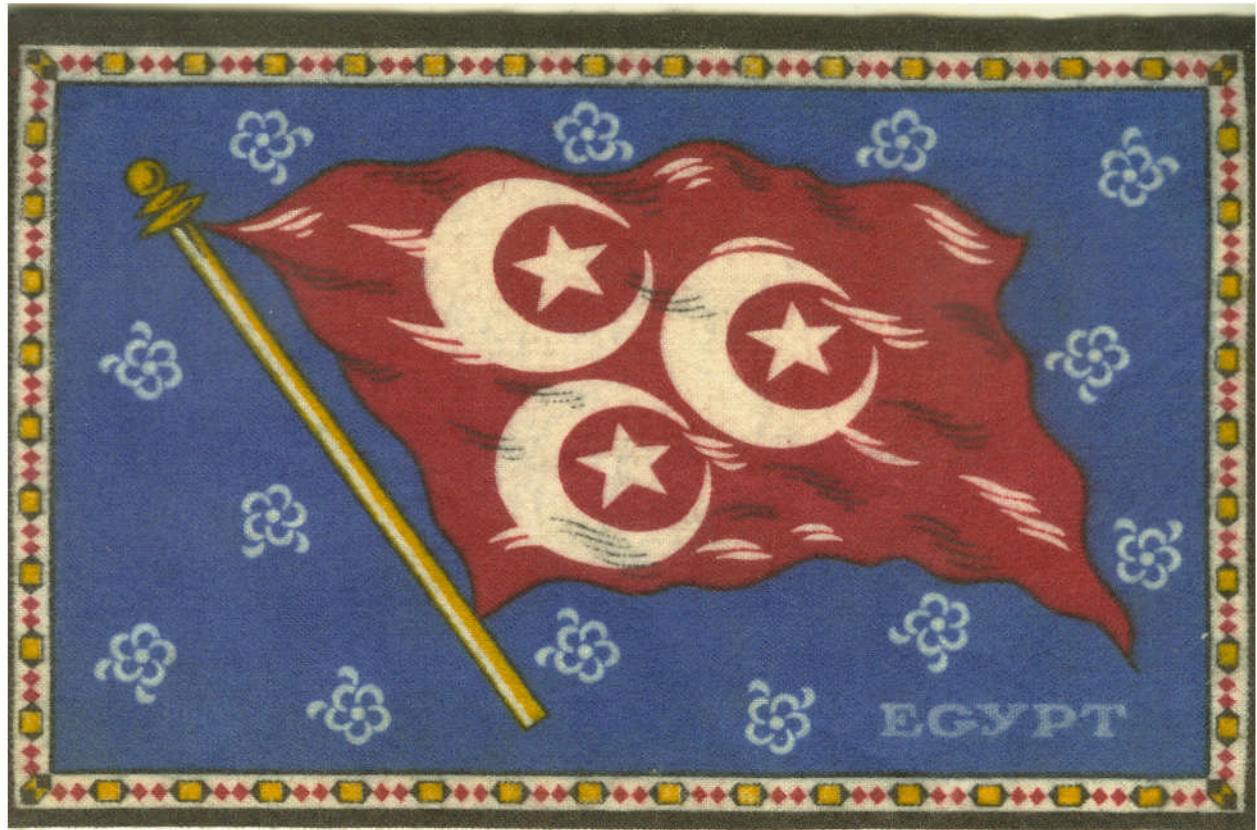


Miscellaneous Material Related to the British Military in Egypt

Including Documents, Letters Pictures,
Campaign Medals etc.

THE EGYPTIAN FLAG







Arabi Pasha



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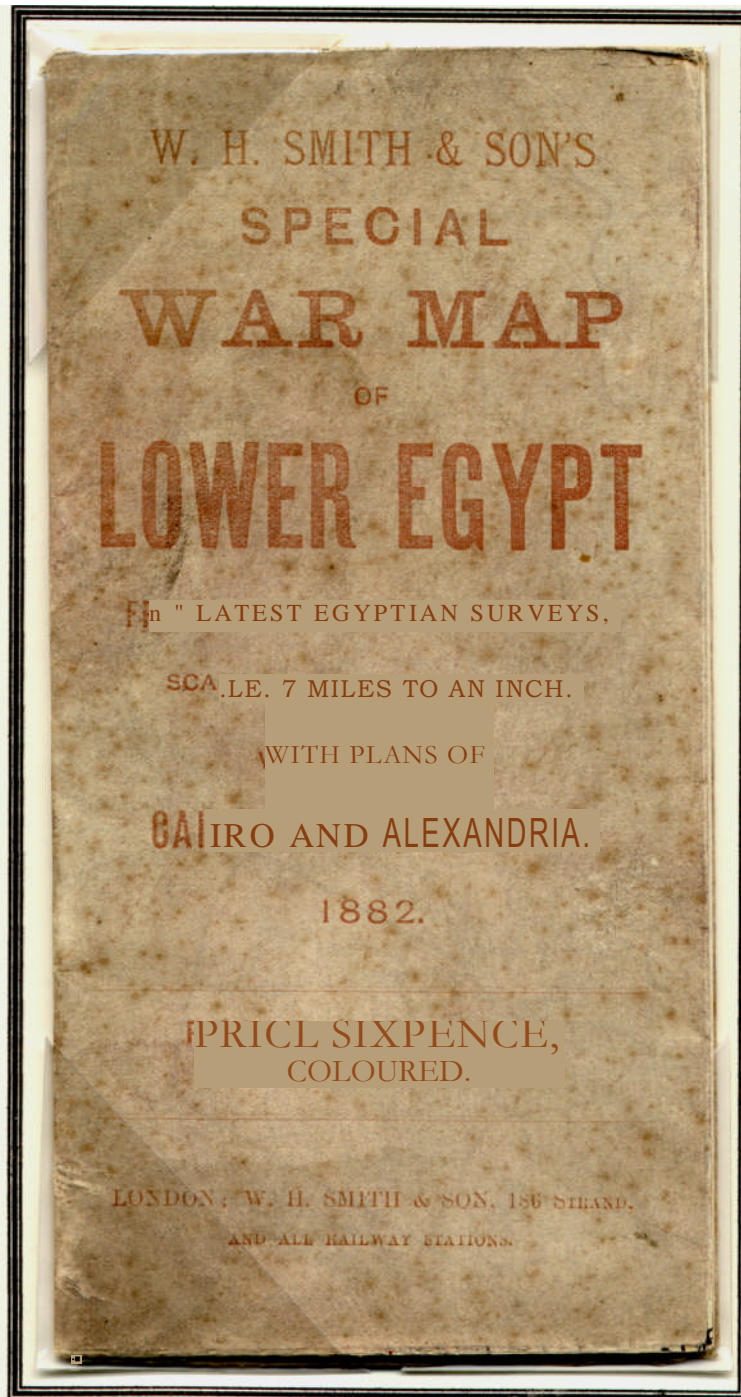
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EGYPT

BRITISH FORCES

Special war map prepared by W. H. Smith & Sons, London, at the time of the Arabi Rebellion.



Lieutenant-General Garnet Joseph Wolseley

Commander-in-Chief of the Army in Egypt 1882



GENERAL GARNET JOSEPH WOLSELEY, G.C.B.

1ST VISCOUNT WOLSELEY.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN EGYPT, IN 1882, 1884-85.

Arabi Pasha in 1906



**LIEUTENANT GENERAL
SIR GERALD GRAHAM, V.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G.**



The Victoria Cross for Valour

Gerald Graham was born at Acton, London on 27 June 1831, the only son of R.H. Graham, M.D. of Eden Brows, Cumberland, and Frances Oakley. He was educated in Dresden, Germany, Wimbledon, Edinburgh and at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

Graham was commissioned in the Royal Engineers in 1850. The following is a record of his promotions:

RANK	REGIMENTAL DATE OF RANK	ARMY DATE OF RANK
2nd Lieutenant	19 Jun 1850	
Lieutenant	17 Feb 1854	
2nd Captain	28 Oct 1858	
Captain	04 Aug 1864	
Major	05 Jul 1872	22 Nov 1859
Lieutenant Colonel	27 Sep 1876	15 Dec 1861
Colonel		15 Feb 1869
Major General		19 Oct 1881
Lieutenant General		21 May 1884

Graham landed with the British forces in the Crimea on 14 September 1854. He was present at the battles of the Alma and Inkerman, and served about a hundred times in the trenches before Sebastopol. He was twice wounded during the war.

Lieutenant Graham was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions on 18 June 1855 when he, accompanied by Sapper J. Perie, showed determined gallantry at the head of a ladder party at the assault on the Redan at Sebastopol. He also went out on numerous occasions to bring in wounded officers and men. His award of the Victoria Cross was published in the London Gazette of 24 February 1857.

Graham also served throughout the China War of 1860 and was wounded at the taking of the Taku Forts. He was also present at the entry into Peking.

During the Egyptian War of 1882, Graham commanded a Brigade and fought in the battles at Kassassin and Tel-el-Kebir. He later commanded the expedition to Eastern Sudan in February 1884 and fought the battles of El-Teb and Tamai. He also commanded the expedition to Suakin in 1885.

Graham married Jane, the daughter of G. Durrant of Elmhall, Suffolk, and widow of the Reverend G.B. Blocker, Rector of Rudham, Norfolk. He was Life Governor of London University and a member of the United Services Club. His recreations included golf and chess.

Lieutenant General Graham retired from the Army on 14 June 1890. On 10 March 1899 he was appointed Colonel-Commandant of the Corps of Royal Engineers. He died at Bideford in Devonshire on 17 December 1899.

REFERENCES:

1. CONOLLY, T.W.J. Roll of Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers From 1660 to 1898. The Royal Engineers Institute, Chatham, Kent, 1898.
2. WHO WAS WHO, 1897-1916. A. & C. Black, Limited, London, 1920.
3. The Register of the Victoria Cross. This England Books, Cheltenham, 1988.



General Graham and Aides at Suakin 1885

GENERAL SIR GERALD GRAHAM,



General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 — 1899



Bellevue m
My dear Sir Leighton
Very sincerely Yours
Gerald Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C ., 1831 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons, R.E., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., from Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt, September 16, 1882, three days after the British victory. "Our brief campaign is now apparently over, one crushing victory has decided it."

Recd. Dover
27/9/82. Tel. el. Kebir.
and 21/10/82 16th Sept.

My dear Sir Lintorn,

Our brief campaign is
apparently over, one cr
ushing victory has decided it a
nd I hope we shall soon be
on our way homeward.
I have I hope but dis
the Corps is the first of
Brigades in the field &
hope the authorities will
not learn that the word

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons, R.E., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., from Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt,
September 16, 1882, three days after the British victory.

