

### NILE EXPEDITION 1884-1885

The Nile Expedition, sometimes called the Gordon Relief Expedition (1884–85), was a British mission to relieve Major-General Charles George Gordon at Khartoum, Sudan. Gordon had been sent to the Sudan to help Egyptians evacuate from Sudan after Britain decided to abandon the country in the face of a rebellion led by self-proclaimed Mahdi, Mahommed Ahmed.

A contingent of Canadians was recruited to help the British navigate their small boats up the Nile River. The Nile Expedition was the first overseas expedition by Canadians in a British imperial conflict, although the Nile Voyageurs were civilians employees and did not wear uniforms.



*Photograph of Camel Corps, 2 Sikhs at the 'Ready'.*

Photograph by Felice Beato, 1884/85.

The expedition and its background are vividly described in Winston Churchill's book *The River War*.

#### **LASSETTER, Henry Beauchamp, Lieutenant-Colonel**

Born	19-March-1860 Darling Point, NSW
Parents	Frederick Lassetter & Charlotte Hannah Iredale
Spouse	Elizabeth Anne Antill
Marriage	19-August-1891 Picton, NSW
Occupation	Professional Soldier
Enlisted:	1880
Unit:	38 <sup>th</sup> Regiment
Death	17-February-1926 Sydney, NSW
Cemetery	South Head Cemetery
Honours	Order of St. Michael & St. George (CMG); Mentioned in Despatches (twice); Companion of the Order of Bath (CB); Queens Medal with clasps
Notes:	Served during the Sudan War, and WW1 Brigadier General British Army Territorials Brigade (the Terriers)

