned on another work also armed with two Krupp guns, which they took in reverse. These captured guns were admirably worked by Major Tucker, of the Royal Marine Artillery, and with the aid of the guns of the Royal Artillery the enemy's remaining battery was soon silenced. The enemy's Infantry, however, still clung with desperate tenacity to the numerous rifle pits and entrenchments they had constructed, and large numbers occupied some buildings in the village, which were afterwards found filled with dead bodies; they seemed not to dream of asking for quarter, and when they found their retreat cut off would charge out singly or in scattered groups to hurl their spears in defiance at the advancing lines of Infantry, falling dead, fairly riddled with bullets.

About 2 P.M., the battery marked "G" on plan, now abandoned, was occupied, and the whole position taken.

The enemy had now given up all ideas of further fighting, and the last work on the right of their line, shown as a mound on plan, was occupied by the Gordon Highlanders without opposition, as they streamed away in the directions of Tokar and Suakim.

Nothing could be better than the dash with which the charges of the Cavalry were executed in the midst of a horde of desperate fanatics, who displayed extraordinary activity and courage; nor could anything exceed the cool deliberation and efficiency with which the Royal Artillery served their guns under fire, or the skill and gallantry displayed by the Naval Brigade in keeping up with the front line of Infantry, and protecting their

own guns by hand-to-hand encounters with the enemy, when at least one deed of gallantry was executed, of which I shall make a special report.

The first time the square came under fire was a very trying one for young troops, as we were then moving to a flank—an operation at all times difficult, and especially so when in such a cramped formation. A slight disorder occurred, which was, however, speedily rectified, and nothing could have been better than the steady advance on the first battery.

In advancing on the scattered entrenchments and houses, the formation became somewhat disordered, owing to the desire of the men on the flank faces of the square to fire to their front.

The Gordon Highlanders speedily rectified this, moving one half battalion into the fighting line, the other half being thrown back to guard against flank attacks.

The Royal Highlanders were somewhat out of hand. I would, however, beg to observe that the ground was a most difficult one to move over, and that the desperate tenacity with which the enemy held a house on the right of the Royal Highlanders caused the men to form in an irregular manner so as to pour a converging fire on it.

The other battalions, especially the York and Lancaster, which had several hand-to-hand encounters with the enemy, and the Royal Marines, behaved with great steadiness and gallantry.

The 1st Gordon Highlanders, 3rd King's Royal Rifles, and 1st York and Lancaster also showed steadiness and good discipline under fire: the latter formed the left flank of the fighting line in the attack on the second position, when they advanced with great gallantry.

I append a list of killed and wounded, and deeply regret the numerous fatal casualties in the Cavalry Brigade of which I have already made mention.*

The force of the enemy was difficult to estimate, and in my first telegram I put it at 10,000. Subsequent native testimony obtained makes me estimate it at 6,000 fighting men, and I am informed that they admit a loss of 1,500 killed.

In the immediate neighbourhood of Teb 825 dead bodies were counted, and I am informed that it is the custom of these people to carry off their dead when practicable. I am also informed that the women of the tribes were present with hatchets to despatch our wounded.

I must now beg to express my sense of the services of the Officers holding responsible positions in the force I had the honour to command on this occasion, without whose loyal co-operation and self-devotion the Expedition could not have been carried out successfully.

Brigadier-General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., K.C.M.G., C.B., who was specially appointed second in command, showed himself worthy of his high reputation as a thorough soldier and most valuable officer.

Major-General Davis was most indefatigable in his exertions, and afforded me all possible assistance in preserving formation and discipline during the action, as he has done in expediting the disembarkation of troops since his arrival at Trinkitat.

Brigadier-General Stewart, C.B., showed himself, as he is known to be, a most able and daring leader of Cavalry. My instructions to him were to avoid engaging the enemy until their formation was broken, and until they were in full retreat. The time of making the charge I left entirely to

* Telegraphic lists already published.

Brigadier-General Stewart, as I wished him to keep well away from my square, not knowing on which side it might be attacked.

We did not anticipate having to attack the enemy in an entrenched position, but thought he would come out and attack my square in large numbers, be repulsed, and then be cut up by the Cavalry.

The charges actually made were upon masses of the enemy not yet engaged with my Infantry, and although most gallantly and skillfully executed, the loss of officers and men is deeply to be regretted. As I have already had the honour to observe, the scouting and reconnoitring duties of the Cavalry Brigade were admirably performed, and I cannot too highly praise the ready efficiency of the Mounted Infantry, under Captain Humphreys.

Among them any valuable Staff-Officers attached to this force, I would especially bring to your notice Lieutenant-Colonel Clery, my Assistant Adjutant-General, who is an invaluable Staff-Officer, ready in resource, indefatigable in work, combined with coolness, excellent in temper, and a thorough knowledge of his duties. I beg also to observe that Lieutenant-Colonel Clery is mentioned by both the Officers Commanding Infantry Brigades for his distinguished gallantry in the action of the 29th February, when I also observed his extreme coolness and presence of mind.

My thanks are also due to Deputy Surgeon-General McDowell, who has conducted the duties of the Medical Department to my entire satisfaction, and has shown great judgment and forethought in providing for the wants of the wounded, who have been well and promptly attended to.

Assistant Commissary-General Nugent has been indefatigable in arranging for getting up supplies. Although water transport is a most difficult thing to arrange for a force of this size, including so many horses and transport animals, the supply has never failed, although sometimes unavoidably late.

The supply of Ordnance stores, under Assistant Commissary-General Mills, was also satisfactorily conducted.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ardagh, Commanding Royal Engineer, was chief of the Intelligence Department. In both of these important positions he has given me great satisfaction, and I beg to recommend this and the above-named Officers' valuable services for your Lordship's favourable consideration.

I propose forwarding the names of other Officers who have distinguished themselves in a supplementary Despatch, and to recommend them for favourable consideration.

I cannot, however, close this Despatch without recording my sense of the great services rendered to the Expeditionary Force by Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett. I cannot sufficiently express my admiration of the high sense of duty displayed by this officer under most trying circumstances.