Rec. Dover
29/9/82

Tel-El-Kebir Egypt
16th Sept. 1882

ans 1/10/82

My dear Sir Linton,

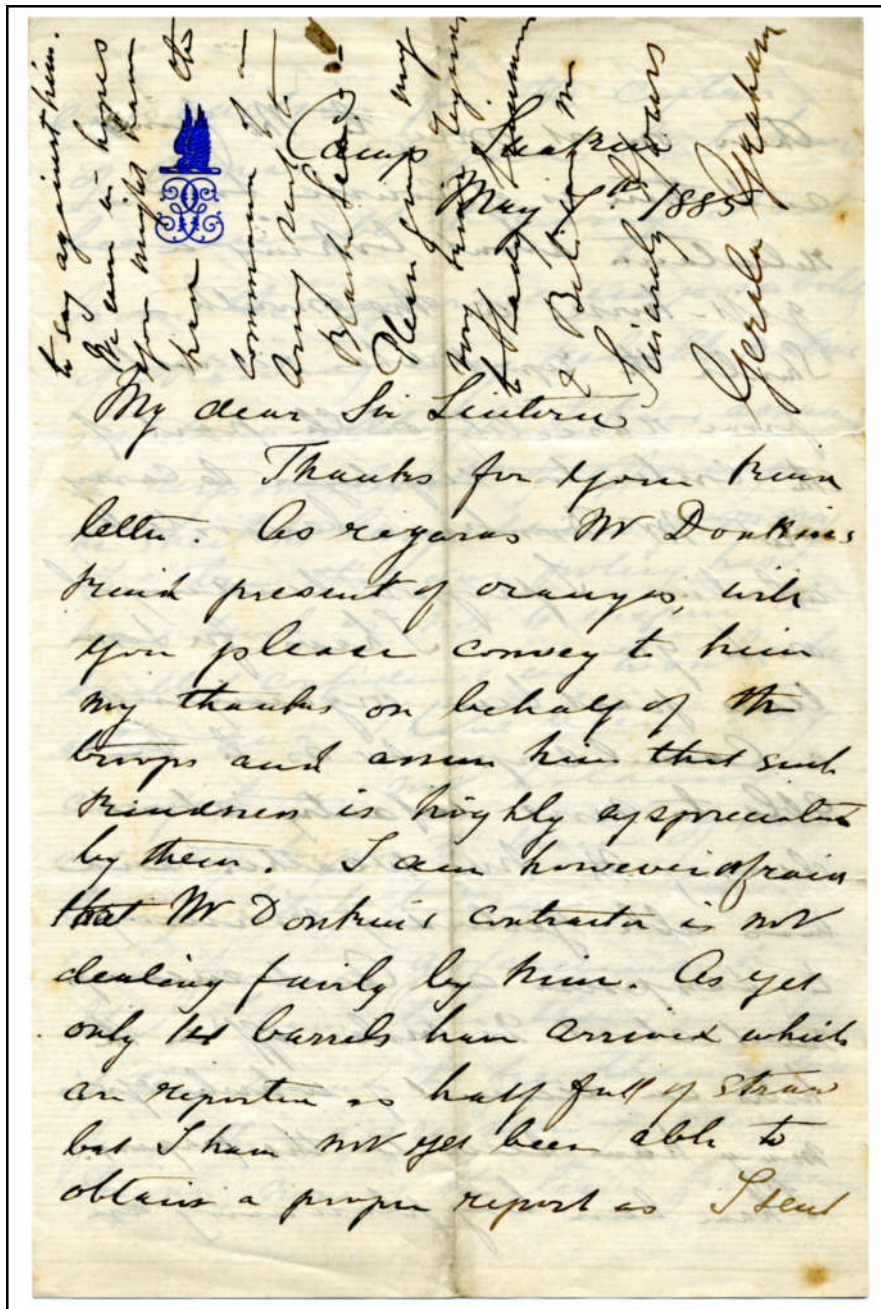
Our brief campaign is now apparently over, one crushing victory has decided it and I suppose we shall soon all be on our way homewards – I have I hope not disgraced the Corps is the first Engineer Brigade in the field and hope the authorities will at least learn that the better training of the Engineer officer would usually make him a better commander of a mixed force than an officer trained only to one of the other arms. When attacked at Kassassin I had only 2 ½ weak battalions, a troop of cavalry & some mounted infantry besides 4 guns with 15 rounds each. Lowe with his cavalry 4 miles off left me . . . 7 o'clock without any assistance & did not make his charge ... & by which time I have been on the advance for 2 miles. Yet the newspaper correspondents who were with the cavalry write if the whole affair was won by them and only mentions me to say that I was very nearly beaten. Sir Garnet, however, does me justice. After that action my force became augmented until I found myself in command of a force of over 6000 men and held a review one morning by way of letting the officers get their men together which it is difficult to do amid incessant demands for fatigue & working parties. I never find any difficulty in getting on with Commanding Officers — that is with good ones — as I always enter into their feelings if the welfare of their men is in question. A merely obstructive CO meets with . . . from me – On the whole I have been a most fortunate fellow to have been allowed the experience and I hope the result will be to open the way for similar appointments to the others of my brother officers.

With kind regards to Lady Simmons, Believe me very sincerely yours,

G. Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons, R.E., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., from Cairo, Egypt, March 9, 1885 discussing the Egyptian-Sudan situation. On March 12th General Graham arrived in Suakin.



General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from Cairo, Egypt, March 9, 1885 discussing the Egyptian-Sudan situation. On March 12th General Graham arrived at Suakim.

Cairo, March 9th, 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn,

Thank you very much for kind congratulations and expressions of confidence which coming from you are most valuable. I think the campaign will be an arduous and long one and that the advance on Khartoum may require a much larger force and materiel than the country is prepared for. The expedition I am to command should have started 4 months ago and then had Wolsely [sic.] been provided with camel instead of boat transport he might have joined hands at Berber about middle of December, marched on Khartoum, saved Gordon, smashed the Mahdi and have had a secure line of communication with Suakim. However, as our dear lost Charlie Gordon wrote in his last letter when he said "the game is up" it is no use crying over spilt milk. I am glad to hear your excellent account of the Shropshires. I shall certainly have some fine troops under me and hope I shall be able to give a good account of Osman Digna when we meet. The Indian Brigade will be very valuable — if they would only have sent them on to Berber this time last year! Or have let me go on as everyone out here recommended and as I several times suggested. It appears from Gladstone's latest utterance that the British troops are not to evacuate the Soudon after taking Khartoum. Baring says that to Politicals like himself the narrow escape of the Government from the vote of censure is the worst possible result. An overwhelming majority or a defeat would be less ruinous than having to serve under a weak discredited government. When a political adherent talks like that, the government must be pretty well discredited. I hope you have recovered your health as I hear you were not well. I am laid up at present owing to an accident to my leg, but hope soon to be all right again. Please give my warm [?] regards to Lady Simmons,

Believe me Sincerely Yours,

Gerald Graham

PS. I know Arbathnot very well and a very nice fellow he is.

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from Camp Suakin, Sudam, May 7th, 1885, mentioning the difficulty of working with the local tribes.

to say against him.
He can in figures
you might have
been
common of
Army with
Black Sea
Near from my
my hand
of May
a letter
I sincerely
Yours
Gerald Graham

My dear Sir Lintorn

Thanks for your kind
letter. As regards Mr Donkin's
kind present of oranges, will
you please convey to him
my thanks on behalf of the
troops and assure him that such
kindness is highly appreciated
by them. I am however afraid
that Mr Donkin's contractor is not
dealing fairly by him. As yet
only 14 barrels have arrived which
are reported as half full of straw
but I have not yet been able to
obtain a proper report as I send

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from Camp Suakim, Sudan, May 7th, 1885, mentioning difficulty of working with the local tribes.

Camp Suakim
May 7th, 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn,

Thanks for your kind letter. As regards Mr. Donkin's [?] kind present of oranges, will you please convey to him my thanks on behalf of the troops and assure him that such kindness is highly appreciated by them. I am, however, afraid that Mr. Donkin's contractor is not dealing fairly by him. As yet only 14 barrels have arrived which are reported as half full of straw but I have not yet been able to obtain a proper report as I sent them on at once to the front and there is of course some reluctance about looking a gift-horse in the mouth — Should the report when received prove rascality on the part of the contractor employed to carry out Mr. Donkin's benevolent intention, I propose sending it on to you. I have for some time past been organizing a Camel Corps so as to be able to move infantry about during the hot weather and was able yesterday morning to surprise an Arab encampment about 20 miles off in the hills an account of which you may have seen in the papers.. I have been long planning an expedition for the capture of Osman Digna but have been unable to carry it out from the apparent impossibility of obtaining any reliable native assistance although I have assumed the responsibility of offering the sheiks large sums of money. It is true that our policy has been such as not to inspire the smallest confidence in would be allies and I have been very careful in not holding out any hopes to them or our being likely to remain here and form a government. What I have told them is that if they want to free themselves from the oppressing Osman Digna, now is the time for them to strike a blow that I will aid them with my troops and even pay them liberally for fighting for themselves. But they, the Arab tribes about here, have no confidence in us after our abandonment of the country last year and can never work together. Each petty sheik cares only for his own . . . and would rather rob his neighbour than help him. It is a miserable country and since Charlie Gordon is gone we have no longer any interest in it. As he said the part we (England) have played has not been a noble one but at least our soldiers have no need to feel ashamed of their share. Wolseley is here and very bitter against the government. Perhaps they . . . may have something to say against him. We can . . . hopes you might name him the command of an army sent to Black Sea.

Please give my very warm regards to Lady Simmons, & Believe me Sincerely Yours,

Gerald Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from Camp Suakim, Sudan, May 14th, 1885, mentioning the receipt of bad oranges.



Camp Suakin
14th May 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn

I am afraid
that Mr Donkin's orange
contractor has not dealt
fairly by him. 14 cases
were consigned to me by HMS
Juno. Many of them were
only half full & that there
were altogether certainly not
more than 2500 oranges -
A great part of them were in
bad condition - The crates
have not the appearance
of having been opened.

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from Camp Suakim, Sudan, May 14th, 1885, mentioning the receipt of bad oranges.

Camp Suakim
May 14th, 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn,

I am afraid that Mr. Donkin's orange contractor has not dealt fairly with him – 14 cases were consigned to me by HMS Many of them were only half full so that there was altogether certainly not more than 2500 oranges. A great part of them were in bad condition. The casks have not the appearance of having been opened in transit and those half empty were carefully packed with straw. The oranges are generally of inferior quality.

We are awaiting some definite orders from home as to our reembarkation.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Gerald Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter from London dated September 2nd., 1885, to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., commenting on the Nile and the Suakin Field Forces. "The Gazette and dispatches are now out, so that the public are in a better position to judge if the respective performances of the two Soudan armies and of their respective rewards. As the Saturday Review says "failure can't be made to spell success" but there is a difference which the press at least do not seem to have recognized. The Nile force was sent to relieve Khartoum and failed. Wolseley says by two days only, but facts prompt those who can to look at them. That Khartoum was starved out and could not have been saved by Wilson's excellent little party had they been a week or a month earlier. But the Suakin Field Force did not fail and could have completed its tasks had it been permitted to do so."

*Print
and 23019.85*

United Service Club,
Ball Mall, S. W.

London Sept 2nd 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn

The Gazette and
dispatches are now out, so
that the public are in a better
position to judge of the
respective performances of
the two Soudan armies
and of their respective rewards.
As the Saturday Review says
"Failure can't be made to
spell success" - but there

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from London,
September 2nd, 1885, commenting on the Nile and the Suakin Field Forces.

