

War Office, October 4, 1901.

THE King has been graciously pleased to signify His intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned Officers and Non-Commissioned Officer whose claims have been submitted for His Majesty's approval, for their conspicuous bravery in South Africa, as stated against their names :—

Regiment.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
West Australian Mounted Infantry	Lieutenant F W. Bell	At Brakpan on the 16th May, 1901, when retiring through a heavy fire after holding the right flank, Lieutenant Bell noticed a man dismounted and returned and took him up behind him. The horse not being equal to the weight fell with them, Lieutenant Bell then remained behind and covered the man's retirement till he was out of danger.
2nd Scottish Horse	Lieutenant W J. English	This Officer with five men was holding the right of a position at Vlakkfontein on the 3rd July, 1901, during an attack by the Boers. Two of his men were killed and two wounded, but the position was still held, largely owing to Lieutenant English's personal pluck. When the ammunition ran short he went over to the next party and obtained more; to do this he had to cross some 15 yards of open ground under a heavy fire at a range of from 20 to 30 yards.
4th New Zealand Contingent	Farrier-Major W. J. Hardham	On the 28th January, 1901, near Naauwpoort, this Non-Commissioned Officer was with a section which was extended and hotly engaged with a party of about 20 Boers. Just before the force commenced to retire Trooper McCrae was wounded and his horse killed. Farrier-Major Hardham at once went under a heavy fire to his assistance, dismounted and placed him on his own horse, and ran alongside until he had guided him to a place of safety.

(F. & H. 14448.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, October 2, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of the following Notice respecting quarantine at Malta, viz. :—

Government Notice (No. 244).

His Honour the Officer administering the Government, having heard the opinion of the Council of Health, has been pleased to modify Government Notice No. 197, of 22nd July, 1901, and to direct that the following regulations be observed, viz. :—

A. Medical Inspection.

1. All vessels and passengers shall, on arrival, undergo strict medical inspection.

B. Vessels without a clean Bill of Health.

2. Vessels arriving from any port without a clean bill of health, unless otherwise provided for in these regulations, are allowed to enter the Quarantine Harbour to load under quarantine restrictions.

3. Vessels referred to in the preceding paragraph will be admitted to free pratique when they have been admitted to free pratique at an intermediate port and disinfected there to the satisfaction of the port authorities at Malta, or when ten days have elapsed from date of departure.

C. Infected Vessels.

4. Vessels which have, or have had, on board, during the voyage, or the preceding 21 days, cases of cholera, yellow fever, plague, or any disease with symptoms which, in the opinion of the Chief Government Medical Officer, resemble the symptoms of the said diseases are not allowed to enter the harbour, but may be allowed to communicate with quarantine establishments.

5. Whenever such vessels carry a recognized medical practitioner and have not actually on board a case of the diseases mentioned in the preceding paragraph, they are allowed to enter the Quarantine Harbour only to load under quarantine restrictions.

D. Vessels from infected Countries or Ports.

6. Vessels with pilgrims from the East are not allowed to enter the harbour, but are allowed to communicate with quarantine establishments.

7. When such vessels carry a recognized medical practitioner and have not actually on board a case of the diseases mentioned in paragraph 4, they will be allowed to enter the Quarantine Harbour only to load under quarantine restrictions.

8. Vessels without clean bill of health arriving from ports in the Persian Gulf, or from Chinese, Indian, or Arabian ports, which have not been admitted to free pratique at Suez or at Port Said, are not allowed to enter the harbour, but are allowed to communicate with quarantine establishments.

9. When such vessels carry a recognized medical practitioner and have not actually on board a case of the diseases mentioned in paragraph 4, they will be allowed to enter the Quarantine Harbour to load under quarantine restrictions.

10. When the vessels mentioned in paragraph 8 have been admitted to free pratique at Suez or Port Said, they will be admitted to free pratique at Malta.

11. Vessels arriving from Egyptian ports, from the ports in the Sea of Marmora and the Bosphorus, from Scio, Smyrna, Salonica, or from the western ports of Italy between Gaeta and Policastro, are allowed to enter the harbour to