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## **Catalogue of the papers of R. P. S. Elderton**

**Date range of material: ca. 1884-1945**

Durham University Library  
November 2016

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## Preface

Creation of catalogue

EAD list by Jane Hogan, 2008 and Jonathan Bush, 2009

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## Introduction

*Collection title:* Elderton, R. P. S.

*Reference code:* GB-0033-SAD

*Dates of creation:* ca. 1884-1945

*Extent:* 4 files

*Repository:* Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

*Creator:* R. P. S. Elderton

*Language of material:* English

Roland Percy Somerset Elderton

(1876-?1958)

1903-1916 Deputy Assistant Financial Secretary

1916-1925 Assistant Financial Secretary

### Accession details

Photographs and some printed material presented by Major and Mrs R.P.S. Elderton, 1958.

Later gift of Elderton's official papers presented by Mr Philip MacDonald, 2005.

### Arrangement

1. Official Papers
2. Personal Papers
3. Newspaper Cuttings
4. Photographic Material
5. Miscellanea
6. Printed Material

### Form of citation

Material in the Sudan Archive is given a reference number, which is unique across the collections of papers. Usually it is not necessary to give the name of the person or organisation within which collection the item is found, although it may be convenient to do so.

The short form of citation should be GB-0033-SAD *reference number*

Most printed references take the form: SAD *reference number*.

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

## 1. Official Papers

- SAD.106/23/1-6 1906 Mar 15  
Report from G.E. Matthews, Governor Upper Nile Province, to the Assistant Director of Intelligence (with covering letter from R. Slatin to P.R. Phipps, Civil Secretary), concerning government policy towards the Nuer in Upper Nile Province, including Nuer claims against cattle and ivory stolen by the government and the Dinka tribe in 1901, the effect of Dengkur's death on the Nuer, Matthews' visit to the Lau Nuer, and his future policy recommendations
- SAD.106/23/7-9 n.d. [1908 May]  
Statement of `Abd al-Qadir Muhammad Imam, taken by Yuzbashi A. Zade, concerning his reasons for organising the Mahdist uprising in Katfia, Blue Nile Province
- SAD.106/23/10-14 1908 Dec 11  
Report from G.E. Matthews, Governor Upper Nile Province, to the Assistant Director of Intelligence (with comments by R. Slatin) concerning government policy towards the Nuer, including the lack of uniformity in tribal administration in the Nuer district of Gaweir and among the Dinka in the Twi District of Mongalla Province, his criticism of the conduct of R.C.R. Owen, the proposed removal of part of the Nuer administrative area to Mongalla Province, the success of province handling of the Nuer and the best method of handling Dinka grievances
- SAD.106/23/15-16 1909 Aug 23  
Letter from G.E. Matthews to the Civil Secretary recommending A. Travlos, Engineer in the Steamers Department
- SAD.106/23/17-20 1909 Nov 29  
Report by E.W. Drummond-Hay, Inspector Darfung to G.S. Nickerson, Governor Sennar Province, on a trek to Jabal Mughaja near Soda to investigate the murder of Mek Badl, with comments by Slatin Pasha
- SAD.106/23/21 1910 Aug 22  
Printed memorandum from J.J. Asser, Acting Sirdar and Governor-General, entitled *Instructions concerning the conduct of military operations in the Sudan*
- SAD.106/23/22 1912 Sep 1  
Printed memorandum by R.P.S. Elderton, Acting Financial Secretary, entitled *Housing loans for government officials*
- SAD.106/23/23-26 1912 Oct 8-Dec 11  
4 letters from R.P.S. Elderton to al-Zubayr Pasha Rahma Mansur (who died 6 January 1913) concerning a loan from the Sudan Government to al-Zubayr Pasha to assist in the payment of his debts
- SAD.106/23/32 1913 Jan 6  
Notification of the funeral of al-Zubayr Pasha Rahma Mansur at Geili

- SAD.106/23/27-29 1917 Sep 12  
*Finance Circular No. 78: Special war allowance*, from R.P.S. Elderton, Acting Financial Secretary, concerning the official sanctioning of a financial allowance for officials and employees of the Sudan Government
- SAD.106/23/30 1918 Mar 25  
 Letter from `Umar `Abd Allahi to R.P.S. Elderton concerning his transfer to the Arab Corps, Sudanese Frontiers Administration, with a note by Elderton on the reverse of this letter criticising `Abd Allahi's conduct in the Finance Department. Also includes an attached press cutting on the subject of `Abd Allahi's transfer.
- SAD.106/23/31 n.d. [1900s]  
 Statement of Shaykh Fadl al-Mula Rakha describing a raid at Laqiya in Dongola Province
- SAD.106/23/34 1918 Oct 30  
 Translation of official conferment by Sultan Fu`ad of the Order of the Nile (3rd class) on R.P.S. Elderton for his service in the Egyptian Army
- SAD.106/23/33 1919 Mar 1  
 Official notification from the War Office (signed by Winston Churchill) of appreciation of R.P.S. Elderton's distinguished service in the Royal Army Service Corps

