



REGIMENTAL NOTES

1st Bn. Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regt.)

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LIEUT.-COL. W. M. WATSON, Commanding.

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**Station—Ambala, (Headquarters & 4 Companies
at Solon during the hot weather)**

Move to Lahore in October.

JUNE 1913.

These notes are being started chiefly with the idea of keeping past members in touch with the doings of the Battalion; they may also be useful in letting the other Battalions of the Regiment and the Depôt know with what is going on in the Battalion on foreign service

If sufficient applications are received the "Notes" will be published half yearly, approximately in June and December. The Annual Subscription will be -/6d and those desirous of becoming Subscribers should send crossed postal orders for this amount to the Officer in charge of Regimental Notes, 1st Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Ambala, up till the end of October, after that to Lahore, giving their names and addresses. Subscriptions for 2 years may be sent at one time, but not for any longer period.

The Rugby XV went on tour in September last. They won the Calcutta Cup, which ranks as the premier cup in India for the 7th year in succession (1906 to 1912). In two out of the 3 previous years it was won by the 2nd Battalion. In the final we met the Calcutta Team and beat them after a good game by 13 points to nil. In the Semi-final the Leicester Regiment were our opponents and after playing 3 drawn games, we defeated them by 44 points to nothing

At Bombay the Battalion's colours were lowered for the first time since our arrival in India over 7 year ago. We were

beaten by the Madras Gymkhana Team by 10 points to 3. I did not see the match but the Bombay papers say that we had bad luck in losing. The Leicesters with whom we had such a struggle in Calcutta did not enter for this cup and 2 or 3 of their Officers played for the Madras Gymkhana. The Battalion had previously won the Bombay Cup, which ranks second only to the Calcutta Cup, for 5 successive years, 1907 to 1912. We did not enter for it in 1906.

On the 19th November 1912 the Battalion left Ambala to take part in Brigade and Divisional Trainings and Manœuvres which were held in the direction of Delhi. On the March back the Battalion covered a distance of over 100 Miles in 5 days and did it with the greatest of ease.

The Sirhind Rifle Meeting was held on the Sandhills Ambala on the 3rd February 1913 and following days. It differs from the ordinary Rifle Meeting, in that, instead of the usual matches, all the competitions are for teams firing at field targets and under conditions as near as possible to those prevailing on active service. The Cup which the Battalion won for the 3 previous years was competed for again, but under rather changed conditions; in previous years each Regiment was allowed to select its own teams (Company, $\frac{1}{2}$ Company, Section, etc.) this year the competing teams were decided by drawing lots and a much greater element of luck was naturally introduced into the competition. The Cup was won by the 1st South Lancashire Regt with 5 firsts, the Battalion being 2nd with 4 firsts. The Machine Gun team under Lieut. E A Bald made some extremely good shooting in the maxim gun competition which earned them a special commendation from the General.

At the 3rd Divisional Assault-at-Arms which took place at Ambala commencing on the 24th February 1913 the Battalion won the following events:—

Cross Country Team Race in full marching order.

Team Shelter Trench Digging Competition.

In addition Lieut. A. E. Miller was best Man-At-Arms (Officers Dismounted) winning the Bayonet *v.* Bayonet and being second in the Sabre *v.* Sabre. Corpl. T. Carroll won the 3rd prizes for Bayonet *v.* Bayonet and Bayonet *v.* Sword, and Private J. Walsh was second in the Novices Bayonet *v.* Bayonet.

The Battalion was at the top of the Educational Roll of Honour for Infantry for three years (1909-11). Last year a new system of compiling the educational attainments of units was started and the Battalion has dropped to 16th, although it is still a long way a head of all other line Battalions so far as Regimental Higher Education is concerned *i.e.* 1st Class Certificates. In

September last when the list was published we were in possession of 52 1st Class Certificates the next best on the list being 42.

During the past three or four years the Signallers have maintained a very high standard of efficiency. In 1910 23 Signallers qualified as 1st Class and one as 2nd. In 1911 all 24 inspected qualified as 1st Class. This inspection, with a total of only 23 mistakes, was a record for British Troops in India. In 1913 all 24 Signallers were again 1st Class, and we beat our previous year's record by having only 22 mistakes and at the same time established another technical record.

