

*War Office, June 7, 1898.*

THE following corrections should be made in the Despatch from Major-General Sir Herbert Kitchener, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, to the General Officer Commanding the Force in Egypt, dated 10th April, 1898, which was published in the London Gazette of the 24th May, 1898:—

On page 3233 of the London Gazette, for Captain Payton read Captain Peyton.

On page 3234, under the headings "Head Quarter Staff" and "British Brigade," in each case where the term "Senior Officer" is used read "Staff Officer."

On page 3234 ("British Brigade"), for Lieutenant and Adjutant Marsh read Captain and Adjutant Marsh.

*India Office, June 3, 1898.*

THE following General Order, dated 6th May, 1898, publishing a Despatch from General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, G.C.B., K.C.S.I., regarding the operations of the Tirah Expeditionary Force from the 27th January to the 5th April, 1898, has been received from the Government of India:—

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 6th May, 1898.*

FIELD OPERATIONS.—TIRAH.

No. 483. — THE Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council directs the publication, in continuation of G.G.O. Nos. 58 and 244 of 1898, of the subjoined letter from the Adjutant-General in India submitting a despatch from General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., describing the operations of the Tirah Expeditionary Force from the 27th January to the 5th April, 1898.

2. His Excellency in Council agrees with His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in his appreciation of the services of the officers named in the Adjutant-General's letter, and of the conduct of the troops during the period in question.

From Major-General G. de C. Morton, C.B., Adjutant-General in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, —No. 1086-F., "Field Operations—North-West Frontier," dated Simla, the 26th April, 1898.

IN continuation of this office No. 769-F, dated the 24th February, 1898, I have the honour, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying despatch from the General Officer Commanding the Tirah Expeditionary Force, describing the operations of the force from the 27th January to the 5th April, 1898.

2. The Commander-in-Chief endorses the commendatory remarks made by General Sir William Lockhart on the services of Brigadier-General Ian Hamilton, C.B., D.S.O., commanding the 3rd Brigade, Brigadier-General J. W. Ottley, C.I.E., Commanding Royal Engineer of the Force, and others named in the despatch; as also the soldier-like conduct shown by the troops throughout the operations now reported.

No. 6373-T, dated Camp Peshawar, the 4th April, 1898, from General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., Commanding the Tirah Expeditionary Force, to the Adjutant-General in India.

IN continuation of my letter No. 812-T-C,

dated the 26th January, 1898, I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, the following account of the operations of the force under my command from January 27th, 1898, up to the present date.

2. As previously reported, after my return from the Bazar Valley, the troops at my disposal were distributed as follows:

1st Division.

1st Brigade at Ali Masjid.

2nd Brigade at Jamrud.

5th Brigade (late Peshawar Column) at Landi Kotal.

2nd Division.

3rd Brigade at Bara.

4th Brigade at Mamanai.

To each brigade a portion of the divisional troops was attached.

The objects of this distribution were to occupy the Khyber and dominate the Bazar Valley, to threaten the winter settlements of the Afridis in the lower part of the Bara Valley and on the outskirts of the Kajurai Plain, and to enforce a strict blockade along the border line between British and tribal limits.

3. I may here mention that on January 17th a Jirga, representing the Malikdin Khel, Kambar Khel, Sipah, and Kamrai sections of the Afridis, arrived at Jamrud. But, though the delegates appeared to be submissive, and expressed their readiness to comply with the terms prescribed for their respective sections, no tangible proof of their sincerity was at first forthcoming; and meanwhile raiding parties from other sections in the hills continued to attack our outposts, intercept convoys, and destroy the telegraph line. Moreover, reports were received that a considerable number of cattle and camels belonging to those recalcitrant sections were being pastured in the Kajurai Plain. I therefore caused the Jirga to be informed that, until the Afridis assumed a more submissive attitude and evinced their readiness to collect the fines and surrender the rifles demanded from them, the presence of their representatives at Jamrud would not modify the existing state of war between the tribe and the Government of India. The justice of this decision was fully admitted by the Jirga.

4. On January 29th I proceeded from Rawal Pindi to Calcutta for the purpose of conferring with their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, returning to Peshawar on February 7th.

On January 27th I received a report from the Political Officer at Jamrud to the effect that a large number of cattle had been seen grazing on the Kajurai Plain, and I directed the General Officers Commanding the 1st and 2nd Divisions to take measures for their capture, the operations being under the control of Lieutenant-General Sir A. P. Palmer, K.C.B., as senior officer. On January 29th three columns were accordingly despatched at an early hour from Ali Masjid, Jamrud, and Mamanai to close the exits from the Kajurai Plain, except on the eastern side, where it adjoins British territory. A fourth column from Bara was directed to operate against such tribesmen as might be met with in the Plain, and seize their cattle. The column from Mamanai was the only one which came into contact with the enemy. It was composed of the 2nd Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, four companies of the 36th Sikhs, and two guns of No. 5 (Bombay) Mountain Battery, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel T. J. Seppings, 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Starting