London Sept. 2nd, 1885

My dear Sir Lintorn


The Gazette and dispatches are now out, so that the public are in a better position to judge if the respective performances of the two Soudan armies and of their respective rewards. As the Saturday Review says "failure can't be made to spell success" but there is a difference which the press at least do not seem to have recognized. The Nile force was sent to relieve Khartoum and failed. Wolseley says by two days only, but facts prompt those who can to look at them. That Khartoum was starved out and could not have been saved by Wilson's excellent little party had they been a week or a month earlier. But the Suakin Field Force did not fail and could have completed its tasks had it been permitted to do so. The Zareba affair was a bad instance of unsuspected incapacity. I had a high opinion of McNeill and on first impulse telegraphed from . . . that he had done all he could. When the reports came in and are compared with his statements I found that he had neglected most important precautions and reported accordingly in my dispatch a few days later but all my observations to that effect were struck out before publication of the dispatch. I have however given the Duke (concerning the Zareba fight) the whole truth and the real facts are well known at headquarters. I gave him also the reasons for the unsatisfactory character of the first fight at Hashin. I would have wished for a smaller force, could I have selected my own officers. I should like to have an opportunity of talking the campaign one with you and with kind regards to Lady Simmons.

Believe me Very Sincerely Yours,

Gerald Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 — 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from London,
June 21st, 1888, regarding board membership at Nordenfolt Gun Co.

 Worlabye House
Upper Richmond Road
London S.W.
June 21st 1888

My dear Sir Lintorn
I presume you will
shortly be coming home and
getting out of harness,
unless indeed you
accept an appointment
as the Antipodes which
I have spoken about
some time ago. I am

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from London,
June 21st, 1888, regarding board membership at Nordenfelt Gun Co.

London S.W. June 21st, 1888

My dear Sir Lintorn

I presume you will be shortly coming home and getting out of harness, unless indeed you accept an appointment at the Antipodes which I heard spoken about some time ago. I am expecting to go out to Bermuda in August and the Duke spoke to me about it today at his levee. My going out will leave a vacancy on the Board of the Nordenfelt Gun Cop. (when I succeeded Donald Stewart) and Mr. Nordenfelt asked me to write to you to say what a great pleasure it would give him & the other directors if you would join the Board on my retiring. The other directors are Admiral Iboys [?], who lately succeeded poor Captain Frey, and Mr. Barnett (of Lloyd, Barnett & Bosament). I must, however, inform you that there is a great scheme in progress for an amalgamation with the Maxim Gun Co. which will in all probability be successfully completed by September. The Maxim has come rapidly to the front. of late and it is considered that the combined companies would carry all before them.

We expect to go out to Bermuda by about the middle of August. Lady Graham rather dreads the journey but thinks Bermuda looks more peaceful than Europe.

With our . . . kind regards to you and Lady Simmons,

Believe me Very Sincerely Yours,

Gerald Graham

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 — 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from London,
July 17th, 1888, declining Bermuda position and withdrawing offer of board membership at
Nordenfelt Gun Co.

Worshipful House
Upper Richmond Road
London SW
July 17th 1888

My dear Sir Lintorn
After your very kind
letter of congratulation I
feel half ashamed at having
to inform you that I have
at the last moment withdrawn
from the appointment.
I have various reasons for
declining it, but those which

General Sir Gerald Graham, V. C., — 1831 – 1899

Letter to Sir John Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E., from London,
July 17th, 1888, declining Bermuda position and withdrawing offer of board membership at
Nordenfelt Gun Co.

Worlabye House

Upper Richmond Road

London S.W.

July 17th, 1888

My dear Sir Lintorn

After your very nice letter of congratulation I feel half ashamed at having to inform you that I have at the last moment withdrawn from the appointment. I have various reasons for declining it, but those which decided me were the illness of my son and Lady Graham's delicate state of health which would have never stood the damp climate of Bermuda. There were other disadvantages which I only became aware of lately, one that I should lose all my unattached pay £ 650, another that I should have to provide all my plate . . . etc. (unlike other colonial governors who pay only 5pc) and that I should probably get no leave. The only advantage to be gained was that of escaping being placed on the shelf after two years, when I shall have been 5 years unemployed. But to go to Bermuda would be to go on the shelf at once. As regards the proposition that you should join the Board of Directors of the Maxim Nordenfelt C^o. I am afraid it must now fall through but should I get any appointment I am sure the board will gladly give you the refusal of my place. I believe it to be a sound concern and certainly it has the best guns.

Lady Graham writes with me in very kind regards to Lady Simmons and I remain

My dear Sir Lintorn

Yours most sincerely,

Gerald Graham

FIELD MARSHAL
SIR JOHN LINTORN ARABIN SIMMONS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., R.E.
18? — 1903

The following is a record of John Simmon's promotions:

RANK	REGIMENTAL DATE OF RANK	ARMY DATE OF RANK
2 ND Lieutenant	14 December 1837	
Lieutenant	15 October 1839	
Captain	9 November 1846	
Brevet Major	15 July 1854	
Brevet Lieutenant Colonel	12 December 1854	Lieutenant Colonel 31 January 1869
Brevet Colonel	12 December 1857	Colonel Commanding 27 August 1872
Major General		6 March 1868
Lieutenant General		27 August 1872
General		1 October 1877
Field Marshal		21 May 1890

Sir Lintorn Simmons was employed for three years in the disputed territory on the N. E. frontier of India in constructing works for its defense and in making military explorations. Happening to be in Turkey in 1853, he was specially employed by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe on several important services; joined Omar Pasha in March 1854; escorted the new governor into Silistria after the former one had been killed, and was present during part of the siege of that fortress; laid and threw up the lines of Slobodzic and Georgevo on the Danube, having charge of the entire operation with 20,000 men of all arms under his command, a Russian army of 70,000 men being within seven miles; was present during the occupation of Wallachia, and had frequent charge of reconnaissances upon the enemy's rear. Went to the Crimea in December 1854 to concert with the Allied commanders-in-Chief as to the movement of the Turkish Army; was present at the battle of Eupatoria, laid out and threw up the entrenched camp round that place; afterwards was before Sebastopol from April 1855 until after its fall, and then went to Mingrelia and was present at the forced passage of the Ingut, where he commanded the division which crossed the river and turned the enemy's position, capturing his works and guns;. Omar Pasha in his dispatch attributed the success of the day chiefly to Lt. Col. Simmons. He served as Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Ottoman Army throughout the war and was employed in all negotiations having reference to the movements of Omar Pasha's Army. He has received the Crimea Medal with clasp, the Turkish Gold Medal for the Danubian Campaign, the Order of the Medjidie 3rd Class, and a Sword of Honor from the Turkish government; also the 4th Class of the Legion of Honor. Was Her Majesty's Commissioner for the laying out of the Turco-Russian boundary in Asia, and granted the 2nd Class of the Medjidie by the Sultan, but was refused permission to accept it.

FIELD MARSHAL
SIR JOHN LINTORN ARABIN SIMMONS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G, R.E.
18? — 1903

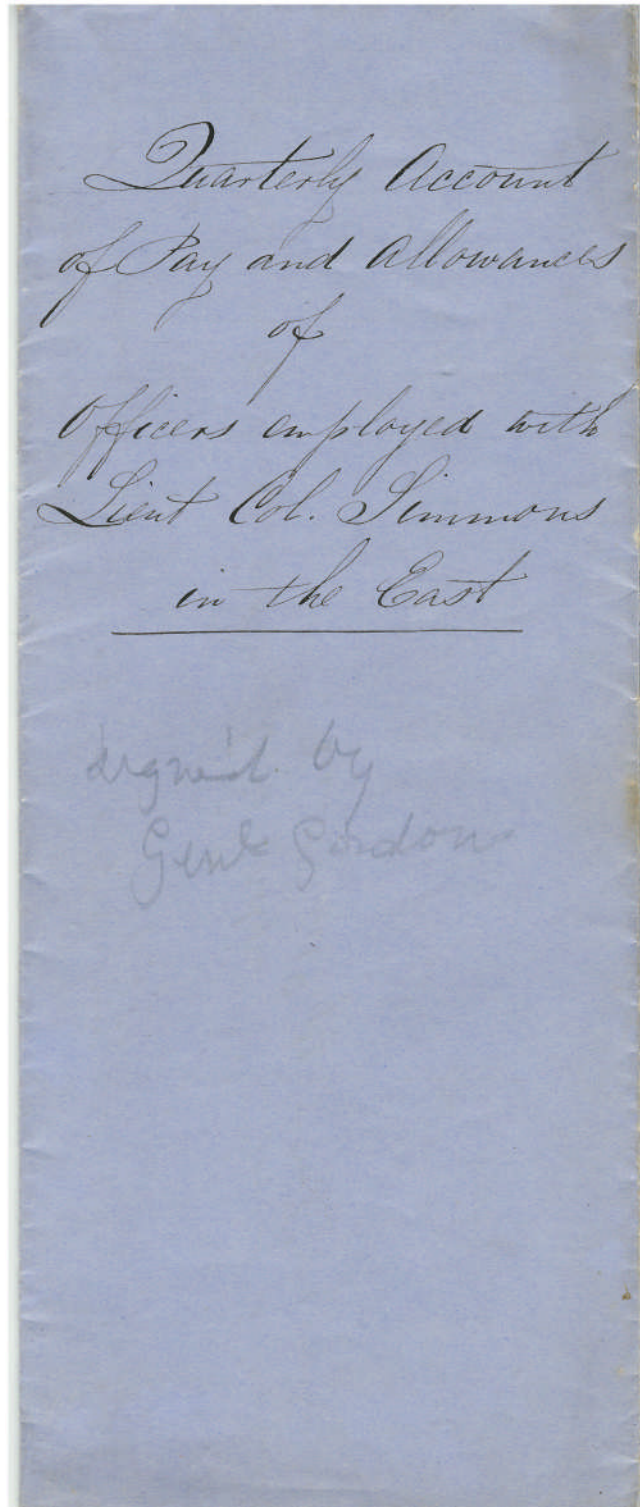


**FIELD MARSHAL
SIR JOHN LINTORN ARABIN SIMMONS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G, R.E.
18? — 1903**



Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Quarterly Account of Pay and Allowances of Officers Employed
with Lieut. Col. Simmons in the East, dated June 11 1857



In April 1857, in company with Lieutenant Edward R. James, R.E., Gordon went to Erzeroum in Armenia for the delimitation of the frontier line between Turkey and Russia as an assistant commissioner to Lintorn Simmons, R.E., the commissioner for the Asiatic frontier boundary. The work was finished in October when Gordon returned to England.

