

No.7 June 1927



THE IRON DUKE

*THE MAGAZINE OF
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT
(WEST RIDING)*

THE IRON DUKE



The
REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE
of the
DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S
REGIMENT
(WEST RIDING)

VOL. III.

No. 7. JUNE, 1927.

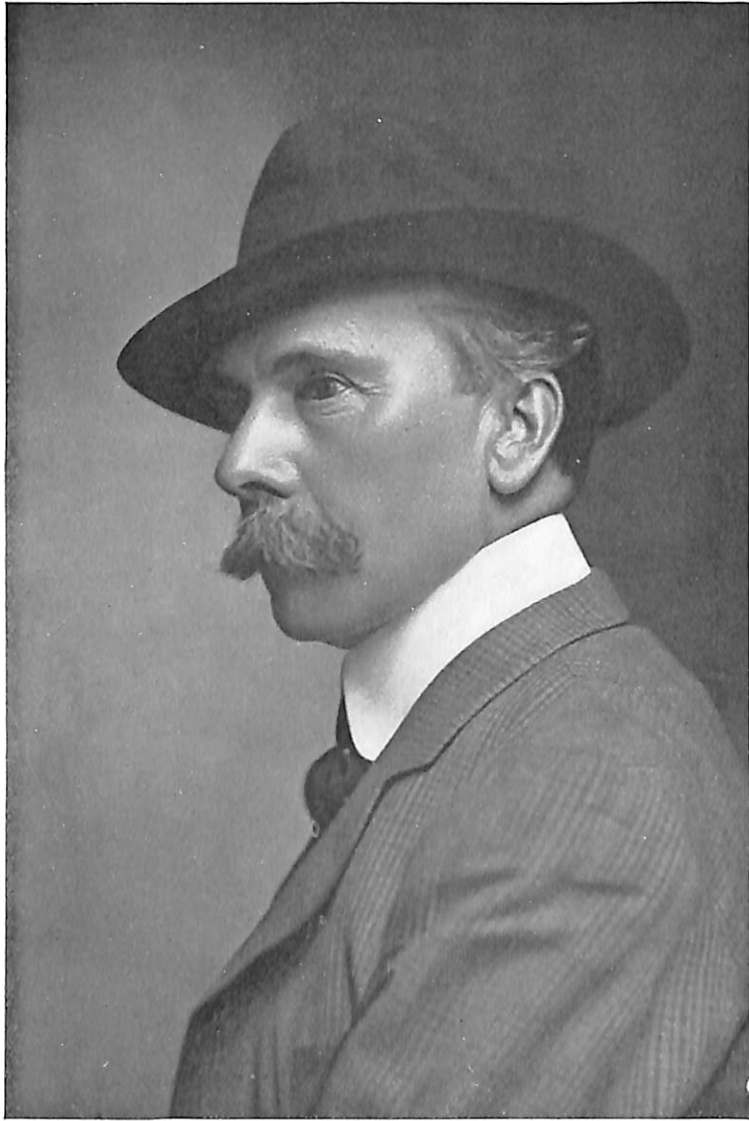
Printed for the Regimental Committee by
LAWRENCE BROS. (Weston-super-Mare), Ltd., and Published for the Proprietors by Major Palmer, O.B.E.,
53 Queen's Road, Bristol.
Members Association of Service Newspapers.
Advertising Agents for National Advertising, Association of Service Newspapers, 1 Albemarle St., W.1.
For local advertisers, Advertising Manager.

CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL	PAGE 69
FRONTISPIECE	69
REGIMENTAL NEWS—	
1ST BATTALION	70
2ND BATTALION	77
DEPOT	85
4TH BATTALION	86
5TH BATTALION	87
6TH BATTALION	88
7TH BATTALION	89
GENERAL—	
1ST YORKTON REGIMENT	89
H.M.S. "IRON DUKE"	90
OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATIONS	92
EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY OF THE GREAT WAR. By E. MILES, late C.S.M., 8th Battalion	95
HOW TO SWIM THE CHANNEL. By S. N.	97
THE REGIMENTAL CLUB COLOURS	98
INTER-SERVICES RUGBY FOOTBALL. By C. W. G. I.	99
TEN YEARS AGO. By Brig.-Gen. P. A. TURNER, C.M.G.	101
EX-COLOUR-SERGEANT JOHN LAWTON. By C.S.M. H. TEALE	103
THE REGIMENTAL COLOURS. By Col. J. A. C. GIBBS, C.B.	104
PRIZE COMPETITION	105
THOUGHTS ON SPORT. By "OLD STAGER"	105
MEN OF MOMENT: (2) THE RECRUIT. By O. P.	107
EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF AN OFFICER OF H.M.S. "RENOWN." By "SEARCHLIGHT"	107
GENERALS I HAVE INSPECTED, AND VICE-VERSA. By A. J. P.	109
HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE. By "DUKEWELL"	110
ODE TO THE PAGEANT. By Lance-Corporal C. BINNEY	111
SOME MEDALS IN THE 2ND BATTALION COLLECTION. By J. V. K.	112
EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY CAPT. W. THAIN. By Major C. W. G. INCE, M.C.	114
THE TALE OF THE S.V.C. By R. E. B.	116
DUKEWELL AND INKWELL. By "DREADNOUGHT"	118
THE ORIGINS, TITLES, AND NICKNAMES OF OUR BATTALIONS. By Brig.-Gen. P. A. TURNER, C.M.G.	118
PENANG HILL. By K. G. E.	120
CORRESPONDENCE	121
TRAMP TYPES. By "DREADNOUGHT"	122
REVIEWS. By "MIDDLEBROW" and F. H. F.	123
OUR CONTEMPORARIES	124
PERSONALIA	125
ARMY OFFICERS' ART SOCIETY	125
OBITUARY	126
OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA	126
WAR OFFICE NOTES... ..	127
ARMY LIST, APRIL, 1927	128

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE LORD SAVILE, K.C.V.O., T.D. ... ..	...	<i>Frontispiece</i>
ARMY CAPS IN THE 1ST BATTALION ... ..	...	76
NO. 1 COY. 2ND BATTALION RUGBY FOOTBALL TEAM ... ..	...	77
NO. 1 COY. 2ND BATTALION LONG SERVICE GROUP ... ..	...	77
LT.-COLONEL N. B. CHAFFERS, M.C., T.D. ... ..	...	88
OFFICERS OF THE 7TH BATTALION ATTENDING LEVEE ... ..	...	89
THE REGIMENTAL COLOURS ... ..	...	104
PRIZE COMPETITION PHOTOGRAPHS ... ..	...	105
RIFLE MEETING IN JOHORE. ... ..	...	112
H.M.S. EMERALD ... ..	...	112
SERINGAPATAM MEDALS ... ..	...	113
F. H. B. W. By Major J. C. BURNETT, D.S.O. ... ..	...	120
RENINGHELST CHURCH ... ..	...	121
LT.-COLONEL J. C. DE BALINHARD, D.S.O. ... ..	...	121



Savile

EDITORIAL.

SINCE our last issue the reliefs for 1927-28 have been published, and both the 1st and 2nd Battalions are among them. The former goes to the Rhine and the latter to India, though in view of the situation in China the 2nd Battalion's move is a matter for doubt.

We congratulate our Allied Regiment on their notable success, their signallers having won the Dominion Cup. They scored more points than have ever been made in this competition, and the Cup has never previously left the East of Canada.

The Treasurer of the Regimental Children's Flower Fund, which is described on page 30 of our last issue, reports that up to April 12th, 141 children's names have been sent in, with donations totalling £30 6s. 6d. Full details of the scheme are not yet available as the Minster Central Flower Committee have not yet settled them. It is understood, however, that the estimate of ten pounds a year for our Altar is accurate, and we trust that further donations will be forthcoming. Arising out of enquiries which have been made since the Children's Flower Fund was started, readers should note that anyone wishing to contribute in memory of a friend who is dead, but whose father served in the Regiment, may do so.

By the time this number appears the ceremony of depositing the four stands of Colours, referred to in the Colonel of the Regiment's speech on page 93, will have taken place. A full account will appear in our next issue.

Readers will notice the loose leaflet regarding the Regimental History which is included in this number. We hope that all our readers will become possessors of copies.

We regret that in our Editorial note at the head of the article "John Shipp" on page 50 of our last issue we incorrectly stated that Mr. Hudleston's book, "Warriors in Undress," was out of print. We are happy to be able to inform our readers, on the authority of the publishers, Messrs. John Castle, that this is not the case.

We also apologise to Mr. Hudleston for having spelt his name incorrectly. It should read:—F. J. Hudleston, C.B.E.

In the List of Warrant Officers and Colour Sergeants which appeared on page 64 of our last issue, we inadvertently inserted Colonel R. E. Williamson's name as Hon. Colonel of the 6th Battalion, whereas it should have been Colonel J. Birkbeck.

The result of the Prize Competition will be found on page 105. It is a matter for regret that there were so few entries, and we hope that better support will be forthcoming in the next issue.

FRONTISPIECE.

BARON JOHN SAVILE LUMLEY SAVILE, K.C.V.O., T.D., Hon. Colonel of the 4th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, was born on 20th September, 1853. He held appointments in the Diplomatic Service and Foreign Office, retiring in 1889. He succeeded to the Barony in 1896. He joined the Sherwood Rangers (Yeomanry) in 1882, reaching the rank of major in 1891. On 29th August, 1900, he was appointed Hon. Colonel of the 1st Volunteer Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, resigning his commission in his former regiment. Lord Savile, as most of our readers will know, is closely connected with Halifax and the West Riding.

THE IRON DUKE

1st BATTALION NEWS.

LITTLE of interest has happened since our return from Scotland. We came back to find a new Divisional Commander in Major-General Sir John Burnett-Stewart, K.B.E., and a new Brigade Commander in Col. Commdt. R. J. Collins, C.M.G., D.S.O. They both inspected us shortly after our arrival and both expressed themselves as very satisfied with the appearance and turn-out of the Battalion.

Meanwhile the air has been thick with rumours as to our impending move. Most stations in the United Kingdom have been mentioned in the betting, but on the whole Northern Ireland and Catterick carried most of the money, closely followed by Aldershot, Lichfield, and Strensall. York and Tidworth were also mentioned. Special selection by our Brewery Correspondent: Colchester. As usual, an outsider romped home at 100—1, and the world now knows we are destined for the Rhine.

Popular opinion is inclined to view this move with enthusiasm, but is a little vague as to the conditions of life there. However, we have with infinite labour collected a good deal of illuminating information on this point from various sources, and have tabulated it below for the benefit of our readers:—1. Quarters—(a) barracks, (b) billets, (c) tents, (d) hotels. 2. Sport—(a) First class, (b) no facilities at all. 3. Living—(a) Very expensive, except for drinks and smokes, (b) very cheap, drinks and smokes excepted. 4. Training—(a) Frightfully strenuous, (b) confined to section training on the square. 5. Leave—not enough (unanimous).

H.M.S. *Iron Duke* has again arrived in Portsmouth, and on Saint George's Day we hope to be able to repay some of the hospitality they showed us in Scotland.

Mechanism is the key-word of the moment. The Brigade Commander has given us two most interesting lectures on this much-debated subject, illustrating with lantern slides some of the monstrous nightmares we may expect to meet this year on Salisbury Plain.

With much regret we record the death of Mr. F. E. Wallace at Cheltenham. His father, as an ensign, was wounded carrying one of the Colours of the 33rd at Alma, and he himself always took the greatest interest in the Battalion. For many years a generous benefactor to the Mess, at his death he bequeathed to us his complete collection of regimental relics, which included a portrait of his father, together with the tunic in which he was wounded, his sword, and his medals.

Capt. Sir R. J. A. Henniker and 2nd Lt. R. K. Exham have left us for Singapore. Lt. C. A. O'Connor has rejoined from East Africa. Major G. S. W. Rusbridger leaves us shortly to take up a staff appointment in Jamaica.

All branches of sport have suffered severely from our long absence. In the Rugby Cup we were once again defeated by the S.W.B.'s, the holders, in a gruelling match under appalling conditions. Our team was handicapped by sickness and lack of practice, but they put up a stout fight and it was anybody's game right up to the end. The Soccer team distinguished themselves as the season drew to a close and inflicted on H.M.S. *Excellent*, the local league champions, the first defeat they had suffered. The cross-country team has also put in a lot of work with encouraging results. The prospects all round for next year are excellent.

Congratulations to Pte. Dowas on his Army cap.

The outstanding social events have been the Paardeburg ball, given by the Sergeants' Mess, and a small dance in the Officers' Mess in February. At both the Regimental Dance Band made its debut, and earned great applause.

The following extract from a Scotch paper may possibly have been inspired by some of our exploits in the north:—

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

There is an amusing reference to the shooting prowess of the Duke of Wellington of Waterloo fame. It is recorded by Lady Shelley that he was a very wild shot. On one occasion when out on the moors he wounded a retriever, ruined a keeper's gaiters, and finally sprinkled the arms of an old lady who was washing clothes outside her cottage. Lady Shelley instantly appeased the indignant victim by saying, "My good woman, this ought to be the proudest moment of your life. You have just had the distinction of being shot by the Duke of Wellington." Did the Duke ever receive a greater tribute to his fame than this?

In February a team of officers met the ladies of Haslemere in a lacrosse match. They gallantly managed to lose by six goals to five. Considering that the nearest form of experience any of our team had to this form of sport was shrimping in Stokes Bay, their defeat may be attributed not so much to gallantry as to lack of skill.

Since the above notes were written, the ceremony of Trooping the Colour was carried out by the Battalion at Gosport on St. George's Day. Five Guards (3 Officers and 25 files each), the Band and Drums were on parade, making a total of 17 Officers and 360 other ranks. Owing to the limited space, only four Guards could be formed up in line, the fifth being drawn up at right angles on the left of the line. The Colonel of the Regiment (Lieutenant-General Sir Herbert E. Belfield, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O.), was received with a "General Salute." Roses were then distributed to all ranks on parade. The Trooping of the Regimental Colour was then proceeded with, followed by the guards marching past in slow and quick time. The parade concluded with a "General Salute." Some three hundred spectators witnessed the parade, including a party of 50 Petty Officers and Ratings from H.M.S. *Iron Duke*. The following Officers were on the Saluting Base with the Colonel of the Regiment:—Rear-Admiral R. R. C. Backhouse, C.B., C.M.G., and Captain C. J. C. Little, C.B., H.M.S. *Iron Duke*; Major-Gen. Sir George D. Jeffreys, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., Commanding Wessex Area; Col. Comdt. R. J. Collins, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 9th Infantry Brigade. On conclusion of the parade, the Officers entertained their guests in the Officers' Mess.

SOME OF THE SEASON'S HOWLERS.

The dangerous space is the eye of the firer.

The tragedy of a bullet lies between the muzzle and the target.

The five phases of the attack are as follows:—(a) Move the section to the deplored position, (b) Parliamentary, (c) municipal support, (d) the fire-flight, (e) consolation.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The latter part of our stay in Scotland was not marked by any happening of importance although it may be mentioned, as providing an instance of the high standard of business acumen possessed by the natives, that the members stationed at Donnibristle received an invitation to attend a military dance held in Dunfermline. On presenting the invitation at the door they were met with a demand (just to make the affair a wee bit select, ye ken) for 4s. per head.

It was only by constant reference to the statement in the papers daily that two more miners had returned to work in the Lanarkshire district that the *morale* of the members of the Mess maintained its high standard.

The news of the return of the Battalion to Gosport at an early date was received most enthusiastically, for as someone said, "We had only been sent there to assist in exterminating the "grouse."

By Christmastide we had settled down again in Gosport and things were practically normal again. On New Year's Eve the single members kindly invited the married families to a dance in the Gymnasium and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all.

The next event of note was the annual Paardeburg ball, held on Feb. 23rd, to which upwards of 300 guests were invited. As always, this was a huge success and praise must be given to the dance committee, who worked really hard to bring this about. Special mention must be made of Sgt. Flynn, who was entrusted with the task of decorating the hall.

On March 16th, a friendly billiard match was played with the Corporals. The Sergeants proved victors by a narrow margin, a like result being the outcome of the return games on April 4th. The games between the Officers and Sergeants resulted in a win by 60 points for the Sergeants, a result, we hope, the Officers will reverse when they are able to play on their own table.

During the month of March we had to say "Good-bye" to Sgt. F. Turner on his leaving the Mess to take up employment in civil life. One of the oldest members of the Mess, he has the sincerest wish of every member for success in his new undertaking. C.S.M. E. Hawley has also left us for a short time to do troopship duty owing to the Shanghai trouble. However, he is expected back minus "pig-tail" some time in September this year in time to accompany the Battalion to the Rhine.

Congratulations are offered to Sgt. Glasbey and L/Sgt. Clark who recently lost the privilege of dining with the single members and have now to pay their messing weekly.

The news of the death of L/Sgt. H. Warrington after a short illness was received with regret by the members of the Mess, who extend their deepest sympathy to his relatives. The deceased had only recently been posted to the Regimental Depot for a tour of duty.

The handicap for the billiard cue presented annually by Lt.-Col. R. M. Tidmarsh has just been completed. The winner was L/Sgt. C. Jones.

In an interview the winner stated to our representative that he attributed his success to the extensive "Muscle Exercise" course he is at present undergoing, and modestly asserts that he only did what others would have done with the same "start."

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

The Rugby season of 1926-27 is now practically finished, and in spite of the fact that we failed to win, or even reach the final of the Army Rugby Football Cup, the season from a regimental point of view can be written down as a most successful one. It should at once be said that our great hopes, properly formed on last season's results and progress, were practically ruined when we were sent to Scotland on strike duty. We were there nearly three months of the season and then the team had to get a month's leave. Thus we found more than half the season gone and only seven matches played and most of these against weak teams.

Our Cup match against the S.W.B.'s (the eventual winners of the Army Cup) was much the same type of game as last season. A ding-dong struggle all the way. We were hoping the day would be fine when we thought our better combination in the backs would more than compensate for the slight superiority of the S.W.B.'s forwards in the loose. However, it was not to be, and the match was played in rain and wind, with the ground heavy. At half-time there was no score on either side, and it looked anyone's game. We held the advantage in hooking and heeling, while the S.W.B.'s were much better with their feet and in the loose mauls. This advantage as it happened was sufficient to give them victory by 2 tries—6 points to nil. There is no doubt whatsoever that the S.W.B.'s thoroughly deserved their victory, but it would be interesting to see the same game played with a dry ball and a dry ground.

It was unfortunate for us that L/Cpl. Mannion (our scrum half) and Cpl. Gummersell (our full back) could not turn out owing to illness and injuries. Let it be said at once that both 2nd Lt. Exham and L/Cpl. Goodwin made admirable substitutes. In fact the latter as a full back was one of the big successes of the match. From kick-off to

"No side" he never put a foot wrong and neither of the scores could in any way be claimed to have been his fault. However, we missed his straight dashes on the left wing. 2nd Lt. Exham played a gallant game at scrum half. He is really too tall for the position, but nevertheless got the ball away quickly and accurately and went down to the rushes in grand style. We missed Mannion's quick breakaways from the scrum and he is a more efficient spoiler than Exham. The remainder of the team all played well. Our forward rushes were not as fierce and as well controlled as they had been in previous games, but all the same every one gave of his best, and what more can any man do?

Our 1st XV. only lost two matches this season. The S.W.B.'s and the United Services were the only teams to beat us. Our 2nd XV., which only commenced to function in January, has improved out of all knowledge. They have met stronger opposition than ever before and their victories more than balance their defeats.

In writing down this season as a successful one, we are not looking at results alone. The standard of play has improved and the men have now got a sound knowledge of the game and its tactics. At the moment they are rather inclined to overdo the passing game, but this is a fault in the right direction. Attack should always be a team's intention. Taken all round, the men are keener on the game than last season. As long as we can get teams to play the game as skilfully, as enthusiastically, and with the same sporting spirit as has been evident all this season, we have no fear as regards the future. Under such circumstances the winning of the Army Cup, though a nice thing in many ways, fades into the background. Long may such a happy state of affairs exist.

The following XV. played v. The S.W.B.'s.—L/Cpl. Goodwin, Lt. Haslock, Lt. C. W. B. Orr, Pte. S. Pendleton, Lt. J. H. Dalrymple, 2nd Lt. Exham, 2nd Lt. H. C. M. Stone, Lt. W. F. Browne (capt.), Lt. C. K. T. Faithfull, Pte. Dowas, L/Cpl. Townend, Pte. Glover, Pte. Foy, Pte. Barker, Pte. Jones.

As has been pointed out, there are many things with which we are very pleased, but we have no hesitation in saying that one thing has given more satisfaction than anything else and that is the fact that Pte. Dowas, a recruit from the Depot in September, 1926, in his first season's football with the regimental team was awarded his Army Rugby cap. This must be a record. He played for the Army against the R.A.F. and the French Army and on both occasions played splendidly. He is an excellent hooker, but lacking in experience at the moment. Apart from his hooking he is very good in the loose, always fit, and possesses plenty of dash. He should improve even more next season. There are a few more promising forwards in the Regiment, and if they keep at it and train conscientiously, an Army cap is not beyond their grasp.

Pte. Pendleton was reserve for the Army against the Navy and travelled with the team. As things turned out, he may be considered unlucky not to have played. He is a good player but is too self-confident to ever get the most out of his ability, which is a pity. Possibly the best players in the 2nd XV. have been Pte. Eyre (a promising player), Pte. Eycott, L/Cpl. Gunn, Cpl. Barker, of the forwards, and Pte. Roebuck, Pte. Lancaster, and Drummer Gale, of the backs. The Company Rugby knock-out competition is in progress at the time of writing. So far they have provided some good games. "C" Company appear to have the best all-round team, but they can be assured of meeting stiff opposition from either "E" or "F" company in the final.

