

Our trusty and well-beloved Sir John Hext, Knight Commander of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Rear-Admiral on the Retired List of Our Navy; and Our trusty and well-beloved John Edward Ellis, Esquire; Greeting!

WHEREAS it pleased Her late Majesty by Warrant bearing date the twenty-first day of June, one thousand nine hundred, to authorize and appoint certain noblemen and gentlemen therein named, or any three or more of them, to be Commissioners to inquire into the present administration of the Port of London and the water approaches thereto; the adequacy of the accommodation provided for vessels, and the loading and unloading thereof; the system of charge for such accommodation and the arrangements for warehousing dutiable goods; and to report whether any change or improvement in regard to any of the above matters is necessary for the promotion of the trade of the Port and the public interest:

Now know ye that We have revoked and determined, and do by these Presents revoke and determine, the said Warrant and every matter and thing therein contained.

And whereas We have deemed it expedient that a new Commission should issue for the purposes specified in the said Warrant, dated the twenty-first day of June, one thousand nine hundred.

Further know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your ability and discretion, have appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute, and appoint you the said John, Baron Revelstoke; William Robert Wellesley Peel; Alfred Lyttelton; Sir Robert Giffen; Sir John Wolfe-Barry; Sir John Hext; and John Edward Ellis to be Our Commissioners for the purposes aforesaid.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of

you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission, and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers, and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject, and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the sixth day of *March*, one thousand nine hundred and one, in the first year of Our reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

Chas. T. Ritchie

War Office, March 8, 1901.

THE King has been graciously pleased to signify His intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned Officer, whose claims have been submitted for His Majesty's approval, for his conspicuous bravery at Korn Spruit, as stated against his name:—

Regiment.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
Indian Staff Corps, attached to Roberts's Light Horse	Lieutenant F. A. Maxwell, D.S.O.	Lieutenant Maxwell was one of three Officers not belonging to "Q" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, specially mentioned by Lord Roberts as having shown the greatest gallantry, and disregard of danger, in carrying out the self-imposed duty of saving the guns of that Battery during the affair at Korn Spruit on 31st March, 1900. This Officer went out on five different occasions and assisted to bring in two guns and three limbers, one of which he, Captain Humphreys, and some Gunners, dragged in by hand. He also went out with Captain Humphreys and Lieutenant Stirling to try to get the last gun in, and remained there till the attempt was abandoned. During a previous Campaign (the Chitral Expedition of 1895) Lieutenant Maxwell displayed gallantry in the removal of the body of Lieutenant-Colonel F. D. Battye, Corps of Guides, under fire, for which, though recommended, he received no reward.