Charles George Gordon — 1833 — 1885

Quarterly Account of Pay and Allowances of Officers Employed
with Lieut. Col. Simmons in the East, dated June 11 1857

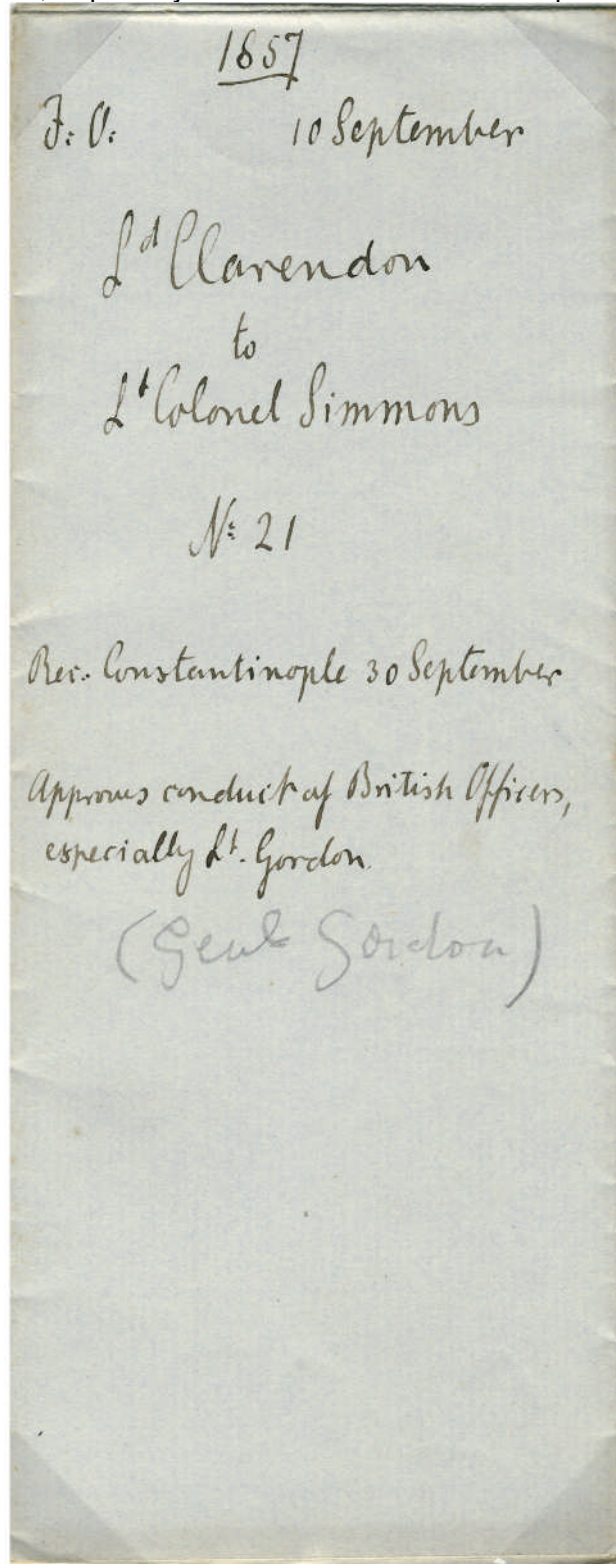
Field Allowances				Domestic Allowances				Total Amount				Signatures of the parties in acknowledgment, or having received the sums stated against their respective names	General Remarks and authorities to which reference is made
Date	Amount	3/4 in lieu of 9 days		Amount	3/4 in lieu of 9 days		Total	paid to each person					
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.				
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.				
10/	45	10	0					45	19	10 1/2	J. H. Simmons. Lt. Colonel	The within mentioned rates of pay are authorized by letter from War Department No. 157, 385 dated 24 th March 1857	
3/6	15	18	6	9	13	13	0	7	10	9 1/2	H. H. Jones. Lieut. R.E.		
1/6	6	16	6					3	7	0 2 1/2	Edward S. James. Lieut. R.E.		
1/6	6	16	6	5	3	7	19	0	4	19	2 1/2	C. G. Gordon. Lieut. Royal Eng ^s	Domestic Allowances from 8 th May inclusive
2/6	11	7	6	9	13	13	0	5	8	8	9	St. Pauls full Staff Asst. Surg ^s	Let pay certificate attached
Total.								35	7	18	10		

my knowledge and belief, the above account is correct
June 1857.

J. H. Simmons.
Lt. Colonel

Charles George Gordon —1833– 1885

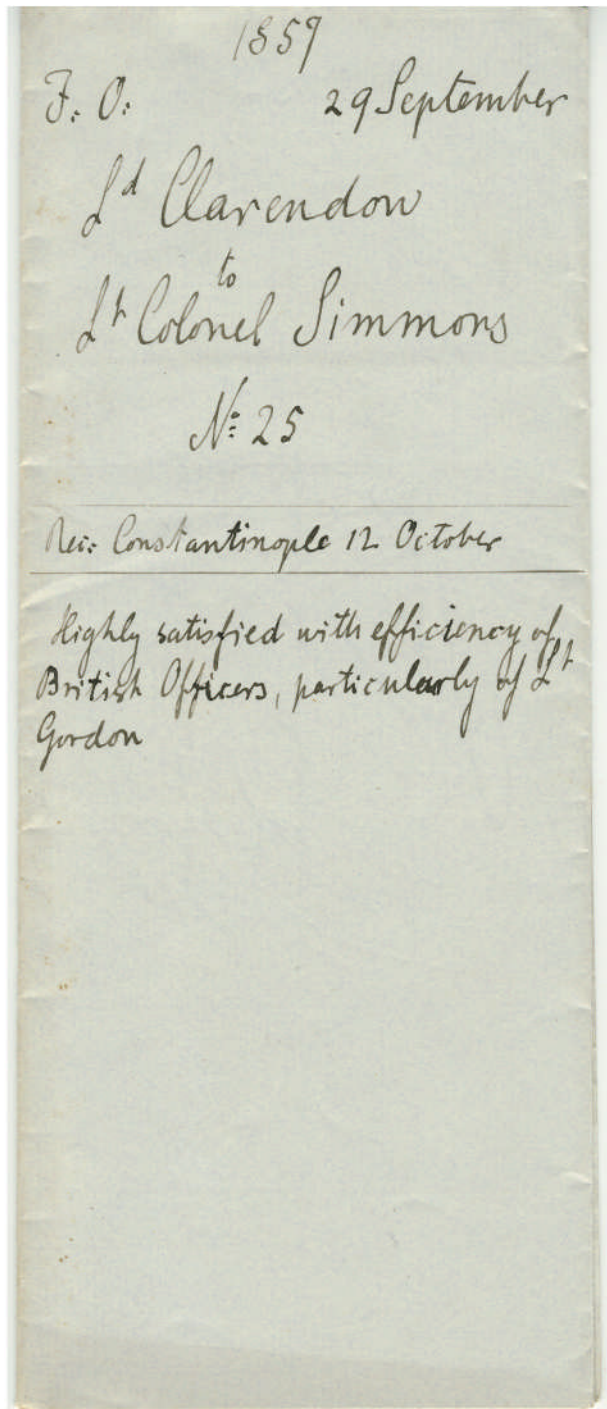
Lord Clarendon, Foreign Secretary, to Lt. Colonel Simmons Regarding the Conduct of British Officers, Especially Lieutenant Gordon — 10 September 1857



"I have to acquaint you that I learn with great satisfaction from your despatch N° 22 of the 24th ultimo the efficient manner in which the British officers and men employed under you have performed the duties assigned to them, and I have to instruct you to express this to them and particularly to Lieutenant Gordon. I have also caused a communication to the above effect to be made to the War Office."

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Lord Clarendon, Foreign Secretary, to Lt. Colonel Simmons Regarding the Conduct of British Officers, Especially Lieutenant Gordon — 29 September 1857.



state for foreign affairs in 1853. He failed to prevent the outbreak of the Crimean War and his performance during it was undistinguished, but he secured favorable terms for Britain at the Congress of Paris (1856). He continued in office under Lord Palmerston until 1858 and also served as foreign secretary under J. Russell (1865 - 1866) and W. Gladstone (1868 - 1870).

Foreign Office September 29, 1857

I have to acquaint you that I have learned with great satisfaction and have communicated to the War Department and Horse Guards the favorable opinion expressed by you in your dispatches N°. 22 and 27, respecting the efficient manner in which the party under your orders, and that of Lieutenant Gordon in particular have have [sic] performed the duties assigned to them. I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble servant.

S/ Clarendon

Charles George Gordon — 1833 — 1885

Lord Clarendon, Foreign Secretary, to Lt. Colonel Simmons Regarding the Conduct of British Officers, Especially Lieutenant Gordon — 29 September 1857

No 25

Foreign Office.
September 29. 1857.

Sir,

I have to acquaint you that I have learned with great satisfaction and have communicated to the War

Department and Horse Guards the

favourable opinion expressed by

you in your despatches Nos 22

and 27, respecting the efficient

manner in which the party

under your orders, and that of

Lieutenant Gordon in particular,

Lieutenant Colonel Simmons. A. B.

have

Charles George Gordon — 1833 — 1885

Two-page autographed letter to Gerald Graham, VC, written prior to Gordon's departure for Cairo and Gondokoro as Governor of Equatorial provinces of Central Africa. It expresses his strong religious fervor and briefly mentions the shortage of money by the Khedive.

21 Cent St.
Ishant.
12.1.74
My dear friend
I thank you for your note
I was only joking when I spoke of
"weep? agent". I am truly thankful
that I "am hid" even if it had been
written by a foe "from the tongue"
"Shen it smuggeth" Ps XXXI. 20, and
that it would never have been seen
but I knew all the time, that you
never meant it. The "Peace" smile
"shows all understanding" can ~~also~~
only be realized when by God's grace
the pain of man or his blame is
either immaterial. We are under a
mask ~~in this world~~ it is in this world
and that mask must be removed
some day. and then indeed will be
no secrets. I have been down to hear

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter to Gerald Graham, VC, written prior to Gordon's departure for Cairo and Gondokoro as Governor of Equatorial provinces of Central Africa.

21 Cecil Street
Strand

12. 1. 74

My dear Gerald

Thank you for your note. I was only joking when I spoke of "unpd. Agent." I am truly thankful that I "am hid" even if it had been written by a foe "from the tongue" "when it sungeth Ps. XXXI.20, and that it would more than hurt me but I knew all the time that you never meant it. The "Peace" which "passes all understanding" can only be realized when by God's grace the praise of man or his blame is alike immaterial. We are under a mask in this world and that mask must be removed some day and poor indeed will be our merits.

I have been down to Mr. Cardwell's for Saturday & Sunday a good keen man and wife, family prayers and I feel since from the little I saw of them that he has and seeks Gods blessing on all his work. I went down in trepidation not liking it and came back having made everlasting friends. The Dissolving Views went off well. I have been much worse. Khedive sent no coin as yet. Believe me my dear Gerald, with kind regards to Mrs. Graham & the chicks.

Yours sincerely,

S/ C.G. Gordon

P.S. You did not grumble my dear Gerald, you only expressed your wish to be more actively employed, it will come in time I feel sure. I had a letter from Bahir offering advice. I answered I had not applied to him before as Khedive was short of money & I feared if I had asked Bahir his advice & not taking it (which I could not have done without having larger funds) he would be annoyed.

Charles George Gordon — 1833 — 1885

Autographed letter to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Gondokoro, discussing "the first letters I have had for 8 months," the arrival of further aides from London, and local problems.

Colonel Nugent Gondokoro.
Ch. 20 Nov 1894
R. S. N. 1894
Dear friend
London.
My dear Nugent.
Your kind letters dated 29 April & June &
one undated came with W. & Ch. on 17. These
were the first letters I have had for 8 months
& you may imagine the mass of correspondence
I have, & will be continued with a mass of fresh
letters. You have had a very trial I feel sure
in losing your father, but it was for better for
him he must have felt his loss of powers too
much to enjoy life. I will go through your letters
Yes you did very right with Watson & Ch.
and last night that though they had not
at all, and enjoyed the prospect of their work so
much as to be unwilling to change for any other
post. yet if they had known the insignificant part
it was, they would never have come, & they said
they were in hopes I had heard of my work
with the Gov. that I would resign after a time
how young fellows like these are, are not often
troubled with scruples & thus was their opinion
I am no more clear as to the Khedive's
object in sending me up here than I was
in England, and still ride at single anchor
I think I shall turn the tables on him
& that he has more or less found out his
mistake in thinking I would be a puppet.
Abou S. fell most rapidly, he was too eager
for money, & was detected at once.