At the moment we are wondering what our prospects of getting Rugby football in Germany are. We hope we can get fixtures with French and German teams.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

A strenuous "Soccer" season is now drawing to a close. This season we have had to remodel our 1st XI. owing to many players, such as Sgt. Ward. Cpls. Seaton, Headford, and Pte. Wagstaffe having left the Battalion either for service at the Depot or for discharge.

We commenced our fixtures in the U.S. League, Div. I. and II., on our return from Scotland, but as was to be expected, we met with several reverses until our new team

found their feet. Since then we have really got going and for the first time during our stay (four years) in Gosport we were able to call a win over H.M.S. *Excellent*, who have been the U.S. League winners for the last six years and until meeting us had had 17 consecutive wins.

Extract from the Portsmouth *Football Mail*, 19/3/27 :—"The Dukes" are to be congratulated upon the courageous manner in which they are endeavouring to wipe off the arrears in their fixtures. Last week they carried out three engagements and they are cock-a-whoop over the fact that in the course of these they gained the distinction of being the first team this season to extract full points from H.M.S. *Excellent*. While H.M.S. *Excellent* have once again made certain of the championship of U.S., Div. I., the second place remains an open question. H.M.S. *Victory*, Royal Scots Fusiliers are in the running, and the chances of the Duke of Wellington's must not be overlooked.

The following represented the first XI. during the season, Tranter in goal being most prominent :—Pte. Tranter, Pte. Williams, Dr. Bray, Pte. Cox, L/Cpl. Sullivan, L., L/Cpl. Lamb, L/Cpl. Kirkby, Sgt. Myatt, Ptes. Dunn, Hemblys, Lolley, L/Cpl. Sullivan, J., Ptes. Rumbold and Mason.

SUMMARY.—The Battalion team did not find their best form until the end of March, when they wound up the season with a succession of brilliant victories. It is hoped that the team will be able to reproduce this form early next season in which case they should go a long way in any competition in which they take part.

Our 2nd XI. has been used chiefly this season as an experimental side and from the many players that have been tested we hope to produce a strong 2nd XI. The following formed the backbone of the XI. during the season :—Pte. Mason, L/Cpl. Hay, Evans, and Rumbold.

INTER-COMPANY KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION, 1926-27.

These matches were all played at the beginning of April, and their popularity was shown by the large and enthusiastic crowds on the touch-line. The results were as follows :—

1st round.—"A" Coy., 5 goals ; "D" Coy., 2 goals ; "B" Coy., nil ; "E" Coy., 4 goals.

2nd round.—"A" Coy., 4 goals ; "F" Coy., 2 goals ; "E" Coy., 3 goals ; "C" Coy., 1 goal.

Final.—"E" Coy., 5 goals ; "A" Coy., nil.

The Boys' XI. were successful in beating the "Gloucesters" and The Royal Scots Fusiliers, but were unable to compete against the R.O.A.C. and R.E.'s, who have about 200 boys to select from.

INDIVIDUALS.—L/Cpl. Sullivan, L., was selected to play for the local Army and R.A.F. against the Navy on 26th January, 1927. Extract from the *Football Mail* headed "Army Stars" :—There is no doubt that the pivot around which the Army and R.A.F. moved to effective purpose was Sullivan, of the Duke of Wellington's Regt., at centre half. His duels with Beats (R.N.) were a feature of the game and Sullivan claimed the verdict on points.

CAPS.—The award of caps will be announced in our next issue.

BOXING.

We had one team-fight against H.M.S. *Excellent* and the result was a draw of eight points each. The boxing on this occasion reached a high standard.

We had a large number of boxers in the Army and R.A.F. combined team which beat "The Navy" at Portsmouth on March 19th. All our representatives did well.

We are now busy getting ready for our contest against "The Navy," which takes place at the Connaught Drill Hall, Portsmouth, on April 26th.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING.

PLATOON COMPETITION.—The four heats in this competition were run off in time for the final to take place on 10th March, when No. 7 Platoon " B " Company won easily. The leading points and places were :—1st, No. 7 Pltn., 20 pts. ; 2nd, No. 13 Pltn., 49 pts. ; 3rd, No. 2 Pltn., 65 pts. 1st, Pte. Shevels, 13 Pltn. ; 2nd, Pte. Outing, 2 Pltn. ; 3rd, Pte. Ibbottson, 7 Pltn. ; 4th, Lt. Carroll, 7 Pltn. ; 5th, L/Cpl. Owen, 14 Pltn. ; 6th, L/Cpl. Moss, 7 Pltn. ; 7th, Pte. Andrews, 7 Pltn. ; 8th, Pte. Mawer, 6 Pltn.

The 1st Battalion fixture took place on 29th January against a combined R.A.F. team from Lee and Gosport. Unfortunately only a weak team could be produced, and we were defeated by 30—49 pts. The Air Force course was used, which, though only a short five miles, was very wet and heavy. L. A. C. Johnson was the first man home ; a good runner, he has since won the Hants championship. Pte. Clay, our first man, was third, Pte. Outing fifth, L/Cpl. Moss seventh, and Pte. Call tenth. The team was :—Ptes. Clay, Outing, L/Cpl. Moss, Pte. Call, Bdsmn. Brown, L/Cpl. Mills, Ptes. Burgin and McGill.

In February, two teams of twelve were chosen to compete in the Hampshire championship, with a view to selecting a team for the Southern Command race. The race was run on the 26th February on the Portsdown hills over a two-lap course of six miles, which included some heavy plough and a long uphill stretch ending in a really steep climb. A furious gale was blowing the whole time, the cold being intense, and the runners were soaked before the start. The team placings were :—1st, Aldershot Command, 38 pts. ; 2nd, R.A.F., Portsmouth and Calshot, 111 pts. ; 3rd, Trojans A.C., 117 pts. ; 4th, Royal Navy and Marines, Portsmouth, 130 pts. ; 5th, D.W.R. 1st team, 159 pts. ; 6th, Portsmouth Road and Racing Club, 344 pts. ; 7th, D.W.R. 2nd team, 346 pts. ; Hants A.C. and Bournemouth A.C. did not get sufficient men home to count. 2nd Lt. Exham was our first man home, finishing 18th ; Ptes. Outing, Clay, Shevels, and Webber followed in that order and finished in the first thirty out of a hundred starters. Pte. Clay who started as one of the favourites for individual honours was unfortunate to suffer from severe cramp owing to the intense cold and showed much pluck in finishing 25th. The opportunity must be taken here of offering the heartiest congratulations to Pte. Clay on winning the amateur 10 miles championship of Hampshire in August, 1926.

The teams were :—1st team.—Lt. Carroll (capt.), 2nd Lt. Exham, L/Cpl. Moss, Ptes. Clay, Webber, Outing, Shevels, Ibbottson, Andrews, Mawer, Call, Bdsmn. Brown. 2nd team.—L/Cpl. H. Moss (capt.), L/Cpl. Owen, L/Cpl. Mills, Ptes. Bird, Crump, Lucas, Burgin, Colgrave, Palmer, Ewen, McGill, Denton.

The Southern Command race took place at Tidworth on 4th March. The weather conditions were good, but the course proved a very hard test. Nearly eight miles long, it consisted of one continuous switchback of long steep hills, the start leading straight up the hill, behind the station, and the finish including the quarter mile Garrison cinder track. The D.C.L.I. were the winners, the Battalion finishing 5th out of ten teams, in the following individual order :—Ptes. Clay, Webber, 2nd Lt. Exham, Ptes. Outing, Shevels, Ibbotson, Andrews, Lt. Carroll, L/Cpl. Owen, Ptes. Mawer, Crump, L/Cpl. M. Moss, Pte. Lucas, Bdsmn. Brown, Pte. Call. Ptes. Clay and Webber ran very well to finish 5th and 17th respectively.

The following were awarded their Battalion colours for the season after the race :—Ptes. Clay and Webber, 2nd Lt. Exham, Ptes. Outing and Shevels. Pte. Clay was also selected to run as an individual in the Army Championship on 22nd March, when he finished 23rd.

SHOOT AT AUCHMEDDEN, SEPTEMBER, 1926.

It is impossible to live in Scotland without having some kind of shooting, so that when the Regiment was stationed at Stirling during the strike several of the officers were anxious to fill in their spare time on the moors. It was therefore fortunate that Mr. L. H. Plant, headmaster of a local school, should have been able to arrange a shoot in

Banffshire, in which he was joined by Col. Wellesley, Capt. Fraser, Lt. Browne, Lt. Dalrymple, and Lt. Orr, with Pte. Clarke attached to the party as servant.

Banffshire is about 160 miles from Stirling, and those who made the journey in Mr. Plant's car passed through most beautiful country. The first night was spent at the Banff Arms Hotel; after tea, Crichton, the head keeper, was interviewed, and rooms were engaged at the Commercial Hotel, which is situated in the middle of the shoot.

The next morning saw the start of what proved to be a wonderful week's sport, though it was not without its lighter moments. Pte. Clarke is not likely to forget his first meeting with a snipe. The Colonel had wounded the bird on the wing and it was running about. Clarke was told to collect it, but when he saw its long and rapier-like beak he was afraid to pick it up. There was only one safe way out of the difficulty, and that way he followed by caging the unfortunate snipe in his uniform hat. That did not suffice to keep the bird quiet, and the sight of Pte. Clarke capering despairingly round the dancing hat will not soon be forgotten. Eventually he plucked up sufficient courage to seize the creature from behind and after a dour struggle succeeded in strangling it to death.

The shooting of the party was not always perfect, though the most complete shot of the week was undoubtedly when Lt. Orr got a right and left, a partridge with one barrel and Crichton with the other. There were two fortunate misses, the first when a cock pheasant was mistaken for a partridge, but escaped, and the second when a sparrow looked surprisingly like a snipe and lived to tell the tale.

The country was not easy to shoot over, for it was hilly and rough, and broken up by deep glens whence it was difficult to dislodge the partridges with only two dogs. However, the air was most invigorating and it was very pleasant to have the sea surrounding most of the shoot.

One enjoyable experience was a day's grouse driving, despite a high wind, which made the birds provide really sporting shots. A morning of rock-pigeon shooting was indulged in, producing much amusement but a small bag.

At Rudden, where the Regiment was subsequently stationed, there was some rough shooting round the camp, and helped by Kate—a hired pointer dog—and many volunteer beaters from the Regiment, some good mixed bags were secured. Pte. Clarke excelled himself as a gunshot and expert poacher. Thanks to the great kindness of General Sir Norman Orr-Ewing, General Ritchie, Mr. I. Dishington, Mr. J. Wright, and Mrs. Colville, members of the Mess were enabled to enjoy many delightful days' shooting. The bag for the regimental shoot was as follows:—

	Guns.	Partridges.	Hares.	Rabbits.	Other Game.	Total (head).
Sept. 16th ...	Fraser, Browne, Plant ...	22	3	5	—	30
Sept. 17th ...	Fraser, Browne, Dalrymple, Plant ...	26	2	2	—	30
*Sept. 18th ...						
Sept. 20th ... (short day)	Col. Wellesley, Fraser, Browne, Orr, Plant ...	7	—	1	Pigeon 2	10
Sept. 21st ...	Same as on 20th ...	52	—	3	snipe 1	56
Sept. 22nd ... (Morning, Little Blyth)	Same as 20th ...	41	5	1	snipe 5 G. Plover 1	53
Sept. 23rd ...	Same as 20th ...	13†	—	—	—	13
	Total ...	161	10	12	9	192
	Add 3 rock pigeons shot	by L.H.P.	before breakfast	Sept. 18th	...	3
						195

*Guests of Mr. Brodie and Mr. Whyte at Fishrie Moor; share of bag received, 8 brace grouse.

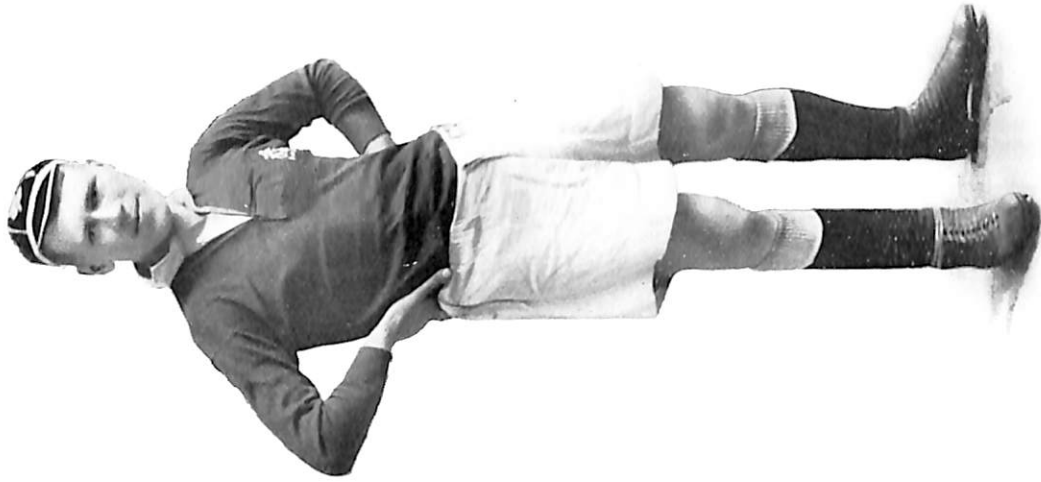
†Party pressing badly and off their swing. Several additional birds afterwards picked up dead as result of hearing language of Col. W. and W.F.B., but not included in bag.

ARMY CAPS IN THE 1st BATTALION.



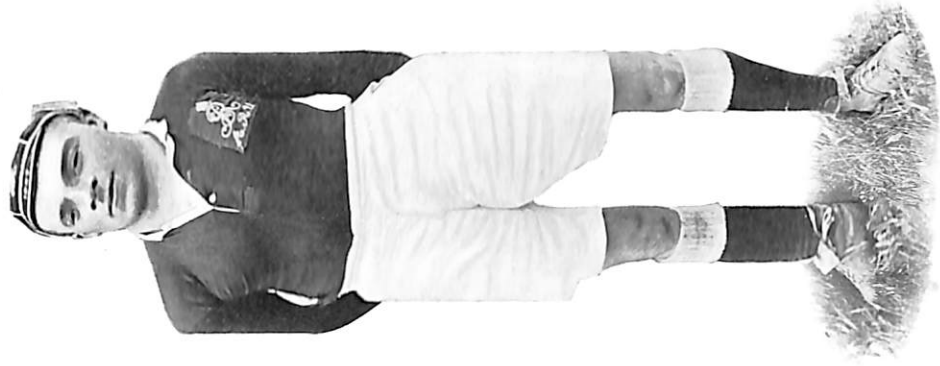
Lt. W. F. Browne.

Ireland v. England, Scotland, and Wales, 1925.
 Ireland v. Scotland and Wales, 1926.
 Ireland v. France, England, Scotland and Wales, 1927.
 Army v. Royal Navy, 1924-25-26-27.
 Army v. R.A.F., 1924-26-27.
 Army v. French Army, 1924-25-26-27.



Lt. C. K. T. Faithfull.

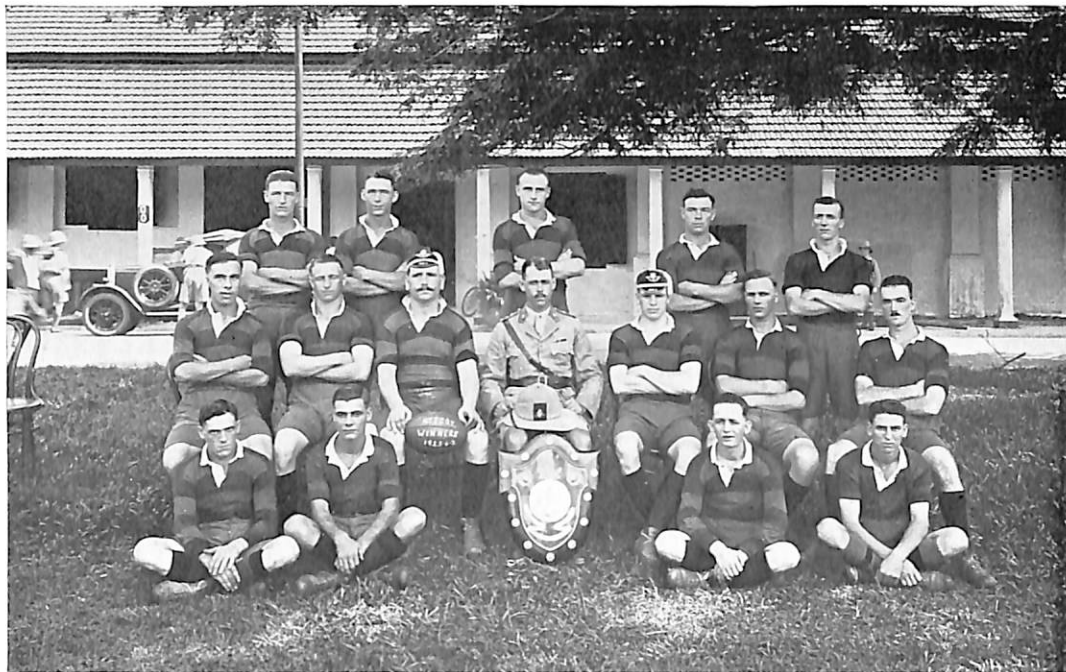
England v. Ireland, 1924.
 England v. France and Scotland, 1926.
 Army v. Royal Navy, 1924-27.
 Army v. R.A.F., 1924-26-27.
 Army v. French Army, 1924-26.



No. 460852 Pte. F. Dowas.

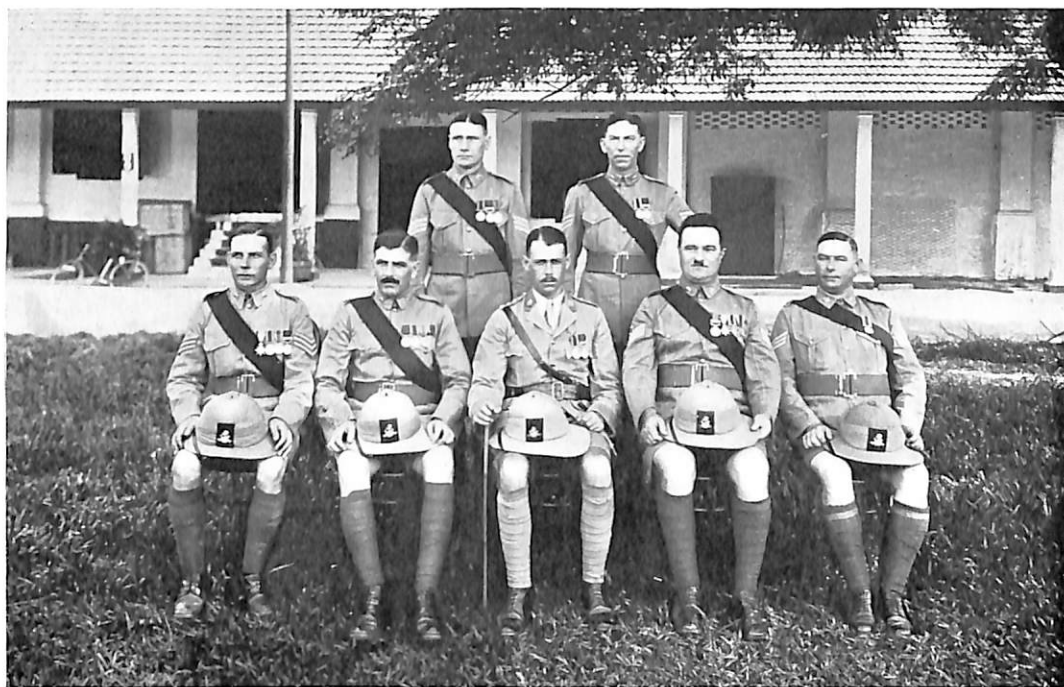
Army v. R.A.F., 1927.
 Army v. French Army, 1927.

No. 1 COMPANY. INTER-COMPANY RUGBY CHALLENGE SHIELD. WINNERS, 1926-27.



Top Row.—Foster, Breffitt, Mitchell, Basford, Connor.
 Middle Row.—Gibson, Milnes, Annesley, Capt. Faulkner, Beeson, Holt, Wagstaff.
 Bottom Row.—Lumb, Hardiment, Payne, Horrocks.

No. 1 COMPANY, 2nd D.W. REGIMENT.



Interesting photograph from the point of view of service.

Coy. Cmdr. Capt. St. J. Faulkner; C.S.M. J. Bourn, D.C.M.; C.Q.M.S. H. Hardisty, M.M.; Platoon Sgt., No. 1 Platoon, Sgt. G. Perkins; Platoon Sgt., No. 2 Platoon, Sgt. G. Greenwood; Platoon Sgt., No. 3 Platoon, Sgt. H. Windle; Platoon Sgt., No. 4 Platoon, Sgt. J. Lucas.
 Aggregate service, 123 years 8 months. Average service, 17 years 8 months.

2nd BATTALION NEWS.

