

for it will be an object-lesson in civilization for the poor and weak to see the rich and strong punished for misdeeds perpetrated by their orders. Civilization with protection to life and property has then to be introduced, and the country opened up to trade—this must be the work of years.

Inclosed I forward copy of letter* addressed by me to Rear-Admiral Rawson on completion of the operations, and before his departure. With all requests therein the Admiral has complied.

Referring to copies of letter and enclosure from Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton, inclosed herein, I should fully wish to indorse the recommendations regarding the officers mentioned, and I would request that representations be made in the proper quarter that their services may receive due recognition.

Major Landon, Captain Walker, and Lieutenant O'Shee are special service officers, and, no doubt, if recommended by your Lordship, the War Office will duly reward their services.

Captain N. Burrows, Niger Coast Protectorate Force, is a seconded officer, being a Lieutenant in the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment; also Captain C. H. P. Carter, Niger Coast Protectorate Force, is a seconded officer from Black Watch, and Captain Crauford Cockburn, from Queen's Bays. The War Office might also be able to reward these officers regimentally in some way; if not, I would suggest that their services may receive some other form of recognition.

Dr. Allman has been Principal Medical Officer of this Protectorate since 1891, and has organized the medical and sanitary staff most efficiently, and carried out his duties with care and judgment. His services are, I consider, deserving of recognition.

Major Searle is a most efficient officer in the Niger Coast Protectorate Force, but not connected in any way with Her Majesty's Imperial Forces. His services on this occasion should assist his advancement in the Protectorate.

Lieutenant Daniels, Niger Coast Protectorate Force, native officer. I should recommend a pecuniary reward in this case, not exceeding 15*l*.

With regard to the members of Her Majesty's navy mentioned in the despatch, Rear-Admiral Rawson will, no doubt, recommend their advancement, but I would request that these cases be also represented to the Admiralty through the Foreign Office.

I should wish particularly to bring to your Lordship's notice the tact, judgment, and foresight brought to bear by Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton in the duty intrusted to him, that of taking command of the force of the Protectorate. He from the first established a thorough understanding and friendly relations with the officers of the force, and maintained a strict discipline with all ranks, so that there has been no word of complaint nor any feeling of discontent.

Having some experience of the class of warfare carried on during these operations—that of bush fighting—I venture the opinion that the force has been most ably and effectually handled, and for this the highest praise is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton and the officers under his command. The difficulties of transport and water supply have been very great, and they have been as successively overcome as the immediate object of the expedition—the taking of Benin city—has been accomplished.

* Already included in Rear-Admiral Rawson's despatches. (See Enclosure No. 6.)

Considering the duration of the operations—seven days—and the class of warfare, the casualties cannot be considered heavy, and this is undoubtedly owing to the judgment displayed in the handling of the immediate front of the column by Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton, where the brunt of the fighting on the march was borne. I would request that the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton receive their well-merited recognition.

I should further bring to your Lordship's notice the work done by Mr. Vice-Consul Gallwey, D.S.O., prior to my arrival. He had concentrated the Protectorate forces at Brass, and effectually carried out telegraphic instructions I sent him from Grand Canary. He had also rendered considerable assistance in the Intelligence Department to Rear-Admiral Rawson. Since my arrival it has been necessary, owing to the failure of one officer, to attach himself to the force under Colonel Hamilton, where he has loyally carried out the work of a company officer, and has, at the same time, assisted me in political work when required. His services are worthy of recognition.

I would strenuously urge that the services of all officers and men engaged in the operations be recognized by the issue of a medal and clasp, which, I submit, is most thoroughly deserved. An arduous and perilous duty has been carried out with enthusiasm and disregard of danger and privation by all ranks under most trying circumstances of climate and position of the enemy, who were, I may say, always unseen.

There is but one other point I should bring to notice, and that is the prompt and willing assistance rendered me by the Governors of Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast, Colonel Cardew and Sir William Maxwell. I found it advisable to telegraph from Grand Canary for carriers and equipment to both places, and, on arrival, found that the greatest care and trouble had been taken to comply with my requests, and everything supplied has been of the greatest service. I wish, therefore, here to place it on record that the assistance rendered has to some extent contributed to the success of the expedition.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) R. MOOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton to Consul-General Moor.

Benin City,
February 23, 1897.

Sir,
I BEG to forward you a copy of the report* of the operations (12th to 18th instant) which I have addressed to the Admiral and Commander-in-chief in chief command of the Benin expeditionary force.

In addition to the officers therein mentioned, I should like to bring to your notice the excellent scouting work done by Captain Cockburn, Niger Coast Protectorate Force, before the crossing of the Ologbo Creek on the 12th instant. He has throughout shown great pluck and indefatigable energy.

Dr. Allman, the Principal Medical Officer to the force, is also deserving of commendation. His organizing power with the carriers under him and energy have been invaluable, and since our arrival here I have made him Provost-Marshal.

I further wish to mention favourably to you

* Already included in Rear-Admiral Rawson's despatches. (See Enclosure No. 5.)