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Gondokoro, discussing “the first letters I have had for 8 months,” the arrival of further aides from London, and local problems.

Colonel Nugent , CB.

Gondokoro

REngs
Horseguards
London

20 Novr 1874

My dear Nugent

Your kind letters dated 29 April, 9 June & one undated came with W. & Ch. on 17. These were the first letters I have had for 8 months and you may enquire the mass of correspondence I have, & will be content with a read of General Eyre's letter. You have had a sore trial I feel since in losing your father, but it was far better for him who must have felt his loss of powers too much to enjoy life. I will go through your letters. Yes, you did very right not to come.

Watson and Chip said last night that there they had not suffered at all and enjoyed the prospect of their work so much as to be unwilling to change for any other post. Yet if they had known the iniquitous govt. it was, they would never have come and they said they were in hopes when they heard of my row with the Govr. that I would resign after a time. Now young fellows like these are not often troubled with scruples and this was their opinion. I am no more close as to the Khedive's object in sending men up here than I was in England, and still ride at single anchor. I think I shall turn the tables on him and that he has more or less found out his mistake in thinking I would be a puppet. Abou S fell most rapidly, he was too eager for money & was detested at once.

Thank you for the most acceptable shaving brush and the soap, my only brush has cracked along the side, it came quite safe. Have I written to you from Gondokoro after arriving from Soubat River. I think so, and so will not report. I have broken up Gondokoro completely and established two other stations instead of it, at much better places. Only 20 men will stay here. The men, officers and soldiers could never be moved out of this place they were rooted to it, so in bucking it up. I have resumed their comforts & they will not need further moves. They are an undisciplined bride. Fancy they have had no parades (till I ordered them) for years & years, no parades whatever, however though it is uphill work, one is getting ahead in an unfortunately small design.

I hope Mrs Nugent and the little boy are well. I quite felt when I saw the papers that there be discontent about the rewards, it is the old story. The rains are over, and it is very fine weather. It is astonishing how well Watson & Chipp are. They did not suffer at all & arrived in capital spirits, they are very good specimens of our Corps, and will do a mint of work. They have set to with a vigor & knowledge that astonished me & seemed quite at home in the country. Watson already knows some Arabic. I am delighted with them, please thank the authorities for sending them viz Sir F.C. & Browne. I have not time to write for a mass of letters 8 months accumulation is no joke to answer in a week. I am very glad to hear Jarvis is promoted, will you kindly congratulate him.

Believe me, my dear Nugent

Yours sincerely

(signed) C.G. Gordon

P.S. My kind regards to Mrs Nugent who I hope is well.

Charles George Gordon — 1833 -1885

Autographed letter dated 13 December 1875 to Carl Christian Giegler, Director of the Department of Sudan and Red Sea Coast Telegraphs in Khartoum. Giegler, whom Gordon held in high esteem, was involved with the idea of an overland telegraph through Africa from Alexandria to Cape Town. It was Gordon who surveyed the White Nile south of Gondokoro and kept Giegler informed of the possibility of building a telegraph line there.



Moogie
13. Dec 1875

My dear Mr Giegler
Glad you have received
my contract. I am
now engaged in suppressing
the Moogie. Tell Ayadh
please, that as to
the three questions
of the Fabbu, Makuka
and Yes hode wany
the Khedive has to
decide them, and ask

محمد قاسم باشا

20

J. Giegler Esq
Khartoum.

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter to Carl Christian Giegler, Director of the Department of Sudan and Red Sea Coast Telegraphs in Khartoum. Giegler, who Gordon held in high esteem, was involved with the idea of an overland telegraph through Africa from Alexandria to Cape Town. It was Gordon who surveyed the Nile south of Gondokoro and kept Giegler informed of the possibility of building a telegraph line there.

Moogie
13 Dec 1875

My dear chr Gegler [sic]

*Glad you have received your contract. I am now engaged in suppressing the Moogie. Tell Ajadh please, that as to the three questions of the Fabbo, Mahuka and Fashoda even the Khedive has to decide them and **Not me**, with respect to his ... Ali Eff has orders from me to settle them.*

Yours sincerely,

C. G. Gordon

Charles George Gordon — 1833–1885

Autographed letter to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Khartoum in which he mentions meeting the envoy of King John of Abyssinia and an engagement Gessi had in Baba-Gazelle (Captain Gessi, an Italian, was Gordon's trusted ally). He complains of "boils which are not on my head, & it is odd I never have had these nuisances before in any other land...."

Khartoum.
20. Jan'y 1879.

My Dear Nugent,
I have thanks for your letter
22 Nov. which came only
to-day as it had followed
me to Katisi. When I
leave there to meet the
Envoy of King John. I have
written to Watson, and
sent of the engagement
Gessi had in Baba Gazelle
with the son of Labbe. so
I will say no more. In
a few days. I hope to

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Khartoum in which he mentions meeting the envoy of King John of Abyssinia and an engagement Gessi had in Baba-Gazelle (Captain Gessi, an Italian, was Gordon's trusted ally). He complains of "boils which are not on my head, & it is odd I never have had these nuisances before in any other land...."

Kartoum

20 Jan'y 1879

My Dear Nugent

Thank you for your letter 22 Novr, which came only today as it had followed me to Katisif [?] when I went there to meet the envoy of King John. I have written to Watson on acct of the engagement Gessi had in Baba Gazelle [probably Bahr-el-Ghazel] with the [?] of Jalaba so I will try no more for a few days. I hope to get his letters with all details & I will send them to you to read of course. You must do so with allowances for brag. No news from Cairo. Either they are pleased or not. I expect & cannot help but thinking it will not be generally acceptable. How is that little [?] Charles. [?] you think of giving only one suit of clothes to. I hope Mrs. Nugent is well. My kindest regards to her.

I am all right again with the exception of boils which are not on my head, it is odd, for I never have had these nuisances before in any other land & they do hurt so when cut. With kindest regards, Believe me

Yours sincerely

C.S. Gordon

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter dated 16 May 1881 to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Le Havre, France while en route to Mauritius. It discusses Nugent's promotion prospects who later promoted to Major General on 25 September 1884. He served in the Egyptian War of 1882 as Brigadier General on Staff, commanding the Royal Engineers in command of the left at Kassasin during the battle of Tel-el-Kebir.

Le Havre
14.5.81

My dear Nugent.

I hope the enclosed
memo, will cheer you
up. You have to watch
Muiry 58 in 1.3.83.
Hughes 58 in 14.9.82
Clarke 58 in 27.7.82

Thus if no promotion takes
place beyond what I have
shown till 1.3.83. and one
casualty takes place between
1.3.83. and 25.9.83 (not
counting fallways stop) you
are safe. I should not
mention this, for perhaps

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed memorandum included with letter dated 16 May 1881 to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Le Havre, France while en route to Mauritius.

Memo

Burnaby retires this year 1881. Promoted
Graham.
Gordon Promoted in June April 1882 Retires
Cook " " Gordon " "
Parley " " Bayly Oct - 1882 Retires
Gray " " Parley Oct - 1882
Murray & Bayly are out of calculation for July 83
Also Lieut. Clarke,
Moggridge James De Mulla, Kelly will all
retire so that
Desart will take Gallwey's place July 83.
and Nugent will take the chance of
a casualty up to 25 Sept 1883. If a
casualty takes place, he will be promoted
and thus a good wedge put in between them
now, the got illigitims in India and China
for some time subalterns, the rule, and
to recognize their services, ^{which was} ~~was~~ held to, is
a great measure in China, as a
good one for the Corps.

C. Gordon
14.5.81

Charles George Gordon — 1833 – 1885

Autographed letter and Memorandum to Colonel Nugent, Royal Engineers, written from Le Havre, France while en route to Mauritius. It discusses promotion prospects for Colonel Nugent. He was promoted to Major General on 25 September 1884. He served in the Egyptian War of 1882 as Brigadier General on Staff, commanding the Royal Engineers in command of the left at Kassasin during the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. [Note that some of the names may not be spelled correctly as the handwriting is difficult to read.]

Havre

14 . 5 . 81

My dear Nugent

I hope the enclosed memo will cheer you up. You have to watch

	yrs	
Murray	58	in 1.3.83
Inglis	58	in 14.9.82
Clarke	58	in 27.7.82

This if no promotions take place beyond that I have shown till 1.3.83. and one casualty takes place between 1.3.83 and 25.9.83. (Not counting Gallwey's step) you are safe. I should not mention this, for perhaps Murray might retire on what they offer him.

With kind regards to Mrs. Nugent and Charles,

*Believe me,
Yours sincerely
(signed) C.G. Gordon*

MEMO

Burnaby retires this year 1881.

Graham

Gordon	Promoted	in	James	April 1882	<u>Retires</u>
Cooke	"	"	Gordon	" "	
Pasley	"	"	Bagley	Oct 1882	<u>Retires</u>
Wray	"	"	Pasley	Oct 1882	

Murray and Inglis are out of calculation for July 83 also his A Clarke.

Muggeridge, Jervis, Dr. Butts, . . . (?) will all retire so that

Eweart will take Gallwey's place July 83 and Nugent will take the chance of a casualty up to 25 Sept 1883. If a casualty takes place he [Nugent] will be promoted and thus a good wedge put in between those men, who got Majorities in India and China for service while subalterns. The rule, not to recognize these services, which was held to, in a great measure in Crimea, was a good one for the Corps.

C. G. Gordon

16.5.81

Major, Edward Roderic Owen, D.S.O., The Lancashire Fusiliers, 1856-1896

Letter written May 19, 1896 while at Ambigole.
(This letter does not appear in his memoir written by his sister)

Ambigole
19.5.96.
Dear Russell.
Thanks for gun.
I am sending you some more of my 'heart
pins' which I find more in my bag
to keep for me. also my personal
Compass which I should be glad if you
have minded. I have been C.O. for a
few days got diarrhoea & badly &
want to be patrolling - but pretty well
now though and am squaring up
these Arabs in gun. Ammunition &
pay - before proceeding to Akashah
for his no longer in the Camel
Corps but Command the various
lots of Arabs - & to ensure them

Major Edward Roderic Owen, D.S.O., A Victorian Hero

Letter written May 19, 1896 while at Ambigole.
(This letter does not appear in his memoir written by his sister)

19.5.96

Dear Rennell,

Thanks for yours. I am sending for some more of my "breast pins" which I find none(?) in my bag to keep for me. Also my prismatic compass which I should be glad if ... have minded.

I have been CO for a few days got diarrhea v. badly & went on patrolling. I'm finally ... now though and squaring up these Arabs in Guns, Ammo & pay before proceeding to Akasha for ... no ... Camel Corps but ... and his various lots of Arabs & to ensure their carrying out their patrols probably requires considerable supervision for we are entirely reliant on them to guard our convoys & flanks between the stations so that the CO may have a rest.

The English ... seems more in ... air than ever and my original promotion(?) of the Indian advance to Berber & we to Abu Hamed looks like the probable future after Dongola, does it not?

Gleichen has been called to Suakin, just arrived here for a look before leaving.

Please order for me three larger flannel cholera belts and have them sent, like a good chap.