THIS quarter has seen the finish of the Platoon Flag Competition for 1926. The greatest keenness has been shown throughout, and the winners—No. 9 Platoon—are to be congratulated on their success. The immense value of a competition of this sort as a stimulus to training and efficiency can nowhere be better exemplified than in a station like Singapore where, with an enervating climate and very few opportunities for field training, the chief object must be to maintain physical fitness and the competitive spirit. An inter-platoon competition which embraces every possible game as well as rifle shooting, turn-out, and drill, seems by far the best way to meet the case. This competition was initiated in Sheffield by Lt.-Col. Bray in 1919, and Major (then Captain) Cholmley, who was Adjutant, presented the flag, the idea being for the winning platoon to carry it on all ceremonial parades. Owing to the move of the Battalion that year to Ireland and the subsequent unsettled state as regards a definite station, it was not found possible to get the competition thoroughly going until the Battalion arrived in Egypt, but it has now become a settled institution. The flag this year will be presented to the winners on the St. George's Day parade—and before then we shall have started the competition for 1927!

The Singapore Garrison were the guests of the ex-Service men of Singapore, the Volunteers, and their friends at a delightful entertainment during February. Our hosts arranged for three matinée performances of "*No! No! Nanette*" by Mr. Salisbury's touring company at the Victoria Theatre. These performances were preceded by a magnificent tea, and were punctuated by refreshments between the acts. Not only so, but our hosts even provided transport to convey all other ranks and married families to and from the theatre. There were few in the Battalion who did not avail themselves of this most generous entertainment on one or other of the days allotted, and on behalf of all ranks we wish to thank all those who in any way contributed towards giving us so much pleasure.

We also desire to take this opportunity of tendering our thanks to Mr. A. St. Alban Smith, manager of the Seleeta Rubber Estate, for his generosity in presenting us with two motor cars for the use of the married families. Mr. St. Alban Smith, who was seriously wounded in 1914 in the Great War, has given us a six-cylinder Cleveland and a Hupmobile complete in every respect—even including a petrol allowance—to enable the married families to get about. He and Mrs. St. Alban Smith have, moreover, invited the married families to visit their estate at Seleeta and to make use of their bathing pagar. It is impossible adequately to express our thanks or our appreciation. Mr. St. Alban Smith played against the Battalion at Rugger in Calcutta in 1903.

As a result of the Military Pageant of Empire, etc., held in Singapore last year we received for the Old Comrades' Association the sum of £151 11s. 3d., being £140 allotted to us from the profits of the Pageant and gifts of dollars 50 each from H. M. Devitt, Esq., of Singapore, and John Foster, Esq., of Linggi Plantations, Negri Sembilan, F.M.S.

VISIT OF DUTCH WARSHIPS TO SINGAPORE.

By the visit to Singapore of two ships of the Netherlands Royal Navy, we have been able to make some small return for the hospitality shown to our football team which visited Java last year. Her Netherland Majesty's ships *Soemba* and *Flores*, recently out from Holland but based on Sourabaya, were here for a few days in March, and we were able to arrange an Association football match with them and to entertain some of their officers to dinner. The football match took place on our ground on the 9th March, and we provided transport to bring up 50 spectators from the ships as well as the team. The game was a very interesting one, but we proved too strong for our visitors, winning by 10 goals to 1. The naval team, however, was handicapped by playing in sand-shoes and found it very difficult to stand up on our wet ground. After the match, the team

and spectators were taken to the canteen, where tea and other refreshments were provided for them.

On the 11th, Commanders J. F. Osten and A. F. N. Dalhuisen, together with two other officers from each ship, honoured us at dinner, as also did the Acting Consul-General for the Netherlands and Mr. de Meester, manager of the Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland. Both Royal toasts were duly honoured at dinner and a most pleasant and cheery evening followed.

On Sunday, 13th, Commander Osten and the Officers of both ships entertained a large number of guests to tea on board the *Soemba*, the occasion providing a very enjoyable afternoon.

OFFICERS' MESS.

Our news this time, although published in June, is mainly about Christmas. This cannot be helped, as we can't get Christmas news home in time for the February issue and, equally, we can't omit all reference to that festive season. It was, this year, far more homelike than we had expected, as the weather was so typically English! It rained almost without ceasing for ten days over Christmas and the temperature never rose above 79 and at times fell to 70. Up country the floods were so severe that in places people literally took to the trees! The most serious thing from our point of view, however, was that the mail due on Christmas Day failed to arrive, owing to the railway from Penang being washed away in places, and we had to wait till next day for our letters from home.

On Christmas afternoon, in a sea of mud, we played our annual soccer fixture with the Sergeants. An account of this appears elsewhere in this issue, so we will not refer to what, to some of us, was a somewhat painful entertainment!

New Year's Eve was again an occasion for incessant rain, but, in spite of the faultiness of the mess roof, it did nothing to damp the spirits of our guests—the Regimental ladies. The verandah chics had to be kept down to prevent the rain driving in, but as it was a cold night this caused no discomfort and, on the other hand, served to show up the festoons of roses and grapes (paper) with which the verandah had been decorated and to give a cosy and English atmosphere to the mess. The evening was very cheery; after an "old English" dinner, at which the usual toasts were drunk (and the band, by special request, played "Lady, be good"), dancing—including an impromptu Apache dance—and roulette took place until it was time to let in 1927, which Major Wilson did, accompanied by the usual honours, and soon after our guests, having been fortified for the road from a steaming bowl of punch, braved the elements and set out for home.

We fear that we are very late, but we take this, our first, opportunity of tendering our congratulations to our Governor here, Sir Laurence Guillemard, on being made a G.C.M.G. We also take this opportunity of congratulating Lt. Miles on his marriage and Lt. Exham on his engagement. Before these lines are in print, we hope to have welcomed Mrs. Miles in Singapore; Miss Hamilton we all already know.

Various changes have taken place during the past few months. Capt. Williams has retired and has taken up an appointment under the local Education Department and is now headmaster of a school in Singapore. We wish him every success in his new life. Capt. Williams's vacancy with us is being filled by Capt. Sir Robert Henniker, who, with Lady Henniker, is at present on his way out. Major Wilson has gone home on leave. Capt. Shepherd has gone to the Depot on his appointment as Quartermaster there and Lt. Callaghan, whom we congratulate on his appointment, has come to us in his place. Lt. Chatterton has been appointed Adjutant of the Singapore Volunteers; at present we do not know who will come to us as his relief, and in any case we shall have to wait till next trooping season.

We had hoped to have seen something of the various Regiments which have passed through on their way to China, but so far only the Suffolks have stayed long enough to allow of our meeting. They remained here five days, and during that time the Battalion was put ashore. We put up their transport animals in our stables and the men lived

at Fort Canning. Various games were arranged between the two regiments, but all were washed out by rain.

We have been more lucky as regards the Navy. H.M.S. *Emerald* (Capt. H. T. England), of the 4th Cruiser Squadron, East Indies, arrived here on Dec. 20th, and remained till Dec. 27th. A hockey match was arranged for the 22nd, but was cancelled owing to rain. We were luckier the next day, when we played the Ship at Rugger on the Stadium ground; the game was hard and fast and we managed to win by 21 points to 5. The same evening we fixed a boxing match of eight fights; of these, we won six. Midshipman C. D'O. Umfreville, who is in the *Emerald*, and who, incidentally, played full back for their Rugger team, is a son of Lt.-Colonel H. K. Umfreville, D.S.O., who served for many years in both Battalions of the Regiment.

Other ships which stayed long enough for us to see something of them were *Enterprise*—on which Lt. H. Taylor had both pleasurable and instructive experience of travelling to Hong-Kong on his way to Shanghai on leave—*Durban*, on her return from re-commissioning at home, the airship carrier *Argus*, and *Caradoc*. A word of thanks must be said to the naval authorities for their kindness in allowing Army officers to go to sea with them, thereby giving the soldierman some idea of what life in the Royal Navy really is like.

Owing to the weather, we have only been able to have one tennis and "pahit" party since we last wrote—and on this occasion the tennis party was washed out by rain. However, we substituted dancing and bridge in the mess and we think our guests enjoyed themselves.

We wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Waterhouse for a framed autograph letter of the Duke of Wellington's, which she sent to us at Christmas; to our G.O.C., Major-General Sir Theodore Fraser, for a Seringapatam 1799 medal, which was in a collection given to him by an old lady 40 years ago and, therefore, cannot have been through many hands; and to Mr. C. Hannigan, Commissioner of Police, F.M.S., for a case containing two razors bearing the inscription "Duke of Wellington's Razors. Presented to the Officers Malay States Guides by M. B. Coxon, Esq." This case, together with other relics of the Malay States Guides, came into Mr. Hannigan's possession by transfer from the Perak Museum, and he has now most kindly presented the case of razors to us. It would be very interesting to know the earlier history of the razors and what connection Mr. Coxon had with the Duke.

Our Honorary Colours, which have had incorrect Spear Heads since we received them in 1906 in place of those burnt at Rangoon, are now once more complete in every detail, as we have had exact replicas of the original Spear Heads made for them.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Little calling for record has taken place since we wrote last, largely owing to the vast quantities of rain which have fallen during the quarter.

Our annual football match with the officers took place on Christmas Day and, after a hard-fought struggle, we proved the winners by the odd goal, the score being 4—3. We also again were successful in the Regimental Small Arms Meeting, Q.M.S. (O.R.) J. Coulter winning the Officers' and Sergeants' Cup, whilst Sgt. Churchill won the Spoon. Sgt. Butterworth won the Sergeants' Mess Challenge Cup.

The 2nd Bn. The Suffolk Regt. stopped here for a few days on their way to China. We entertained half of them one night and the other half the next night to a social evening and dinner, a billiard match taking place at the same time. The Suffolks won the billiards the first evening and we won the second evening, so honours were even.

We regret the loss of the following members who have gone into civil life, and we wish them both the best of luck:—C.Q.M.S. Gibbins and Sgt. Windle.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Wheatley, Sgt. Butterworth, and L/Sgt. Foster on their promotion.

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON.

Soccer was probably never before played under circumstances like those which prevailed on Boxing Day, when the Officers played their annual fixture with the Sergeants.

Those who have read their Bibles and can recall the state of the earth some short time after the dove returned to Noah in the Ark will have a fairly good conception of the condition of the ground. When the contestants filed on to the field their dismay was apparent. The respective captains deliberated and it was hinted, rather rudely, from somewhere on the line that they were going to make a boatrice of it; however, perhaps because boats were not available, it was decided to proceed with the game. The coin was spun amid cheers, but disappeared amid swirls of mud; what the result was the writer does not know, but the Officers decided to work the ball up stream.

At this point the 22 players were clearly distinguishable. Within five minutes, owing to the camouflage of mud collected by most of them, the only means of identification were the players' peculiarities of gait. This does not apply to Capt. Carey who, by virtue of his great height, always seemed to have his head above water.

The early part of the game seemed to be devoted to churning the field into a lake of clingy mud; this was splendidly controlled by the referee, who must have premeditated blowing his whistle on every square foot of the quagmire.

After ten minutes' play a spectator suggested that the Sergeants "get on with it." This remark raised the ire of the Officers' side. The Adjutant, who had gained a fairly firm piece of ground, spotted the ball slithering towards him, took a header at it, and came to the surface with the ball in the Sergeants' half. Lt. Chatterton, seeing the ball or head, fortunately it was the former, skated towards it and, after a series of Charleston-Hoobie-Joobie contortions, scored, much to the surprise of James, who thought it was a Christmas reveller and would not, on principle, interfere.

Another goal of note was scored by Capt. Green, who, taking advantage of the other 21 players searching for the ball, stole quietly up to it and, accompanied only by the referee, careered madly up the field and placed the ball between the posts. Shortly afterwards Capt. Carey added another goal to the Officers' score.

The Officers were, however, by no means having it all their own way and Coulter, accepting a beautiful pass from one of the opposing side, scored for the Sergeants. It was just after this that Sgt. Wood, who has a reputation as a Rugger man, cleverly gathered the ball and would certainly have succeeded in scoring a try, but the referee had just recovered his periscope and nipped his effort in the bud.

A diverting incident occurred when Robinson took over the goal for the Sergeants. He had taken up a comfortable position when, without warning, down came the cross-bar on his head. The only one who failed to see the humour in this was Robinson.

Whether by design or accident, one of the Officers managed to head the only skied ball of the game. The possibility of his ever playing another game must, at the moment, have seemed remote to him, for the ball, besides gathering impetus, had also gathered pounds of mud. His discomfort was the Sergeants' gain, for from this Sgt. Hemblys added another goal to their score. This was the Officers undoing, for they never again succeeded in passing the Sergeants' defence, whereas Sgts. Bennett and Edley both increased the score and the game finished 4 goals to 3 in favour of the Sergeants.

J. B

COMPANY NOTES.

No. 1 COMPANY.

The principal points for note during the period since we last wrote are the celebration of Christmas and the New Year, and the retaining of the Inter-Company Rugby Shield. We were unfortunate in being the Company to provide the Fort Canning detachment during the festive season, but nevertheless no one was overlooked in the distribution of the ample good fare provided. The weather was reminiscent of home, rain falling almost continually during Christmas week. With very brief intervals it has continued up to the present time.

The success of the Rugger team was very pleasing and the match in the semi-final, in which we defeated our strongest rivals, No. 4 Coy., by 9 points to 3, after extra time had been played, will long live in regimental Rugger history as one of the greatest battles for the Shield.

Another outstanding success achieved by the Company was the winning of the Inter-Company Billiard Challenge Cup, in the winning of which our team showed themselves very superior to any other combination. This was the first competition for the billiard cup, and we trust that our professors of the cue will retain their subtleties for future and stronger opposition.

Ptes. Marson and Brophy have forgotten how to take an aim owing to their pre-occupation in the production of rissoles, and have been relieved of their duties as cooks. They will doubtless

become better shots, but will our rissoles retain their succulence as produced by Ptes. Hartley and Payne?

Leave cannot be taken of these pages without congratulating our boxers on their successes in the Platoon Boxing Competition held in December. No. 8 Platoon was a good second in the order of merit and the Company provided five winners of weights.

We congratulate our C.S.M. on being awarded the Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct a coveted award which is not lightly earned.

No. 2 COMPANY.

The Platoon Flag Competition has ended for 1927. We were not as successful as we had hoped to be, but we intend to do better next year. The only event we actually won this time was the hockey, in which No. 7 Platoon was successful. They met No. 20 Platoon in the final and, after an excellent and hotly contested game, proved the winners by 1 goal to nil. In the Drill Competition No. 5 Platoon obtained second place, whilst No. 6 was in a similar position in both the soccer and the swimming.

Beyond this there is nothing to record. Rumour is very busy as to our next station and, wherever it may prove to be, we think most of us will not be sorry for the change after experiencing the weather we have had during the past quarter!

No. 3 COMPANY.

The Company has been strenuously engaged in musketry during the last quarter. Pte Alldis is to be congratulated on getting the highest score both with the rifle and Lewis gun. The shooting on the whole was not depressingly bad, but can and will be, we hope, much improved during the coming year. We stand second in the Battalion now, so we only need to go up one.

But the great news we have to record this time is that the Platoon Flag has come into the Company, No. 9 Platoon being the envied winners of the competition. What pleases us most is that No. 9 does not boast of any "star" performers in any game, so we feel that no platoon need ever feel that it must necessarily be outclassed by others in which are Battalion players. Incidentally, keenness on sport is growing appreciably in the Company and we look forward to the time when No. 3 shall again be at the top of the tree as in 1924-25. The sports new year is just beginning, and with the return from leave of Mr. Miles and with Mr. Jones—a soccer player and a cross-country runner—having come to the Company, we think our prospects look bright. In the Inter-Company cross-country run Mr. Jones was very easily first past the post.

No. 4 COMPANY.

Greater interest than usual was evinced this year in the Inter-Platoon cross-country run, and No. 4 Coy. put up a splendid show, Nos. 15 and 16 Platoons securing first and second places respectively. Following this came the Inter-Company cross-country run, and this proved that the result of the platoon run was no fluke, for we carried the shield in most wonderful fashion, the whole of our team of ten passing the post in the first 22. This is really an excellent performance and we shall be pleased to hear of anything better within the Regiment. Pte. J. Birch, who secured sixth place, must be congratulated on the plucky way in which he finished the course; at about a quarter of a mile from home, whilst clearing a ditch, he fell and severely fractured his wrist; he, however, carried on and finished as stated with the injured arm hanging limp.

The Hockey season has just begun. We have got quite a useful side together and we hope to do well in the Garrison League as, so far, we have played two matches and won both 9 goals to nil.

Congratulations to L/Sgt. Butterworth on his promotion to Sergeant.

THE BAND.

We are still without a Bandmaster, but Band Sgt. Hemblys is keeping the Band well together and, incidentally, is making great headway in developing the string instruments. This was a subject about which little had been done, and credit is due to Band Sgt. Hemblys for the progress made.

Outside engagements have not been numerous since our last notes, but sixteen of us went to Seremban to play for the St. Andrew's Night dinner there. The same small band kept the music going at the Victoria Theatre here when the "Armentiers" film was shown.

Congratulations to Bdam. Meyrick on being Company shot in "H.Q." Wing.

As regards sport, watch the platoon rugby next year

THE IRON DUKE

THE M.G.'s ELEVEN.

The Football Season is here again,
And the M.G. Platoon has started to train,
Now every night on "4" ground you'll see,
The old red and white flying round fast and free.

L/Cpl. Binney between the big sticks,
Can show old Sam Hardy a few of his tricks,
No better two backs than Hatton and Denny,
You can't buy these fellows at two for a penny.

Rayner at half back and Smith in the centre,
With Steele on the left, are three to remember,
This trio of locals without a small doubt,
Will put opposite forwards out for the count.

Our forwards are nippy, and they never tire,
For out on the right we've got Pte. McGuire,
At inside Right we've got old Dordy Leese,
Who draws the poor goalkeeper out of his crease.

At centre we've Miller, and inside is Cox,
Assisted by Aveyard, they give 'em all sox,
A better eleven you never will get,
When you see them in action, you've got a safe bet.

So now, my dear reader, you can bet your last tanner,
The above-named Platoon will win the old Banner,
We wish them all luck, for soon, very soon,
We'll drink success to the Machine Gun Platoon.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The Tanglin Branch of the Infant Welfare Centre, initiated six months ago by Mrs. J. C. Burnett, is now going very strong. A meeting is held on the last Wednesday of every month; it is always a popular event, and our indefatigable Medical Officer (Captain Mackinnon, R.A.M.C.) always turns up and assists. When the business of weighing the babies, etc., is finished, the gathering settles down to tea and some form of amusement, such as a cinema show, is provided.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

In one way or another a lot of Rugger has been played this season; we have been lucky in having two grounds of our own which, although bad, have enabled us to run rugger as far down as platoon matches, in which every platoon in the Battalion has produced a side. As far as outside rugger is concerned, the chief attraction has been the Malaya Cup, a cup presented by the Officers of H.M.S. *Malaya* for competition between the various States in the Straits Settlements and the F.M.S. The Battalion, as such, was not eligible to enter a team, but the United Services this year for the first time produced a side and did fairly well, beating Malacca 23—5, Singapore 8—6, Johore 16—0, and losing to the Negri Sembilan 8—14. In this competition the Battalion has usually provided about twelve of the U.S. fifteen. It is, perhaps, a pity from our point of view that there have been more U.S. than Battalion matches this season, as it has rather interfered with the getting together of our own side, such things as scrum practices, etc., before an important match being made rather difficult by, say, three of the forwards coming from a long way away or from a ship which has been in port only two or three days. Consequently, although possessing good forwards, we have not been able to have a properly fixed and trained Battalion scrum owing to nearly all the matches being preparatory games for the Malaya Cup. The Battalion team has, however, won the five matches it has played as a Battalion side complete, beating Singapore twice, 8—6 and 8—3, quite a good effort, whilst numerous "A" matches have successfully introduced new talent.

BOXING.

Since the contest against H.M.S. *Durban* we have had an open air ring built in barracks. This has enabled us to fight off the platoon boxing before Christmas. The competition this year was run in two classes, Open and Novices, the competitors scoring points for their platoon in each fight. There was a very large number of entries, and the competition took a fortnight to complete, boxing every night. We were lucky in the weather, boxing being stopped by rain on only two occasions.

The greatest keenness was displayed throughout and the standard of boxing was good, clean, hard fights being the general rule, making it often hard to decide the best losers. The competition was won by No. 9 Platoon by a large margin, with No. 19 Platoon second. The winners are to be congratulated on their large number of entries.

On the final night, Pte. Birch, No. 4 Coy., fought a special six-round contest with Inspector Roberts of the Singapore Police and late of the Royal Sussex Regt. Both put up a very good exhibition, though the latter showed signs of not being really fit.

The results of the platoon competition were as follows:—

OPENS.

Weight.	Winner and Platoon.	Runner-up and Platoon.
Bantam	Pte. Bowman (8)	Pte. Clarke (11)
Feather	Pte. Harris (3)	Pte. Sheehan (17)
Light	L/Cpl. Hobbs (1)	Pte. Shatts (5)
Welter	Pte. Kirby (4)	Pte. Parker (19)
Light Heavy	Pte. Whiston (12)	Pte. Beanland (13)
NOVICES.		
Fly	Pte. Clarke (15)	Pte. Sutcliffe (12)
Bantam	Pte. Robinson (1)	Pte. Wood (17)
Feather	Pte. Farr (19)	Pte. Ord (6)
Light	Pte. Bertram (13)	Pte. McGuire (9)
Welter	Pte. Heaton (1)	L/Cpl. Bawtry (9)
Middle	Sgt. Kennedy (12)	Pte. Flynn (5)
Light Heavy	Pte. Holt (15)	Pte. Scott (1)

BEST LOSERS.—Pte. Gibson (2), Pte. Williams (16), Pte. Gevaux (5).

