



# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1900.

War Office January 30, 1900.

**T**HE following Despatch, with its Enclosures, has been received from Major-General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., late Sirdar of the Egyptian Army:—  
From Major-General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, Sirdar, to the Under-Secretary of State for War, London.

*Khartoum,  
November 25, 1899.*

SIR,  
IT having been decided to operate against the Khalifa, on 20th October, I concentrated a force of 8,000 men at Kaka on the White Nile, 380 miles south of Khartoum, and advanced against the Khalifa at Gebel Gedir, a hill in Southern Kordofan, upwards of 80 miles from the river.

The head of the column having reached Fongor, 50 miles inland from Kaka, it was ascertained that the Khalifa and his force had escaped north. As it was impossible to overtake him with the start he had, owing to the dense jungle, only the cavalry and camel corps were sent on to reconnoitre Gebel Gedir, and the force returned to Kaka.

In connection with the organization of this force, and the conduct of the above operations, I desire to specially mention the names of the following officers:—

Lieutenant-Colonel Talbot (Royal Engineers), Director of Military Intelligence.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, Commanding 2nd Infantry Brigade.

Major Hamilton (Royal West Surrey Regiment), Deputy Adjutant-General.

Brevet-Major Peake (Royal Artillery), Commanding Artillery.

Captain Gamble, (Lincolnshire Regiment), Commanding 1st Battalion.

Captain O'Connell (Shropshire Light Infantry), Commanding 2nd Battalion, and subsequently in Command of the Duem Garrison.

Lieutenant Graham (Royal Lancashire Regiment), my A.D.C.

A flying column in gunboats was then organized under Colonel Lewis, to keep touch from the river with any of the Khalifa's forces, attempting to establish themselves on the banks.

On the 13th November the Dervish advanced guard, under the Emir Ahmed Fedil, debouched on the river at El Alub, but retired on being reconnoitred by Colonel Lewis' forces.

Mounted troops and transport were at once concentrated at Fachi Shoya, and, on my return from a necessary visit to Cairo, I despatched Colonel Wingate (Royal Artillery) with rein-

forcements of artillery to take command of the Expedition, and to march to Gedi, where I anticipated the Khalifa would have to halt.

The flying column left Fachi Shoya on the 21st November, and comprised a squadron of cavalry under Captain Bulkeley-Johnson (2nd Dragoons); the 2nd Field Battery and 6 maxims (two of which were fully horsed, in order to act with cavalry), under Captains Boulnois, Franks, and Simpson-Baikie (Royal Artillery); six companies of camel corps, under Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Henry (Northumberland Fusiliers), and a brigade of infantry under Colonel Lewis, composed of the 9th Sudanese (Major Doran, Royal Irish Regiment), the 13th Sudanese (Major Maxse, Coldstream Guards), one company of the 2nd Egyptian Battalion, and an Irregular Sudanese Battalion under Brevet-Major Gorringe (Royal Engineers), also detachments of Medical and Supply Departments under Lieutenant Stallard (Royal Army Medical Corps) and Captain Howard (Army Service Corps).

The camel transport, to carry rations and three days' water, was under Lieutenant Hoskins (North Staffordshire Regiment), and a body of local Arab horsemen was raised and commanded by Captain Mahmud Effendi Hussein, Egyptian Cavalry.

The subsequent operations of this column, resulting in the entire defeat of the Khalifa's army, are fully described in Colonel Wingate's report to me, which I attach.

Colonel Sir R. Wingate's previous services on the staff are so notorious that I need not allude to them; he has now shewn himself to be the capable leader of men I felt sure he would prove himself to be should the occasion arise. The operations under him were carried out with consummate ability, energy, and determination, and he has thus struck the last blow at Mahdism.

I freely endorse Colonel Wingate's remarks on the good services of the officers and men he has mentioned.

The country has at last been finally relieved of the military tyranny which started in a movement of wild religious fanaticism upwards of 19 years ago. Mahdism is now a thing of the past, and I hope that a brighter era has at length opened for the Sudan.

I have, &c.,  
KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,  
Major-General, Sirdar.

A full report on the operations has also been submitted to His Highness the Khedive, in which are included the names of the various