

Captain Williams-Freeman, Sussex Regiment, did service as Provost-Marshal to my satisfaction.

Lieutenant Beaumont, 3rd King's Royal Rifles, was in charge of signallers, who proved most useful—I may say indispensable—in sending messages along the line of communications, and (in one instance), to the front.

In my previous Despatch I brought to your notice the valuable services rendered by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Ardagh, as head of the Intelligence Staff, and as Commanding Royal Engineer. The following Officers served in the Intelligence Department under Lieutenant-Colonel Ardagh, C.B., R.E. :—

Major Wood, Royal Engineers.

Captain Green, Royal Engineers (wounded at El-Teb).

Captain Slade, Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel Colville, Grenadier Guards.

All these Officers have rendered most valuable service during the operations, having shown great zeal, energy, and capacity for work, combined with thorough technical knowledge in carrying out the important duties of collecting information, surveying, making reconnaissances, &c.

In my previous Despatch of 3rd March I mentioned the services rendered by General Baker, and I must beg to bring to notice the coolness and gallantry of Colonel Burnaby, Royal Horse Guards, who was attached to the Intelligence Department during the first part of the operations, and who, although severely wounded at El-Teb, continued to do duty until the end of the action.

The officers under Lieutenant-Colonel Ardagh were frequently employed on General Staff duties in addition to their special work in the Intelligence Department. Major Wood rendered good service in charge of water supply. Captain Slade in scouting and leading troops, &c., also did duty as Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General at the action of Tamai.

Sergeant-Major Burke, Military Police, displayed great steadiness and coolness when under fire. He carried the Head-Quarters flag, which he made as conspicuous as possible, and also rendered good service throughout the operations in camp duties.

Sergeant Sherwood, of the Signalling Department, is also favourably mentioned for zeal and efficiency.

Cavalry Brigade.—The Cavalry Brigade was commanded by Brigadier-General H. Stewart, C.B., A.D.C., who has shown all the qualifications of a good leader of cavalry, being cool and daring, or cautious as required in action, also skilful and careful in reconnaissance and outpost duties.

Brigadier-General Stewart speaks highly of the services rendered by Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, the Brigade Major, and by Lieutenant Rhodes, of the 1st Royal Dragoons, Aide-de-Camp.

10th Hussars.—Colonel Wood, who commanded the 10th Hussars, is an excellent Cavalry Officer, as evinced by the energy and ability with which he equipped his splendid regiment from local sources, so as to make it fit to take the field, and by the manner he handled it in action. Brigadier-General Stewart reports Colonel Wood as having rendered him invaluable assistance. Lieutenant-Colonel Liddell and Major Gough have also done good service.

I regret to have had as yet no report from Colonel Wood of the non-commissioned officers and men of the 10th Hussars who distinguished themselves.

19th Hussars.—Lieutenant-Colonel Webster commanded the 19th Hussars, and gave every

assistance in his power to secure the success of the Brigade.

Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow, C.M.G., 19th Hussars, is a most valuable Officer, and his leading of the second line at El-Teb, until he was wounded, is reported by Brigadier-General Stewart as beyond praise.

Captain Jenkins took command of the left wing after Colonel Barrow was wounded. He led the first squadron in the charge, and was personally engaged with three of the enemy at one time, and his horse was wounded in three places with assegais. By his gallantry and conduct this Officer set a good example to all under his command.

Regimental Sergeant-Major Lima, and Quartermaster-Sergeant Marshall, 19th Hussars, set a good example of coolness and courage. The latter is mentioned for his devotion shown in saving the life of Colonel Barrow when that Officer was wounded, and I beg to enclose* evidence reporting this non-commissioned officer's conduct on this occasion, which, I submit, should place him among the candidates for the Victoria Cross.

Sergeant Phipps, who was twice badly wounded, refused to leave the field, and remained with his troop till he fainted from loss of blood.

Troop Sergeant-Major Taylor, Sergeant Fenton, and Private Bosely, 19th Hussars, are also favourably mentioned for gallantry.

Mounted Infantry.—The Mounted Infantry was most efficiently handled on all occasions by Lieutenant and Local Captain Humphreys, the Welsh Regiment. Brigadier-General Stewart reports of this Officer that he cannot speak of him too highly. He was ably assisted by Lieutenant C. H. Payne, of the 1st Gordon Highlanders.

All ranks of the Mounted Infantry displayed great coolness and readiness under fire.

In a letter marked "B" attached, Brigadier-General Stewart mentions the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Marling, 3rd King's Royal Rifles, of the Mounted Infantry, whom he recommends for the distinction of the Victoria Cross.

Privates George Hunter, 3rd King's Royal Rifles, and Joseph Clift, Sussex Regiment, are mentioned for gallantry and devotion at Tamai on 13th March, 1884.

Royal Artillery.—The Royal Artillery at El-Teb consisted of eight 7-pr. naval guns with camel transport, and were commanded by Major F. T. Lloyd, an Officer whose professional knowledge, energy, and judgment have been most valuable.

On return to Suakin four 9-pr. guns were equipped as a mule battery by M Battery, 1st Brigade, Royal Artillery, commanded by Major E. H. Holley, R.A. Major Lloyd specially mentions Major Holley for the ability and energy with which he equipped this 9-pr. battery, entirely from naval sources, for the field, under exceptionally difficult circumstances. These guns were of great service, and Major Holley has proved himself an excellent Artillery Officer in the field.

Captain J. H. Wodehouse, R.A., of the Egyptian Army, who was attached to the camel battery, made himself conspicuous by his energy and ability.

Surgeon Lucas and Veterinary-Surgeon Beech are also favourably mentioned.

Major Lloyd brings specially to my notice the conduct of Gunner W. Hanson, of M Battery, 1st Brigade, Royal Artillery, at the action of

* See Enclosure marked "A."