On 23rd December we had a contest with H.M.S. *Emerald*. Eight fights took place, of which we managed to win six, the winners being L/Cpl. Hobbs and Ptes. Whiston, Birch, Kirby, Willcox, and Sheehan. Each fight was hotly contested and it was difficult to name the best loser. This prize was awarded to Boy Jones, of the Royal Navy, who made a fine effort to defeat his opponent.

GOLF.

Followers of the Royal and Ancient game arriving in Singapore are agreeably surprised to find three quite good courses and several others of lesser note. Tanglin is very well off, for the Garrison Golf Club literally encircles the Mess, and the club house and first tee are only about 150 yards away. The course is one of 9 holes with 4 long holes which require wood from the tees; two of these call for a brassie for the second shot by the average length player. The remainder are one shot holes of bogey 3, which give to the long hitter an impression of garden golf. Par for the course is 35 and it is noticeable that few of the so-called garden golfers return cards of that figure.

The course is kept in excellent condition by a small army of Malay kaboons led by a mandor (native overseer), who commence at dawn their daily onslaught on the quickly growing tropical grass.

Major Burnett has been Honorary Secretary and Captain of the club since shortly after our arrival here, and during his tenure of office many improvements to the course have been carried out. Membership of the club is not confined to the Services, but civilian membership is limited to 100. Numerous competitions take place during the year in addition to the usual monthly medal, but, although the standard of golf in the

Regiment has already benefited by our stay in Singapore, we have not as yet succeeded in winning any of them. However, we hope for better luck this year, yet to those of us who are again fated to lose by the last putt on the last tee, the following lines may be some slight consolation :—

If golf shall teach you patiently
 Adversity to meet,
 If it shall teach philosophy—
 To keep your temper sweet,
 If it shall teach you still to grin
 With mirth, no matter what—
 You are a victor if you win
 A loving cup or not.

A Naval Occasion.

A LIGHT cruiser of some 8,000 tons, H.M.S. *Emerald* entered Singapore Harbour on 23rd December, and remained during Christmas, prior to proceeding to Hong-kong.

On 26th December all married families of the garrison were entertained to tea and a children's party on board by kind invitation of the ship's company. As it is only on rare occasions that one has the opportunity of seeing the routine and all the "box of tricks" our comrades of the sea can show us on their ships, an instructive as well as an enjoyable afternoon was anticipated, and we were not disappointed. The children had a wonderful time and the adults were given every encouragement to inspect the ship and obtain first-hand information of all they saw from either the ratings on duty at their respective stations or those who were detailed to take the visitors round.

The families from Tanglin and Fort Canning and from the islands of Pulau Brani and Blakan Mati started to arrive at 4 p.m. and were welcomed at the top of the gangway with an invitation to win 1,000 dollars. There was a covered apparatus illuminated inside by a single Osram lamp, plainly visible to the naked eye. We were each given a stick and asked to try and smash the lamp. Needless to say, no one succeeded, and we assume that the money prize still rests in the paymaster's chest aboard. In fact we all agreed it was a swindle!

Going forward, other electrical devices were encountered which kept both children and grown-ups interested. No cases of shock were reported. Then the kiddies were taken off to enjoy the swings, see-saw, and deck games which had been rigged up on the starboard side.

Just short of the main 6-inch gun deck was the torpedo room, which attracted most of us who had come aboard to learn something. Starting here, we continued for a solid hour or more inspecting the ship. From the boiler rooms to control station we trekked and climbed, asking numerous questions and receiving instructive answers from our guides. It seemed hardly possible to believe that over 600 all ranks lived aboard the ship, but one was soon pointed the hammock space and locker of individuals if one had any doubt.

Teas were in the meantime being served to the children and mothers on the starboard side. Cakes and scones baked on board, fruit, nuts, and crackers (and, of course, chocolates for the ladies) seemed to be there in unlimited quantity. When the kiddies had finished those of us who had been touring the ship were feeling in good form for our share.

Sunset heralded the commencement of a concert by members of the ship's company, and the efforts of the artists were soundly appreciated by all present. An impromptu dance was then arranged on the starboard side, whilst the ship's conjurer (we were told it was the cook) kept the sitting out audience amused.

Shortly after 7 p.m. a move homeward began, those from the islands being taken in the ship's launches. Many a husband lost his way trying to get off, but they all seemed to find their way to the P.O.'s mess room, where they became "anchored" for the evening.

In conclusion, we desire to record our great appreciation to the ship's company for giving the kiddies and their parents such an enjoyable time aboard. In wishing them the very best of luck in their new command, we hope it will be our good fortune to see H.M.S. *Emerald* again, if not at Singapore, perhaps at a port a little more to the westward.

DEPOT NEWS.

CAPTAIN A. E. H. Sayers was posted here for a tour of duty on 4th March, vice Captain Paton, who has been reposted to the 1st Battalion. The annual dinner of the 49th (W.R.) Division was held in Leeds on 4th March, and the following officers of the Depot attended:—Major W. T. McG. Bate, Captain D. Paton, Lt. J. W. Scott, Lt. W. A. Marshman. Captain C. Shepherd has been posted as Quartermaster, but has not yet sailed from Singapore. We are looking forward to his arrival.

The piggeries are still in a flourishing condition and work has now been started on an extension of three more styes.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

On New Year's Eve and on St. Patrick's night, dances were held in the Mess, and on each occasion 200 guests were entertained and very enjoyable evenings were spent by all. The fortnightly whist drives and dances have now concluded and we are looking forward to the tennis season. On the 24th March, Mr. J. Kelly, proprietor of the New Talbot Hotel, Halifax, entertained all the members of the Mess to a dinner. After dinner, a smoker was held, and at 11 p.m. all members toasted our host. We can recommend any of our readers, when in Halifax, to pay him a visit. He is a past master in the art of catering.

We regret to report the death of one of our members, L/Sgt. Warrington, who died in the Halifax Infirmary on 29th March, 1927.

The following new members to the Mess are welcomed:—Sgt. Haunton, A.E.C., Sgt. Jones, R.A.M.C., L/Sgt. Hearsom, L/Sgt. Slone. Our able P.T. Instructor, C.S.M.I. Lockyer, A.P.T.S., who is due to leave in May this year, has obtained an appointment in Guernsey as gymnasium instructor at the Elizabeth College. We wish him every success in his new sphere and all ranks of the Depot regret his departure.

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.—The Halifax Thursday League Cup has been practically won by us this season, there only being two matches to play, which we are confident of winning with ease. A new record has been set up in this league in connection with goal scoring, the Depot having scored 162 against 11, with two matches to play. The team are hoping to reach the 200 mark for the season, but it is very doubtful if 19 goals in each of the remaining matches can be obtained.

The Depot also entered a team for the Halifax Association Cup and the Halifax Challenge Cup.

In the Association Cup the Depot met the Boothtown Club at Boothtown, who are reputed to be one of the best teams around Halifax, and we suffered a defeat of 12 goals to 1. The game was played in very inclement weather and the ground was in very bad condition, which hampered both teams considerably.

In the Challenge Cup we met Krumlin, whom we beat by 4 goals to nil. This put us in the semi-final, and we met Rishworth at Boothtown, making a draw of 4—4. In the replay at Luddenden we were unfortunate at not being able to field a full team, the consequence being that we lost by 7 goals to 1.

Bradford Park Avenue Reserves have had playing for them on several occasions L/Sgt. Ward of the Depot as right back.

RUGBY.—We have been fairly well represented in the Halifax Rugby Union teams, Lt. C. K. T. Faithfull playing for the first team, L/Cpl. Fahy playing for the second team, and Pte. Robinson for the third team.

BOXING.—Owing to the lack of recruits, no boxing has been held since January.

4th BATTALION.

WINTER training was composed chiefly of evening classes for N.C.O.'s. These were very well attended and are considered a very effective method of training N.C.O.'s and also junior officers. Although it had been hoped that these classes would have continued until the end of March, they had to be terminated in February owing to the Battalion having almost expended its training grant allotment.

The Children's Annual Christmas tree and tea party was held in the Drill Hall, Halifax, on Boxing Day, Dec. 27th, 1926. This was very successful, 382 children and 200 mothers being entertained to tea. After tea the children (and I must add, the grown-ups) were greatly amused by a Punch and Judy show and conjuring by Professor Wilson. This was followed by the arrival of "Father Christmas," who entered the hall in the orthodox manner (the Theatre Royal having kindly loaned us a property chimney complete with fireplace and fire). A/Sgt. Langley as "Father Christmas" supervised the distribution of the toys to the kiddies, which were presented by the Misses Ruth and Mary Goldthorp, the daughters of the Commanding Officer. In addition to a toy, each child received a bag of sweets and fruit.

The Annual Prize distribution was held in the Drill Hall, Halifax, on the 4th March, 1927. The prizes were presented by Major-Gen. N. J. G. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. 49th W.R. Division, who was accorded a hearty welcome. Among the guests present were the Mayor and Mayoress of Halifax (Coun. and Mrs. A. H. Gledhill). Ald. J. H. Waddington, the Deputy Mayor, presented to the Commanding Officer a cheque for £300, subscribed for by the people of Halifax and district with the object of supplying new Colours for the Battalion. This matter of obtaining new Colours for the Battalion had been mentioned to Ald. Waddington during his Mayoralty, and he willingly set to work to find the necessary amount required. On handing over the cheque, Ald. Waddington said the money had been collected joyously and had been given even more joyously by the self-sacrificing people of that part of Yorkshire which was always disposed to help anything which was for the peace of mankind and to the good of the nation. It had come from Halifax, Brighouse, Cleckheaton, Sowerby Bridge, and Elland, and it was in a spirit of sacrifice and love and admiration of the 4th Battalion that he asked Col. Goldthorp to accept the cheque. At the conclusion of the prize distribution Major-Gen. Cameron congratulated the Battalion on its musketry performance of 1926. He remarked on the fact that only five men were not exercised, which he said was the best record of the Division. He also congratulated the Battalion on its flourishing Old Comrades' Association. The men's ball followed the distribution of prizes, about 2,000 guests being present. The evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner. Our late Adjutant (Capt. Sir Robert Henniker), who was in Halifax on business, and who should have returned to town on the same day, could not tear himself away, owing to the number of old friends who were present, all of whom were desirous of saying "au revoir," prior to his departure to Singapore.

The following officers have been gazetted to the Battalion since the last issue of the IRON DUKE :—2nd Lt. G. Watkinson, 2nd Lt. T. A. Hoyle. We are sorry to lose the services of R.Q.M.S. T. D. Hart, who has retired, having reached the age limit. He will be known to very many readers. Mr. Hart joined the Depot in 1891, and served with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions. His total service with the Regiment is over 35 years, which, I think, can almost be taken as a record. Mr. Hart still retains his civilian appointment as storeman to this Battalion.

"B" Company (Brighthouse) held their annual prize distribution on Dec. 31st, 1926. The prizes were presented by the Commanding Officer, after which a dance was held in the Drill Hall. The prize distribution was preceded by a dinner. On Saturday, Jan. 29th, the Company football team arranged a match with the Depot, which resulted in a draw, 2—2. A shooting match was arranged between past and present members of the Company, resulting in a win for the present members. Shooting matches were also arranged between the Company and "C" Company (Cleckheaton).

"D" Company held two competitions at Elland. The "Sharratt" Cup, musketry, the "Waller" Cup, general efficiency, on the 28th Feb. The winners were:—"Sharratt" Cup, L/Sgt. F. Nelson; "Waller" Cup, Pte. J. F. Robson. A concert is to be held in the Drill Hall, Elland, when these trophies will be presented.

The Sergeants' annual ball was held on the 25th Feb., and about 500 guests were present. The hall was very tastefully decorated and the ball was considered the most successful ever held. A number of whist drives have been held throughout the winter season. The amusement committee are to be congratulated on the splendid success of these functions. In addition to the whist drives, a number of concerts have been held, which were much appreciated.

The following is an extract from the *Halifax Courier & Guardian* of 25th March:—

A FAMOUS RIFLEMAN OF FORMER DAYS.

Mr. Thomas Robinson, who died yesterday, at 62 Salisbury Place, Akroydon, in his 93rd year, had lived to be the oldest man in the Akroydon Ward and the oldest member of the Akroyd Park Parliament. Born at Ogden in a house on the site now occupied by the Golf House, his advent into the world preceded by three years the accession of Queen Victoria to the Throne, and that fact alone should assist the imagination to realise the extent of his life. He had spent the whole of his ninety-odd years within the confines of what is now the Borough of Halifax, and has been an inhabitant of Akroydon since the foundation of the district by the late Col. Akroyd. For many years he was employed by Col. Akroyd, and made several journeys to Portugal, more than fifty-five years ago to buy wool for his master. In his younger days Thomas Robinson was a famous rifleman. Joining the 7th Company of the 4th West Yorkshire Volunteers* in 1864 he won the Company prize of £3 given by the officers in the year of his enlistment, and so began a career as a marksman which was to be the commencement of many triumphs. He possessed a challenge medal awarded for a record series of victories in the contest for the championship of his Company. As Private Robinson, he first won this honour in 1864; he was Corporal when he succeeded again in 1867, and had become Sergeant when, two years later he achieved a third victory, followed by equal feats in 1870 and 1871. It will be seen then, that on five occasions in 10 years he proved himself a crack marksman in the 7th Company, and there were many men in those keen days who were good shots. At the 17th annual contest of the West Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers in August, 1876, the "Courier" Cup was won by Sergeant Robinson, and up to the day of his death it was a trophy he would display with justified pride. He had also the certificate of proficiency for sergeants of the Rifle Volunteers, presented to him on October the 31st, 1873, and signed by the Colonel and Adjutant of his Regiment.

Up to about five weeks ago, Mr. Robinson seemed able to defy most of the disabilities attendant upon an age so great as his. He had retained a remarkable measure of his physical activities and mental alertness. At times his memory might be halting, but there were occasions when he would recall clearly and unerringly the events of his lengthy life and take his hearers back through a long procession of recollections to the Halifax of early Victorian days.

5th BATTALION.

AS is usual, this period of the year has been devoted to individual training, also promotion classes for N.C.O.'s, tactical exercises, and interesting consecutive lectures.

Congratulations to E. E. R. Kilner on his promotion to Lieutenant, also to Cpl. F. Livesey on being awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

The Kirkburton Company, "C," held their prize distribution on Saturday, Jan. 8th. Mrs. H. W. C. Tinker, of Kirkburton, presented the prizes.

The following Saturday Colonel James Walker presented the prizes at Mirfield, "D" Company's annual prize distribution.

* Now the 4th Bn. D.W. Regiment.

A very interesting tactical exercise for officers, N.C.O.'s, and selected privates was held on Sunday, Feb. 26th, on the high ground between Meltham and Marsden; this area is very suitable for schemes of this description.

Sunday, Feb. 20th, "A" Company held their annual Church parade at St. John's Church, Huddersfield, and followed this up by holding their annual prize distribution on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Colonel G. P. Norton presented the prizes.

Sunday, March 13th, "B" Company held a Church parade at Meltham Parish Church. This Company are to be congratulated on the strength of the recently formed Meltham Section, which has now reached 16 other ranks.

Headquarter Wing had a very successful pie supper and smoking concert on March 18th.

"C" Company also held a very instructive tactical scheme on Sunday, April 8th, in the neighbourhood of Kirkburton, the subject was "Outposts."

6th BATTALION.

SINCE the last issue of the IRON DUKE a few changes have taken place in the personnel of the Battalion. We said good-bye to Captain N. R. Whitaker as Adjutant of the unit on the 31st January, 1927, he having completed his tour of duty with us. He has joined the 1st Battalion at Gosport, and we wish him all possible luck in the future. We welcome Captain S. Naylor as Adjutant in the place of Captain Whitaker, and hope he will enjoy the period of his tour of duty with us. We report, with regret, the loss of one of our old veterans, Captain H. Mallinson, who, owing to his business being so far away from headquarters, has had to resign from active service, and has reverted to the T.A. Reserve of Officers. From reports received he will still be usefully employed in training the younger end, as he has taken over the command of the Dame Allen's Boys' School Cadets at Newcastle-on-Tyne, at which Captain Mallinson is a master. Sgt. A. W. Aldous (Cheshire Regt.) has rejoined his unit, after having completed six years on the P.S. of the Battalion. Sgt. Aldous was entertained by the officers and other ranks of "A" Company on the eve of his departure, and was presented with a memento of his stay with the Battalion and his services with the Barnoldswick Company. Sgt. S. Clarke has been posted to the P.S. from the 1st Battalion at Gosport in relief of Sgt. Aldous, and has taken up his residence at Barnoldswick as instructor to "A" Company.

We have suffered a drop in the strength of the unit as on the 31st March the Battalion return showed 18 officers and 553 other ranks. Few recruits are coming in, and it can only be presumed that this is due to the abolition of the bounty, and as it has now been officially decided that the grant will only be reduced one half we are hoping for an influx of recruits. About 60 of the old hands took advantage of the privilege of Army Order No. 40 and re-engaged, but there are still another 50 due for discharge before camp.

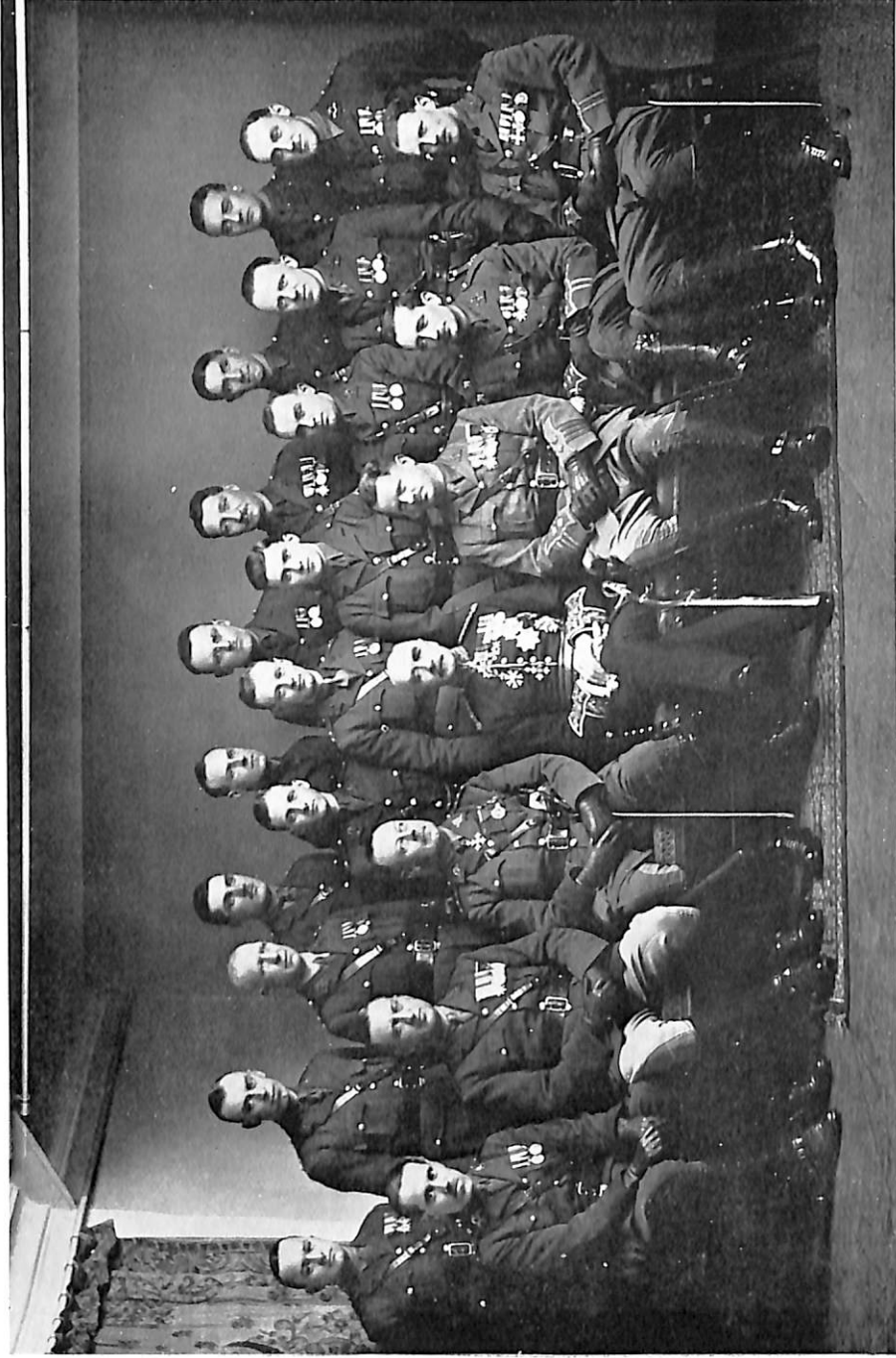
Camp this year is to be at Catterick, from the 24th July to 7th August, and it is rumoured that we shall go under canvas and not be in huts as we were in 1923.

The officers held their annual dinner and re-union at the Midland Hotel, Bradford, on the 1st April, 1927, at which about 35 were present, and the usual pleasant evening was spent.

