

List of Casualties, Okpoto Expedition.

No. 1 Battery Artillery, Northern Nigeria Regiment.

Dangerously wounded: No. 49 Acting Bombardier Garaba. Severely wounded: No. 103 Gunner Dan Dogari, No. 66 Gunner Bawa Sokoto. Slightly wounded: No. Gunner Osuman Yauri, No. 41 Gunner Saidu Bauchi, No. 1410 Temporary Gun Carrier Hassan.

1st Northern Nigeria Regiment, West African Frontier Force.

Killed: No. 431 Corporal Zakari Katsena, No. 1998 Private Mamadu Illorin, No. 3112 Private Mahama Katsena. Mortally wounded: No. 3148 Private Aliri Lawani. Severely wounded: No. 2095 Private Saibu Moko, No. 3032 Private Abu II, No. 1226 Private Garuba, No. 470 Private Hashima Kano, No. 1939 Private Suli, No. 2050 Private Bakari Gobo, No. 454 Lance-Corporal Labaram. Slightly wounded: No. 2042 Private Soba Zaria, No. 2047 Lance-Corporal Suli Chelingi, No. 1909 Private Aibu.

2nd Northern Nigeria Regiment, West African Frontier Force.

Died: No. 2527 Dr. Awdu Kano. Dangerously wounded: No. 2464 Private Akunyah Kabba. Severely wounded: No. 1876 Private Jibiri Kano, No. 2071 Sergeant Odegbare, No. 2601 Private Ajoye Ijesha, No. 720 Private Adama Zozo, No. 662 Private Momo Boko, No. 552 Lance-Corporal Silami Kegi, No. 2445 Dr. Adamu. Slightly wounded: No. 1857 Private Maigari Kano, No. 2535 Private Awdu Katsena, No. 446 Private Manassara, No. 1988 Private Oganado, No. 1876 Lance-Corporal Yakubu Illorin, No. 1331 Lance-Corporal Baba Duchi, No. 2514 Private Mamo Shanone, No. 2479 Private Akwani Ibadan, No. 1865 Private Balatina Lede, No. 1868 Private Ojo Ibadan, No. 1841 Private Akandi Ogbomoshu, No. 2031 Private Atuni Ihari.

Followers.—Died of wounds: Guide Ladun, Guide Kushagi. Slightly wounded, Guide Tanko. Severely wounded, Carrier 81 Koliki. Slightly wounded: Carrier 29 Isa, Carrier 714 Matoshi. Severely wounded, Policeman Aguba.

Steam Yacht "Corona,"
Northern Nigeria,
Lokoja, 24th April, 1905.

Despatch relating to Field Operations.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit a summary of Minor Field Operations conducted in the year 1904.

2. In February, in consequence of the lawless and defiant attitude of the Dakakeri tribe, lying on the direct route between Zungeru and Sokoto (via Kontagora), and various outrages on caravans committed by them, I authorized an expedition to subdue the tribe. It was under the command of Lieutenant (local Captain) Dyer, D.S.O., 2nd Life Guards, and accompanied by Major Sharpe, C.M.G., as Political Officer, and consisted of 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 88 rank and file, 1st Battalion, a Maxim, and a 7-pounder gun. The Commandant, Colonel Lowry Cole, reports as follows:—

"Captain Dyer left Kontagora on the 1st

March, 1904, accompanied by the Resident, Major Sharpe, as Political Officer. Ebo, in the Dakkakerrri country, was reached on the 5th March, and, as the people refused to give up their weapons or pay a fine, Captain Dyer captured and destroyed the town, which is situated on very steep rocky hills. The inhabitants offered considerable resistance, and the nature of the ground which was full of caves and crevices favoured them. Our casualties were one private killed.

Colonel Cole submits Captain Dyer's name for honourable mention.

3. Gurkhawa, Yergum, and Montoil. These wild pagan tribes occupy the country north of Wase, on the high road from the Benue to Bauchi. They have constantly given trouble, and, after several murders of traders, they killed and ate the Government messenger* sent to warn them to desist. The expedition was under Lieutenant (local Captain) P. H. Short, Gloucestershire Regiment, and was accompanied by Mr. Vischer, as Political Officer, and consisted of 2 other Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 1 section No. 1 Battery, 99 rank and file 2nd Battalion, with a Maxim. The Commandant reports as follows:—

"The town of Yellua was reached on the 25th March, and on the same night march was made and an attack delivered on the group of villages at Gurkhawa, at dawn, on the 26th March, with complete success. There were no casualties on our side.

"On the 31st March the Yergum territory was entered, and on the 2nd April Brott, their chief village, reached. Owing to the difficult and mountainous nature of the country the Officer commanding determined to stay there some days, and by harassing attacks and denying the only water in the vicinity to the inhabitants, to force their submission. There was some fighting on the 2nd and 3rd April. On the 4th an escort which had been detailed to accompany the Political Officer while surveying was heavily attacked. The enemy was driven off. Captain Short mentions specially the gallant conduct of Corporal Are Omoah, 2nd Northern Nigeria Regiment, who was temporarily in command of the escort, and though wounded in the head with a poisoned arrow, continued to handle his men with ability. Our casualties were 2 soldiers and 2 carriers wounded.

"Fighting continued on the 5th April, and on the following day another important village, Lantang, was visited, and more resistance met with.

"On the 7th and 8th the headmen of Yerghum came in and made submission.

"On the 11th April, the territory of the Montoil tribe was entered, and between that date and the 17th there was desultory fighting. On the 18th, the Montoil headmen came in and made submission.

"Captain Short, I think, deserves credit for his conduct of the operations. He mentions the good services of Dr. Ellis, West African Medical Staff, and also of Corporal Are Omoah; the latter I consider worthy of mention at least."

4. Lieutenant Browne, West African Frontier Force, had been sent, with a patrol along the southern frontier to prevent any smuggling of gin, arms, &c. On his way back, with 30 rank and file, he endeavoured to ascend Semolika (a precipitous hill, impassable for carriers or horses), being unaware that the people were hostile

* It afterwards transpired that they had eaten the wrong man.