Had Admiral Hewett himself been in command of the Expedition for the relief of Tokar he could not have done more to further its success.

Suakim was threatened with attack by an overpowering force, and a portion of the garrison were in actual mutiny; notwithstanding which, Admiral Hewett insisted on almost denuding his ships of sailors in order to give me the magnificent Naval Brigade whose services I have in a previous part of this Despatch endeavoured to depict.

Not satisfied with this, Admiral Hewett also gave me nearly 400 of the Marines and Marine Artillery—troops of the first quality. He also

gave me the 1st Battalion of the York and Lancaster from Aden, although empowered to employ them for the defence of Suakim. Considering all these important services, and his constant readiness to give every assistance in furthering disembarkations, water supply, &c., I think I am justified in stating that it is impossible to over-estimate the services rendered by Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett towards the Tokar Expedition.

I have, &c.,

GERALD GRAHAM, Major-General,
Commanding Tokar Expeditionary Force.

P.S.—My thanks are also due to Lieutenant-General Baker Pasha for the valuable information and assistance rendered by him throughout the operations. General Baker was, I regret to say, severely wounded in the early part of the action, on the 29th February. His wound was in the face, and must have been very painful, notwithstanding which, after getting it dressed, he returned to the field, and only at the end of the action could I persuade him to retire to the base.

Inclosure.

To Sheikh Khadr and Sheikhs of Tribes around Tokar.

I summon you for the last time to make submission to me to-morrow morning, or the consequences will be on your own heads.

I have already told you that the English Government is not at war with the Arab Tribes, but it is determined not to allow warriors to collect near Tokar and Suakim. You should send delegates to treat with Gordon Pasha at Khartoum as to the settlement of your affairs.

You have seen to-day the beginning of what results from your opposing the English, who did not fire upon you until you commenced. To-morrow is your last opportunity for submitting.

MY LORD,

Tokar, March 3, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to report on the operations subsequent to the action of the 29th February, which has been made the subject of a separate Despatch.

At the conclusion of that action Brigadier-General Stewart reported to me that his horses were too much exhausted to pursue the enemy, and I accordingly made all necessary arrangements for the troops taking up a defensive position for bivouac near the wells; sending out search parties to bring in the dead and wounded.

Having established communication by heliograph with Fort Baker, orders were given for all supplies, including tents and surgical appliances for the wounded, to be sent up immediately; all of which were received before nightfall.

The same day, I addressed a letter to the rebel chiefs, who, from information I received from some prisoners we had taken, were said to be still in Tokar; one of the prisoners volunteered to take this letter, and went off with it about 7 P.M.

A copy of this letter, by inadvertence, accompanied my Despatch of the 2nd instant. On the following morning, the 1st March, I made all necessary arrangements for the security of the wounded, having an entrenchment constructed which was armed with two of the captured Krupp guns and brass howitzers. The post was left in charge of Colonel Green and 400 of the 1st Royal Highlanders, with instructions to send out a burial party and escort to the field of General Baker's battle, with two of his European orderlies, who had been present, so that the bodies of the Europeans killed might be properly interred.

The bodies of the Arabs killed in the action of the 29th were also to be buried, and all necessary sanitary precautions taken.

The force marched off in the direction of Tokar a little before 10 A.M. in the following formation:—

The front line was composed of the 2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers, the 1st York and Lancaster, and the Royal Marines; the rear line was formed by the 1st Gordon Highlanders; the flanks by the 3rd King's Royal Rifles, and the remainder of the 1st Black Watch.

The battalions moved in the same formation as on the previous day, but having learnt by experience that the desperate charges of the Arab rebels were futile against steady fire of Infantry, I gave much greater freedom of action by leaving 30 paces intervals between the battalions of the front line and between half battalions of the rear line, which was kept further back as a reserve, thereby giving plenty of space for the transport animals, which, as on the previous day, were limited to those required for ammunition and surgical appliances. I was informed by prisoners and spies that the rebels were still in force at Tokar, and took every precaution against an attack, Cavalry scouts being sent out on my front and flanks, the main body being kept in rear.

The day became hot, and frequent halts were necessary to rest the men, the toil of the Naval Brigade being very heavy.

About 1.30 P.M., a report came in from the Officer Commanding Cavalry picquet in front that Tokar was in view, about four miles ahead. Finding the men very tired and thirsty I sent back a troop of 19th Hussars to bring up camels with water, and about 2.15 P.M. I got the following report from Major Gough, 10th Hussars, the Officer in command at the front:—

"Shots have been fired from Tokar on my scouts; the walls are loop-holed; I fancy the place is strongly held."

On receipt of this, I despatched an order to Teb to bring up all reserve ammunition, forage, and water for the whole force, and moved slowly on to the right of Tokar, which Major Wood, R.E., whom I had sent on reconnaissance duty with the Cavalry, reported as the most favourable point for an assault.

It was 4.15 P.M. before this point was reached, and I then rode forward with the Cavalry towards Tokar, and was met by a detachment bringing in some of the garrison, whom I found streaming out of the town with strong demonstrations of delight at our arrival, the men firing off their rifles into the air and the women keeping up the peculiar shrill Arab substitute for a cheer.

I was told that many of the beaten rebels had passed through the town the previous night, acknowledging to a severe defeat and loss of at least 1,500 men.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ardagh then, by my direction, proceeded to collect information from the principal inhabitants, which he has embodied in a report, which I append. It appears that the garrison of the place and the civil population amount altogether to about 700, and that all were anxious to escape from Bedouin oppression. I, therefore, telegraphed to you for instructions, suggesting that these people should be sent to Suakim under Admiral Hewett.

The troops were put in bivouac outside the town, no men being allowed to enter unless on special duty.

Four wells were found outside sufficient for

present wants, and the convoy ordered up arrived about 10 P.M.

Early on the following day, the 2nd March, I proceeded, with a squadron of Cavalry and the Mounted Infantry, to examine some villages, said to contain more Egyptian soldiers and some arms left by the rebels.