We have received a truly interesting addition to our collection in the form of a copy of the *Times* dated 22nd June, 1815, which contains a copy of the Duke of Wellington's despatch of the 19th June, 1815, giving the account of the Battle of Waterloo and the defeat of Napoleon. The despatch also gives a list of those who fell in action, and amongst many distinguished officers appears the names of the Duke of Brunswick (killed) and the Prince of Orange and Lt.-Gen. the Earl of Cambridge (wounded). The copy is in a very fine state of preservation and has been presented to the Battalion by ex-C.Q.M.Sgt. T. W. Pickthall, formerly of "D" Company, and has been suitably framed and inscribed by Major F. L. Smith, and now hangs in the headquarters at Skipton, in company with the Colours and other historical pictures.



Lt.-Colonel N. B. CHAFFERS, M.C., T.D., Commanding 6th Battalion.



Photograph by Messrs. Elliott & Fry, Ltd.

7th BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.

Officers attending Levee 15th March, 1927.

Back Row: Lt. W. D. Crossley, 2nd Lt. T. Chadderton, W. Hoyle, Lt. and Or.-Mr. S. Tykiff, 2nd Lt. H. H. Bridge, Lt. S. Waite.
Second Row: Lt. D. G. Shaw, G. Taylor, C. Hickson, 2nd Lt. A. B. Rothwell, Lt. G. S. Walker, 2nd Lt. S. Whipp, Lt. T. H. Swann, 2nd Lt. H. Stratton, Capt. F. Spencer.
Front Row: Capt. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Major J. W. Clark, T.D., Col. R. R. Mellor, C.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert E. Belfield, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O., Lt.-Col. R. Taylor, T.D., Capt. R. Chambley, Capt. G. B. Howeroft, M.C.

7th BATTALION.

THE Battalion still keeps its good position as regards strength, in spite of the recent "cut" in bounties. We have to welcome three new officers since last issue—namely, Lt. Niven, 2nd Lts. W. Hoyle and R. C. Taylor, the first named becoming our M.O. The question of "O.D." in camp this year should be a "light one." We regret to have to record the decease of Mr. T. Julius Hirst, of Meltham Mills, who was a great friend to the Territorial movement in this neighbourhood. The Battalion was represented at his funeral on Feb. 19th.

The eighth Battalion dinner was this year held at Mossley Drill Hall on Jan. 28th.

Companies are now preparing teams for the Mellor Shield competition on Feb. 24th, and the Battalion is hoping to do something at the Strensall rifle meeting at Whitsuntide.

LEVEE.—Twenty-one officers from this Battalion were presented at the Levée held by H.M. King George V. at St. James's Palace on Tuesday, the 15th March. Such a muster was indeed splendid, and it is regretted the remaining two were unable to be present. We have to thank most sincerely Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert E. Belfield (the Colonel of the Regiment) for his kindness in sponsoring the party on this occasion. A photograph of the group appears on another page. To some members of the party the tour was marked in other ways, and we hear that all did not arrive home by scheduled time.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTIONS.—"B" Company, Jan. 21st, at Slaithwaite; "A" Company, Feb. 11th, at Milnsbridge; and "C" Company, Feb. 26th, at Mossley. All three occasions proved most successful and these annual events help much in fostering the spirit of sportsmanship and company *esprit de corps*.

BOXING.—We note that the Battalion was represented in the Divisional final on Jan. 10th by one boxer, but have no record of the result.

FOOTBALL.—We hear with regret that our hopes of carrying this further than Division cannot be done this year again. The team has, however, been able to play at least one friendly match to keep fit.

WINTER SHOOTING LEAGUE.—The final results of the inter-company shoots show the following in points gained:—"D" Company, 14; "A" Company, 10; "B" Company, 10; "C" Company, 6; "H.Q." Wing, nil. Eight matches have been fired by each company and great keenness has been shown throughout, and in the average company scores there is only a difference of 1 per company in the first four. The innovation has proved most successful, and it is hoped will be continued. The medal winner for highest individual score (average 24.36 for six matches) has been won by Cpl. H. L. Hanson, of "B" Company. We hear that a trophy for this competition has been kindly presented by Col. G. Tanner.

CROSS COUNTRY.—The team won in the Brigade competition at Kirkheaton on Feb. 26th, but only came in third in the Divisional final at York on March 26th.

1st BATTALION THE YORKTON REGT. NEWS.

AFTER 30 years' service, Lt.-Col. J. C. de Balinhard, D.S.O., has resigned command of the 1st Battalion the Yorkton Regiment and now commands the Reserve Battalion. Lt.-Col. A. V. Laban, second in command under Lt.-Col. de Balinhard, has been appointed to the command of the 1st Battalion.

Lt.-Col. de Balinhard has had a distinguished career since he joined the Calcutta Naval Volunteers in 1890 with whom he served three years. From 1899 to 1901 he served with the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles in South Africa, and in 1902 was transferred to the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles and received the Queen's Medal with five clasps.

During the Great War he was on active service from August, 1914, to April, 1919, being mentioned in despatches three times and receiving the D.S.O.

He was second in command of the 3rd North Saskatchewan Regiment from April, 1921, to February, 1922, when he assumed command of the unit, which was later changed to the 1st Battalion Yorkton Regiment upon reorganisation of the Canadian Militia.

The officers and men of the Battalion regret his resignation very much indeed, as he has always maintained the best traditions of the force.

Special commendation made by the Minister and Members of the National Defence Council following the annual inspection of the unit:—

“It is very gratifying to read of the good progress made by the 1st Battalion The Yorkton Regiment during the past training season. Your remarks anent the large percentage of young men of foreign parentage who have enlisted in this unit are especially encouraging, being in distinct contrast to the stories of the efforts on the part of Communistic organisations to inculcate Bolshevist principles into the teaching and education of the children throughout the country.

The excellent showing made by the Signal Section is also a matter of considerable satisfaction and the Hon. the Minister and Members of the Defence Council desire that you will please compliment Lt.-Col. de Balinhard, the officers, and other ranks under his command on the keen and loyal manner in which they have carried out their duties.”

At the end of February we were honoured with a visit from Dean Baillie, Rev. Dr. Nicholson, Mr. Nicholson, the Boys of Westminster Abbey Choir, and the Gentlemen Choristers of the Chapel Royal, Windsor Castle. It was a great occasion for the people of Yorkton and district and this was the only town in the whole Dominion at which the Choir stopped and gave a concert.

Christmas greetings are acknowledged from 1st, 2nd, and 4th Battalions The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the Corporals of the Depot, Halifax, and the Band of the 2nd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS OF THE 1ST BATTALION.

Officer Commanding, Lt.-Col. A. V. Laban; 2nd in Command, Major W. J. Cowan, M.C.
 Headquarters.—Capt. I. E. Berner, Adjutant; Capt. A. F. Laird, M.C., Medical Officer; Capt. A. J. Blackwell, Paymaster; Capt. E. A. Crosthwaite, Signalling Officer; Lt. J. G. Magrath, Quartermaster.
 “A” Company.—Capt. M. R. Poulter, Lt. W. D. C. de Balinhard, Lt. L. E. Janett, Lt. F. Duncan.
 “B” Company.—Capt. R. J. Wilder, M.M., Lt. S. H. Peet, Lt. H. C. Kennedy, Lt. T. Reed.
 “C” Company.—Major J. O'Regan, M.C., Capt. I. A. N. Beadle, M.C., Lt. E. C. Watson, Lt. B. Syrett.
 “D” Company.—Capt. S. L. Waterman, Capt. C. C. Goater, Lt. J. G. Paterson, Lt. H. Lovell.

H.M.S. IRON DUKE

AT PORTSMOUTH.

5TH APRIL, 1927.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We owe you an apology for having missed the printer with our last letter, owing to a misapprehension about the dates. This was the more unfortunate since we had to chronicle one of the first sea passages taken by the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in H.M.S. *Iron Duke*.

On 11th October, Colonel Wellesley and Captains Fraser and Owen, of your 1st Battalion, came to spend a few days on board and to accompany us on our trip from Invergorden to Rosyth. The opportunity was taken while the Colonel was on board to get him to present formally to Captain Little, on behalf of the Regiment, the replica of your Headquarters Flag, to which we referred in our last letter. The flag is now a trophy for which the four divisions of boys compete each cruise, the Captain awarding the flag to that division which has proved itself most efficient and smart. The trophy is paraded with the winning division at Sunday “Divisions,” and carried in front of the

Iron Duke Battalion when the boys are landed for inspections. The flag has now been won twice running by the Forecastle Division.

Unfortunately the North Sea did not make allowances for the distinguished guests we had on board and behaved itself in a most unseemly manner. Nobody was best pleased when on our arrival off May Island (at the mouth of the Firth of Forth) we received a message stating that our drifter had gone ashore off Peterhead, and we had to alter course 16 points and trail right back to salve whatever we could. Fortunately there were no casualties to the drifter's crew, and although she could not be refloated, we recovered most of her stores.

At this point our guests decided that they had better be put ashore at Peterhead, as the Colonel had an important engagement next day and we could not have landed him in the Forth in time. We regret that we were not able to disembark them in a more dignified manner; we had to sling them over the side in bowlines into one of the other drifters in a heavy sea. We trust that next time they, or any of the Regiment, favour us with a visit we shall be able to deal with them more ceremoniously.

Now we are again enjoying "the blessings of the land with the fruits of our labours" in the shape of 14 days' leave to each watch. We have just returned to England on completion of the spring cruise in which, each year, the Atlantic Fleet goes south to warmer latitudes during the chilly months of January, February, and March. During this cruise we have the pleasure of meeting our comrades of the Mediterranean Fleet, in whose waters we are really trespassing at these times, and opportunity is always taken to carry out tactical and strategical exercises with the combined fleets.

A high degree of imagination is necessary to obtain full value from these war exercises under peace conditions, a remark which, we suppose, may be applied to Army manoeuvres with even greater force. The absence of gunfire makes the preservation of reality a difficulty, and the greatest care is necessary to disentangle the immutable principles of war from the mere workings of superior seniority.

It is needless to enter into any description of the actual exercises, since the wisdom of their Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty let loose upon us a flood of newspaper correspondents, and our doings, and even some things we did not do, have already been described with a wealth of imagery and a blaze of language to which we cannot aspire.

The meeting of the two fleets at Gibraltar after the exercises provides occasion for theatrical entertainments, social meetings of all kinds, and, of course, inter-fleet athletic contests of every description. This year the Atlantic Fleet more than held their own by winning Association football, boxing, seamen's cutters' race, and in the destroyers section, boxing, rugger, tennis, hockey. Doubtless the more eagle-eyed of your readers will have noted that the *Iron Duke* has changed from the Mediterranean to Atlantic Fleet during the year, but modesty and truth forbids us to claim that this had any effect on the results.

During the spring cruise, in addition to several weeks at Gibraltar, we paid short visits to Vigo, Malaga, Lagos (Portugal), and Arosa Bay. Of these, Malaga was generally considered to be the most enjoyable. The weather was perfect, many of us were able to go inland, and see some of the remarkable scenery of Southern Andalusia and the beauties of Granada, and the town of Malaga provided attractions for others. Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, with her family, was staying at the Hotel Principe Asturias, and honoured the *Iron Duke* twice by her presence on board, once to lunch and once at our at home. Royal salutes were fired on both occasions and ships were dressed overall throughout our stay.

The Malagueno Football Club drew one and lost one game to the squadron team, and a match with the Malaga team ended in a draw. Year by year the spread of football in Spain can be measured by the increasing skill of their teams, but it is doubtful whether there is any truth in the idea that football is ousting the bullfight. Like many Continental countries, what they chiefly lack is good firm refereeing. Both here and at Vigo, where the local team won, this dangerous duty was undertaken by our Squadron Recreation Officer.

Our final visit to Arosa Bay was intended to provide the occasion for completing four of the fleet sailing races for various cups. The day after our arrival was beautifully warm and calm, and as many as possible took advantage of this opportunity to have picnics. The naval picnic, like shore-going ones, consists principally in the consumption of large quantities of ill-cooked food under circumstances of extreme discomfort, but its popularity never wanes, and the enthusiast will picnic in the most unpromising places under the most deplorable conditions. On this occasion the enthusiast was almost justified.

Thereafter the weather gave us of its worst. Only one sailing race could be completed, not without loss of boats, though fortunately without loss of life, and communication with the shore was impossible.

After this we literally rolled home across the Bay in a very heavy swell and a strong breeze, but our outward trip in indifferent weather and a slight swell all the way from Gibraltar to Arosa had so developed the sea legs of our younger members that the casualties were far fewer than might have been expected.

With all best wishes to the Regiment,

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

H.M.S. IRON DUKE.

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATIONS.

1st, 2nd and 3rd BATTALIONS.

THERE have been 149 applications for assistance by grants or loans—inclusive of those mentioned in the two previous issues of the IRON DUKE—since the commencement of the financial year, 1st July, 1926. 85 have been assisted by grants to a total of £177 4s. 8d., and seven by loans to a total of £177; six cases are in course of investigation. A few have, in addition, been assisted by gifts of clothing and boots, etc.

The following have to be thanked for gifts of clothing, etc.:—Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs, Major S. C. Marriner, and Captain Duncan Paton.

A very pleasant evening was spent at Gatti's Restaurant on Saturday, 23rd April, 1927, on the occasion of the annual dinner, arrangements for which had been made by Major C. W. G. Ince. Eighty Old Comrades sat down to dinner. Among those present were:—Lt.-General Sir H. E. Belfield (in the chair), Brig.-Gen. P. A. Turner, W. M. Watson, Col. J. A. C. Gibbs, Lt.-Cols. F. A. Hayden, K. A. Macleod, L. Herapath, and F. H. B. Wellesley, Majors C. W. G. Ince, W. T. McG. Bate, J. R. Hetley, and M. N. Cox, Capts. C. Oliver and R. H. W. Bolton, Lts. J. G. Lepper, E. W. Rodgers, and F. W. Browne.

After the King's health had been drunk, the Chairman made a short speech. He first read the following telegrams:—"Greetings from all ranks 2nd Battalion" (Singapore) and "Best wishes for successful gathering" from the Editor of the IRON DUKE. He then referred to the balance sheet of the Association, which had been considered at the Annual Meeting held at the Royal United Services Institute during the afternoon, and particularly commended Mr. Paling's industry in having prepared a balance sheet especially for the occasion, considering that the financial year did not end until the 30th June. He also mentioned that at the meeting it had been agreed that serving soldiers, by paying a certain sum quarterly, could become life members of the Association at the end of seven years' service; and that the salary of the Secretary of the Association should be doubled. He felt sure all appreciated the great services rendered by Mr. Paling.

The Chairman went on to refer to the unexpected windfall of £140, being the proceeds of the very successful Empire Pageant carried out by the 2nd Battalion at Singapore. The money had been transferred to the O.C.A. funds by the direction of the G.O.C. Malaya. Thanks were also due to two persons at Singapore (Messrs. J. Foster and H. M. Devitt), who had given subscriptions of 50 dollars each to the O.C.A. funds. In passing,

he said it would interest members to know that one rich member of the community in Singapore, who apparently had a soft corner in his heart for the 2nd Battalion, had presented a six-cylinder car for the use of married families of the Battalion, and in addition a sum of money to pay for running expenses. The Sergeants' Mess had also been presented with a Burroughs & Watts billiard table.

Members would like to know that the piggery at the Depot was carrying on the good work started by Captain Oliver, and that the sum of £70 had been handed over to the O.C.A. from the profits.

The general meeting had agreed to a proposal to invest a further sum of £400-£500 of accumulated funds.

Sir Herbert next said that he had had the pleasure that day (St. George's) of being present on parade with the 1st Battalion when they "Trooped the Colour." It was a most admirable show and the steadiness of the 1st Battalion on parade could not have been bettered. He had received very congratulatory remarks from distinguished officers present on the way the various movements had been carried out, and he could congratulate Lt.-Colonel Wellesley and all ranks of the 1st Battalion on their splendid turn-out. He had had the honour to present roses to the Battalion; and the Regiment had been honoured that day by the presence of Rear-Admiral R. R. C. Backhouse, commanding the 3rd Battle Squadron, who flies his flag on H.M.S. *Iron Duke*; also of Flag Captain G. J. Little (H.M.S. *Iron Duke*) and about 50 ratings from H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, all of whom were presented with roses.

Referring to our Memorial Chapel in York Minster, he mentioned that it had been decided to place four further stands of Colours in the Chapel, namely:—A stand of old 33rd Colours which had been in the R.U.S.I. for some years; a stand of Colours of the 3rd Militia Battalion, which had been at Sandringham, the transfer of which to the Minster H.M. the King had been graciously pleased to approve; a stand of the old 4th Militia Battalion which had been in the possession of the Colonel; and a stand of the 4th Territorial Battalion. It was proposed to hold the ceremony about the 16th May. He mentioned that the Chapel had received a very handsome gift of two altar vases from Mrs. Trench, and he wished to draw the attention of all members to Colonel Gibbs' ingenious scheme of a Children's Flower Fund, details of which were published in the last issue of the IRON DUKE.

Speaking of the Regimental Magazine, he commended it to all who were not already subscribers.

Reference was also made to the Regimental History, which it is hoped to publish in three or four months' time. It had been well written up by Brig.-Gen. Bruce, and in a style which was easy to read. Cheap editions would be published at six shillings per copy.

Finally he mentioned that it had been decided to hold the next annual dinner in October, 1928, at Huddersfield.

4th BATTALION.

The eighth annual meeting of the above Association was held at the George Hotel, Cleckheaton, on Saturday, the 29th January, 1927, upwards of 150 members being present. A lengthy and clear report was presented by Lt.-Col. Mowat (Secretary) and a financial statement by Major Learoyd. A pleasing feature of the year's work was the help the Association had been able to give to old members of the Battalion who, through no fault of their own, had fallen upon hard times. A rousing reception was given to Col. Mowat. Each member of the committee, and all ranks who served with the 4th Battalion, know how keen he is to further the interests of all who served with the old Battalion. Those of us who had the privilege of hearing Col. Mowat speak outside the Halifax Town Hall when the Cadre returned in 1919, realise to the full that he is a man of his word. The Chairman for the coming year is R.Q.M.S. Percy Barker, with C.S.M. Bert Haigh as vice-chairman. A strong and representative committee was chosen to represent all

districts interested. A dinner followed the meeting and the merriest night in the history of the Association was spent. It was a pleasure to see many old faces, too numerous to mention, but the presence of Col. Walker, Capt. Bales, and old Jack Cooper must be recorded. There were several inquiries at the dinner about the Battalion History, and some were sold. There are yet a few copies remaining of this splendid monument to the 4th Battalion.

The Committee meets every alternate Wednesday in the Officers' Mess, Drill Hall, Halifax. There are always numerous applicants, and each case is thoroughly examined.

It is a pleasure to see Col. Atkinson again at our meetings. All members are glad to notice his return to health and vigour. Ex-Sgt. Langdale, D.C.M., has been seriously ill, but I am pleased to record he is showing signs of improvement. It was typical of Brig.-Gen. Sugden, when he heard of Langdale's state, of visiting Hebden Bridge, and finding out his old "Comrade in Arms," and I know he was a good sick visitor. The old R.Q.M.S.—Frank Cooke—is a very useful member of this Association. His daily task takes him all over the Borough of Halifax, and he is ever ready to carry out the behests of the Association when it means doing a good turn to an old comrade. A question constantly asked at our meetings:—"Where is Major Denning?"

5th BATTALION.

The Association has had rather a quiet time since the February number was published. The committee have met as usual and dealt with a number of applications for assistance, due, no doubt, to the lack of employment in this area consequent upon the long coal stoppage of last year.

Representatives of the Association have attended the Sergeants' annual dinner and annual ball, but an inter-games evening with the Sergeants has not yet materialised, owing to the difficulty of fixing a date.

Arrangements are in hand for the annual outing to visit the Battalion at its annual training camp at Catterick on either July 30th, 31st, or August 1st.

The Holmfirth Branch will hold its annual children's party during the Easter holiday, but the Mirfield Branch has not yet fixed a date for their similar event.

The Association regrets to report the death of one of its members in March. Members of the Association acted as bearers and provided a floral tribute.

6th BATTALION.

The report for the year 1926 has now been issued to all members, and it is pleasing to note that the Association is progressing slowly but surely. There was an increase of 12 members during the year, the numbers on the books being 163 on the 31st December last, and we can boast of 13 life members—10 officers and 3 other ranks. Our finances are in a good state, as we had in the bank at the end of the year the sum of £81 7s., an increase of £11 1s. on the year's working.

An interesting event is to take place on the 14th April—namely, a meeting of all members of the "Old 'D'" Company. The meeting takes the form of a pie supper and social, and is to be held in the Drill Hall at Keighley. This should be a very successful affair, and as I have had the honour to be invited, I hope to be able to give a brief report of the doings in the October number of the IRON DUKE. The Editor requires these notes by the 15th April, so I should have no time to get them to him for this number, and I also doubt if I should be able to write notes on the day after meeting so many of the old members of the renowned "Don" Company.

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY OF THE GREAT WAR.

(Continued from page 37, No. 6, February, 1927.)

FRIDAY, 27TH AUGUST, 1915.

