

1166, Private Joseph Clift, 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, states:—

I was present with my division at the battle of "Tamai" on 13th March, 1884. Just before the enemy made their attack on the square, Private Morley, of my division, was shot and fell.

The order had just been given to us to retire, and the men were running to their horses. I remained to assist Private Morley, and Lieutenant Marling, and Private Hunter, of No. 1 Division (3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifles), immediately came up. Private Hunter dismounted, and we put Morley on the horse, in front of Lieutenant Marling, but he slipped off almost directly. Seeing this, Lieutenant Marling dismounted, and we put him (Morley) across Lieutenant Marling's saddle. Lieutenant Marling and myself held him on, and Private Hunter led the horse.

We succeeded in bringing him away towards the square, which was then coming up.

We placed him near a bush, and I remained with him for a short time, until a stretcher was brought, and he was taken into the square.

JOSEPH CLIFT, Private,  
1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.

Made before me at Handuk, 19-3-84.

H. HUMPHREYS, Captain.

True copy

KENNETH S. BAYNES, Captain,  
Assistant Military Secretary.

Statement of Lieutenant Todd Thornton.

At the battle of Tamai, on 13th instant, I was sent by Captain Humphreys to support Lieutenant Marling on the right of the position which we had taken up. On my arrival at the place where Lieutenant Marling's division was engaged, I found the fire of the enemy was very hot both on our left flank and in front, and as it gradually became hotter, and the square was by this time close up, within about 200 yards, Lieutenant Marling gave the order to the men "to your horses." Just as this occurred, Private Morley of my division was shot on my right; he was then lifted up by Privates Hunter of the Rifles and Clift of the Sussex, and placed in front of Lieutenant Marling on his horse; he, however, fell off almost immediately; Lieutenant Marling then dismounted and gave his horse up for the purpose of carrying off Private Morley, the enemy pressing close on to them, and they succeeded in carrying him about 80 yards towards the square, by which time the fire had slackened, and we were all in comparative safety.

F. TODD THORNTON, Lieutenant,  
1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment,  
Mounted Infantry.

True copy,

KENNETH S. BAYNES, Captain,  
Assistant Military Secretary.

11th April, 1884.

No. 3356, Private George Hunter, 3rd King's Royal Rifles, states:—

I was present at the battle of "Tamai," on 13th March, 1884, with my division. No. 4 Division (1st Royal Sussex) was also with us. We were under a very hot fire just before the attack on the square by the rebels, and were just on the point of retiring to get out of the way of the square, when I saw Private Morley, of the Sussex Division, fall wounded. The order—"To your horses," had been given, and we were all going to our horses. I went back to his (Private Morley's) assistance, and Lieutenant Marling also went and got off his horse, and we put Morley across the

horse to bring him away. After a few yards he slipped off, and we picked him up and put him on again.

Private Clift, 1st Battalion Royal Sussex, also remained with his comrade and assisted us. We succeeded in carrying him to a place of safety near the square. While we were doing this, the rebels made their attack on the square, and were close upon us. The fire from the square, and the Abyssinians, who were acting with us and behaved very well, alone saved us from being cut off.

G. HUNTER, Private,  
3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifles.

Made before me at Handuk, 19.3.84.

H. HUMPHREYS, Captain,  
Commanding Mounted Infantry.

True copy,

KENNETH S. BAYNES, Captain,  
Assistant Military Secretary.

11th April, 1884.

Sub-Enclosure, No. 3.

To the Brigade-Major, 2nd Brigade, Suakin  
Field Force.

SIR, *Suakin, March 31, 1884.*

WITH reference to the attached correspondence regarding the gallant conduct of No. 235, Private Thomas Edwards, of the battalion under my command, I am of opinion, on the evidence advanced, that he deserves the Victoria Cross, and I would solicit the favour of the Major-General Commanding the Brigade interesting himself in obtaining for Private Edwards this coveted reward.

I have, &c.,  
WM. GREEN, Colonel,  
Commanding 1st Bn. The Black Watch.  
A.A.G.,

I CONCUR in the opinion of the Officer commanding Royal Highlanders, that Private Edwards is deserving of the Victoria Cross for his gallantry in defence of the gun of the Naval Brigade, and beg to submit his name for this distinction for the favourable recommendation of the Major-General Commanding the Forces.

J. DAVIS, Major-General,  
Suakin, Commanding 2nd Brigade.  
April 1, 1884.

From Commander E. Rolfe to Rear-Admiral Sir W. Hewett, Commander-in-Chief, East Indies.

SIR, *Suakin, March 24, 1884.*

I BEG to bring to your most favourable notice the gallant conduct of Private Thomas Edwards, 235 H Company Royal Highlanders, who was doing duty as mule driver with the Royal Naval Brigade, and attached to No. 4 Gatling gun with supply of spare ammunition.

I was informed by the armourer of H.M.S. "Hecla" that he saw this man beside the gun with Lieutenant Almack and a Blue Jacket. Both the latter were killed, and Edwards, after bayoneting two Arabs, received a cut on the knuckles from a spear and rejoined the ranks with his mules. Lieutenant Ballard, Officer in charge of the Transport, has informed me, and I, myself, also can testify to his doing good service subsequently, and he remained by his gun throughout the action.

I have, &c.,  
E. ROLFE, Commander.