## 2. Personal Papers

SAD.15/3/1-3

1885 Jul 11

Framed letter from Queen Victoria at Osborne to General Gordon's sister thanking her for the copy of Gordon's diary and talking of her "inexpressible sorrow" that she did not succeed in "getting his just demands agreed to"; with typescript copy. On the back of the frame in Elderton's handwriting are copies of letters from the Queen at Osborne to Gladstone of 21 January 1893 recalling Gordon's fate and supporting the despatch of troops to Cairo, with Gladstone's reply of the same day stating that "he finds it more difficult to reply to the objection that the Government of the day did too much than to the charge of having done too little."

### 3. Press Cuttings

- SAD.106/23/40     1916 Jan 15  
Cutting from *The World* entitled "The strange story of Mr George Gordon Moore"
- SAD.106/23/41-42     1919 Jun 3  
*Ninth Supplement to The London Gazette* containing a list of officers and officials worthy of special notice and commendation, including Elderton for administrative services
- SAD.106/23/43     1943 Oct 30-1944 Oct 6  
4 press cuttings, including 3 from *The Times* relating to the situation in India; and one from *The Daily Telegraph* concerning the origins of Sherlock Holmes. [On the reverse is a *Special Army Order* from F.R. Wingate, dated 19 December 1916, issued on his departure from the Sudan.]
- SAD.106/23/44     1945 May 8  
Cutting from *The Times* concerning the role of the British Army in the Second World War. [On the reverse is a letter from H. J. Whitlock & Sons to Elderton requesting a photograph of Elderton for inclusion in an engraving of officers who took part in the Battle of Tel el Kebir.]



#### 4. Photographic Material

- SAD.872/4/1 1884  
Large portrait photograph of General Charles George Gordon Pasha, taken just before his departure for Khartoum, reportedly the last photograph taken of him. The photograph, in its original wooden frame, was given to Mrs A. E. Elderton soon after the fall of Khartoum, in May 1885, by Gordon's brother General Sir Henry Gordon, together with, subsequently in 1886, a copy of "Golden gleanings from the thoughts of General Gordon". An explanation of the provenance was attached to the back of the frame by the donor Major R.P.S. Elderton, 7 September 1931 (SAD 872/4/2), together with a signature of General Gordon cut from one of his Khartoum letters (SAD 872/4/3).
- SAD.15/1/1 1895 Mar 16  
Large framed and signed portrait photograph of Slatin Pasha in Dervish dress, taken at Aswan and dedicated to his friend Wingate "As a token of gratitude for my rescue". Photograph by J. Heyman of Cairo
- SAD.1/22/1-3,64 1904  
Khalifa's house, Omdurman
- SAD.1/22/4-5,63 1904  
*Suq* scenes in Omdurman
- SAD.1/22/6-7 1904  
Makeshift tents and huts in the native housing area in Omdurman
- SAD.1/22/8-12 1904  
River Nile scenes
- SAD.1/22/13,15 1907  
*Bordein*, an armoured paddle steamer used by General Gordon, towing a fleet of cargo-carrying *feluccas*, possibly Khartoum
- SAD.1/22/14,16 1908  
Temple at Abu Simbel
- SAD.1/22/17 1908  
Cave dwelling near Abu Simbel
- SAD.1/22/18 1903  
Group of government officials or officers standing next to a fallen *tebel* tree at Shekan under which Hicks Pasha was killed on the 5 November 1883
- SAD.1/22/19 1903  
Pool near Shekan, where Hicks Pasha's army was annihilated, 5 November 1883
- SAD.1/22/20,30 1903  
Officers on camel back at the site of the grave of the Khalifa `Abdallahi (between the two flags), Umm Debeikerat