In one of them there were found 1,250 Remington rifles, besides a brass gun, a Gatling, and a quantity of ammunition. The rifles I ordered to be destroyed and the ammunition buried. This was done, as stated in accompanying report. It being thus evident that the rebels in this part have no further intention of fighting, I gave orders for the remainder of the 1st Battalion Black Watch and 3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifles to march off to Teb and Fort Baker respectively.

During the day I received a letter from Admiral Hewett, informing me that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to withdraw the Tokar garrison, and I accordingly gave instructions that preparations should be made for commencing the withdrawal the following morning. Admiral Hewett also mentioned his wish to have the Royal Marines and Naval Brigade as soon as possible; accordingly this morning both were marched off, and the withdrawal of the Tokar garrison was commenced, a train of 208 camels being furnished from the transport branch for that purpose.

All arrangements have been made for withdrawing the whole of the remaining force tomorrow, and I hope to concentrate at Trinkitat on the 5th inst., as I telegraphed to you this morning.

I have, &c.,

G. GRAHAM, Major-General,
Commanding Tokar Expeditionary Force.

Inclosure No. 1.

From the Chief Intelligence Department to the General Officer Commanding Soudan Field Force.

The Evacuation of Tokar

SIR, *Tokar, March 4, 1884.*

ON arriving at Tokar at 4.15 on the 1st March, I immediately proceeded to interrogate the principal persons of the town.

It appears that the Arabs of the Hassanab, Artiga, Kumailab, Demilab, and Hadendowa tribes began acts of hostility about six months since, partly, in consequence of their discontent at the Egyptian Government, by which they alleged that they were oppressed and overtaxed, and mainly in consequence of the pressure put upon them by the Mahdi through Osman Digna, his representative on the Red Sea coast, formerly a trader at Suakim. The local chief in the neighbourhood of Tokar is named Khadr, he directed operations under the orders of Osman Digna.

The Wekil or civil governor of the town is named Mekkawi Ibrahim. He is an Egyptian, and has been 14 years in Suakim, Sinkat, and Tokar.

The officer commanding the troops is named Yakoub Kiamil. He is a Circassian, and appears to have shown a good deal of skill in putting the town into a state of defence.

After the massacre of the Egyptians on the 4th February at Teb, Khadr informed Yakoub that all the arms and stores of Baker Pasha's force had fallen into his hands, and he pressed the garrison to surrender, promising that they would be treated well. Khadr also began to bombard the town with the Krupp guns which he had captured, but as the Arabs did not understand the fuzes, their shells did not burst, and were unscrewed by the garrison and their bursting

charges made up into cartridges for the two brass mountain guns in the place.

The garrison and the Arabs appear to have been in constant communication with one another, there being in the town many who were disposed to side with the latter. Among them was a religious sheikh named Said Abou Bekr of the Ashraf tribe, who appears to be a sensible person, of moderate views, and much esteemed.

This sheikh appears to have been the chief intermediary between Khadr and the garrison, and the negotiations for surrender were carried on by him.

They surrendered on the 21st February, having then 15 cartridges for each of the two Krupp guns, and 20 boxes of small-arm ammunition; plenty of doura but no animals, but 15 to 20 camels and 20 to 30 donkeys belonging to the inhabitants, who sold camel meat to the garrison at famine prices.

Ahmed Aouly, a cousin of Khadr, of the Hassanab tribe, was then named governor, and a good many Arabs came into the town. Notwithstanding their promises of friendship the Arabs oppressed the inhabitants, taking away their money, valuables, and property, and ill-using them. The arrival of the British expedition was well known to the Arabs, and the tribes collected at Tokar and Teb to oppose it. Osman Digna also sent down a contingent of about 700 men from Sinkat.

Abdallah, a sheikh of the Demilab tribe, was in command, and on the day of the battle, all with the exception of about 20 who were left to keep the town quiet, went down to Andar-Teb. Their numbers are variously estimated at from four to six thousand. The latter figure is, I apprehend, nearest the truth. They took down with them their women and children, the women carried water, provisions, and hatchets to kill the wounded. A full corporal of Egyptian Artillery, named Fadlallah Risk, went with their guns willingly, and a corporal and three men of Artillery were dragged down against their will and compelled to work the guns by fear of death. Three of them got away, of whom one was badly and another slightly wounded.

It was about two o'clock in the afternoon when groups of fugitives began to pass Tokar, and the stream of them continued all through the night until the morning of the 1st. They spoke but little of their defeat, but were evidently thoroughly dispirited, and abandoned in haste all the arms, ammunition, and loot which they had taken from Baker's force in a village named Dubbeh, about three miles from Tokar, where it was taken on the morning of the 2nd by a force of Cavalry, which you, Sir, detailed for that purpose. A Gatling and a mountain gun, a quantity of entrenching tools, and the debris of the rifled baggage of the British Officers who accompanied General Baker were recovered there also.

It appears that when the news was brought, on the morning of the 1st, that the English Army was on its way to Tokar, the Arabs, before leaving, proposed to kill all the Egyptians, and were with difficulty dissuaded from doing so by the intercession of Sheikh Said Abou Bekr, whom I thanked in your name for his conduct in the matter.

Khadr himself was at Tokar, but with only 200 or 300, the rest being that morning at Dubbeh or Fafeet, which latter village was his usual residence, and whither most of the fugitives went. A dromedary was despatched by Khadr to Osman Digna, the moment the defeat was known, on the evening of the 29th, to ask re-

inforcements, but since then nothing has been heard of what Osman intends to do. The tribes with Khadr retired from Fafeet towards the mountains.

Writings and charms, purporting to give immunity to the wearer, had been issued to the warriors by Khadr, and on their bringing the news of their utter inefficacy, and of the great slaughter, many freely accused the Mahdi of being a fraudulent impostor. Khadr, however, explained that there had, unfortunately, been some error in the wording of the charms; and that, on the next occasion he would issue properly written ones, which would give them perfect security against bullets.

The number of killed at Andar-Teb they estimate at 1,500. Major Wood counted 825 bodies, and Colonel Colvile 770, both considering that there must have been many which they did not see.

