

**AN EXTREMELY FINE AND UNIQUE K.O.S.B. SECOND AFGHAN WAR EGYPT MID GROUP AWARDED TO AN OFFICER AND CORRESPONDENT FOR THE 'UNITED SERVICE GAZETTE' WHO WAS SEVERELY WOUNDED AND HAD HIS HORSE SHOT FROM UNDER HIM AT THE BATTLE OF TEL-EL-KEBIR, TOOK PART IN THE BATTLE OF TAMAAI BEFORE SERVING AS CORRESPONDENT FOR 'THE TIMES' DURING THE BECHUANALAND EXPEDITION 1884-5 FINISHING HIS CAREER AS ACTING CONSUL AT PARAMARIBO IN 1897**



AFGHANISTAN, 1878, CLASP, ALI MUSJID 'MAJ: F.S. TERRY, 1/25TH REGT.', EGYPT AND SUDAN, 1882, UNDATED REVERSE, CLASP, TAMAAI 'MAJOR. F.S. TERRY, C & T. STAFF.', KHEDIVE'S STAR, 1884, UNNAMED AS ISSUED.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Stephen Terry was born c.1839 in Malta, the son of Colonel Robert Terry and Eliza Terry of Winchester. Terry's father had also served with the 25th Foot, having joined in 1799. Frederick Stephen Terry joined his father's regiment in as an Ensign on 15 May 1855 and after a short stint as Ensign with the 12th Foot, was promoted lieutenant in the 25th Foot on 3 April 1857. Promoted Captain, 9 January 1860 and Major, 5 July 1872, he served with the 1st Battalion 25th Foot in the Second Afghan War. Initially, Terry was on detached service as a Wing Commander of the 27th (Punjab) Regiment, taking part in the assault and capture of Ali Musjid and in the process gaining the regimentally unique entitlement to the medal with clasp 'Ali Musjid'. He soon after rejoined his regiment, serving for the rest of the 1st campaign. During the second campaign, he was again detached from his regiment, this time serving as a Transport Officer, before rejoining his Regiment in January 1880, commanding it until the Wars conclusion (Mentioned in despatches)

*'The Afghan Campaign of 1878-80' by Shadbolt, states that: 'Major F. S. Terry (h. p.) served with the 27th P.N.I., as Wing Commander, at the assault and capture of Ali Musjid, and afterwards with his own regiment till the conclusion of the first campaign, taking part in the second Bazar Valley expedition, under General Maude, to whose staff he was attached as Orderly Officer. In the second campaign served, first as General Transport Officer to the Kuram Field Force, and was in charge of the transport of the Zaimusht expedition; subsequently (from 26 Jan., 1880, till the final retirement in August, 1880) in command of the*

battalion, and of the post of Pezwan, taking part in the Lughman Valley expedition, the expedition against the Wazir Kugianis, and the expedition into the Hissarak Valley in July, 1880. (Mentioned in despatches)'



Regarding Terry, 'The King's Own Scottish Borderers, A Concise History' by T Royle, notes: "But for personality problems in the command structure, 1/25th would have taken part in the operations to relieve Kandahar. Following the loss of the commanding Officer, who had been invalidated home during the recent cholera outbreak, the battalion was commanded by Major F. S. Terry but he found himself in constant disagreement with the other senior officer, Major N. C. Ramsey."

Lieutenant (later Lieutenant General Sir) Charles Woollcombe, would write; "...Major Terry was in command. He was a good friend to me and a good soldier, but he had a way of fighting with the General and Staff, and the everlasting row between him and Major Ramsay never ceased"

The two officers 'had quarrelled since they were Subalterns and they could not work together'...from his subsequent career he seems to have been an idiosyncratic Officer. ...A great son of the Regiment, his father had been commissioned in the 25th in 1799 and had fought at Egmont-op-Zee. Major Terry died in 1933 aged 94."

Terry went on Half Pay in 1881 but took part in the Egyptian 1882 campaign as Correspondent for the United Service Gazette. He was severely wounded in the back at the battle of Tel-El-Kebir, having previously had his horse shot from under him during a British reconnaissance from Kassassin on 8 September 1882 (multiple newspapers confirm). In an 1884 article, the famous correspondent, Archibald Forbes notes; "Major Terry who, while acting as a war correspondent was wounded at Tel-el-Kebir, while heading one of the attacks on Arabi's entrenchments."

His wound is additionally confirmed in casualty rolls (one of 27 Officer wounded) and a telegram from the Principal Medical Officer, dated Ismailia, September 16 1882, list of wounded and invalided Officers returning home. Despite being wounded, at this time, medals were not issued to Correspondent and therefore Terry has no medal entitlement for the 1882 Egyptian campaign.

<https://www.britishbattles.com/war-in-egypt-and-sudan/battle-of-tel-el-kebir/>

Major Terry was also the subject of an engraving from 'The Graphic', October 14, 1882, entitled "*The War in Egypt, Wounded Soldiers Arriving at Portsmouth. The Last of the Wounded Officers (Major Terry) Leaving the 'Orontes'*". This engraving depicts Major Terry disembarking 'Orontes' to a waiting ambulance, accompanied by two medical officers. Terry gives his views on the Army's medical care for sick and wounded during the campaign in articles published in *The Lancet* and *The Medical Times*.



The Last of the Wounded Officers (Major Terry) Leaving the 'Orontes'.

Terry's retirement did not last long for he subsequently took up a position as Major of the Commissariat and Transport Corps and took part in the Sudan campaign of 1884. During his service in the Sudan, he was present at the hard fought Battle of Tamaai (Medal and Star), 13 March 1884, a battle in which one of the British squares was broken, the British suffering heavy casualties:

<https://www.britishbattles.com/war-in-egypt-and-sudan/battle-of-tamai/>

Soon after the conclusion of the campaign, on 9 June 1884, Terry retired with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. However, this was not the end of Colonel Terry's campaigning, for Terry soon after took up a position as a Correspondent for *The Times* during the Bechuanaland Expedition of 1884-85. During this expedition, a force of 4,000 British and local troops headed north from Cape Town under the command of Major General Charles Warren. The purpose of the expedition to assert British sovereignty in the face of encroachments from Germany and the Transvaal, and to suppress the Boer states of Stellaland and Goschen which were backed by the Transvaal. As a Correspondent for *The Times*, Terry would have been responsible for certain despatches published in that newspaper regarding the campaign. No medals were issued to participants of this campaign but Terry's participation is a rare link as a Correspondent.

Colonel Terry accompanied Sir Charles Warren and other Officers (and Sir Bartle Frere) who had taken part in the expedition, to a luncheon at Port Elizabeth Town Hall in honour of Sir Charles on his return from the successful expedition. Post 1885, Terry held various appointments in Bengal and Ceylon. He was appointed interpreter to the Surinam Consulate and Vice-Consul at Paramaribo, 31 August 1896. Acting Consul there in 1897, he resigned on 19 October that year. Colonel Terry died on Saturday 8 April at Cricklewood, London, at the age of 94.

Condition NEF, lovely patina and original ribbons, mounted as worn.



Sold with some research, including his entry from '*The Foreign Office List and Diplomatic and Consular Year Book 1909*', his entry in '*The Afghan Campaign of 1878-80*' by Shadbolt and his obituary published in *The Berwick Advertiser* of 13 April 1933, all of which detail his service. Also various Gazettes and copy medal rolls and casualty roll page for the Egyptian Campaign etc (paperwork and on CD).

An extremely fine and rare high ranking Officer and War Correspondent casualty group, which is regimentally unique. Clearly requires some more detailed research.