

Our men had been withdrawn on the evening of the 1st, leaving a Houssa garrison. The fire was first discovered at 3 A.M. on the 2nd.

A Letter, of which the attached is a copy, has been addressed to the Commander-in-Chief with reference to the before-mentioned Despatches:—

SIR, *Admiralty, December 7, 1894.*

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the Despatches noted in the margin* reporting on the operations undertaken against the Chief Nanna of Benin, in the months of August and September last, resulting in the capture of his stronghold at Brohémie on the 25th September, and I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you that they have much pleasure in approving all your proceedings and in noting the skill and energy by which they have been characterized.

They notice with satisfaction that your plans were so complete that your forces took the town, although it was strongly defended by batteries, without loss of life.

The peculiar nature of the position, surrounded as it is by mangrove swamps and intersected with creeks, rendered these operations especially arduous and difficult, and the zeal and endurance shown by Officers and Men in bringing them to a successful issue merits the highest praise.

Their Lordships fully recognize the gallantry and perseverance shown by the Officers and Men engaged in these operations, both at the capture of Brohémie and in those prior to your arrival in the Benin River, and I am to desire you will convey to all concerned the expression of their Lordships' high appreciation (in which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs fully concurs) of the praiseworthy manner in which they did their duty under very trying circumstances.

The Despatches will be gazetted, and the names of the Officers and Men especially mentioned will be favourably noted.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.

Rear-Admiral Bedford, C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Cape of Good Hope.

Privy Council Office, December 21, 1894.

THE FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890.

NOTICE is hereby given that, after the expiration of forty days from the date hereof, it is proposed to submit to Her Majesty in Council, in pursuance of the above-mentioned Act, the draft of an Order in Council to be entitled "The Cyprus Coinage Order in Council, 1895," by which the least current weight of certain gold coins as legal tender in the Island of Cyprus is declared.

And notice is hereby further given that, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules Publication Act, 1893, copies of the proposed draft Order in Council can be obtained by any public body, within forty days of the date of this notice, at the Privy Council Office, Whitehall.

* From Captain F. Powell, 1st September, 1894, with inclosure, 25th August, 1894, from Lieutenant-Commander Heugh, of the "Alecto."

No. 342, with inclosures of 27th September, 1894.
No. 343, with inclosures of 3rd October, 1894, from Rear-Admiral Bedford.

War Office, December 21, 1894.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotion in, and appointments to, the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, in recognition of the services of the undermentioned Officers in the recent operations against the Chief Nana of Brohémie in the Benin River:

To be an Ordinary-Member of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the said Most Honourable Order, viz.:—

Rear-Admiral Frederick George Denham Bedford, C.B.

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Third Class, or Companions, of the said Most Honourable Order, viz.:—

Captain Charles Campbell, R.N.

Captain Francis Powell, R.N.

War Office, December 21, 1894.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of the services of the undermentioned Officers in the recent operations against the Chief Nana of Brohémie in the Benin River:

To be Companions of the Distinguished Service Order, viz.:—

Lieutenant and Commander John George Heugh, R.N.

Lieutenant John Dennis Hickley, R.N.

Lieutenant Godfrey Gore-Browne, R.N.

Admiralty, 21st December, 1894.

Lieutenant John George Heugh has been promoted to the rank of Commander in Her Majesty's Fleet, for services in the recent operations against Chief Nana of Brohémie in the Benin River. Dated 21st December, 1894.

Admiralty, 21st December, 1894.

THE Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal to—

Robert H. Crouch, Chief Gunner's Mate, and Joseph Perkins, Leading Stoker, First Class, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto,"

in connection with the operations against the Chief Nana of Brohémie in the Benin River in August, 1894.

Foreign Office, December 6, 1894.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Edward Robert Eckersull Vickers, Esq., to be an Acting Third Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service while employed abroad.

Foreign Office, December 18, 1894.

THE Queen has been pleased to approve of Monsieur André Lequeux as Consul-General of France at London; of Monsieur Georges Gaston Servan de Bezaure as Consul of France at Newcastle; of Señor Don Carlos Stagg as Consul of Ecuador at Southampton; of Monsieur Emile Rocher as Consul of France at Malta; of Monsieur Dominique Eugène Neuville as Consul of France at Gibraltar; of Mr. Walter Barnard as Consul of Portugal at St. Lucia; and of Monsieur E. J. Le Lorrain as Vice-Consul of Belgium at Dover.