The Egyptians in Tokar, whether soldiers or civilians or exiles, all, with one accord, desired to be conveyed away. They were warned that it would probably be decided to remove them, and directed to be in readiness to depart.

The following is a return of the population by professions, divided into adult males and women and children:—

	Men	Families of women and children.
Merchants and Traders ..	14	17
Exiles	104	5
Fellaheen cultivators ...	63	90
Regular Soldiers ...	129	175
Bashi-Bazouks ...	14	10
Employés	2	8
	326	305
Total souls in Tokar ...	631	
Add Debbeh Fafeet and villages	70	
Grand Total Egyptians...	701	

These people are of all races and colours, and appear to be wretched and indolent, but only too glad to be delivered from their oppressors.

It is a noticeable fact that although many of them are connected with the Arabs by marriage, not a single soul desired to stay.

On the evening of the 2nd March you authorized their transport to Trinkitat for embarkation. Next morning 113 camels with 260 souls marched out at 9 o'clock, and were followed by 95 camels and 347 souls at 10.45.

At 7 A.M. on the 4th March last the caravan of refugees, numbering 34 men, 48 women and children, and 21 camels left Tokar, the grand total being 689 souls.

The complete evacuation of Tokar was thus effected.

I have, &c.,

J. C. ARDAGH, Lieut.-Colonel,

D.A.Q.M.G., Intelligence Department.

Inclosure No. 2.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Liddell, 10th Royal Hussars, to the Brigadier Major, Cavalry Brigade, Soudan Field Force.

SIR, Tokar, March 2, 1884.

WITH reference to the orders I received this day, I have the honour to state that I proceeded with two squadrons 10th Royal Hussars, and the Mounted Infantry to the villages lately occupied

by the enemy, and under orders, I destroyed 1,250 Remington rifles, guns and pistols, bayonets, &c. I buried 13,000 rounds of rifle ammunition.

12 camels only were supplied to convey the remainder to camp, and these were laden with the property of English Officers who accompanied Baker Pasha, boxes of rifle ammunition as per margin,* and the men of the 10th Royal Hussars brought in one Gatling gun complete, and one mounted gun.

Amongst a great deal of other things I was unable to remove were about 350 boxes of Remington rifle ammunition containing 120 rounds each, 1 sack of ditto, 1 large box ditto, 12 boxes of shell, 5 boxes of rockets, &c., and I had not the means to destroy them. Also an enormous quantity of entrenching tools.

I have, &c.,

R. J. LIDDELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Forwarded, 10th Royal Hussars.
HERBERT STEWART, Brigadier-General,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade.

2. 3. 84.

Inclosure No. 3.

From Major F. T. Lloyd, Commanding Royal Artillery, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Tokar Field Force.

Trinkitat, March 4, 1884.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

IN compliance with instructions received from you yesterday, I beg to report that yesterday I buried 43 boxes of ammunition at Tokar, containing approximately 80,000 rounds of Remington small-arm ammunition, and about 12 rounds of Krupp ammunition; the latter was buried.

The spot was carefully levelled, the ammunition buried about two feet deep.

F. T. LLOYD, Major,
Commanding Royal Artillery.

From Major-General Sir G. Graham, Commanding Expeditionary Force, to the Secretary of State for War.

MY LORD, *Suakim, March 8, 1884.*

IN continuation of my despatch, sent you on 5th instant, I have the honour to report that on that day I proceeded, with Admiral Hewett, to Suakim, having previously informed you of my movements by telegram. Before leaving Trinkitat, orders were given by the Admiral and myself to proceed with the re-embarkation as rapidly as possible, sending ships to Suakim, where further instructions would be given. After conferring with Admiral Hewett, I telegraphed to you, informing you that we had issued a joint proclamation (copy annexed†), calling on rebel chiefs to come in, and recommending that troops be disembarked at Suakim and marched to rebel camp.

During night your approval to this course arrived, and on following day, the 6th instant, I laid out the ground for camp with Major-General Davis, and arranged for water supply with Admiral Hewett. By night the following troops, &c., had been landed, and were under canvas:—1st Battalion Royal Highlanders; 1st

Battalion York and Lancaster; 10th Hussars, with horses; 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers; half Royal Engineer Company, with materials; 80 camels. The sailors under Captain Rolfe, worked with their usual spirit and efficiency, and a good storage of water commenced. A pier was constructed by a native working party, under Major Haggard, of the Egyptian Army, between daybreak and noon, which was of great service. On the 7th instant, I returned to Trinkitat with Admiral Hewett, and made final arrangements for completing the clearance of all troops and stores, under Major-General Buller and Captain Andoe, R.N.

During the day, the Sheikh of the friendly tribes, Mahmoud Ali Bey, with 100 of his followers, entered the town, and this afternoon the Sheikh was brought before the Admiral and me, in the presence of the Sheikh Morganeh, and questioned as to his proceedings, Mr. Brewster acting as interpreter. He objected to issuing the proclamation to the rebels, as he thinks it would look as if the Government were afraid of them, and appears to think that they should be killed first and pardoned afterwards.

We, however, directed him to issue the proclamation of pardon to the rebels, telling him that it was perfectly indifferent to the British Government whether it was thought to be afraid or not, adding that if the guns, of which five, including one Krupp, are said to be in Osman Digna's camp were not delivered, I should march out the whole force to the camp, seize them, shooting down any men who might oppose us. The disembarkation of the 19th Hussars and transport animals was carried during the night under a bright moon.

10th March.—On the evening of the 8th instant, in consequence of a despatch from Sir E. Baring, it was thought advisable by Admiral Hewett and myself to issue another proclamation to the rebel chiefs in arms at Tamanib, of which a copy is attached.* This was for the purpose of giving them full warning of my intention of marching to the rebel camp, and of treating all found in arms as rebels. A defiant reply to both these proclamations was received last night, of which a translation by Mr. Brewster is annexed.† In the meantime all preparations for the advance have been pushed on, the work of disembarkation proceeding all night in the bright moonlight. Yesterday I inspected a zeriba made by General Baker Pasha, about 9 miles in advance, being halfway to Osman Digna's camp. This morning I have sent out the 1st Bn. Royal Highlanders to occupy it, and to furnish necessary fatigue parties for improving defences and unloading convoys.

