

**Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Charles George Gordon ("Chinese Gordon") to Sir Edward Lugard, Under Secretary for War, re work done by Assistant Surgeon A. Moffitt, 67th Regiment, in "Kiangsoo" (Jiangsu), China, in 1863**

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Louthampton.

15. February. 1865.



Sir.

I have the honor to address you with the request that you will lay before the Rt Honble the Secretary of State for War, the following remarks concerning the services of Asst Surgeon A. Moffitt late of H.M. 17. Regt and Staff Asst Surgeon who served with me as Medical officer during the time I had the command of the troops in Kiangsoo.

You are aware that in June 1863. in consequence of the order in Council obliging officers in H.M. Service (who took appointments in the Chinese Service) to go on half pay, that with the exception of Doctor Moffitt, the British officers left me. He however remained and I owe to his assistance and support more than I can express in a letter of this nature.

I will not go into the perfect way in which he carried on his special duties almost single handed as he has forwarded to the Director General of Hospitals a detailed account of the same which embraces the various operations &c which were performed

Sir Edward Sugand K. C.B.  
H.M. Under Secretary  
for War.

R. A.M.D. for report

10 478  
A.M.D.



performed during the 16 months he served, and in which time some 2000 wounded passed through his hands; although these alone entitled him to my warmest gratitude.

His reputation is known to every Chinese in the Province who were near the scenes of action, and on two occasions the Governor of the Province wrote to Peking to the Tsungli Yamen reporting specially on his services which were not restricted to our force alone, but were extended to the Imperialists acting with us, & by which means he succeeded in uprooting the inveterate prejudices Chinese as a rule have against surgical operations.

operations.

It may be urged that Doctor Moffatt's salary was large, such was not the case, he had but 30 £ more per annum than if he had remained with his Regiment at Shanghai.

Trusting that my representation in this Officer's behalf may be favourably considered.

I have the honour to be

Sir.

Your most obedient humble  
Servant

C. G. Gordon

Capl. R. G. Gordon & 10th Lt.



10478  
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Transcript of 579  
Southampton.  
16 Febuary.1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to adrefs you with the request that you will lay before Rt Hon'ble The Secretary of State for War, the following remarks concerning the Services of Ass' Surgeon A, Moffitt late of H.M. 67 Rgt, now Staff Asst Surgeon who served with me as medical officer during the time I had command of the troops in Kiangsoo.

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I will not go into the perfect way in which he carried out his duties almost single handed as he has forwarded a detailed of the same which embraces the various operations and which were performed during the 16 months he served, and in which time some 2,000, wounded passed through his hands, although these alone entitled him to my warmest gratitude.

His reputation is known to every Chinese in the Province who were near the scenes of action and two occasions the Govenor of the Province went to Pekin to the Tsung-Li-Yamen reporting specially on his services which were not restricted to our Force alone but were extended to the Imperialists acting with us & by which means he succeeded in uprooting the inveterate prejudices Chinese as arule against surgical operations.

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Trusting that my representation on this officers behalf may be favaorably considered,

I have the Honor to be.

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant.

Sir.Edward.Lugard.K.C.B.  
H.M.Under Secretary for  
War.

C.G.Gordon.  
Capt. R.E., & Bt Lt-Col.

Note: This folder contains a private covering letter addressed personally to Sir.E.Lugard. For his deeds Dr Moffitt was presented with two medals given by the Chinese Government, one was of the First Class issued by the Imperial Decree on General Gordon's recommendation and another specially made by the order of the Tsung-Li-Yamen, in recognition of his attention to chinese when wounded. He was the author of 'A Manual of Instruction for Attendants on Sick And Wounded in War! this was the official text-book for the men of the corps, and was the first of the Manuals.

The C.G.Gordon, as sent this letter, is the famous General of that name, his deeds are too numerous to mention here, the present Gordon Boy's Home was founded by him as he was a man very fond of children, a memorial in the shape of a statue is standing in Trafalgar Sq.