

Patron: Lord Cobbold DL  
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## Brigadier – General FREDERICK GORE ANLEY CB CMG

July 2016

**Frederick Gore Anley** (#3005 on the family tree) was the son of a colonel in the Royal Artillery. He was commissioned into the Essex Regiment on 28th August 1884. He quickly saw active service in the Sudan during 1884 and 85. Later, in 1896 he was seconded to the Egyptian Army, taking part in the Dongola (1896) and Nile (1899) expeditions. For a short while in 1899 he was Governor of Wadi Halfa province.

During the South African War he commanded a mounted infantry battalion at the relief of Kimberley and at Paardeberg. He was twice mentioned in despatches. From 1904 to 1906 he served with the Macedonian Gendarmerie and in February 1912 he assumed command of the 2nd Battalion the Essex regiment which post he still held on the outbreak of war.

He took his battalion to France as part of 12th Brigade, 4th Division. He commanded at the battle of Le Cateau (26th August 1914) and during the following retreat. On 4th October 1914, aged 50, he was promoted to command 12th Brigade where he remained in post until 4th June 1916 including the battles of the Marne, Aisne, and First and Second Battles of Ypres. This made him one of the most experienced brigade commanders in the BEF.

In November 1916 he was appointed Commander Administrative HQ and Training Centre Machine Gun Corps (Heavy Branch), later the Tank Corps, a post he held until June 1917. This appointment was controversial as Anley had no experience of tanks and - apparently - little faith in them. The GSO2, Lt. Col. J F C Fuller, described Anley as 'a pleasant little man, the problem was in inverse ratio to his size; he may have been a good infantry Brigadier but he knew nothing about tanks'.

Anley returned to infantry duties in June 1917 as GOC 234th Brigade, 75th Division which he commanded in Palestine. He fell sick on 19th November 1917 and after a period on half pay was appointed GOC Newhaven Garrison (April - December 1918) and then GOC No.8 Demobilisation Area (December 1918 - March 1919) before retiring from the army on 19th October 1919. He was later County Director of the Sussex Branch of the Red Cross.



Major General F.G. Anley

Brig-Gen. Frederick Gore Anley



Men of Essex' appeal by Lord Kitchener (#733 on the family tree)