I regret to have to report that, owing to the unexpected heat, five cases of sunstroke occurred on the road. As fatigue parties will be required again to-night for the completion of the disembarkation, I have decided to give the troops a day's rest to-morrow, and to advance at 3 A.M. on Wednesday, 12th instant.

March 11.—The cases of sunstroke among the Royal Highlanders turned out to be exceedingly slight. I have directed a mounted reconnaissance to be made to-morrow from the zeriba towards Osman Digna's camp. Another reconnaissance will be made from Suakim along the Berber road this day.

I have, &c.,

GERALD GRAHAM, Major-General,
Commanding Expeditionary Force.

* Destroyed—1,250 Remington rifles, 4 pistols, 6 double-barrel guns. Property brought in—Private property; 43 boxes of rifle ammunition. Arms, &c., not brought in—350 boxes of Remington rifle ammunition, 1 sack of ditto, 1 large box ditto, 12 boxes of shell, 5 boxes of rockets, &c., entrenching tools.

† Inclosure No. 1.

* Inclosure No. 2.

† Inclosure No. 3.

Inclosure No. 1.
PROCLAMATION.

WE, the English Admiral and General, ask the Sheikhs to come and meet us at Suakim.

We warned you that England had come to relieve Tokar, and that your wrongs, under which you had so long suffered, should be redressed.

You trusted in the notorious scoundrel Osman Digna, who is well known to you all as a bad man; his former life in Suakim has shown it. He has led you away with the foolish idea that the Mahdi had come on earth.

We tell you that the Great God that rules the Universe does not allow such scoundrels as Osman Digna to rule over men.

Your people are weak, and England always spares such people.

Awake, then, out of your delusions. Chase Osman Digna from your country, and we promise that you shall be protected, and pardon granted to all.

Come in at once, or the fate of those who fell at El-Teb will surely overtake you.

W. HEWETT, Rear-Admiral.
G. GRAHAM, Major-General.

5th March, 1884.

Inclosure No. 2.

To the Sheikhs of the Tribes in Arms at Tamanir.

WE, the Admiral of the English Fleet and the General of the English Army assembled at Suakim, hereby summon you to disperse peaceably and return to your homes.

The English Army will march to your camp, in the valley of Tamanib, and will treat any who may be found there in arms as rebels, in the same way as those at Teb were treated.

Be warned in time, and listen no more to the evil counsels of Osman Digna. If you have wrongs to be redressed send delegates to Khartoum to meet Gordon Pasha, who, as you all know is a good and just man.

If you desire to send your delegates to us, we promise to keep them from harm, and to send their statements by telegraph to Gordon Pasha, from whom we can have an answer for you in a day.

We desire you to send a reply by the bearer; or the consequences will be on your own heads.

Inclosure No. 3.
(Translation).

IN the name of the most merciful God, the Lord be praised, the gracious God, pray to the prophet our lord Mohamed and his people.

From the whole of the tribes and the sheikhs who received your writings, and those who did not receive them, to the Commandant of the English soldiers, God help them to Islam. Amen.

Then your letters have arrived with us, and what you have informed us in them to come over (or deliver), then know that the most gracious God has sent his Mahdi suddenly, who was expected, the looked-for messenger for the religious, and against the infidel, so as to show the religion of God through him, which has happened. You may have seen who have gone to him from the people and soldiers, who are countless, God killed them, so look at the multitudes. Verses of the Koran.

You hate God from the beginning who never know religion until after death. Then we are sure that God and God only sent the Mahdi, so as to take away your property, and you know this since the time of our lord Mohamed's coming.

(Pray to him to be converted). There is nothing between us but the sword, especially as the Mahdi has come to kill you unless God wishes you to Islam.

The Mahdi's sword be on your necks wherever you may escape, and God's iron be on your necks wherever you may go.

Do not think that you are enough for us, and the Turks are only a little better than you.

We will not have your heads unless you become Mussulmans and listen to the Prophet and the laws of God. And God said in his dear book, those who believe him fight for him, and those who do not believe him shall be killed. Here follow verses from Koran referring to it being permitted to kill infidels.

Therefore, God has waited for you for a long time, and you have thought that he would always go on waiting for you. God said he would wait for you as you were bad people; but, know that during the time of the Mahdi, he will not accept bribes from you, and also will not leave you in your infidelity, so there is nothing for you but the sword, so that there will not remain one of you on the face of the earth. Therefore, Islam.

Sealed by the Sheikhs of the following tribes:—Hahalab, Samelab, Humdab, Omrah, Abdel Rahnamab, Bischariab, Shebidinab, Sherab, Meshab, Samarab, Gidab, Mohamed el Amim, Ahmed el Kullhabi, Sheikh of Khorahad, and eight other Sheikhs.

ALF. B. BREWSTER.

Sub-Governor, &c.

The original is returned herewith.

A. B. B.

Admiralty, March 26, 1884.

A DESPATCH and its Enclosures, of which the following are copies, have been received from Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the East Indies, dated on board of Her Majesty's Ship "Euryalus," 13th March, 1884, at Suakin:—

"Euryalus," at Suakin,

March 13, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to request that you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the following report on the proceedings of the squadron of Her Majesty's ships under my command, in connection with the expedition for the relief of Tokar, and on the duties which devolved on the officers and men during the landing and subsequent re-embarkation of Her Majesty's troops.

1. On account of the difficulties of navigating amongst the surrounding reefs, except during the hours of daylight, I considered it advisable to arrange a rendezvous for the troopships and transports off Ras Makdah, an anchorage distant three miles from the port of disembarkation, which proved most convenient.

2. On the 23rd February, during my absence at Trinkatat, Major-General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., K.C.B., who had been appointed to command the expedition, arrived at Suakin. On the following day I returned to Trinkatat in the "Sphinx," accompanied by the General and his staff; on my arrival there the disembarkation of the troops had already commenced.