Well, we are now in the front line again, but what a tramp we had last night ; one continual scramble over huge rocks and climbing all the time. I should think we must have come at least 20 miles. I know we marched, or rather scrambled, all night, and to make matters worse for me, I had to go back about three miles, as soon as we had taken over the line, to draw rations. I hadn't reported my leg to the officer in charge. I can't help laughing over that trip for rations. After losing our way two or three times, we eventually arrived at the ration dump and found our rations all ready for us and loaded on mules. So off we go. I had 20 men with me, and on our return journey what a time we had with those mules. We can only get along single file in most places, as the path was so narrow and there was a steep precipice on one side into the sea. Well, we travelled along fairly well until one of the mules started to jib. Then the fun commenced. One mule turned round (goodness knows how he did it) and bolted. Another one who attempted the same trick was not so fortunate, and he stepped down the precipice, rations and everything with him. We heard a splash in the distance far below as he dropped into the sea, and that was the last we heard of either. However, we eventually reached the Battalion, again utterly tired, and just as dawn was breaking. I left some of the " boys " to unload and, after I had reported, I went to sleep behind a huge rock. When I awoke the sun was shining brilliantly and ever so hot.

What a lovely place this is compared with the last place ! We are right on top of the hills known as Preston Ridges, and our trenches run down the left of the hill (facing the enemy) into the sea. So you see we are now on the extreme left of the line. The trenches here are not very deep, as it is all rock, and the Norfolks, whom we relieved, said they had been digging every night for a fortnight. However, we get the engineers to work at night blasting the rock and we soon make a trench. There is not much rifle firing here, owing to the nature of the ground, although we mustn't expose ourselves too much, or " ping, ping " goes " Johnny's " bullets against the rock. Uncomfortably near, too !

SATURDAY, 28TH.

Last evening the Officer Commanding the Battalion asked me if I would go with him for a swim—to which suggestion I readily agreed. Off we go to the beach, undress, and swim steadily out to sea, quite innocently, until we see splashes in the water just ahead of us, and a warning shout from the shore (which is under cover of a great cliff) draws our attention to the fact that the Turks have spotted us as we got out into the open. You can guess we return hastily, although they cannot hit us unless we are well out from land.

SUNDAY, 29TH AUGUST.

There is a mail up to-day, and I'm lucky enough to get six letters and two papers. It takes all our time to try and stop snipers, who are causing several casualties.

It is very interesting at night to watch one of our J. B. destroyers creep up behind its own smoke barrage and fire several shells into the Turkish stronghold which is known as the " Pimple," and where several machine guns are placed. It is impossible for us to reach it from our position, so the Navy come to the rescue. This boat also plays a powerful searchlight right along the Turkish trench, showing us all his gun emplacements, and enabling us to give him a most uncomfortable time.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND.

Last night there was very heavy shelling from both sides, our front line especially receiving very unwelcome attention. I was out last night with forty men forming a covering party to the engineers who were wiring in front of our trench. I'll have something to say to that officer, too, in charge of the Engineers. It was his duty to inform me when he was returning to the trench, so that I could withdraw my men while it was dark. He failed to do this, consequently we were left out between our wire and the Turks when day was breaking. We managed on our stomachs to get back through our wire and into the trench with only two casualties, one fellow being hit in the shoulder and the other in the foot. We were lucky really.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH.

My knee is practically healed and I dispense with the dressing and bandage. We move further back to-night, a matter of a couple of miles, at 10.30 p.m. I have a walking stick of Lt. Franks, who was shot in the Green Knoll or near it whilst we were sapping. It is some game moving at night. Up hill and down dale we go, climbing over great rocks and slipping into valleys, until at last we reach our newly appointed place, which consists of bits of dugouts on the side of a hill overlooking the sea. A lovely spot really. We are hundreds of feet above sea level and the air is glorious. We get a shell over now and again, but we generally guess fairly accurately where they are going to drop.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH.

All day to-day we have been improving our dugouts and giving ourselves, incidentally, a sense of more or less security. We are having our first draft of reinforcements to-morrow, exactly a month after we had landed! Last night they were shelling* the beach rather heavily. I expect the Turks had the wheeze that more troops were being landed.

Well, the new troops have arrived, about 250 of them. As they came over the crest of the hill they were caught in a barrage of shrapnel and suffer several casualties. This is rather hard luck for them, but it will be a good "breaking in."

SATURDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER.

We have been here quite a while now and feel all the better for the change, as we manage to slip off down the hill in twos and threes (it's not safe for more to go at a time) to the beach, where we manage to have a most refreshing bathe, and return by companies at dusk.

SUNDAY, 12TH.

We relieve the 33rd Brigade in the line to-night for 16 days. We moved up last night in the pouring rain. There was the usual cursing and grumbling as we fell over the rocks, or had to continually halt, to keep in touch. We climb up to the top of the ridge known as "Jefferson's Post" via "Lancashire dump" and "Oxford Circus." We are on the right of Jefferson's Post and extend right down to the plain below, a difficult sector really. Here the parapet is built up of dead bodies, Turks and British, and at frequent intervals one can see an arm or leg partially protruding. The smell is sickening, but we have to stick it.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH.

We have been here nearly a week now. Nothing unusual occurs. We occupy our time by improving the trench as much as possible, but it is all rock here and we have Engineers blasting it, which tends to draw the enemy's fire. Of a night, patrols, listening posts, and burying the dead, pass away the time, besides having double sentries posted.

This morning 29,000 rounds of .303 ammunition was set on fire, as well as bundles of overcoats and blankets, by the Turks dropping a shell right in the dump, close behind the front line too. Of course everyone made for shelter, and stopped there too, as the

enemy could see the fire, and promptly shelled it repeatedly to prevent anyone from going near it.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.

We are now on "A" beach for a rest, after tramping about six miles carrying a pick or shovel extra. My word! but there's been some work done since we landed. Little wooden huts in plenty have been erected and quite a little "town" has sprung up. Here, there is a canteen, and we are able to obtain pineapple, butter, and tins of fruit and fish galore. Shells keep us "ducking" all day, and things just now are none too pleasant. One large shell coming from Chanak Fort, about 17 miles away, dropped right in amongst the transport lines, causing a stampede and killing nearly a hundred mules, besides several men who were looking after them. We are certainly living very well here, considering, bread being as much as three to a loaf for the day; very different from the loaf we used to divide amongst fifteen of us when we were first on the Peninsula.

My company cook made a currant pudding yesterday and several fellows went sick to-day. You can draw your own conclusions.

E. M.

(To be continued.)

How to Swim the Channel.

"WHAT is your article called?" asked my reason for drawing lodging, fuel, and light allowance.

"I've decided to call it 'How to swim the Channel,'" I replied briskly.

"Isn't it rather out of your line?" asked my loud speaker anxiously. "I mean, can you swim yourself, for instance?"

"Two breadths," I replied, "that is with the wind behind me and the water-wings attached to the dear old body, but is that the point? Last Sunday, to quote an example, I read an article by the greatest of all week-end pen-waggers, Arnold Wells it was, who wrote an article in a Sunday paper entitled, 'It's a wise tin of milk that knows its own cow.' He, the author, probably knew less about his subject than I know about mine; at the same time he probably earned sufficient from his scribbling to be in a position to offer his tailor a bit more on account, whereas my tailor has no hope whatever. I tell you," I continued feverishly, "writers nowadays do not require a knowledge of their subject matter. To amplify this still further, I was startled to read in the last issue of the IRON DUKE a 'nifty' bit of work entitled 'Hints on reading for the Staff College.' Is the author of that inspiration a Channel swimmer? If so, I trust that my writing will inspire him, as his has inspired me."

With this introduction, I will proceed to jot down a few essentials on

"HOW TO SWIM THE CHANNEL."

First get a channel, a fairly shallow one for choice, with a bar on either side.

It is fruitless commencing a swim before 11.30 a.m., as neither bar will be open. [I understand this does not apply to my dear readers in Singapore.]

Grease yourself all over before commencing the swim, but take care to remove your clothes before greasing, or you will spoil your clothes and your mother will be very cross when you get home, my word!

Training—(a) avoid trains, (b) if possible.

I shall write the remainder of these "hints" under headings such as (a), (b) above. It is extremely helpful. I picked it up at Hythe last summer; makes everything clear, in a nutshell, so to speak.

Diet.—Avoid all green fruit such as (a) haddock, (b) suet pudding, (c) haggis.

[Under this (a), (b), (c) business one can see at a glance.]

Range is essential for cooking, but no good in mid-channel.

Indication.—Get someone to indicate your exact position to the cinema operator from time to time—*i.e.*, watch for the bubbles.

Number of times you have swum the channel, keep count of.

Kink.—A thing people have who swim channels and write articles for magazines.

Some of my readers who may be in touch with the modern trend of weapon training will note from the headings above that the writer's three months at Hythe has not been entirely wasted.

HINTS FOR SWIMMERS IN MID-CHANNEL.

(a) Avoid smoking under water, it attracts mermaids who collect cigarette cards.

(b) Before taking Bovril or milk from a bottle, whilst swimming, first ensure that the cork is removed. Failure to ensure this simple precaution frequently causes the sea to seethe.

(c) Avoid "back-chat" with the crews of cross-channel steamers—waste of breath—*i.e.*, "Sailors don't care."

(d) Never attempt to swim on an empty stomach; the owner may very naturally resent it.

I regret very much I am unable to complete these "hints" at the moment. They are at present as far as (d), but go on to (z) and start all over again at (a1) and so on until (z6).

I must forward them in their present unfinished state forthwith, as I wish to see the circulation of the IRON DUKE bound upwards and upwards until it reaches dimensions which make the circulation of the *Daily Mail* look like that of a parish magazine.

However, I must draw to a close now, because a man has just "come for me." He says he is a keeper. He seems friendly enough and is in a neat blue uniform. I must humour him!

With love to all the dear chicks,

S. N.

The Regimental Club Colours.

WITH reference to the letter concerning the Regimental Club colours, which appeared in our last issue, the following clears up the matter, and although it will not be news to serving members of the Regiment, it will be of interest to many of our readers who have retired.

After the war it was found that many members of the Regiment were wearing ties purporting to be the regimental tie, but which were incorrect and varied according to the tailor who supplied them. In most cases the maroon was too dark and the French grey more like a light blue. About two years ago the 1st and 2nd Battalions went into the matter and a pattern was chosen approximating as nearly as possible to the colours of the pre-war tie; these ties are only obtainable from Messrs. Flight and Messrs. Hawkes.

In connection with past club colours of the Regiment, the following note from Mr. W. P. Trench, of Albury Lodge, Guildford, is of interest. We should welcome any facts that would throw further light on the history of the various changes in the club colours and the reason for choosing the present colours of maroon and French grey.

Mr. Trench writes:—"I remember well that my brother (the late Colonel S. J. Trench) came back from abroad, in 1891 I think, with a cricket cap, cavalry forage shape, and blazer in red and white so similar to the R.M.C. Sandhurst colours that it was decided to make a change to red and blue with a narrow line of yellow between them. My brother was wearing a tie of the new colours at a garden party here and was accosted by a Marine, whose colours were identical, with, 'Ah! I see you are one of ours.' This led to a further change to the maroon and grey still worn by the 2nd Battalion, I believe."

Inter-Services Rugby Football.

NEARLY 50 YEARS AGO.

MANY readers of the IRON DUKE will be interested to know that in February, 1878, was played the first Navy and Army Rugby match. The match took place at the Oval, and the Navy won, the score being Navy one goal and a try to the Army's one goal.

In an article in the *Times* of March 5th, some interesting details were given of the sides and proud as we are of our three representatives (Lts. Browne, Faithfull, and Pte. Dowas) in this year's Army Team, so we may well be proud of the fact that they are following in the footsteps of others of the Regiment who have played for the Army in years gone by.

In the Army Team of February, 1878, the 76th Regiment was represented by Lt. Alfred John Chamberlin Wrench. He was born in 1855, and joined the Regiment in June, 1875, retiring from the Royal Welch Fusiliers, to which Regiment he had transferred as a Major, in the nineties. Wrench played half for the Army. He scored the only try for the Army in their first match.

The Teams in the first match were :—

ROYAL NAVY.—C. Bishop and F. Campbell, backs ; E. Daniel and Chart, three-quarter backs ; P. Bush and J. Startin, half-backs ; C. Bayley, J. Orford, C. Trower, R. Montgomerie, G. Henderson, J. Bennett, F. Thring, H. Goldfinch, and C. Waters, forwards.

ARMY.—J. C. Cromie (37th Regt.), back ; C. H. Coke (86th) and J. H. Cowan (R.E.), three-quarters backs ; F. C. Heath (R.E.) and J. R. Wrench (76th), half-backs ; A. R. Barker (R.A.), A. J. Street (A.M.C.), J. Spens (85th), Capt. Urguhart (108th), G. Campbell (Staff), J. G. Adamson (105th), H. J. Gould-Adams (The Royal Scots), E. Manser, and S. Ogilvie (A.M.C.), forwards.

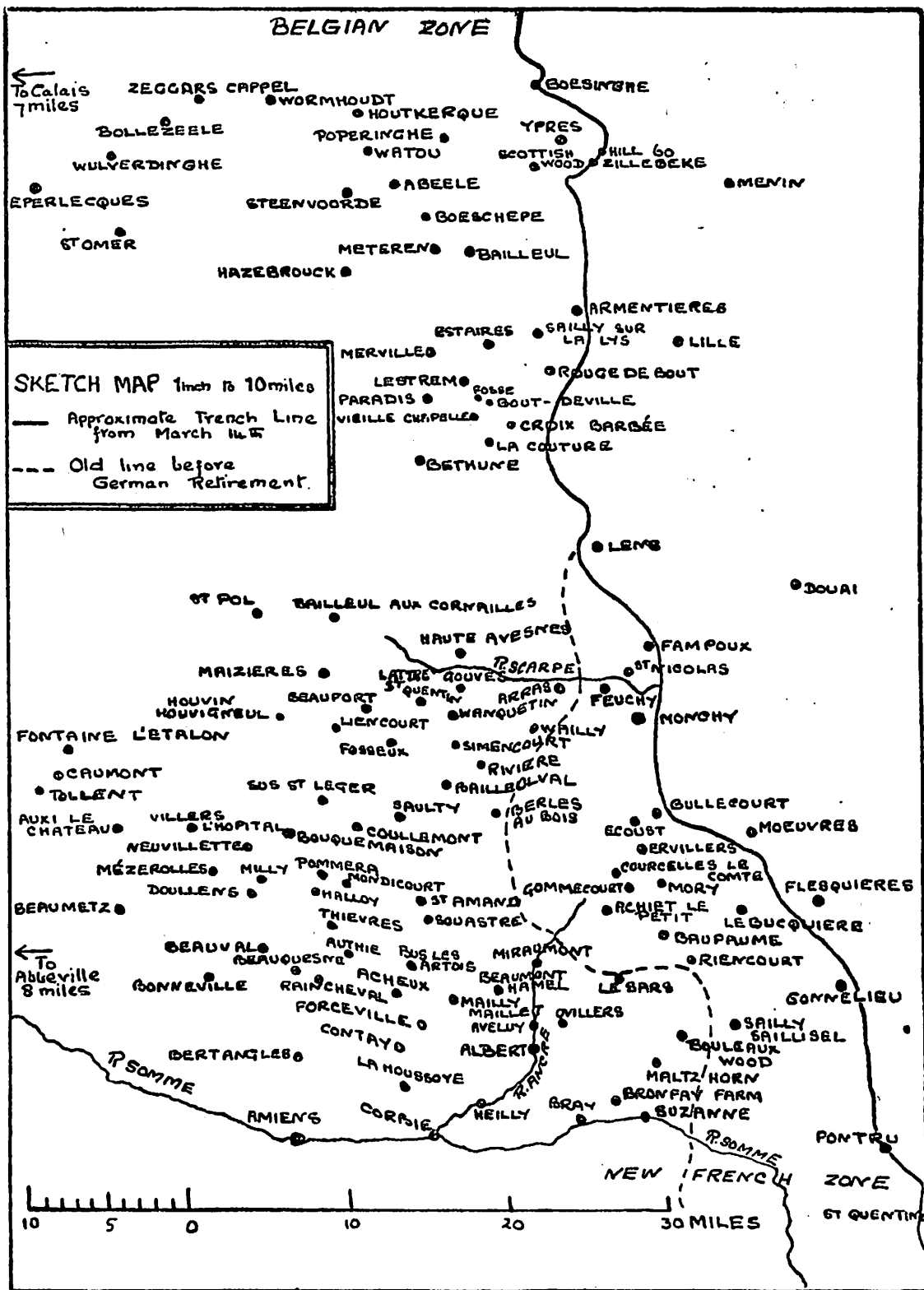
The C. Bayly mentioned as playing for the Navy, and who scored one of the tries, is now Rear Admiral, and the writer of these notes, who is related to him by marriage, has been fortunate in getting some interesting details of the match, etc., from him. Admiral Bayly writes on the 16th March, "I had always played half-back, but when I returned to England in January, 1878, I got a wire one day asking me to play for the Navy v. Army. If so, to go to Greenwich and play in a trial match. I had not touched a football for 3 years, however, I went down and played forward, as the back lines were filled up. I was chosen to play forward. The match was a very hard and even one, and the stands were, I think nearly full, but crowds in those days were not what they are now. That was the last match I played, as I went off to China for about five years." Admiral Bayly adds that he drove to Greenwich in a four-in-hand after the match, and both teams dined together. He says, "I know we had a very festive night." He also says that he remembers Wrench well, having played against him when he was at Sandhurst, and he was a very smart back. Sandhurst had a very good team in 1874-5, and we played them a draw in a thick fog at Greenwich. We had a very good team that year and were not beaten : we played Blackheath, the champions, a draw."

The colours worn by the teams were quite different from those of to-day, the Navy being in white with a blue naval crown worked on left breast of vest, and the Army in blue and white. The Army played one man short, but put up a stout fight.

Bayly and Bush (now Admiral Bush) scored for the Navy and Orford kicked the goal. Wrench ran in for the Army and Cowan kicked the goal. Wrench was a light but very active and courageous half.

The *Times* adds that to Wrench was largely due the first Rugby match played for a charitable purpose. For the sufferers in the terrible accident of the excursion steamer, *Princess Alice*, he raised a side, the Gentlemen of Kent, who met the Blackheath Club.

C. W. G. I.



SKETCH MAP OF WESTERN FRONT February 1st 1917 - May 31st 1917

TEN YEARS AGO.

(Continued from page 50, No. 6, February, 1927.)

THE middle of March, 1917, witnessed the retirement of the Germans to the Hindenburg line. This retrograde movement, as will be seen by reference to the sketch map, affected the British front from just north of Lens to their southern boundary and amounted to a maximum depth of nearly fifteen miles. Another change that took place in the front line during the period under review was the extension of our line, the British taking over the French front line trenches southwards as far as Pontru. April 6th saw the United States declare war, over 2½ years from its commencement. On April 9th the Battle of Arras commenced.

The 2/6th Battalion who, it will be remembered, were detained at *Bedford* by an outbreak of scarlet fever, joined their Brigade in France and so brought up the number of our battalions on the Western Front to thirteen.

The last sketch map as it appeared in the IRON DUKE was incorrect in that it claimed to be on the scale of 1 inch to 10 miles, whereas it was really on the scale of '8 of an inch to 10 miles; this was brought about by the fact that, on account of the bulge in the front line just north of the Somme, the sketch as made was too broad for the magazine, and in the preparation of the block it was reduced without reference to the writer. The present map has been shifted bodily 10 miles east, just as a picture in a magic lantern is moved on the screen, and it will be noticed that on the west side *Calais* and the *mouth of the Somme* no longer appear on the map.

The names printed in italics will not be found on the sketch map.

SEVENTH PERIOD.

FEBRUARY 1ST, 1917—MAY 31ST, 1917.

The 1st Battalion left *Sialkot* on April 12th and arrived at *Rawalpindi* the next day, and were stationed on the *West Ridge*. On May 3rd and 4th the Battalion (less "A" Company) left *Rawalpindi* and proceeded in two parties by route march to *Gharial*. "A" Company went to *Fort Attock*.

On February 1st the 2nd Battalion left *Camp 18* (near *Suzanne*) and went into the trenches. Until the 23rd they remained either in the line or in close support. Finally they were relieved and went into billets at *Bray-la-Neuve* (just south of *Bray*) and moved the following day to *Corbie*. During March they were frequently on the move, going in turn to *Bertangles*, *Beauval*, *Villers l'Hôpital*, *Caumont* and *Tollent*, *Auxi-le-Chateau*, *St. Pol* (by motor lorries), and finally to *Bailleul-aux-Cornailles*. On April 7th they went to huts on the main *Arras—St. Pol* road, and two days later the Battle of Arras began, in which the 2nd Battalion formed part of the 4th Division. The names of *Fampoux* and the *River Scarpe* appear in the War Diary during this time. On April 13th the Battalion rested at *Feuchy*, and the next day they went into bivouacs and shelters near by. From the 20th to the 28th they were on the move behind the line and visited *Gouves*, *Beaufort*, *Lattre St. Quentin*, *Liencourt*, and *Haut Avesnes*. On the 29th they proceeded to shelters east of *St. Nicolas* and on the 30th went into the trenches north-east of *Fampoux*. They remained in the trenches till May 13th, when they went by motor bus to *Maizieres*, and they were still in billets there at the end of the month.

The Depot and 3rd Battalion carried on their training and reinforcing duties as before.

