



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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TUESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER, 1919.

Admiralty, S.W.,
11th November, 1919.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned Officers:—

Commander Claude Congreve Dobson, D.S.O., R.N.

For most conspicuous gallantry, skill and devotion to duty on the occasion of the attack on Kronstadt Harbour on the 18th August, 1919. Commander Dobson organised and was in command of the Coastal Motor Boat Flotilla. He led the flotilla through the chain of forts to the entrance of the harbour. Coastal Motor Boat No. 31, from which he directed the general operations, then passed in, under a very heavy machine-gun fire, and torpedoed the Bolshevik Battleship "Andrei Pervozanni," subsequently returning through the heavy fire of the forts and batteries to the open sea.

Lieutenant Gordon Charles Steele, R.N.

For most conspicuous gallantry, skill and devotion to duty on the occasion of the

attack on Kronstadt Harbour on the 18th August, 1919. Lieutenant Steele was second-in-command of H.M. Coastal Motor Boat No. 88. After this boat had entered the harbour the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Dayrell-Reed, was shot through the head and the boat thrown off her course. Lieutenant Steele took the wheel, steadied the boat, lifted Lieutenant Dayrell-Reed away from the steering and firing position and torpedoed the Bolshevik battleship "Andrei Pervozanni" at a hundred yards range. He had then a difficult manœuvre to perform to get a clear view of the battleship "Petropavlovsk," which was overlapped by the "Andrei Pervozanni" and obscured by smoke coming from that ship. The evolution, however, was skilfully carried out, and the "Petropavlovsk" torpedoed. This left Lieutenant Steele with only just room to turn, in order to regain the entrance to the harbour, but he effected the movement with success and firing his machine guns along the wall on his way, passed under the line of forts through a heavy fire out of the harbour.