As ever,

Roddy Owen

Thurston is here who tells me he visited ... after me but the old chief ... turn out for him. What is to be good looking ... can't visit one. By the way, he horrified the force by growing a beard.

You might send me too some more open writing paper, 1 bot ink, and a pad for writing.

Commissioned Lieutenant, 11 September 1876, Captain, 4 August 1884, and Brevet Major, 16 August 1892. Served in the operations against the Jebus, Lagos, West Coast of Africa, in 1892 — wounded (mentioned in dispatches, Brevet of Major, Companion of the Order of Distinguished Service, and Medal with Clasp). He also served in Uganda, the Unyoro War, Chitral and the Afghan Frontier, and Dongola, the Sudan where he commanded a Sudanese irregular corps

A Victorian hero figure (he was a talented jockey and rode 'Father O'Flynn' to victory in the 1892 Liverpool Grand National horse race.) he was born at The Hewletts in Gloucestershire, May 4, 1856, and died of cholera at Ambigol Wells, Dongola Province in the Sudan on July 11, 1896.

Lord Salisbury's Tribute to the Memory of Roddy Owen — *No more gallant fellow ever left these shores. The difficulty was to restrain him. And yet, with all his daring qualities, he showed others of administration, of thoughtful care and tenderness for others, which would have made him, I think, had he been spared, a public servant of rare excellence from all points of view. It is men like him who have made and maintained our Empire.*

Major Edward Roderic Owen, D.S.O., A Victorian Hero

Letter written June 16, 1896 at Akasha less than a month before his death.
(This letter does not appear in his memoir written by his sister)

Akasha. 16. 6. 96.

Dear Remell.

Your letter announcing
your departure recd today.
How can I thank you suffici-
-ently for your noble self sacrifice
in plunging into the Cauldron
of Cholera after to save me
from the pangs of Stomach ache.
It will be a relief for you old
boy to be spared if only to avoid
the constantly recurring applications
from me for articles of clothing
& other necessaries of the 19th Century.
The wounded Enemy is
few only of whom are Baffars
are a model of fortitude and
Compel our admiration.
Liberet was a distinct success
& it should have been.

Major Edward Roderic Owen, D.S.O., A Victorian Hero

Letter written June 16, 1896 at Akasha less than a month before his death.
(This letter does not appear in his memoir written by his sister)

Dear Rennell,

Your letter announcing the departure arrived today. How can I thank you sufficiently for your self sacrifice in plunging into the cauldron of cholera after(?) to save me from the pangs of stomach aches. It will be a relief for you old boy to (?) if only to avoid the constantly recurring application from me for articles of clothing & other necessities of the 19th century. The wounded enemy a few only of whom are Baggara are a model of fortitude and compel one's admiration.



Firket was a distinct success as so it should have been for the Garrison showed us objectives to our cavalry patrols in their vicinity previous to the fight, made no efforts on our lines of communications worth mentioning and generally showed themselves a most dormant army. They were undoubtedly surprised & deservedly so, but collared they faced the music, though without cohesion & apparently without plan. We had of course an overwhelming force of 5 to 1, to say nothing of horse artillery, Maxims and(?).

Our men did all that needed doing and I think did it well. Wingate's or Slatin's information of the numbers Emir's present ... seems to have been very accurate (much I fancy to the regret of some of the purely military "know alls".) It was decided I believe that the Special Service Officers should be passengers as much as possible, and so they have been made. I command the Arabs as ... but as acting staff officer to Maxwell's brigade on the 7th I was informed... are officers commanding a battalion without my requesting his opinion that unless if any casualty amongst Bedouin... Egyptian officers, brown, pink, or yellow add a previous claim to me (I did not?, no casualty occurred).. I suppose I ought to have gone for the Egyptian Army.

The Sirdar was ... to consider me at first but now no English... is inspected later, his 2 others taking liberties.

Thanks so much for all the trouble on my behalf. It is still most amazing to hear about Uganda. Be sure you write me Write this be unopened ----- by the W.O. is discussed here with all ignorance but the realist to questions in view of the advance of the Stafford Regt is the superiority or otherwise of the Sugar Plum beans over the Sugar Plum Haricot Bean.

If the Khalifa don't jump into the breach now & strongly reinforce Dongola from Omdurman, he's a juggins. I hear he intends withdrawing the Italian Army for this purpose but this may not be in time for the job.

The Railway will be here by the 26th inst. & the river is rising rapidly.

Yours,

Roddy Owen

Evelyn Baring 1st Earl of Cromer, G.C.B., O.M G.C.M.G, K.C.S.I.

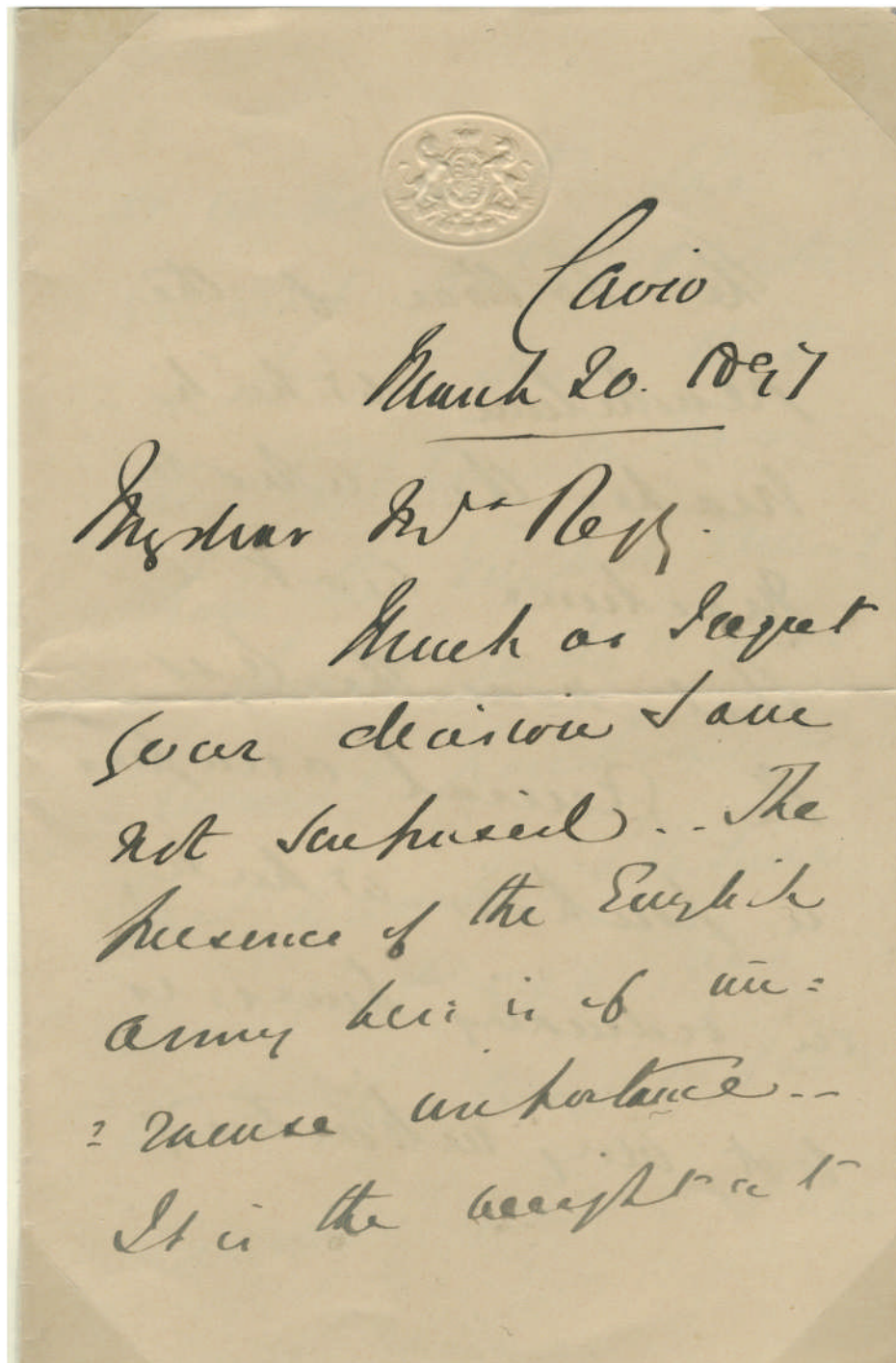
Evelyn Baring was born on 26 February 1841 at Cromer Hall, Norfolk. He was educated at the Ordnance School, Carshalton; Woolwich, 1855-1858. In 1858 Baring entered the Royal Artillery, and was commissioned in 1870. He reached the rank of Major in 1876. While in the Royal Artillery, Baring was stationed in the Ionian Islands, where he learnt Greek and he took on secretarial duties before undertaking similar roles in Jamaica and India. In 1876 Baring was sent to Egypt where he became the Commissioner of Egyptian Public Debt between 1877-1879 and Controller-General in 1879. Baring was appointed a financial member of the Council of the Governor General of India in 1880. He returned to the imperial administration of Egypt in 1884, serving first as the Financial Assistant at the Conference in London on Egyptian Finance in 1884 and as Agent and Consul-General in Egypt between 1883-1907.

Baring was created Baron Cromer in 1892; Viscount Cromer in 1899 and Earl of Cromer in 1901. During his career in the army and the Civil Service, Baring was awarded the CIE, 1876; KCSI, 1883; CB 1885; KCB 1887; OM and GCMG 1888; and GCB 1895. Baring wrote works on politics, the military and the classics. In 1910 he became chair of the Classical Association. He died in London on 29 January 1917.