SAD.1/22/21	1903 Tower and gateway to El Obeid
SAD.1/22/22-23	1907 Fur notable holding the reins of a horse wearing a decorated bridle in El Obeid, presented as a gift by `Ali Dinar, sultan of Darfur, to Sir Reginald Wingate, Governor-General
SAD.1/22/24-25	1911-1913 Man on horseback, possibly Elderton
SAD.1/22/26	1903 War Office, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/27-29	1903 River Nile scenes
SAD.1/22/31	1903 Slatin [with Elderton?] in trap, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/32-33	1908 Man on horseback, possibly Elderton
SAD.1/22/34-35	1910 Views of the cataract, Aswan
SAD.1/22/36	1908 Man standing next to a horse ( Sinbad ), possibly Elderton
SAD.1/22/37	1903 Abdin barracks, Cairo
SAD.1/22/38	1903 Sudanese man standing near Gordon's tree, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/39-40	1899 C.A. Knapp and another man, possibly Elderton, at Aldershot Barracks
SAD.1/22/41	1880 Half-length portrait of Major-General Sir Hubert Stewart, desert column commander, killed at the battle of Abu Klea, 17 January 1885
SAD.1/22/43	1903 Two men, one possibly Elderton, standing in front of drilled soldiers at an army barracks
SAD.1/22/44,47-48	1904 Temple of Abu Simbel
SAD.1/22/45-46	1903 Heron nesting on the roof of a <i>tukl</i> , possibly Kordofan
SAD.1/22/49	1903 Group of Sudanese men removing the tusks from a dead partially-submerged elephant in the <i>sudd</i> , possibly Upper Nile Province

SAD.1/22/50	1903 Tusks removed from a dead elephant in the <i>sudd</i> , possibly Upper Nile Province
SAD.1/22/51,61	1923 Statue of Kitchener in front of the War Office, Cairo
SAD.1/22/52-53	1924 Ruins of the Military Hospital mess building following bombardment by British forces during the mutiny, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/54	1924 Bodies of Sudanese soldiers in the compound of the Military Hospital, after the mutiny, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/55	[ca. 1900-1916] Sir Reginald Wingate, Govenor-General of the Sudan
SAD.15/2/1-2	[ca. 1900-1916] Signed portrait photograph of General Sir Reginald Wingate in dress uniform, with all his medals, originally framed but now removed from its frame. From the back of the frame is a biographical note on Sir Reginald by Elderton, 7 September 1931 and a cutting from the <i>Telegraph</i> of 12 June 1946 concerning Sir Reginald's position as the most decorated man in the British Army
SAD.1/22/56	1908 Man identified as [Studdart?]
SAD.1/22/57	[ca. 1906-1914] R. von Slatin sitting on a verandah with a pair of lion cubs, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/58-59	1903 Egyptian Army Cavalry march past at a military review, probably Khartoum
SAD.1/22/60	1903 Aswan Dam
SAD.1/22/62,70	1906 <i>Elfin</i> , a side-paddle steamer, moored in front of the Governor-General's palace, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/65	[ca. 1906-1910] Soldiers and government officials gathered at a levée in front of the Governor-General's palace, Khartoum
SAD.1/22/66	1898 View of the ruins of the old Governor-General's palace shortly after the reoccupation of Khartoum by British forces, following victory in the battle of Omdurman

- SAD.1/22/67-68    1898  
Mahdi's tomb after bombardment by British forces following the battle of Omdurman
- SAD.1/22/69        1912 Jan 26  
Congregation, some wearing levée uniform, at a service of consecration inside All Saints' Cathedral, with Sir Reginald Wingate, Governor-General, standing in the aisle
- SAD.1/22/71        1903  
Full-length portrait of al-Zubayr Pasha Rahma Mansur wearing an ornately-embroidered robe, possibly Khartoum (see also SAD 11/1/1-2 below)
- SAD.1/22/72        1930  
Half-length portrait of Sir Reginald Wingate, Governor-General of the Sudan, 1899-1916, and High Commissioner, Egypt, 1917-1919 in British Army uniform
- SAD.11/1/1-2       1903  
Full-length portrait of al-Zubayr Pasha Rahma Mansur wearing an ornately-embroidered robe, possibly Khartoum, with covering letter from al-Zubayr Pasha in Arabic with English translation. Duplicate of SAD 1/22/71.

## 5. Miscellanea

SAD.106/23/35-39 n.d. [1900s]

Satirical verses, including "After morning parade: Quicunque vult",  
"Lines to an infuriated Kaimakam by one of the enemy" and "The old  
soldier"

## 5. Printed material

Related material (internal)

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Printed material deposited with collection; now integrated into library and catalogued on OPAC