Early in the present year the following Officers left the Battalion temporarily :—

Major W. E. M. Tyndall, D. S. O. to Simla, attached to A. G.'s Branch for 6 months.

Lieut E C. Boutflower as S S O, Jullundur for 2 years.

Lieut. W. G. Officer as S S O., Lahore for 2 years

Lieut. F S. Marriner left in March to take over Adjutant of the 6th Territorial Battalion at Skipton.

Lieut. C. R. Hetley was posted to the West African Regt. on 4-12-12 and Lieut. R A. Scott arrived in India from the 2nd Battalion, a few weeks ago to take his place.

Lieut. D. Firth returned to duty with the Battalion after completing 2 years as S S O Kasauli in March last.

Lieut V. N. Kidd left in October last to relieve Lieutenant Hetley at the Depôt.

The following officers, N -C. O's. and men are on leave in England at present :—

Major R. N. Bray, The Vicarage, Fordingbridge, Hants.

Lieut. H. W. Glenn, C/o Dr. Glenn Hayswards Heath Sussex.

Lieut. G Flemming (Pending retirement).

Eaton Grange, Cobham, Surrey.

Lieut. H. F. Treeby, C/o Messrs Cox & Co, London.

Lieut. P. V. Cornish, 8 Abingdon Gardens, London, W.

Lieut. E A Bald, Berkhamstead, Herts

Lieut. & Quartermaster A J. Carroll, 8 Hilberry Avenue, The Brook, Liverpool.

5889 Cr -Sgt H Winn, 166 Dirkhill Rd, Horton, Bradford.

8246 Sergt G Mayman, 12 Pyrah St, Dewsbury, Yorks.

6542 „ J Lawton, 80 Rosse St, Brownrye, Bradford Yorks.

8328 „ N Burke, 338 Pleck Road, Walsall.

8327 L -Sgt. G. Harrison, 20 Bakers Rd, St Augustines, Norwich.

8364 Corporal T. Blackmore, 9 Molyneaux Rd. Waterloo, Nr. Liverpool.

8430 Bdsmn. H. Stroud, 98 Charles St Burton-on-Trent.

9682 Private W. Waller, Market Rd. Chelmsford, Essex.

Lieut-Colonel W. M. Watson intends proceeding home on 90 days privilege leave on 4th July next. His address will be Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London.

Captain A G Horsfall and Captain M. V. Le P. French finish their tour of duty at the Dépôt in July and September respectively.

Captain W. E. Maples and Captain F. H. B. Wellesley expect to relieve them.

Headquarters and "A," "D," "E" and "H" Companies left Ambala for Solon on the 28th March. On the way up at Kalka the residents very kindly were "At Home" to the Officers and Sergeants of the Battalion.

A Boxing Club has been started in the Battalion during 1912 and four meetings have been held and some very good fights have been witnessed. The Regimental Belt for 1912 was won by Private F Clarke "F" Company. The 4th meeting entirely for Novices was held at Solon on 22nd, 23rd and 24th May, the results were as follows:—

Bantam Weights winner Private H. Midgeley "H" Coy.

Feather Weights winner Private C. W. Arnold "B" Coy. who also won the McAlpin Cup (presented by Messrs McAlpin & Co, of Bombay) at a former meeting.

Light Weights winner Private E. Walton "D" Coy.

Physical Training Class winner Corpl F. Turner "B" Coy.

Draft Competition winner Private T. Mullins "A" Coy.

A special 3 round contest prize presented by the C. O. between Privates F. H. Smith and J. McGowan both of "H" Company was won by the former. Prize for the best loser above the special 3 round contest was won by Private D. McHugh "B" Company.

The following were results of the several Company Competitions during the year 1912.

Rugby 1st team (Shield)	...	"H" Company.
" 2nd " (Cup)	...	"G" do.
Association Shield	...	"C" do.
Hockey Cup	...	"B" do.
Cricket Shield	...	"H" do.
Shooting Shield	...	"G" do.