Sir Evelyn Baring — 1841 – 1917

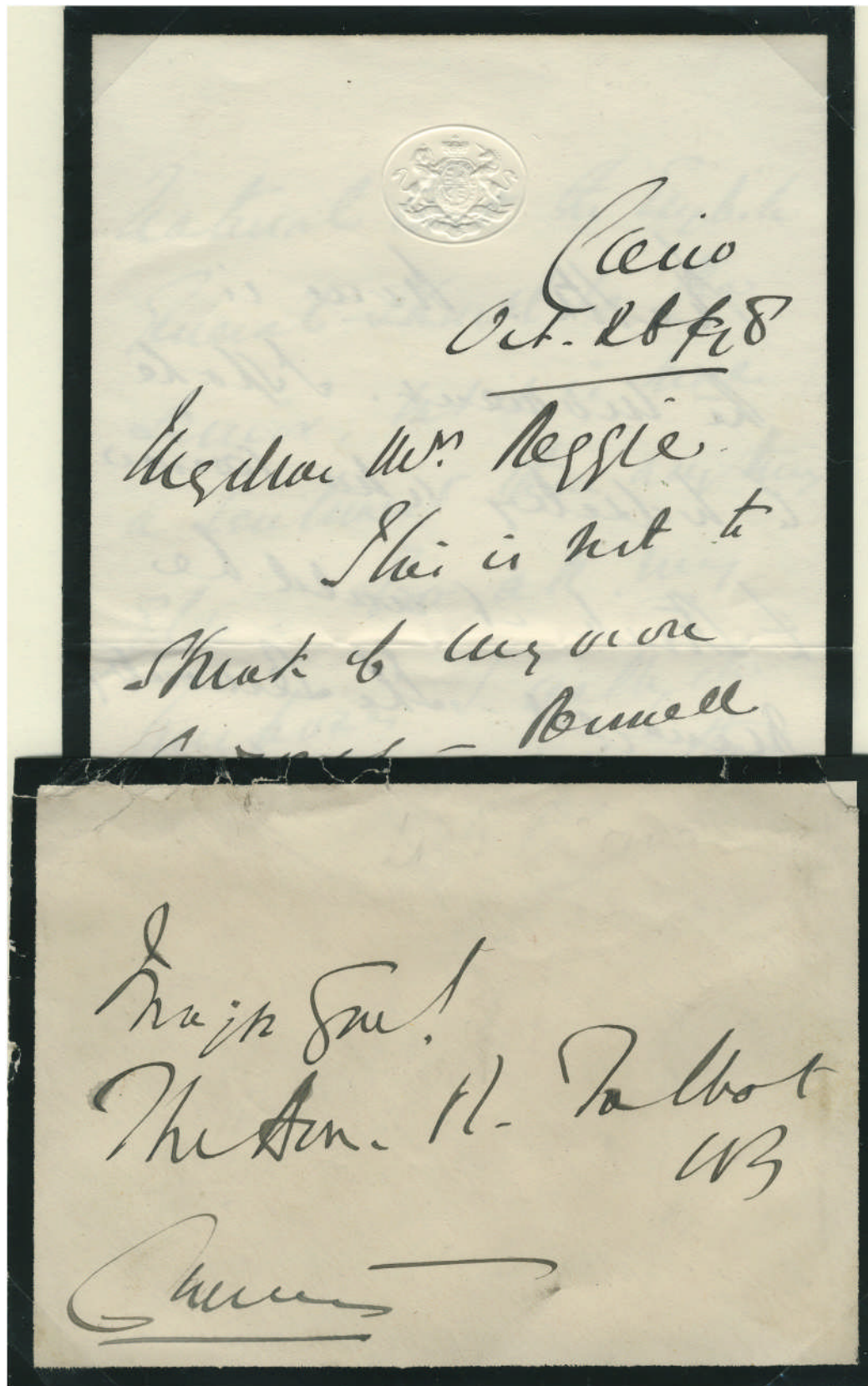
Letter to the wife of Major General Reginald A. J. Talbot. Dated Cairo, March 20, 1897, it says in part: "Much as I regret your decision I am not surprised. The presence of the English Army here is of immense importance. It is the weight at the bottom of the pendulum which makes the whole machine work. That none the less the General occupies a position which, in ordinary times, is not very interesting or important."



Major General Hon. Sir Reginald Arthur James Talbot (1841 - 1929) had both a distinguished political and military career. He sat as an M. P. for Stafford (1869 - 74). He also served in the Zulu War (1879); in the Egyptian Campaign (1882); and in the Nile Expedition (1884 - 5), where he was mentioned in dispatches. Later he was Military Attache in Paris (1889 - 95); in command of the Calvary Brigade at Aldershot (1896 - 99); and commanded the army of occupation in Egypt (1899 - 1903). His final tour of duty was as Governor of Victoria, Australia (1904 -08).

Sir Evelyn Baring — 1841 – 1917

Letter to the wife of Major General Reginald A. J. Talbot dated Cairo, Oct. 26, 1898.



Mourning letter and envelope as Lady Cromer passed away October 16, 1898.

Rudolf Anton Slatin (1857-1932)



Rudolf Anton Slatin (1857-1932), C.B., K.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., served in the Austro-Hungarian Army before becoming governor of Darfur Province in the Sudan. At the end of 1883 he was arrested by the Mahdi and was held captive by the Dervishes until February, 1895, when he escaped. During his captivity he served as a slave, servant, and advisor to the Khalifa. Finding his way back to Cairo he was made a colonel in the Egyptian Army. He became Assistant Director of Military Intelligence and participated in the Dongola and Nile Expeditions. In 1900 he was Inspector General of the Sudan and a Major-General. He stayed in the Sudan until 1914 when he resigned from Sudanese service and devoted himself to the work of the Austrian Red Cross.

Rudolf Anton Slatin (1857-1932)

Letter and cover from Slatin Pasha to Mrs. F. Bowker, wife of Lieutenant Frank Bowker. Posted at Vienna on 27 April 1897. Francis Jearrad Bowker was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Hampshire Regiment on 22 August 1888 and promoted to 1st Lieutenant 4 January 1890. He became a Captain on 27 March 1897 and a Major on 22 August 1902. He served in the South African war in 1900-1902 with the 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment and took part in the operations in the Orange Free State, February to May 1900, including those at Paardsbeerg, the actions at Poplar Grove, Karree Siding, Vet River, and Zand River, and in the Transvaal in May and June 1900, including the engagements near Johannesburg and Pretoria (mentioned in dispatches, Brevet of Major, Medal with three clasps, King's Medal with two clasps).

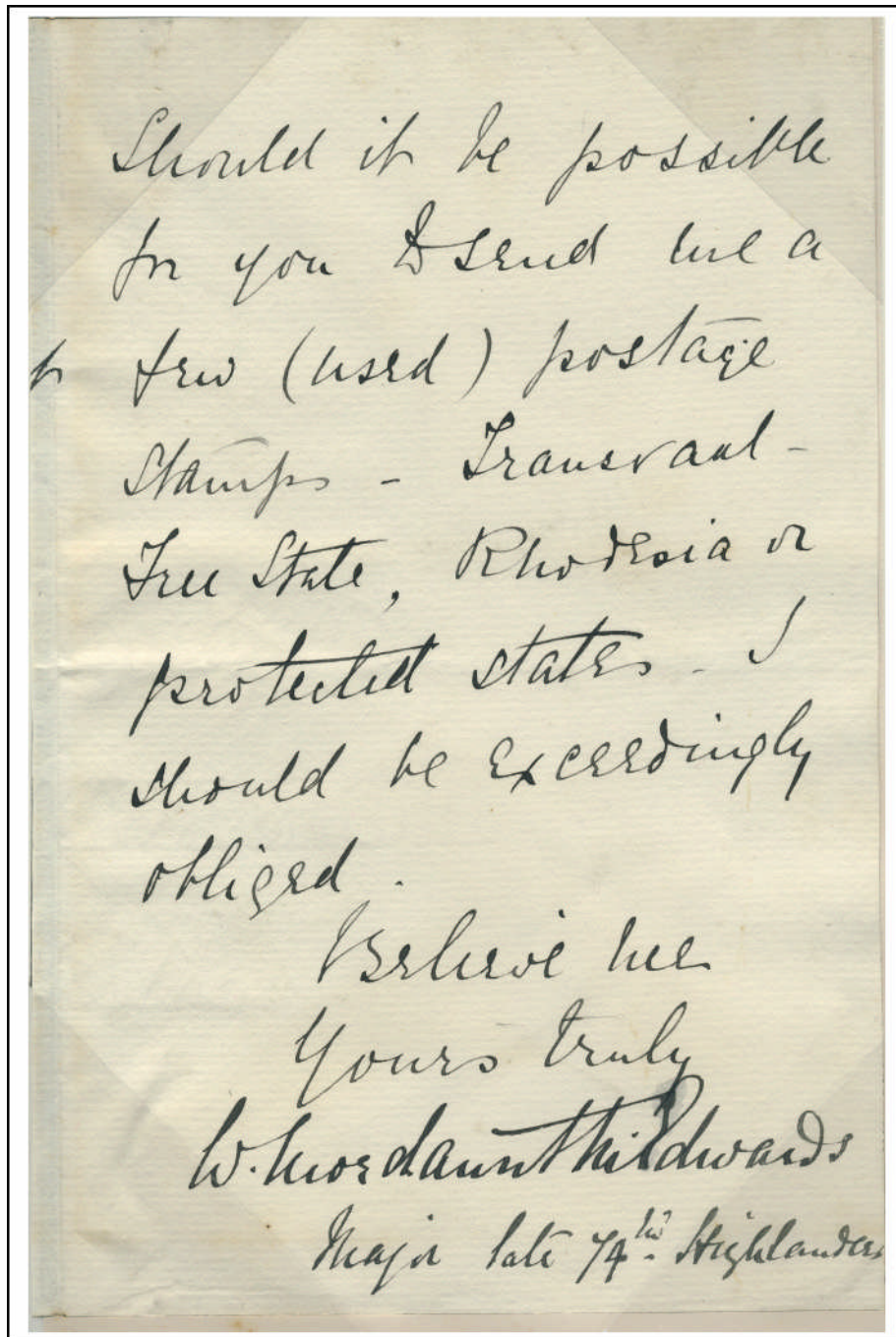


Major William Mordaunt Marsh Edwards, VC, Highland Light Infantry

Lieutenant Edwards won the Victoria Cross on 13 September 1882 at Tel-el-Kebir.

For the conspicuous gallantry displayed by him during the battle of Tel-el-Kebir on the 13th September 1882, in leading a party of Highland Light Infantry to storm a redoubt. Lieut. Edwards, who was in advance of his party, with great gallantry rushed alone into the battery, killed the artillery officer in charge and himself was knocked down by a gunner with a rammer, and only rescued by the timely arrival of three men of his regiment.

Autograph letter signed W. Mordaunt Edwards to S. Freeman Matthews in Cape Town, sending his autograph, although "I should have thought you had so many really eminent men now in South Africa. The cover is postmarked LONDON 16 MAY 1900 and backstamped CAPETOWN JU 6 00.



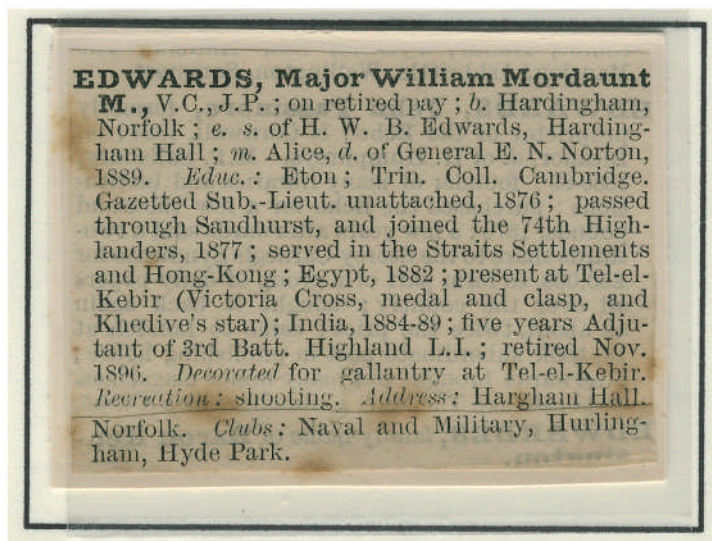
Should it be possible
for you to send me a
few (used) postage
stamps - Transvaal -
Free State, Rhodesia or
protected states - I
should be exceedingly
obliged.

Believe me
Yours truly
W. Mordaunt Marsh Edwards
Major late 74th Highlanders

Major William Mordaunt Marsh Edwards, VC, Highland Light Infantry

Name	William Mordaunt Marsh, EDWARDS
Rank	Major
Force	The Highland Light Infantry
VC won	Arabi Pasha Rebellion, Egypt, 13 September 1882
London Gazette	13 February 1883
Born	Hardingham, 7 May 1855
Died	17 September 1912, Hardingham
Grave	St George's Churchyard, Hardingham
Location of VC	King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Museum (Doncaster, England).