3. Owing to the stranding and subsequent loss of the transport "Neera," a number of dhows and lighters, intended to assist in the disembarkation, did not arrive at Trinkatat till a day later than they should have done, thus causing some delay.

On the 27th February, however, the landing was completed, and on the following day the force advanced.

4. At General Graham's request I landed a battery of six machine guns with 13 officers and 150 seamen, and placed this force under the command of Commander Ernest N. Rolfe, an officer whom I specially selected for his tact, coolness under fire, and knowledge of native warfare. I beg to enclose that officer's report on the services performed by the brigade under his command, as well as a copy of the order issued, after the relief of Tokar, by the General Officer Commanding the expedition, in which the services of the Navy receive a highly appreciated recognition.

5. The battalion of Royal Marines having been placed under the provisions of the Army Act, their valuable services, while duly recorded by the military authorities, have also been specially brought to my notice, with those of the Naval Brigade, in a letter which I have received from Sir Gerald Graham, a copy of which it gives me great pleasure to enclose for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

6. I regret deeply the loss of Lieutenant Frank M. Royds, of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," and of the three seamen who lost their lives in the engagement at Teb on the 29th February.

7. It will afford their Lordships satisfaction that Captain Arthur Knyvet Wilson, of Her Majesty's ship "Hecla," should have distinguished himself by an act of gallantry which has called from Brigadier-General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., so high a recognition as a recommendation for the distinction of the Victoria Cross. The gallant conduct of Captain Wilson is set forth in a Despatch from Sir Redvers Buller, endorsed by the General Officer commanding, and I beg most cordially to add to the opinion of those distinguished officers the expression of my own, based on my personal observation, that Captain Wilson has most deservedly earned the decoration of the Victoria Cross.

8. The landing and subsequent embarkation of the troops at Trinkatat reflect very much credit on all engaged, and I cannot speak too highly of the energy and zeal shown by both officers and men.

9. I would specially bring to their Lordships' notice the name of Captain Hilary G. Andoe, of Her Majesty's ship "Orontes," to whose indefatigable efforts, in his position as Principal Transport Officer, is due much of the success which attended the work of the department which he controlled.

10. To Captain Walter Stewart, of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," and Captain Uvedale C. Singleton, Her Majesty's ship "Jumna," my thanks are due for the very efficient manner in which they carried out, at different times, the duties of Senior Officer at Trinkatat, and to Captain Andrew J. Kennedy, of Her Majesty's ship "Briton," for his able superintendence of the re-embarkation of the troops.

11. Lieutenant William D. Morrish, whom I appointed to act as Beachmaster, was most untiring in the execution of his difficult duty. This officer displayed the greatest amount of tact towards all with whom he was brought in contact, and I would most strongly recommend him to their Lordships as an officer who, apart from his high standing on the list of Lieutenants, is one well worthy of promotion to the rank of Commander.

12. I beg also to bring to their Lordships' notice the admirable arrangements which were made for the reception and treatment of the sick

and wounded on board Her Majesty's ships "Orontes" and "Jumna," the credit for which is due Staff-Surgeon Robert Grant and Fleet-Surgeon James Trimble, of those ships respectively.

I have, &c.,

W. HEWETT, Rear-Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Naval Brigade.—Report of Proceedings.

H.M.S. "Euryalus,"

Suakin, March 4, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 26th February, in compliance with your orders, I assumed the command of a Naval Brigade which was to accompany the expeditionary force for the relief of Tokar, and reported myself to Major-General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., K.C.B. The details of the Brigade under my command are set forth in Enclosure No. 1.

2. The Brigade remained encamped at Trinkatat until 2.30 o'clock on the afternoon of the 28th, when, agreeably with orders received from the General Officer commanding, it moved on to Fort Baker. On arrival at Fort Baker the various arms of the expeditionary force bivouacked in the positions which it was intended that they should occupy during the march on the following day. The Naval Brigade, manning a battery of three Gardner (0.45) and three Gatling (0.45) guns marched in half batteries, resting on the right and left flanks of the Gordon Highlanders, and, with that regiment, formed the front of the square.

3. Soon after 8 A.M. of the following day the force marched in the direction of El Teb. At about 10.50 A.M. the enemy commenced firing on the left flank of the square from two 6-in. Krupp guns, mounted in an earthwork; fire was also opened by them with small arms. The square continued to advance until eleven o'clock, by which time it had passed the earthwork by a short distance. An attack on this earthwork was then made by the left flank of the square; the three machine guns of the left half battery formed columns of sub-divisions. During the execution of this manœuvre Lieutenant Frank M. Royds, of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," received a dangerous wound, which I deeply regret to report has since proved mortal.

At 11.30 A.M. I was directed to bring the left half battery into action to assist in silencing the fire from the guns in a fort on the right. This I did, firing the guns in succession from the right and continuing to fire and advance alternately, on the right of the York and Lancaster Regiment, until close to the fort. At this period the enemy made a sortie in force and I was obliged to use all three guns, working independently under their officers, the men not actually engaged at the guns formed a covering party, commanded by Lieutenant Walter H. B. Graham, your Flag Lieutenant.

The direction of our attack was then altered, and I was directed to move the left half battery to the left of the York and Lancaster Regiment, and to bring up from the right half battery (which up to this time had been in reserve under Lieutenant Houston Stewart) two Gardner guns under Lieutenant Crawford J. M. Conybeare. These two guns were placed in a position to the right of the centre of the Gordon Highlanders, and the whole force then moved on to attack the entrenchments, opening fire on the enemy whenever opportunity offered until the place was evacuated at 2.15 P.M. I then received orders to cease fire, the guns were therefore limbered up and the battery advanced

with the infantry who continued to fire at the enemy as they moved on.

At three o'clock the action ceased generally, and after a halt the men were marched off to the places assigned for their bivouac.

4. In addition to the loss of Lieutenant Royds, I regret that during the engagement Samuel Marston, leading seaman, was killed, John Beard, A.B., received a mortal wound, Your interpreter, Adam Moussa, was also severely wounded. A list of all casualties amongst the officers and men under my command is attached hereto. (No. 2.)

