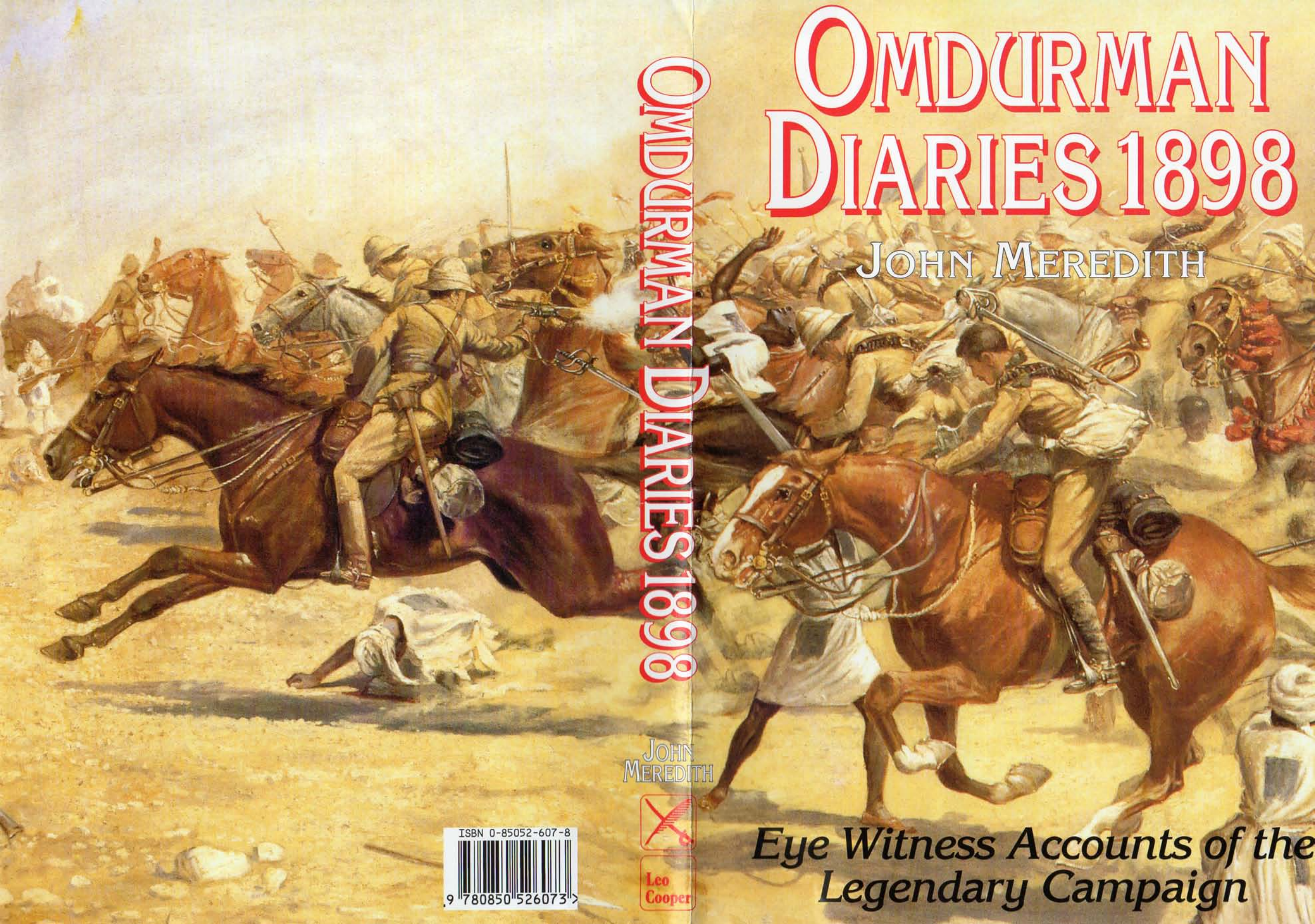


OMDURMAN DIARIES 1898

JOHN MEREDITH

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JOHN
MEREDITH



Leo
Cooper



*Eye Witness Accounts of the
Legendary Campaign*

Catalogue: 7024 SB
Year(s):
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ALTHOUGH this book is made up of extracts from the diaries of four men who took part in the Sudan Expedition of 1898 it does not purport to be just another version of a story that has been told many, many times. The main contributor is one Private Teigh who served in the Lincolnshire Regiment. His account of the campaign had been faithfully preserved by his family and unread by any but them until his grandson decided to take it to school and show it to his teacher. Anxious to find out more about the writer, the teacher took it to the Regimental Museum where he was delighted to find other unpublished accounts of the campaign – but written by officers. By skilfully knitting these into Teigh's narrative, John Meredith, gives us a unique view of life in the British Army at the end of the Victorian era as seen from opposite ends of the social spectrum.

A hundred years and two world wars have so dramatically altered the relationship between officers and other ranks that it is now hard to envisage the immense gulf which then separated them. So, though adding, as it certainly does, new glimpses of one of the swiftest, strangest and most successful of 'Queen Victoria's Little Wars', this book is more essentially a contribution to social history of great importance. It is probably true to say that never before has such a juxtaposition of views of the same events been brought together.

£19.95

John Meredith was born in Dublin and studied at Trinity College, Dublin, taking a degree in Modern History and Political Science, before training as a teacher at King's College, London. For eleven years he was Headmaster of Prince Rupert School in Germany, then became Headmaster of The Deepings School, Lincolnshire. He is now retired.

John Meredith lives in Oxfordshire.

Painting: The 21st Lancers Charge at Omdurman, Rawlinson (Queen's Royal Lancers Museum)

Jacket design: Roni Wilkinson

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NEW BOOK INFORMATION

Category: Pre World War One

Omdurman Diaries 1898

by John Meredith

Content:

Eye-witness accounts of a legendary battle seen through the eyes of Private George Teigh and Lieutenant Samuel FitzGibbon Cox, among others. Both the Private and the Officer kept diaries, both recorded the same events, but with vastly differing views.

During the 'long hot summer', while Kitchener's force was built up to full strength, Private Teigh endured heat and boredom and drank tea, while Lieutenant Cox worried about going out to shoot game and then gave up his diary for two months.

The diary extracts are interspersed with explanations of the causes, generals and background of the campaign. Difficulties with boots, bullets and gunboats are described, but it is the eye-witness accounts that give full flavour to a fascinating campaign which saw the last full cavalry charge, and is remembered as one of the British Army's finest hours.

Key Selling Points:

- * Legendary battle seen through the eyes of both a Private and an Officer amongst others, but with vastly differing views
- * 100th Anniversary in September 1998

Author Details:

John Meredith was born in Dublin and took a degree in modern history and Political Science. For eleven years he was the headmaster of the Price Rupert School in Germany, then became Headmaster of The Deepings School, Lincolnshire, where a pupil brought into a history lesson his grandfather's diary. Thus began an interest in the 'Omdurman Campaign', which has continued into his retirement. John Meredith now lives in Oxfordshire.

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