Edwards was commissioned a Lieutenant on 22 May 1876, promoted to Captain 13 March 1877, and to Major 4 September 1895. On 19 February 1899, he was appointed to the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, the body guard of the sovereign on all public and state occasions. Wounded in the head at Tel-el-Kebir, he received the Egyptian Medal with Clasp and the Khedive's Star in addition to the Victoria Cross.



May 16th, 1900

Dear Sir

At the end of this letter you will find a signature which I should fear is of very little value to add to your list. I should have thought you had so many really eminent men now in South Africa — but I can be only flattered by your wishing for my name.

Should it be possible for you to send me a few (used) postage stamps — Transvaal — Free State, Rhodesia or protected states. I should be exceedingly obliged.

Believe me

Yours truly,

W. Mordaunt Edwards

Major late 74th Highlanders

Major William Mordaunt Marsh Edwards, VC, Highland Light Infantry

London to Cape Town

MY 16 00

Cover with the seal of the Naval and Military Club backstamped Cape Town JU 6 00.



Sir Charles Dilke — 1843– 1911

Typed letter signed by Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., discussing General Gordon. A prominent member of Gladstone's cabinet, Dilke was largely responsible for sending Gordon to Khartoum.

76, Strand Street. S.W.

Private .

July 22nd. 07.

My dear Sir ,

Of course I agree with you about "responsibilities", as you know . You are , I think, wrong in believing that the peace negotiations came from Chamberlain . I disapproved the whole of his South African policy and that of Milner : but I do not think that they gave way upon that particular point - "responsibilities" and fair dealing towards the natives.

As regards Gordon , I still feel the difficulty of writing on the subject in the lifetime of many who were concerned . Morley was hampered in his Gladstone by the same consideration . That Gordon contradicted himself needs no proving . I do not think that I was aware of Gordon having seen Gladstone three days before the meeting at the War Office at which Gordon suggested the orders to himself to proceed to Suakim in order to advise on the means of immediate evacuation of the Soudan . Until Gordon was out of reach there was no suggestion of his going to Khartoum . That was approved much later when advised

Sir Charles Dilke

Sir Charles Dilke — 1843 – 1911

Typed letter signed by Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., discussing General Gordon. A prominent member of Gladstone's cabinet, Dilke was largely responsible for sending Gordon to Khartoum.

76, Sloane Street. S.W.

Private .

July 22nd. 07,

My dear Sir,

Of course I agree with you about "responsibilities", as you know . You are, I think, wrong in believing that the peace negotiations came from Chamberlain. I disapproved the whole of his South African policy and that of Milner: but I do not think that they gave way upon that particular point - "responsibilities" and fair dealing towards the natives.

As regards Gordon, I still feel the difficulty of writing on the subject in the lifetime of many who were concerned. Morley was hampered in his Gladstone by the same consideration. That Gordon contradicted himself needs no proving. I do not think that I was aware of Gordon having seen Gladstone three days before the meeting at the War Office at which Gordon suggested the orders to himself to proceed to Suakim in order to advise on the means of immediate evacuation of the Soudan. Until Gordon was out of reach there was no suggestion of his going to Khartoum. That was approved much later when advised by all concerned at Cairo, and could hardly, on the advice given, have been vetoed. I do not think that much attention is paid to the writer named by you. He has long done hack work for various newspapers and is not an authority on ~~various~~ African questions. He has ~~such~~ knowledge and learning as regards some parts of the Central Asian question and some other matters. You should take Morley's account as your base, for he has made public all that could be given to the world in the lifetime of those chiefly concerned. I have ~~written~~ expected. my own diaries with the help of my correspondence, and the result has been agreed to as an accurate statement by a member of the Cabinet of the time. This fact was known to Morley when I placed it at his disposition.

Yours very truly ,

Hon: Joseph Orpen .

Sir Charles Dilke, 2nd Baronet — 1843 – 1911

Born September 4, 1843, London, England, and died January 26, 1911, London. British statesman and Radical member of Parliament who became a member of the Cabinet in William E. Gladstone's second administration but was ruined at the height of his career when he was cited as co-respondent in a divorce suit.



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After leaving the University of Cambridge and making a world tour, Dilke was elected to Parliament in 1868 and took an extreme left-wing position, delivering a series of speeches strongly critical of the monarchy. From 1874 on, however, with the Liberals in opposition, he moved closer to his official leaders. In Gladstone's second Liberal government. He was Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs from 1880-82, and President of the Local Government Board from 1882-85.. He was partly responsible for sending Gordon to Egypt in January 1884.

Apart from his departmental activities, Dilke was eager, with Joseph Chamberlain, to press the general Radical point of view within the Cabinet. This eagerness led him to submit frequent resignations to Gladstone. It also led him to a position of great political promise. By the end of the government, in June 1885, Benjamin Disraeli's prophecy of 1879 that Dilke would be prime minister looked plausible.

The issue was never put to the test, for, a month later, Dilke was cited as co-respondent in a sensational divorce suit. Virginia Crawford, the 22-year-old wife of a Scottish Liberal lawyer, told her husband that she had been Dilke's mistress since 1882. Dilke strenuously denied the story, and, when the case was heard, in February 1886, there was adjudged to be no evidence against him, although Crawford got his divorce. A press campaign, in which the Pall Mall Gazette took the lead, made this an inadequate victory for Dilke. To try to clear his name he got the queen's proctor to reopen the case, and a second hearing took place in July 1886. This went heavily against Dilke. One of his public difficulties was that, although he rebutted Mrs. Crawford's allegations, he was forced to admit to having been her mother's lover.

Six years later, Dilke returned to the House of Commons and held the seat until his death. He was active in the Commons as a military expert and as an exponent of advanced labour legislation. Much of his energy, however, was devoted to gathering evidence that might clear his name. The accumulated evidence showed decisively that much of Mrs. Crawford's story was a fabrication; whether there was a substratum of truth remains uncertain.

Field Marshal Sir Henry Evelyn Wood, VC, GCB, GCMG

9 September 1838 - 2 February 1919

Letter written May 5, 1911, to Miss Katherine Oules (1879 – 1961), discussing her portrait of Gordon, and suggesting how to portray his coat, explaining that his own field marshal's uniform would be useless for the task, and "I cannot suppose that you would like to paint Gordon in a coat he never wore." Wood was the first Sirdar (commander-in-chief) of the Egyptian Army (21 December 1882 to 31 March 1885).

officers employed in the school of photography should meet you, that he should get a man to put on Gordon's coat, (he'll have to get a young one and a small one, under the present *standard*), and that you should get the Royal Engineer photographer to photograph the man and the coat, in the size and position which you desire; that you should take full notes of the lace and ask at Chatham if they have a photograph of Gordon in uniform, showing his trousers as a Pasha in the Egyptian army. I forget whether the stripe was gold or red cloth.

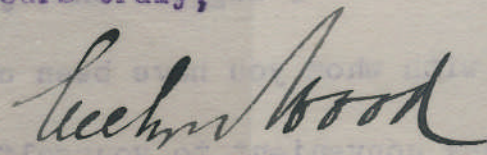
Gordon's tarboosh or fez was high and stiff.

I hope the information I am sending may help you.

Yours truly,

Miss Oules.

12. Bryanston Square. W.



Field Marshal Sir Henry Evelyn Wood, VC, GCB, GCMG

5th May, 1911

Dear Miss Oules,

I have not a general's uniform and the difference between a General and a Field Marshal is sufficiently marked as to render mine useless to you, if I could lend it to you which I cannot, for I have command engagements up to the end of July. This matters the less as I cannot suppose that you would like to paint Gordon in a coat he never wore. Ismail Pasha gave or owed £150 for Gordon's coat, which Gordon gave to me; it was a long blue or green, gold-belaced garment, ugly enough in my opinion, but still you remember that Cromwell desired to be painted "Wart and all."

I suggest that you should write to the officer with whom you have been corresponding, ask that on some day convenient to yourself, one of the non-commissioned officers employed in the school of photography should meet you, that he should get a man to put on Gordon's coat, (he'll have to get a young one and a small one, under the present standard) and that you should get the Royal Engineer photographer to photograph the man and the coat, in the size and position which you desire; that you should take full notes of the lace and ask at Chatham if they have a photograph of Gordon in uniform, showing his trousers as a Pasha in the Egyptian Army. I forget whether the stripe was gold or red cloth.

Gordon's tarboosh or fez was high and stiff.

I hope the information I am sending may help you.

Yours truly,

Miss Oules

s/ Evelyn Wood

12. Bryanston Square. W.

Field Marshal Sir Henry Evelyn Wood, VC, GCB, GCMG

WOOD, SIR HENRY EVELYN (1838-1919) VC, GCB, GCMG, was born at Braintree, Essex, on the 9th of February 1838, the youngest son of Sir John Page Wood, Bart. He died at Harlow in Essex on 2 December 1919. He was brought back to Aldershot to be buried alongside his wife in the Military Cemetery.

Wood was educated at Marlborough College and served as a midshipman in the Crimean War during the siege of Sebastopol. Heavily wounded in an attack on the Redan, Wood was mentioned in dispatches. He then left the Royal Navy to join the army, becoming a cornet in the 13th Light Dragoons and then a lieutenant in the 17th Lancers. In India he saw action during the Indian Mutiny and saw action at Rajghur, Sindwaho, Kharee, and Barode. On 19 October 1858 during an action at Sinwaho, India, Lieutenant Wood was in command of a troop of light cavalry and attacked almost single-handed a body of rebels, whom he routed. He also subsequently at Sindhora, rescued, with the help of a duffadar and a sowar, a Potal from a band of robbers who had captured the man and carried him into the jungle where they intended to hang him.



In 1861 Wood was promoted to captain and in 1862 he became a brevet major in the 73rd Highlanders

(Black Watch). In 1865 he left the infantry for the cavalry again and after a stint as an aide-de-camp in Dublin, Wood was given a staff position until 1871, when he became a full major in the 90th Foot. Meanwhile he had married the sister of 4th Viscount Southwell, Mary Pauline Southwell in 1867. In 1873 Wood was promoted brevet lieutenant-colonel and in 1874 he served in the Ashanti War. Until 1878 Wood was a member of the staff at Aldershot.

In January 1879 he took part in the Anglo-Zulu War and was given command of the left column of the army that crossed the Zulu frontier, and shortly afterwards he received the local rank of brigadier-general. Defeated at Hlobane, he recovered and decisively beat the Zulus at Kambula and also took part in the final battle at Ulundi. At the close of the war Evelyn Wood became a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath, and was appointed to command the Chatham district. With the First Boer War going on, Wood was sent back to South Africa in January 1881 with the local rank of major-general. He remained in Natal until February 1882, was awarded a GCMG and then returned to the Chatham command.

Wood was given command of a brigade in the Egyptian expedition. He was made Sirdar of the Egyptian army until 1885, during which period he thoroughly reorganized it. In 1886 he was allowed to return to Britain, promoted to lieutenant-general in 1891, Wood was given the Grand Cross in the Order of the Bath. He saw further service as quartermaster-general at the War Office and as adjutant-general.

Promoted full general in 1895, Wood commanded the II Army Corps and Southern Command from 1901 to 1904. On April 8, 1903 Sir Evelyn Wood was promoted field marshal. In 1907 he became colonel of the Royal Horse Guards. After retiring from active service Sir Evelyn Wood became chairman of the Association for the City of London.