5. I beg here to bring to your notice the highly commendable conduct of the petty officer and seamen, named in the margin,* belonging to Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," who volunteered to carry Lieutenant Royds to his ship at Trinkatat. These men, although they had already undergone a long march, and been in action over three hours, proceeded to Trinkatat, a distance of over five miles, with their wounded officer, in order that he might receive better care and treatment than was available in the field. Mr. Thomas D. Gimlette, Surgeon, accompanied the party, and the whole returned to Teb on the following morning in time to march with the brigade for Tokar. Before quitting Tokar on the 3rd instant, the General Officer Commanding expressed to me officially his high appreciation of this conduct, and desired me to communicate the same to the men. This I did.

6. At 9.30, on the morning of the 1st instant, the battery under my command moved with the rest of the troops in the direction of Tokar, which was reached at four P.M. No resistance was offered to an occupation of the village, such of the rebels as had fled thither after their defeat at Teb having left again on our approach. During the 2nd instant, the brigade remained bivouacked at Tokar, and on the following morning marched for Teb. Here an hour's halt was made, and the march was then resumed to Fort Baker, which was reached soon after four P.M. On the morning of the 4th, the brigade was moved to Trinkatat, the men belonging to Her Majesty's ships "Hecla," "Carysfort," "Briton," and "Sphinx," embarking on board their own ships, while those of the "Euryalus" and "Dryad" were conveyed in the "Humber" to this port, and transferred on arrival to their own ships.

7. I have great pleasure in bringing to your notice the high state of discipline, and the steadiness under fire, which were exhibited by the brigade under my command.

8. My thanks are due to Lieutenant Walter H. B. Graham, my second in command, for the able assistance which he rendered me during the operations.

9. The left half battery came more directly under my personal observation and supervision, and I have every reason to be pleased with the manner in which Lieutenant Walter B. Almack commanded his men. I consider him a very able gunnery officer.

13. The right half battery was commanded by Lieutenant Houston Stewart, and I cannot too highly express the satisfaction which I felt with the manner in which that officer commanded his men while they were compelled to remain inactive under a severe fire, and with the readiness and ability which he evinced when ordered to bring

them into action. I consider that his own personal coolness conducted very materially to that of his men.

11. Lieutenant William H. H. Montresor performed the duties of Adjutant during the whole time the Brigade was landed. His work in that capacity was necessarily very arduous, but he was most zealous and energetic in the performance of it, and in his dealings with the men evinced the greatest amount of tact.

12. Mr. Edward M. Hewett, Midshipman, acted as my Aide-de-Camp, and carried all my orders with very much zeal and alacrity, showing great intelligence.

13. The conduct of Mr. Thomas D. Gimlette, Surgeon, calls for very special comment from me. The devotion to duty which this officer displayed has already been instanced by my brief allusion to the service which he performed when accompanying Lieutenant Royds to Trinkatat, and I must say that the same spirit which prompted him in that matter actuated him also throughout the whole time he was with the Brigade, and made him conspicuous for zeal as well as for personal coolness during the action at Teb, on the 29th February, where his attention to the wounded was beyond praise.

14. Mr. Horace F. Harrison Smith, Assistant-Paymaster, performed the duties of Quartermaster to the Brigade most satisfactorily, and in action did duty as my Aide-de-Camp. I cannot too highly praise his conduct in every respect.

I have, &c.,

E. ROLFE, Commander.

Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, V.C.,
K.C.B., K.C.S.I., Commander-
in-Chief, East Indies.

Enclosure No. 1.

Detail of Officers and men of Naval Brigade attached to the Expeditionary Force for relief of Tokar (amended to date of marching from Fort Baker, 29th February):—

- 1 Commander.
- 6 Lieutenants.
- 1 Sub-Lieutenant.
- 1 Surgeon.
- 1 Assistant-Paymaster.
- 1 Gunner.
- 2 Midshipmen.
- 151 Petty Officers, Seamen, &c.
- 3 Gardner Guns '45"
- 3 Gatling Guns '45".

The following persons were attached for transport duties:—

- 1 Corporal, 11 troopers, 19th Hussars.
- 1 Corporal, 4 Privates, King's Royal Rifles.
- 1 Native Officer, 11 Privates (Egyptian) as Muleteers.

E. ROLFE, Commander.

Enclosure No. 2

Naval Brigade.—List of Casualties during the action at Teb, on 29th February, 1884:—

- Lieutenant Frank C. Royds, mortally wounded, died 1st March, on board Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort."
- Samuel Marston, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Dryad," killed.
- Joseph Beard, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Briton," mortally wounded, died 2nd March.
- James Murray, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus," seriously wounded.
- Alfred Rewell, Captain Fore Top, Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," seriously wounded.

* John Woodward, Captain Main Top, Charles Curry, Carpenter's Mate, Jos. Spickenell, Plumber's Mate, William Wheeler, A.B., W. Lambert, A.B., W. Brazier, A.B., C. Solitt, A.B., Jos. Perman, A.B., W. Tate, A.B., T. Barnes, A.B., E. Tobin, A.B., R. Nicholls, A.B., W. Woods, A.B.

Jeremiah Sullivan, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus," seriously wounded.
 Thomas Tolman, Boatswain's Mate, Her Majesty's ship "Hecla," seriously wounded.
 James Tickle, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Briton," seriously wounded.
 William Bethell, Captain Mizen Top, Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus," slightly wounded.
 Thomas Maddox, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Dryad," slightly wounded.
 Francis Glanville, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus," slightly wounded.
 Alexander Grieve, A.B., Her Majesty's ship "Euryalus," slightly wounded.
 Adam Moussa, Interpreter, severely wounded.
 E. ROLFE, Commander.

From Major-General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., K.C.B., Commanding Tokar Expeditionary Force, to Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., Commanding East Indian Station.

