

I beg to state that, from my own observations and experience, his behaviour and treatment of wounded and sick was beyond all description. The recommendation of Dr. Poole speaks for itself.

I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to recommend Sick Berth Steward Fuller for what reward and distinction you may think he deserves, for his exemplary behaviour during a very trying tin e.

I have, &c,
EDMUND WRAY, Captain, R.M.L.I.,
Commanding British Legation Guard.
The Senior Naval Officer,
Northern Division China Fleet, Taku.

H.B.M. Legation, Peking,

SIR, August 24, 1900.
I HAVE the honour to bring before your notice the conduct of Richard G. Fuller, Sick Berth Steward of Her Majesty's ship "Orlando," who worked under me in the International Hospital during the siege of Peking. The work was excessively arduous, and he proved himself an invaluable assistant. He was indefatigable at his work, of which he has an excellent knowledge. He managed the sick of eight different nationalities with great tact. Both myself and my colleague, Dr. Velde, formed a very high opinion of his capabilities. In fact it would be impossible to overpraise his conduct.

I have, &c.,
WORDSWORTH POOLE,
Physician to the Legation.
Captain E. Wray, Royal Marines,
Commanding British Legation Guard,
Peking.

British Legation, Peking,
September 7, 1900.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to bring to your notice the conduct of the detachment of Royal Marine Light Infantry commanded by the late Captain Strouts, which your Excellency was good enough to send as a guard in this Legation on the 31st May.

I cannot speak in any other terms but those of the highest praise of the behaviour of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of this detachment. They were exposed, day and night, for two months to the most arduous, irksome, and responsible duties, which they fulfilled with a cheerful alacrity and with a courage and endurance which excited the admiration of everybody. Their bearing under fire was quite excellent, and could not have been surpassed by the best veteran soldiers. During the entire siege I did not observe the slightest signs of liquor in any of the men, neither was a case reported to me, and this, though the facilities for obtaining drink were great. To sum up, the general good conduct, soldierly bearing, and steadiness under fire of the men of the detachment, was worthy of the highest traditions of the British Army and of the corps to which they belong.

This high state of excellence was undoubtedly in a great measure due to the officers and non-commissioned officers. Captain Strouts was an excellent soldier and a gallant gentleman. He was killed in the defence of the Legation on the 16th July, and his loss was to me, and to the defence generally, irreparable. Had Captain Strouts lived, I should certainly have recommended him to the Lords of the Admiralty,

through your Excellency, for promotion or for the Distinguished Service Order.

Captain Halliday was dangerously wounded whilst leading a sortie on the 24th June, and his valuable services were lost for the rest of the siege. Under another cover I am recommending this officer for the Victoria Cross.

Captain Wray, who was also wounded in taking part in the defence of the Tartar City Wall, one of the most dangerous posts in the defence, commanded the detachment very efficiently until the end of the siege. This latter officer has, I understand, recommended several non-commissioned officers. Those that came under my special notice were Sergeants Murphy, Saunders, and Preston, and Corporals Gregory and Gowney, who are all worthy of the highest praise.

I have, &c.,
CLAUDE M. MACDONALD,
British Minister.

Sir Edward Seymour, K.C.B.,
Commander-in-Chief,
H.B.M. Squadron in China and Japan.

Letter No. 605 from Commander-in-Chief, China, 17th September, 1900, to the Admiralty.

It is clear that the Marine Guard well and ably fulfilled the duties required of them under very trying circumstances, and worthily upheld the traditions of their corps. Captain Strouts, who was in command until his death, on 16th July, earned the respect and admiration of all. After his death Captain Wray took command, and carried out the responsible duties successfully. Captain Halliday was severely wounded on 24th June, soon after the siege commenced.

Captain Wray brings forward the names of several men whom he considers deserving of special recognition, and I submit them for their Lordships' favourable consideration.

E. H. SEYMOUR,
Vice-Admiral.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
December 1, 1900.

THE Queen has been pleased to appoint Captain Ernest Beckwith Towse, V.C., to be one of the Serjeants-at-Arms in Ordinary to Her Majesty, in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel Forbes Macbean, deceased.

Foreign Office, October 24, 1900.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Captain Robert Arthur Benn to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, to reside in Seistan.

Foreign Office, November 21, 1900.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint—

John Richard Preece, Esq., C.M.G., to be Her Majesty's Consul-General for the Governorships of Ispahan, Yezd, Gulpaigan, and Konsar, the Province of Irak, and Districts of Chehkarmahal, Feridan, and Baktiari, to reside at Ispahan;

Herbert Francis Brady, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Chungking; and
Michie Forbes Anderson Fraser, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Pakhoi.