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WAR OFFICE, December 6, 1879.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the undermentioned Officer of Her Majesty's Army, whose claim has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his gallant conduct at Afghanistan, as recorded against his name:—

Regiment.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
Royal Engineers	Captain (now Major) Edward Pemberton Leach	For having, in action with the Shinwarris, near Maidanah, Afghanistan, on the 17th March 1879, when covering the retirement of the Survey Escort who were carrying Lieutenant Barclay, 45th Sikhs, mortally wounded, behaved with the utmost gallantry, in charging, with some men of the 45th Sikhs, a very much larger number of the enemy. In this encounter Captain Leach killed two or three of the enemy himself, and he received a severe wound from an Afghan knife in the left arm. Captain Leach's determination and gallantry in this affair, in attacking and driving back the enemy from the last position, saved the whole party from annihilation.