SIR, *Tokar, March 3, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Naval Brigade, with Gatlings and Gardner guns, under Commander Rolfe, R.N., and the force of Royal Marine Artillery and Light Infantry, under Colonel Tuson, C.B., R.M.A., marched off this morning for Fort Baker, which place they will reach this evening, and report to you at Trinkatat to-morrow.

In parting with this force, which you so generously placed at my disposal, at a time when you were weak handed and threatened with an attack on Suakin, I feel bound to report to you on the admirable conduct of the officers and men composing it, and to endeavour to express my high sense of the services it has rendered and the important part it has taken in contributing to the success of the expedition.

The Naval Brigade showed all the traditional qualities of the British sailor, and I cannot fully express my admiration at the hearty cheery way in which they went through the tremendous toil of dragging their guns through the rough and heavy ground, and at their gallantry in action when they kept up with the front line of infantry and defended their own guns, repulsing the enemy's desperate charges in hand to hand combat.

Brigadier-General Buller has brought to my notice an act of gallantry witnessed by him in one of these encounters with the enemy, and I beg to enclose his report and endorse his recommendation that the name of Captain Wilson, R.N., Her Majesty's ship "Hecla," should, with your approval, be submitted to the Lords of the Admiralty for the distinction of the Victoria Cross.

Commander Rolfe, R.N., commanding the Naval Brigade, gave me great satisfaction by the perfect coolness and ready promptitude with which he worked his guns.

Sharing their toilsome march on foot, Commander Rolfe showed great consideration for them on the march, and when in action directed their movements, so that with abundance of dash there was no flurry or confusion, every man showing perfect confidence in his commander, his officers, and his comrades.

Commander Rolfe has brought to my notice the names of Lieutenant Graham, second in command, of Lieutenant Montresor, who acted as Adjutant, and of Mr. E. M. Hewett, Midshipman, his Aide-de-Camp.

Mr. Thomas Gimlette, Surgeon, is also mentioned by Captain Rolfe as having been most

assiduous in his attendance on the wounded, and as having shown great energy throughout.

The guns were admirably worked under the immediate orders of Lieutenants Almack, Conybeare, and Houston Stewart. Brigadier-General Buller also specially noticed Mr. R. A. Cathie, Gunner of Her Majesty's ship "Sphinx."

I beg that you will bring to the notice of the Lords of the Admiralty the admirable manner in which the Royal Marine Artillery and Light Infantry were handled by Colonel Tuson, R.M.A., and the steadiness and gallantry of the officers and men under fire.

I have as yet received no report from Colonel Tuson, but I beg to bring to your notice the readiness and gallantry of Major Tucker, R.M.A., who, on the first Krupp guns being captured, immediately turned them on the enemy and worked them with great effect.

I have, &c.,

G. GRAHAM, Major-General.

P.S.—Major Tucker, R.M.A., was left in charge of the captured guns at Teb, and has been directed to bring them in to Trinkatat.

I enclose a copy of a General Order I issued to the troops before withdrawal from Tokar.

From Brigadier-General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., &c., Commanding 1st Infantry Brigade, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters, Tokar Expeditionary Force.

Camp, Teb,

SIR, *March 1, 1884.*

I HAVE the honour to bring to the notice of the Major-General commanding the following distinguished act of bravery which came under my observation yesterday, which I would recommend as worthy of being submitted to the Lords of the Admiralty for the distinction of the Victoria Cross.

Captain Wilson, R.N., Her Majesty's ship "Hecla," on the Staff of Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, V.C., K.C.B., attached himself during the advance on the Krupp Battery yesterday to the right half battery, Naval Brigade, in the place of Lieutenant Royds, R.N., dangerously wounded.

As we closed on the battery the enemy moved out on the corner of the square, and upon the gun detachment who were dragging the Gardner gun. Captain Wilson sprang to the front and joined for a second or two in single combat with some of the enemy, protecting his detachment till some men of the York and Lancaster Regiment assisted him with their bayonets.

But for the action of Captain Wilson I think one or more of his detachment must have been speared.

Captain Wilson was wounded, but remained with the half battery during the day.

I have, &c.,

REDVERS BULLER, Brigadier-General
 Commanding 1st Infantry Brigade.

GENERAL ORDER 9.

Camp, Tokar, March 2, 1884.

The object of the expedition has now been achieved. Tokar has been relieved, the rebels in arms have been defeated, and so thoroughly humbled, that the force before Tokar may be safely reduced.

Before the force is thus broken up, the Major-General Commanding desires to record his sense of the efficiency, gallantry, endurance, and good discipline by all arms of the force he has had the great honour to command.

The Cavalry showed all the dash and almost reckless gallantry in action that have characterized that arm in our military records. They have also rendered invaluable service in reconnaissance and scouting duties.

The action of the Infantry has been generally characterized by steadiness and firmness in the presence of the enemy.

The first operation, that of moving to a flank under fire, was very trying to the steadiness of young soldiers, as was the extraordinary daring shown by the enemy in charging at close quarters in face of overwhelming fire.

The result of the action at Teb on the 29th February has been to show the British soldier that, as long as he keeps steady in formation and cool in firing, the desperate rushes of these brave blacks only ensures their destruction.

The Arabs have now learnt the terrible effect of the steady fire of British Infantry, and this lesson is one that will not easily be forgotten.

The Major-General thanks the Naval Brigade for their cheerful endurance of the severe work of dragging their machine guns across a difficult

country when suffering from the heat and from an enforced scarcity of water. By their steady gallantry in action, and steadiness in serving their guns under fire, the Naval Brigade contributed materially to the success of the action of the 29th February, and the Major-General Commanding cannot too highly express his sense of their services.

The guns of the Royal Artillery were also admirably served, and, in conjunction with those of the Naval Brigade, succeeded in silencing the enemy's fire, and in preparing the way for the advance of the Infantry.

All Staff and Departmental Officers worked loyally and without sparing themselves; and the supplies of the Army have always been furnished in spite of the difficulty of the communications.

The Major-General is especially glad to record the absence of all crime in the men of the Expeditionary Force which he is very proud to have commanded, and which by its conduct has deserved well of the country.

By Order,
C. F. CLERY, A.A.G.