During February all the Battalions of the 147th Brigade were alternately in the trenches or in Brigade or Divisional reserve behind the line. Places mentioned in the diaries are as follows:—*Riviere*, *Bailleulval*, *Bellacourt* (just south of *Riviere*), *St. Amand*, *Berles-au-Bois*, *Simencourt*, and *Wailly*. For the first six days of March each Battalion was on the move, some of the places visited being *Souastre*, *Halloy*, *Neuville*, *Bouquet*

maison, Pommera, and *Grenas* (immediately south of Pommera). On the 7th they all marched to Doullens and entrained there for the 1st Army Area at Merville. Next day the 1/4th Battalion marched via Lestrem to "Fosse" (pit-head), the 1/5th to Vieille Chapelle, the 1/6th to Bout Deville, and the 1/7th to Lestrem. They were then once more in and out of the trenches, spending their time behind the line near Lacouture, Croix Barbée, and at *Penin Mariage* (near Croix Barbée). They continued thus until the middle of May. The 1/4th Battalion then marched to Estaires, Sailly sur la Lys, and so to the *Cordonnerie Sector*. The 1/5th went into billets at Vieille Chapelle on May 22nd, thence to *Seneschal Farm*, and on the 30th to Estaires; there they were attached to the 170th Infantry Brigade, 57th Division. On May 31st they went via Sailly sur la Lys into billets at Rouge de Bout. The 1/6th Battalion marched to Paradis on May 29th and were there at the end of the month. The 1/7th left *Penin Mariage* on the 30th and went to *Le Grand Pacaut* just outside Merville.

The 186th Brigade (less 2/6th) were at Bus les Artois at the beginning of February and remained there till the 13th of the month, when they all moved forward, some into the front line and some to Mailly Maillet. Here the 2/6th joined the Brigade, having crossed to France on the 5th and trained to Acheux. The Brigade remained for the whole of this period in the same area, just north of Albert, and were in and out of the line all the time. They ended up at the close of May at Courcelles-le-Comte and Achiet-le-Petit. The Brigade were in that part of the line where the German retirement reached its maximum depth, so that places that were in or near the line before March 14th were well behind it after that date. Some of the places mentioned in the War Diaries of the units during this time are as follows:—Beaumont Hamel, Forceville, Ecoust, Ervillers, Mory, Miramont, Bullecourt, and Gommecourt.

The West Riding Territorial Brigade continued to train recruits and supply drafts to the Territorial Units at the front at *Clipstone Camp, Nottinghamshire*.

For all the first half of February the 8th Battalion were training at Beaumetz. On the 20th they marched to Bonneville, and on the 23rd to Beauquesnes, where they remained, training and finding working parties, till March 23rd. Further periods of training were gone through at Raincheval and Mailly Maillet. On April 19th the Battalion marched to Aveluy, the next day to Riencourt, and thence into the front line on April 23rd. A week later they went into the support line and held this till May 5th, when they were relieved and proceeded to Le Bucquiere. On May 15th they marched to Le Sars and moved on the same day to huts at Owillers, and three days later entrained for Bailleul. With the exception of a few days at Meteren, the Battalion spent all the remainder of May at Bailleul.

There is a slight error at the end of the last period. The 9th Battalion appear to have left Bouleaux Wood on January 30th and gone into the front line near Sailly Saillisel. On February 2nd the Battalion was relieved and proceeded to Bronfay Camp. From this date until February 20th they were in and out of the front line trenches, spending their periods of relief at Maltz Horn, Bronfay Camp, and Bouleaux Wood. On February 21st they marched to *Railhead Plateau* and entrained for Heilly, marching from there to Lahousoye, where they went into billets until the end of the month. March and the early part of April were spent in a series of moves with short stays, many of them of only one night, at Contay, Beauval, Bouquemaision, Fontaine l'Étalon, Mezerolles, Sus St. Leger, Houvin Houvigneul, Liencourt, Wanquetin, and Arras; training taking place during the whole time. On April 11th the Battalion moved up to the support trenches, and two days later to the front line. They were relieved on the 19th and returned to Arras. On the 22nd the Battalion was held in readiness all day long to move up; on the 24th they went into the front line trenches at Monchy Wood, but the next day they were relieved and went back to Arras. On the 26th they entrained for Saulty and marched from there to Sus St. Leger. On May 1st they went by motor bus to Haute Avesnes, on the 2nd to camp north-east of Arras, and on the 3rd to the reserve trenches at *Railway Cutting*. They were in the front line or reserve trenches from the 9th to 29th,

when they went into camp at St. Nicholas. On the 30th they entrained at Arras for Saulty and marched to camp at Coulemont.

During the greater part of February the 10th Battalion were in the Ypres Salient, being the right Battalion of the Left Brigade on the 23rd Divisional Front. When behind the front line they were either in Corps or Brigade Reserve, sometimes at *Winnipeg Camp*, sometimes at Zillebeke Bund. On February 27th they went into camp in the Houtkerque area, and on the 28th marched to Bollezeele via Watou, Houtkerque, Wormhoudt, and Zeggars Cappel. March 1st-19th was spent in billets at Eperlecques, which the Battalion reached via Wulverdinghe, *Watten Bridge*, and *Ganspette*. On the 19th they returned to Bollezeele by the same route, and the following day went on to Houtkerque via Zeggars Cappel, Wormhoudt, and *Herzele*. On to Camp L (Poperinghe) on the 21st, through Watou and *St. Jan ier Brezen*, and thence to Scottish Camp on April 6th. From April 14th-22nd they were in the trenches in Hill 60 sub-sector, returning on the 22nd to Scottish Camp. On the 29th they marched to billets at Steenvoorde via Abeele, on May 6th to *Halifax Camp*, 8th to *Chippewa Camp*, 12th to Scottish Camp again, and on the 18th back to Hill 60. They were relieved on May 25th and marched to *Brandhoek*, where they entrained for Abeele, and from there marched to billets in the Boeschepe Training Area, being still there at the end of the month.

During February and the first half of March the 12th Battalion continued work on the *Bazentin-Longueval-Flers* and the *Trones Wood-Ginchy* Railways; these places are shown on the sketch map of last period. On March 11th the detachments began to close in preparatory to a move to the 3rd Army Area. The move was carried out in two stages by route march. Owing to a mistake, the men were at first utilized for loading ammunition, but by the end of the month the whole Battalion were on railway work again. The following are places mentioned in the diary:—Thievres, *Vauchelles* (one mile south of Authie), Authie, Mondicourt, Saulty, *Dainville* (on the outskirts of Arras), Fosseux, and Arras. During April, Headquarters and three Companies were billeted in Milly, where they were constructing a large station yard.; "W" Company remained at Arras, working on the Arras-Douai line. The War Diaries of the Battalion from May 1st onwards are missing. Enquiries, however, are being made, and should they be found, the movements of the Battalion during May will be included in the next period.

P. A. T.

(To be continued.)

EX-COLOUR SERGEANT JOHN LAWTON.

BORN, AUGUST 14TH, 1835. DIED, MAY 9TH, 1926.

Enlisting in the local volunteers when he was 26 years of age, Mr. Lawton served in the 5th Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) from 1862 to 1888, and attained the rank of Colour Sergeant. This splendid service obtained for him the proud distinction of being allowed to retain the uniform of which he was so proud. (This is worn by him in the photo). Mr. Lawton served altogether with the old Holmfirth Company for 26½ years. He attended 27 inspections and ranked efficient at every one. He was presented with the Long Service Medal. He served about 8 years as private before receiving his first stripe, and was appointed colour sergeant on January 1st, 1880.

Mr. Lawton began collecting for Prizes in 1855 and continued to do so until the "Fighting Fifth" was mobilised for service in the Great War. By his own personal efforts he collected over a £1,000, but when this part of his work was referred to he modestly declined to speak of it, except that, "It had been a pleasure for him to do it." His financial activities also extended to the building of the Drill Hall. Taking the office of treasurer in 1884, when the first bazaar was held, it is on record that when he had collected the £1,000, Major R. R. Mellor, Surgeon Captain Williams, Captain Eastwood presented him with a handsome gold watch. Colour Sergeant Lawton left the service in 1888, much to the regret of all his comrades with the Company ("F" Company).

He was buried with Military Honours at Holmfirth on Wednesday, May 12th, 1926.

H.T.

THE REGIMENTAL COLOURS.

(continued.)

N.B.—On page 40 of our last issue, the following description of the 6th West Yorks Militia Colours should have been added after the word "Clarence":—

These Colours were made in strict accordance with the latest regulations and were approved by the Inspector of Colours. The Regimental Colour had a field of sky blue. The Centre badge contained in the Union Wreath consisted of the White Rose of York on a crimson ground circumscribed with the Regimental title.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.

(6) TERRITORIAL ARMY.

4TH (T.A.) BATTALION.

RAISED originally in 1859 as the "4th West Riding Rifle Volunteers," the Battalion records account for three stands of Colours to date.

1. A Stand presented by Mrs. Bury on 21st September, 1860, on behalf of the ladies of Halifax, who had worked them. The Queen's Colour was the ordinary type of Army Colour of the period, but with plain gold fringe, cords and tassels. The Regimental Colour was worked on a scarlet field with fringe, cords and tassels of scarlet and gold. Each Colour had as centre badge, the arms of the Borough of Halifax, surmounted by the Royal Crown. The title of the Corps was worked in yellow letters on a blue Scroll below. In 1883, when the Battalion became the 1st Volunteer Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, the centre badges and title scrolls were changed. Those of the Queen's Colour, by substituting the numeral "I," worked in gold on a royal blue circular ground below the crown, and with the new title worked in gold on a blue scroll below. The Regimental Colour had the Duke of Wellington's Crest worked in scarlet and gold, circumscribed with the new title in gold on a blue garter. The numeral "I" was worked in gold in the centre of the small Union in the top corner.

The Battle Honour, "South Africa 1900-02," for services rendered by the Battalion during that war was subsequently added to the Regimental Colour (*vide* Fig. 1).

On retirement in 1908 the Stand was deposited in All Saint's Church, Holey Hill, Halifax.

2. On the introduction of the Territorial Force organization in 1908, under which the Battalion became the "4th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment," a new Stand of regulation Colours* were again provided by the ladies of Halifax and District (Fig. 3 shows the Regimental Colour).

They were presented by His late Majesty, King Edward VII, at Windsor Castle, on 19th June, 1909, to a representative detachment of the Battalion, after Consecration by the then Chaplain General to the Forces (Bishop Taylor Smith, D.D.).

No alterations under A.O. 470 of 1922 were made after the Great War as it was decided to replace the Colours by a new Stand at an early date when they will be deposited in the Regimental Memorial Chapel, York, a truly fitting resting place ever remembering not only the part the Battalion played so nobly in the Great War, but also the 827 heroes of the Gallant 1/4th, whose names are recorded in the Regimental Roll of Honour.

3. The new Stands mentioned in (2) are ready and will shortly be presented. They are made in strict accordance with the pattern laid down for all Battalions of the Regiment (*vide* I. Duke No. 6, Plate I.).

N.B.—The Special King's Colour presented to the 2/4 Battalion under A.C.I. 444 of 1919, will be dealt with in a later instalment of this article.

*The remarks made in footnote p. 41, IRON DUKE No. 6, apply equally to the working drawings issued for this stand by the Inspector of Colours.

FOURTH (T.A.) BATTALION.

Fig. 1.



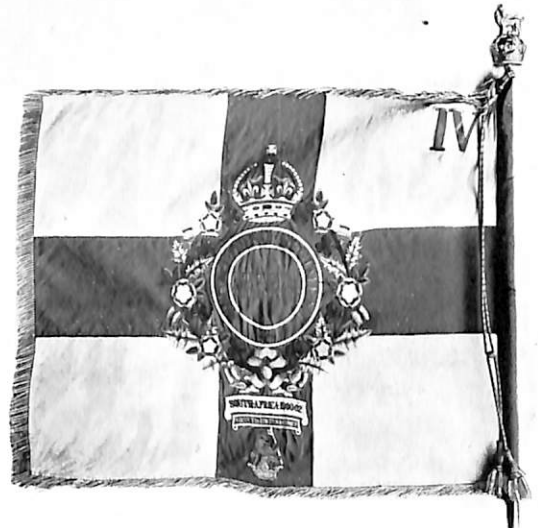
Regimental Colour, 1860-1908.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



Queen's Colour, 1860-1908.



Regimental Colour, 1908-1927.

PRIZE COMPETITION PHOTOGRAPHS.



Interior of Cairo Museum.



Money Divers, Singapore.



"D" Coy., 5th Bn. Winners of Hopkinson Shield,
Tug-of-War, Scarborough Camp, 1926.



The late Col.-Sgt. John Lawton.

PRIZE COMPETITION.

COMPETITION A. Winner.—Major A. J. Preston, late Duke of Wellington's Regt., of Swainston, Kilmessan, Co. Meath, Ireland, whose article appears on page 109. This is a walk-over, as there were no other entries for this competition. We think that it is rather a reflection upon younger readers of the IRON DUKE that the only competitor should be in his 86th year.

COMPETITION B. Winner.—Bandsman E. L. Hallows, of the Band, 2nd Battalion, Singapore, who sent in four very good snapshots, two of which, "Interior of Cairo Museum" and "Money divers, Singapore," are adjudged the best and are reproduced on the opposite page. We also reproduce two other photographs which are commended, "The Tug-of-War," sent in by Mr. E. W. Day, D.C.M., late R.S.M. of the 5th Battalion, and "the late Colour Sergeant John Lawton," sent in by C.S.M. H. Teale, of the 5th Battalion. An interesting note regarding the subject of this photograph is to be found on page 103. The only other entrant for this competition was L/Cpl. J. Peacock, of No. 2 Coy., 2nd Battalion, Singapore, who sent in a number of quite interesting snapshots.

Frankly we are disappointed with the small response to our offer of prizes, but to give the scheme a further trial we propose again to offer the prizes under the same conditions as before, with the proviso that no prize will be given in either A or B unless there are at least three competitors in each case.

We should welcome any suggestions for making the competitions more popular. We set forth below the conditions of the two competitions for No. 8.

COMPETITION A.

A prize of ten shillings will be given to the sender of the best short story or anecdote, original or otherwise, but if not original the source must be quoted if known. Length of story is limited to 500 words, but a good anecdote is just as likely to win as a longer story.

COMPETITION B.

A prize of ten shillings will be given to the sender of the best photograph, taken by an amateur, of any subject likely to be of interest to readers of the IRON DUKE. If not taken by the sender, the name of the person who took it must be sent.

GENERAL RULES FOR BOTH COMPETITONS.

1. Each competitor may send in as many stories and photographs as he likes. They must be accompanied by the coupon to be found on page number iii. of the Advertisement Section. This coupon will cover all his entries.
2. All entries must reach the Editor by the 15th August, 1927.
3. The winning article and photograph, with the names of their senders, will be published in the current number of the IRON DUKE.
4. The Editor's decision will be final.
5. The Editor reserves the right to print any of the articles or photographs sent in, whether winners or not.
6. No articles or photographs will be returned unless specially asked for and unless a stamped and addressed envelope accompanies them.

Thoughts on Sport.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

"**G**REAT minds agree" is an old saying and, without labouring the opening adjective, I lately had an instance of its truth. Since my last article was written, but before it appeared, I invested one day in an *Evening Standard*, and my eye was caught by an article headed "A lost art in Rugby"; this seemed familiar to me, and on reading it I found that the writer, "Ex-international," was referring to one of the three "lost arts" that was my text for the first consignment of "Thoughts on Sport," which appeared in

No. 5 of the IRON DUKE. In my second article I briefly reverted to one of these "lost arts"—namely, goal-kicking, and it is this one that "Ex-international" was writing about. Although he elaborated a good deal what I wrote, the minds that were responsible for the two articles might well have been one and the same. We both referred to the same match, Cambridge v. J. E. Greenwood's XV., we both advocated practice and keeping the eye on the ball as the cure for poor place kicking; in fact what I read was so like what I had written that I had to pinch myself to make sure I was really reading and not merely dreaming. He certainly introduced one new point in advocating that place kickers should be chosen from the ranks of the outsiders, as they were likely to be less blown and tired; there may be something in this, but it does not appeal to me as an adequate reason for restricting the choice of place kickers.

While we are on the point, I may say that from what I have seen and heard I really believe that many captains are realising the immense importance of goal kicking as a winning factor, and that this accounts for the improvement in goal kicking that has been apparent in the past season.

Selection committees come in for a large amount of criticism, at any rate the English one does. One thing that tends to swell the volume of criticism from the man in the street, as well as from the journalist, is the initial difference of opinion as to the choosing of a team. The old idea was that international honours were awarded for individual excellence of play, but of late years the increased importance of combination has tended to the selection by the committee of club mates. From a match-winning point of view there is much to be said in favour of this method, but once you begin building up a team in this way it is hard to know where to stop; you might sometimes play practically an entire club team with a better chance of winning the championship, but it would not be an international team or a team of international players.

Another body of men who do much for the Rugby game are the referees, and they also come in for their share of criticism, mostly on account of the different ways in which they interpret the rules. That even the best of them do vary very much in the manner of controlling the game is a fact beyond dispute and it seems a pity that the Union cannot do something to better this state of affairs—possibly they do try. Of course there must always be the human element in refereeing, but some guide by the Union would be very useful, not only to referees and players, but also to onlookers. There are a number of rules, such as the knock-on, the tackle, and off side, where a few words of explanation or guidance as to the way they should be interpreted would be very useful.

No one who saw the two international games at Twickenham this year can fail to have been struck by the entirely different way of using the whistle adopted by the referees; after reading the French papers relating to the Irish match, one was prepared for a somewhat liberal use of it by Mr. Scott. The following extract quoted in an English newspaper was puzzling at the time, but was quite clear after sitting out the Welsh match at Twickenham:—"The referee was very good, but too strict"! Certainly Mr. Vile's style of handling the game was very different, but he also had his critics, as one paper talked of the temporary suspension of the off-side rule. They are both first-class referees, but read the rules in a widely different manner.

Having been present at the two first of England's international games, I was not unprepared for the result against Scotland, though I expected a closer game; the first two matches were won by very narrow margins and England was distinctly lucky to have two wins to her credit when she went to Scotland. The unexpected happened against France, who just managed to win, for the first time on record, and Ireland and Scotland were left to share the honours. Many people may not have seen eye to eye with the English selectors, but few expected that the team would not be equal to the task of winning against France.

The 1st Battalion, short of practice and handicapped by having been kept so long in the "Far North," made a good fight against the South Wales Borderers in the third round of the Army Cup, and the 6 points difference at the call of time I think fairly repre-

sented the run of the game, a little luck might have altered the result. The day was not conducive to accuracy of play, in fact it was a beast of a day, but which side a fine day and a dry ground would have favoured is hard to say; but I do think our opponents' outsidings accommodated themselves better to the adverse conditions; for one thing they slowed down the pace of their passes, thereby giving the slippery ball a better chance of being held. The Borderers again won the cup, but their passage to success was not an easy one, even after they had managed to beat us.

I cannot close my notes more appropriately than by expressing a Thought, I might almost say a Prayer, that next season the authorities, the referees, or the players themselves will find some satisfactory answer to the vexed and vexing question of putting the ball into the scrum.

To such of my readers who have got so far, I must apologise for asking them to read Rugby thoughts in the closed season, but these notes, it must be remembered, were written towards the end of the Rugby season and before cricket had become an actual fact.

OLD STAGER.

MEN OF MOMENT.

(2) THE RECRUIT.

I am the raw recruit,
Newly arrived on the square,
A little bit short in the wind,
A little bit long in the hair.

About me, behind and before,
Gods decorated with stripes,
Beg me to stick out my chest,
Urge me to order my hipes.

Wonderful fellows are they,
Clever and handsome and proud,
And I have to believe what they say,
They say it so terribly loud.

They shout with a thunderous voice—
And what can I do but agree—
That they never saw anyone yet
Less like a soldier than me.

But seeing the King has agreed
To pay me two shillings a day,
They'll make it their duty to see
His money is not thrown away.

So I struggle and strain with my hipe,
And endeavour to puff out my chest,
And I learn to form fours with a click,
And polish my buttons with zest.

For I know I shall get my revenge
In the course of the next twenty years,
When its my turn to swank on the square,
And my voice will be louder than theirs.

Then I shall be cock of the roost,
My medals will run into millions,
But the gods I revered in my youth
Will be aged and wheezy civilians.

And they'll say, as they see me at drill—
And what can I do but agree—
That they never saw anyone yet
More like a soldier than me.

O. P.

Extracts from the Diary of an Officer of H.M.S. *Renown*.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

ON 25th January, at 9 a.m., the *Renown* arrived off Colon, at the Atlantic side of the Panama Canal, and was at once admitted into the first lock. This enormous battle cruiser was then raised in three successive stages to a height of 85 feet, being handled just as easily and unceremoniously as an old barge on an English canal. To make a long story short, we then passed through a range of hills, two artificial lakes, three more locks, and ten hours later found ourselves safely floating on the waters of the Pacific.

Truly this canal is one of the greatest engineering feats which the world has ever seen. History tells us that the Spaniard Nuñez de Balboa, standing upon that hill,

through which the great Culebra Cut now passes, first espied the Pacific Ocean in 1513.

On his return to Spain two years later he brought with him a plan for the construction of a canal across this narrow isthmus.

Certain it is that Drake in 1572, when he first gazed upon the Pacific, at once realised the importance of connecting these two great oceans together.

Hundreds of years passed, however, before his idea could even be attempted—far less realised.

During this time the Spaniards, ever pushing to the westward, had discovered Peru and Panama, or Nombre de Dios as it was then called, became the focus point of the route along which the treasures of South America were transported back to Spain. The heavily-laden galleons from Lima and the South put into old Panama harbour, and their cargoes were transferred on muleback across the narrow isthmus, to be re-embarked again at Nombre de Dios in the Spanish ships which transported them direct to Spain.

