

Captain Walker, Scottish Rifles, and Lieutenant O'Shee, R.E. These two officers were sent out with me on special service, and commanded half companies of the Niger Coast Protectorate force. There was no opportunity for them to distinguish themselves from other company officers during the advance, but I have formed a high opinion of their energy and capacity, and I shall be glad if you will represent this in the proper quarter.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) B. HAMILTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding Niger Coast
Protectorate Force.

A letter, of which the following is a copy, has been addressed to Rear-Admiral Rawson in reference to the foregoing despatches:—

Admiralty, 5 May, 1897.

Sir,

MY Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having had before them your despatch, dated the 27th February last, No. $\frac{18}{1897}$, with the enclosures noted in the margin,* reporting the recent operations undertaken against the King of Benin, resulting in the capture of Benin City on the 18th idem, desire me to inform you that the measures adopted by you appear to have been admirably adapted for the attainment of the objects of the Expedition, and meet with their Lordship's entire approval.

2. My Lords fully recognize the exceptional difficulties with which you, and the force under your command, had to contend, and they desire me to convey to you, and to all concerned, their appreciation of the readiness and resource with which they were overcome, and the Expedition brought to a successful issue.

3. I am further to express to you the high appreciation their Lordships entertain of the gallantry and devotion to duty displayed by the officers, seamen and marines, and auxiliary forces engaged in these operations, and to inform you that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has expressed his full concurrence in the view taken by their Lordships of your proceedings.

4. It is with deep regret that My Lords have received your report of casualties which occurred during the Expedition, and they have caused an expression of sympathy to be conveyed to the relatives of those officers and men who unhappily perished by battle or climate.

5. I am to add that your despatches will be gazetted, and that the names of the officers and men specially mentioned have been favourably noted.

6. My Lords have had much satisfaction in communicating your report, on the distinguished services of Lieut.-Colonel Bruce-Hamilton, to the Secretary of State for War.

7. Colonel Hamilton's report on the services of the Niger Coast Protectorate Force and of the Special Service Officers who accompanied

him from England, has also been communicated to the Secretary of State for War, as well as to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

8. My Lords have also had much satisfaction in communicating your testimony to the services rendered to the Expedition by Mr. Moor, Her Majesty's Commissioner and Consul-General for the Niger Coast Protectorate.

9. I am further to state that it has given My Lords much pleasure to communicate to the Secretary of State for the Colonies your recognition of the services of Colonel F. Cardew, C.M.G., the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sierra Leone, in arranging for the collection of carriers for the Expedition.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.
Rear-Admiral Rawson, C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Cape of Good Hope.

War Office, May 7, 1897.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Honourable Order of the Bath in recognition of the services of the undermentioned Officers during the operations in South Africa, 1896:

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

Major-General Sir Frederick Carrington, K.C.M.G., Commanding Infantry Brigade, Gibraltar.

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

Lieutenant-Colonel Harold Paget, 7th Hussars.

*Chancery of the Order of
Saint Michael and Saint George,
Downing Street, May 4, 1897.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give directions for the following appointment to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George:

To be an Ordinary Member of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the said Most Distinguished Order:—

John Bramston, Esq., D.C.L., C.B., Assistant-Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Chancery of the Order of
Saint Michael and Saint George,
Downing Street, May 5, 1897.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give directions for the following appointments to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, in recognition of services rendered in connection with the recent campaign in Rhodesia:

To be Ordinary Members of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Distinguished Order:—

William Napier, Esq., Colonel of the Matabeleland Field Force.

John Anthony Spreckley, Esq., Colonel of the Matabeleland Field Force.

Robert Beale, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the United Gwelo Field Force.

*1. List of casualties.

2. Commander Bacon to Commander-in-Chief, 27th February, 1897. (6 Sub-enclosures.)

3. Captain O'Callaghan to Commander-in-Chief, 27th February, 1897.

4. Captain MacGill to Commander-in-Chief, 25th February, 1897.

5. Colonel Hamilton to Captain Egerton, 27th February, 1897. Colonel Hamilton to Commander-in-Chief, 22nd February, 1897.

6. Consul-General Moor to Commander-in-Chief, 20th February, 1897. (1 Sub-enclosure.)

7. Lieutenant Michell to Commander-in-Chief, 27th February, 1897.