

O'Neill had received distinct and positive orders not to approach too close to Bida, still less to enter it, and I consider that a grave disaster was only averted partly by good fortune and partly by the resource and ability shown by Lieutenant Porter. I promoted Lieutenant Porter, subject to your approval, to be a Company Commander, and I bring forward his name and that of Sergeant Edwards, who are both very strongly praised by Major O'Neill. There is no doubt that this most adventurous exploit created an immense impression on the people of Bida. The subsequent operations regarding Kontagora and Bida are related in the first part of this despatch.

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD, Brig.-General.

High Commissioner,

Northern Nigeria.

To the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

Government House,

Northern Nigeria, Jelba,

28th September, 1901.

Despatch relating to Field Operations.

YOLA EXPEDITION.

SIR,

WITH reference to this expedition, I have the honour to inform you that Colonel T. L. N. Morland, Commandant of the West African Frontier Force, conducted the Expedition in person, and copy of his report I enclose herewith.

2. The defeat and deposition of the Emir, and the effective occupation of British Adamawa, puts an end to the immense slave traffic from the South, which for many years has been the chief source of supply for the Sokoto Empire.

3. I have the honour to bring to your notice the services of the following Officers who served with the force, and are specially mentioned in Colonel Morland's report, and to recommend for your approval that the Secretary of State for War be moved to allow their names to be recorded.

4. Brevet Major A. McClintock, Seaforth Highlanders. "Major McClintock acted as Staff Officer, and carried out his duties most ably: at a critical moment in the town he displayed great personal gallantry and efficient leadership." He was wounded on this occasion by shell splinter. Major McClintock has been conspicuous on more than one previous occasion, notably in the Munshi Campaigns on the Benue in 1900 and 1901, and has quite recently rendered most valuable service to the Protectorate during his diplomatic mission to Fataralla. At all times he has displayed marked ability as a leader of men.

5. Captain T. A. Rose, Royal Scots Fusiliers, a hardworking and zealous Officer. His name has already been brought before you for special service rendered in the Tawari Expedition, conducted by Colonel Lowry-Cole in December, 1900. In this instance he followed Major McClintock, who led a charge and captured the two rifled guns before they could be fired again.

6. Captain C. R. G. Mayne, Highland Light Infantry. Colonel Morland reports as follows: "I now ordered Captain Mayne with his Company to rush the gate: this he did in gallant style, and in a few moments the whole Palace compound was cleared of the enemy."

7. Captain E. M. Baker, Manchester Regiment. Mentioned for driving the defenders from the Mosque and capturing it. This place was strongly held by the enemy.

8. Lieutenant R. Henvey, Royal Artillery. Report states:—"The walls of the palace were still obstinately defended, and I ordered up the two 75 MM. guns, which were well served under Lieutenant Henvey: the close range fire of these

guns was too much for the defenders, and they began to leave the walls."

9. Lieutenant P. A. Macgregor, D.S.O., Coldstream Guards, Intelligence Officer, specially mentioned for his able work. This officer has been most highly spoken of by Major McClintock, whom he accompanied on the Fataralla mission.

10. Dr. Blair, Senior Medical Officer, performed yeoman service attending to the many casualties (he sucked the poison from Colonel Morland's wound), 41 in all, and also saw to and tended the enemy's wounded.

11. The others mentioned are Sergeant-Major H. Daniels, 2nd West African Frontier Force.

Sergeant Woodall, Royal Army Medical Corps. No. 1478, Lance-Sergeant Balarabe, "F" Company 2nd Battalion West African Frontier Force. This man has been in many engagements during the past 10 years in Nigeria.

No. 1623, Corporal Babar Orloo, No. 1197, Private Adamu Beriberi, "F" Company 2nd West African Frontier Force.

No. 989, Private Adamu Kura, "E" Company, appointed Lance-Corporal at Yola.

No. 286, Lance-Corporal Awesu, "B" Company 2nd West African Frontier Force.

No. 491, Private Akamore, "D" Company 2nd West African Frontier Force.

12. Colonel Morland, who carried out the operations in person, and who early during the fighting was wounded with a poisoned arrow (and no more nerve-shattering wound can be inflicted, for if the poison is fresh it means death in a few minutes), stuck to his command. He deserves very great credit for the successful issue of this important expedition, and I desire to specially bring his services to your notice. He was specially mentioned for gallantry in Sir Frederick D. Lugard's despatch, West African Frontier Force, of 7th August, 1900, published in London Gazette, April 16th, 1901.

I have, &c.,

W. WALLACE,

Acting High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable J. Chamberlain, M.P.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

From Colonel T. L. N. Morland, Commandant, West African Frontier Force, Northern Nigeria.

To His Excellency the Acting High Commissioner, Northern Nigeria, Jebba.

23rd September, 1901.

SIR,

IN accordance with Your Excellency's instructions a force under my command left Lokoja on 26th August, in the Stern Wheelers "Liberty" and "Nkissi," for Yola, picking up detachments at Odeni and Ibi en route. The force, when completed, consisted of 13 Officers, 7 European Non-commissioned Officers, 2 doctors, 365 rank and file, with two 75 MM. guns, and four Maxim's.

2. The Niger Company's Station near Yola was reached on the morning of 2nd September.

As it was doubtful if the "Liberty" could safely get through the narrow channel connecting the lake at Yola with the river, the troops on board were distributed between the "Nkissi" and "Kaduna," the latter being kindly placed at my disposal by the Agent of the Niger Company; 25 men under Lieutenant Croly, were left on board the "Liberty," on which a three-pounder Nordenfelt gun had been mounted; he was instructed to seize all canoes, patrol the river, and prevent any of the enemy crossing the river to Guira, the Emir's summer residence.