Great Britain at this time was practically constantly at war with Spain, and our attacks on the treasure ships from the Spanish Main were continuous. In addition to this the West Indies and Bahama Islands became the headquarters of every exile and adventurer from Europe who wished to make a quick fortune by preying upon the Spanish trade. These pirates, or buccaneers as they preferred to call themselves, became so strong and well organised that they had fleets and armies of their own. On one occasion, in 1671, the Welsh buccaneer Morgan, with a small army of men, marched across the isthmus and actually captured the town of Panama from the Spaniards. Here he remained three weeks and made a prize of every galleon that put into the bay. In the end, disappointed it is said, at the small amount of treasure which he had secured, he sacked and burnt the town before returning home. So thoroughly did Morgan do his work that Old Panama was never rebuilt and now lies in ruins exactly as he left it 250 years ago.

Towards the beginning of the nineteenth century the treasures of Peru began to be exhausted and Panama lost its importance as the centre of this trade. Gradually, too, Spanish America threw off the control of Spain and became divided up into a number of small Republics. The Isthmus of Panama became embodied in the State of Colombia.

At the end of the nineteenth century the great French engineer de Lesseps, fresh from his triumph of the Suez Canal, made the first attempt to cut a waterway from the Atlantic to the Pacific. His attempt, however, was doomed to failure. Whereas the Suez Canal is but a large, level ditch connecting the Mediterranean to the Red Sea, it was soon found that high tide at Panama (Pacific coast) and Colon (Atlantic coast) by no means coincided and that at certain hours of the day there was a difference of 20 feet or more in the heights of the two oceans. This was the problem to be faced, and de Lesseps drew his plans accordingly. In 1881 the work began, but the French engineer had reckoned without nature.

An epidemic of malaria fever soon broke out and raged through the labour camps. The men died like flies, and it was calculated at this time that the average life of a labourer in the canal zone was no longer than 18 months. All the resources of the medical profession of that period were exhausted in turn, and in 1896 the French company failed and had to confess themselves beaten—and as it subsequently proved, by the mosquito.

In 1902 the American Government stepped in, purchased the effects of the French company, and commenced negotiations with the Republic of Colombia for the lease of the necessary land through which to cut the canal.

For a long time these negotiations hung fire. In 1903, however, the department of Panama revolted from Colombia and became a separate Republic and straightway signed an agreement with the U.S.A. By the agreement, America has absolute control of a strip of land ten miles wide across the Isthmus which contains the canal.

In the meantime science had made two highly important discoveries. Firstly it was found that the germ of malaria is carried by mosquitoes, and secondly it was proved that a mosquito cannot fly more than about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The first step of the Americans, therefore, was to free the canal zone from these pestilential insects. The problem was a simple one. Mosquitos breed in stagnant water, and the edict therefore went forth that all stagnant water within two miles of the canal zone was to be drained. If it was not possible to drain, then once a week it must receive a coating of parafin oil to kill the larvae. By strict observance of this order the doom of the mosquito was sealed, and Panama to-day is as free from these pests as our own homes in England.

The Americans then set to work on the canal. A huge dam was constructed at Gatun and the waters of the Chagres river thus impounded into an artificial lake of 164 square miles in area.

The Atlantic end of the lake was connected to the sea direct by the three Gatun locks. The Pacific end, however, did not approach the sea to a nearer distance than nine miles, and it was these nine miles that taxed the engineering resources of the U.S.A. to their utmost.

Work was commenced on this giant canal, which actually had to pass through a range of hills, and after a series of heart-breaking landslides, the work was completed in 1910. The cut is 300 feet wide and two ships may easily pass each other abreast. Even nowadays landslides into the canal sometimes take place at this point, but these are, happily, of very rare occurrence.

At the end of the Culebra Cut a ship is lowered down to the level of the Atlantic via the small artificial Miraflores Lake and three great locks similar to those in Gatun. The total distance of the canal from deep water to deep water is 50 miles and the time occupied in passing through is from 10 to 12 hours.

“SEARCHLIGHT.”

Generals I have Inspected and Vice Versa.

THE SUBALTERN'S DILEMMA.

(Prize Competition Winning Story, see page 105.)

IN the year of our Lord 1872, two companies of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, then stationed at Kamptee, received orders to proceed to Pachmarhi for the hot weather. They proceeded.

There were only two captains and two subalterns available for this duty. As the station had such a "feverish" reputation, subalterns were invited to volunteer. The writer did.

On one of the hottest days in June a startling notification arrived stating that the General Commanding the District would arrive by Dâk that evening and would inspect the troops next morning.

If a bomb had exploded in our midst it could not have created greater consternation.

The day arrived, and with it the General, glad to escape the purgatory of the plains.

At 6 o'clock a.m. the troops paraded in all their dazzling white uniform. Fever had laid low one of the captains, consequently only one captain and two subalterns, of whom the writer was the junior, appeared on parade.

After the usual perambulation of the ranks, the captain put the men through a few trivial drill exercises. Next the general directed the senior subaltern to put the men through the bayonet exercise. This was indeed a surprise. In those days field officers only were called upon to carry out this order, consequently subalterns considered that to learn the complicated words of command was only a work of supererogation.

The puzzled subaltern walked out to meet his fate. Failing to start correctly, the men became as puzzled as their officer.

After blindly blundering, he ultimately broke down. The general called him back, and in turn I was ordered to carry out the same order.

I had been a sorrowing spectator of my comrade's downfall. I foresaw that my turn would come next and ransacked my brain for the *opening* words of command and found them!

Trusting in Providence and in my luck, I advanced, took up my position exactly in front of the general and as far from him as possible.

I knew that my men knew the bayonet exercise and that *they* knew I did not, but this the general must not be let know. I remembered that "point" was the dominating order and I started all right with the words of command, "Prepare for bayonet exercise."

Whatever words of command I gave afterwards, and I only gave two—viz., "Hum" or "Hum hum" and "point," every movement in correct order was smartly performed by the men.

The ruse succeeded. The exercise was exceedingly smartly done. The general (who probably had forgotten the words of command) was highly pleased.

"Very good." "Very good indeed," he exclaimed. Turning to Capt. Fenn he added, "I notice that you have one officer who thoroughly knows his work and has performed it so efficiently. My report will be very favourable."

NOTE.—Hum-bug throughout.

All is vanity, saith the preacher.

A. J. P.

Here, There, and Everywhere.

OUR Editor reminds me that my notes from London are now due, and at the moment I just feel "Here, There, and Everywhere," as I have just returned to work after some of the most wonderful few days of fine weather during the Easter holiday. Since No. 6 of the IRON DUKE was published we have gone through stirring times. The "wind" has been blowing from the East and we have seen the British Army once again proceeding overseas, though at the moment I am glad to say the numbers have only been small. It has been quite exciting in London seeing the Guards march off to entrain, and brings back memories of 1914. One can only hope that affairs in China will be settled without a clash of arms with England.

In a past number of the IRON DUKE I mentioned one or two epitaphs on soldiers' graves that came to my notice. The following was inscribed on the tombstone of a Sgt. Joseph Duncan of the 7th Light Dragoons who died on May 25th, 1804:—

"Reader, in time prepare to follow me,
As my route was, so thine will surely be,
The mandate of my God I did obey,
Kings and Dragoons when called must march away."

We Londoners who follow the doings of some of the leading London Association football clubs in the Association Football Cup received a sorry blow when Chelsea just missed getting into the semi-final and still more so when the Arsenal were beaten by an unlucky goal in the final.

For Chelsea to have been beaten by Cardiff City after a replay was to say the least sad, though we are compensated by Cardiff City winning the Cup.

I have always been keen on Chelsea. They are a fine team, but they suffer from just not being able to finish off a fine movement well. How many a time I have seen them miss the gift of a goal by pure wild kickings. I suppose it is a kind of nervousness, but it must be trying to those who watch their play.

This fault was one the 2nd Battalion suffered from in the seasons, 1912-13 and, 1913-14,

when I had the pleasure of running the team. We had a fine team in those days and there were few amateur teams in Ireland that could beat us. On the rare occasions that we were defeated it was nearly always the case of the game being given away by wild kicking in front of goal.

I hope the Rugby experts will forgive my few remarks on Soccer. I was always one who thought that there was room for both games, and I think I am right, as we have excelled in both. Only a few days ago a fine Rugby regiment, the 2nd Bn. The Leicestershire Regiment, won the Army Association Football Cup. Many of my readers will remember the great Rugger matches we have had with them.

Another splendid O.C.A. gathering has become a thing of the past. Eighty of us met together at Gatti's on the 23rd April, and once more went through old times with old friends. It was just one of those occasions which the old soldiers love. I think I may be permitted to include myself amongst the old ones now. They say "Old soldiers never die," and to test the truth of that saying one has only to look in at an annual gathering of the O.C.A. to see that it is only too true. There you will see the old ones teaching the young ones or vice versa. Many of the old ones, I know, have an uncomfortable sort of feeling at the bottom of their hearts wishing that they might be young again and back in the old Regiment.

Our Chairman always brings us up to date with the Regiment in the only speech of the evening and much we enjoy hearing all that the old Regiment is doing or has done. We all go home with a happy feeling that all is well and that the younger generation is carrying on the old traditions.

I had one real pleasure, and I know I shall be forgiven for being personal, and that was to renew acquaintance with an ex-C.S.M. who saved me from the hands of the enemy during the early days of the war when we were retreating from Mons. I was very nearly done, but he saw me through a nasty few hours and I thus was able to stay with the old Regiment for many months. It was a real delight to see him again and to go over old times together.

My experience is, I know, the same as that of others, and if it was not for these O.C.A. gatherings many of us would never get the opportunity of seeing our old pals again. Long may we continue them.

DUKEWELL.

ODE TO THE PAGEANT.

The noble folks of Singapore,
With patriotism great and true,
Did once set out without a doubt
Strange things indeed to do.

One above all with eagerness
His own ideas he tried to confess,
But three or four and even more
Agreed to delve in ancient lore.

Without a doubt this was said,
Let us resurrect the dead ;
Men of land and men of ships,
They surely can give us bags of tips.

Thanks to Wembley, gentlemen,
For someone said P.T., and then ;
The Duke of Wellington's are just the men,
So first of all we will ask for them.

Torchlight Tattoo will be one of fame,
For we know the " Duke's " will play the game,
But first of all it must be said,
We must have torches white and red.

Two parties in white marched on the ground,
For they were steady, safe, and sound,
Marching smartly, to the music of the band,
With young gas-lamps in their right hand.

On came a Ford with " American Guies " !
For they were after specimen flies,
But after all this was a mistake,
For they were attacked by a cobra snake.

Next came the Mail with a party well armed,
But the Bedouins attacked and caused some
alarm ;
Dispatch riders appeared, and also a Tank,
And stopped the Arabs from playing their
prank.

The third scene you must not miss,
For something happened after this,
The Tower of London's ancient walls
Resounded with loud bugle calls.

Bob down, old soldiers, get under your bed,
For sweats of old who once were dead,
Once more take up their legal stand,
For these are those who ruled the land.

Not "Right turn," but to the right face,
To hear this is no disgrace,
But to bum your chat is sin and shame,
To men like these who know the game.

With Admirals Drake and Nelson, true,
Followed by Cook's tourists and settlers too ;
And Wellington in his dress so gay
Was really the topic of the day.

The guard on the Tower was the 76th,
With tunics red and bayonets fixed,
The sounds of war were then heard
Throughout the gallant 33rd.

Changing the guard was witnessed by all,
For men in khaki answered the call.
They were all lined up outside the Tower
As the clock chimed out the eleventh hour.

Britannia came next with helmet bright,
Escorted by men carrying flags for right ;
Outside the Tower two guards stood,
So steady they were, some thought they were
wood.

Just one more person to finish the show
But to find this one person, to heaven they'd
to go ;
The Angel of Peace was the one they fetched,
For she held out a wreath with her right arm
outstretched.

The committee it took, this pageant to fix,
Was not a great lot, but more than six.
So always remember and never do forget
To take your umbrella when it comes on wet.

C. B.

Some Medals in the 2nd Battalion Collection.

A FEW notes on some of the oldest medals in our collection and on those groups which are somewhat unique may be of interest to both past and present members of the Regiment. For much of the information about them I am indebted to Col. J. A. C. Gibbs, my other authority being Tancred's well-known book.

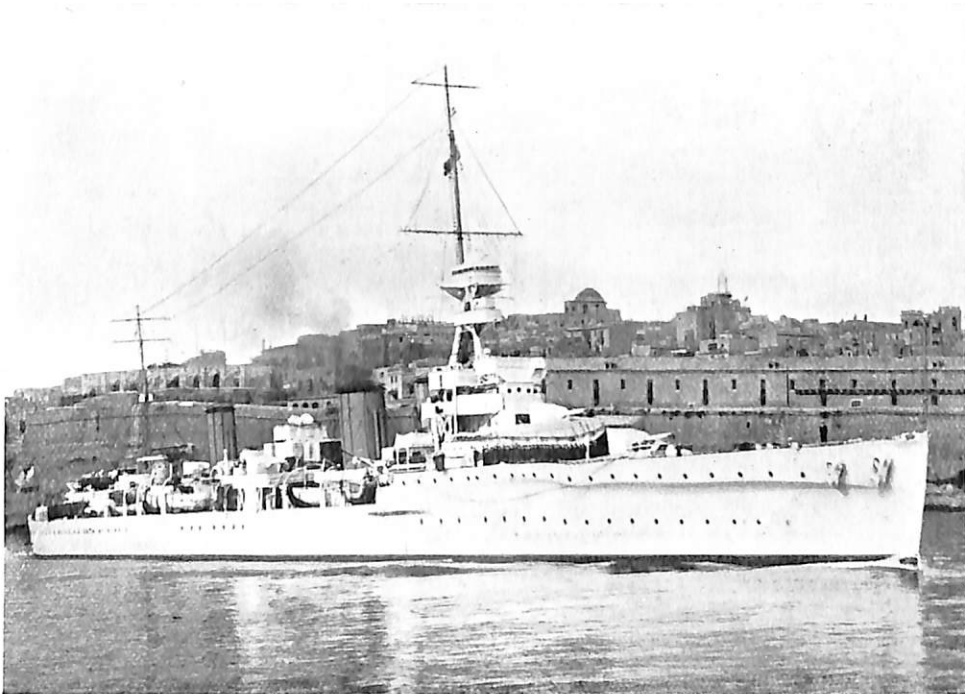
Two of our oldest medals are those of the Army of India (Lord Lake's Campaign) 1799 to 1826. Few of these medals are in existence as they were not struck until 1851, and then only in sufficient number to give to survivors alive at that date. The Rolls show only 33 as having been issued to the 76th. The two in our possession were awarded to Surgeon Corfeild and Pte. John Gunsley. The former has 3 clasps—Allighur, Battle of Delhi and Leswarree ; and the latter 2—Leswarree and Battle of Deig. It is interesting to note that when these medals were shown to a recent draft from the Depot several men at once asked how they could bear Queen Victoria's Head ! These Army of India medals are extremely valuable ; one (also belonging to the 76th) was sold last year at Glendinning's for over 200 guineas. We, unfortunately, were not the purchasers.

Next in date come the Peninsular War Medals. The Rolls show 2 field officers, 18 other officers, and 149 rank and file of the 76th as being entitled to them. Of these we have those issued to Major Covell, Ensign-Lieutenant Frizell, and 8 rank and file. The medal of the first named is of gold, as were all field officer's medals of that war.

One of the most interesting groups in our collection is that of Pte. Du Port. It consists of the Rhodesia, 1896 medal with clasp "Mashonaland," 1897, (only two others of this combination exist :—Bt.-Lt.-Col. Rivett Carnac, and Lt. J. A. C. Gibbs), Queen's South Africa, with three clasps, Delhi Durbar medal, the 1914-15 Star, and the British War and Victory medals. Pte. Du Port's history is equally interesting. He was the son of a clergyman and went out to South Africa as a civilian. He earned his first medal serving in the Umvoti Volunteers. During the South African War, he was specially



Rifle Meeting in Johore.



H.M.S. Emerald.

Fig. 1.
THE 1792 SERINGAPATAM MEDAL.



Obverse.



Reverse.

Fig. 2.
THE 1799 SERINGAPATAM MEDAL.



Obverse.



Reverse.

enlisted into the Regiment and earned the Queen's medal. Invalided home, he was later sent to the 1st Battalion, with which he was serving at the time of the Durbar. In the Great War he obtained a commission, in the 11th (T) Battalion, The Border Regiment. As nothing has been heard of him since, and his medals were not claimed, the War Office has allowed us to have them and we hold them in trust.

Another interesting group is that of Cpl. C. Adams, who has the Rhodesia 1896, Queen's South Africa with 3 clasps and the Victory medals. He was with the Burmah Mounted Infantry Company in South Africa, but I do not know how he obtained his Victory medal which is inscribed in Dutch as well as in English, and shows him as having served in the S.A.R.D.O.S. Can anyone enlighten me as to the meaning of these letters?

Turning to shooting medals, our best known one is the Whittingham Medal, a description of which appeared in the second issue of the IRON DUKE, but it is by no means our oldest. The oldest one in our collection was given to Pte. Thomas James, best shot in 1807, and was presented by the officers of the Regiment, but I can find no record of its history. It is a very large silver medal, half as big again as a five shilling piece, with a plain blue riband, and was presented to us by Lt.-Col. J. H. Leslie, R.A. Another, of which we have no record, won by Sergt. J. Blow, is inscribed, "Best shot in the Corps, 1813. The gift of Lieut.-Col. Maxwell, 76th Regt. of Foot." This has a plain white riband, and is not unlike the Whittingham Medal.

During the past year we have received two very fine Commemorative medals, both being in connection with events at Seringapatam. The first one, presented to us by R. H. Headley, Esq. of the India Office, is a beautiful bronze medal, struck in 1793 to commemorate the surrender of Seringapatam on 24th February, 1792, when peace was signed by Tippoo Sahib, who gave his two sons as hostages for a due performance of the treaty, at the same time delivering over from his treasury a sum representing four millions sterling. The medal (see Fig. 1.) is as follows:—

Obverse.—The bust of Lord Cornwallis, with the inscription, "Car. Marchio Cornwallis Straegus Accrismus."

Reverse.—A group in front of the awning of a large tent, representing Lord Cornwallis receiving Tippoo's two sons as hostages; over the group is the inscription, "Pas Sit Parcere Hosti." In the "exergue" is, "Sultano Tipoo Devicto Obsides Recipit MDCCXCII." The workmanship is exquisite. How many of these medals are in existence I do not know; perhaps the "Society of Army Historical Research" could supply the information if this article happens to meet their eye.

The second Seringapatam medal (See Fig. 2.) has been presented to us by our G.O.C. here, Major-General Sir Theodore Fraser. It is slightly larger than the other, is of copper-bronze, and commemorates the death of Tippoo Sahib at the siege in 1799 (4th May):—

Obverse.—A victorious lion trampling on a tiger, shows the British triumph over the ruler of Mysore; a pennon floating overhead bears Tippoo Sultan's title "Asadullahal Ghalib," the conquering lion (*i.e.* tiger) of God; "IV. May, MDCCXIX," in the exergue.

Reverse.—The town of Seringapatam, with the meridian sun denoting the time of the storm; troops advancing to the assault. Legend in Persian, "Seringapatam God given (*i.e.* taken) 28th day of the month Zikadah, 1213 of the Hegira."

The medal was struck by order of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, from the design of Mr. Bolton of Birmingham, but was apparently not issued until 1808. Medals were then issued as follows:—Gold, for the King, the Governors of India in 1799, Marquis Cornwallis and various Rajahs; silver gilt for the Members of the Council, Field officers, etc.; silver for captains and subalterns; copper bronze for non-commissioned officers and pure grain tin for privates.

J. V. K.

Extracts from Letters written by Capt. William Thain.

(ADJUTANT, 33RD FOOT, 11th May, 1815—13th July, 1826.)

(Continued from page 45, No. 6, February, 1927.)

ON Captain Thain proceeding to the depot there is a gap in his letters, and I have included a letter from Major Knight, of 33rd Regiment, to Capt. Thain, which gives us a little more information about the 33rd, who were still at Jamaica.

C. W. G. I.

“ Kingston, 8th July, 1826.

“ MY DEAR FATHER,

“ A most magnificent transport, the *Princess Royal*, sails to-morrow for Portsmouth, and I am a passenger. I only got my leave the night before last, but I have everything on board and nothing more to do but shake hands with my friend Smith, at whose lodgings I am now writing. Lewis* drove me down from Spanish Town to Port Henderson this morning and accompanied me thence in a canoe to Port Royal, where we went on board the transport and then came up here.

“ I was refused leave at first by our present Commander of the Forces, Lt.-Colonel Williamson, of the 92nd Highlanders,† without rhyme or reason. I have succeeded at last in squeezing it out of him, though it is only ‘ to join the Depot ’ that he has granted it.

“ I shall either land at Portsmouth or go round in the sloop to Chatham, where she has to land invalids, thence to town, where I must get some European dress or other, deliver a letter with a bill of exchange to a beautiful little widow whom I knew here.

* * * * *

“ Write to and tell her not to expect me until the first day of partridge shooting.

* * * * *

“ The ship is a first-rate sailer, so that in forty or fifty days we expect to be in England!!!”

[NOTE.—The following letter is addressed to Capt. Thain by Major Knight, 33rd Regt., date 11th June, 1827]

“ Up Park Camp, Jamaica.

“ I was in great hopes that long before this time I should have been crossing the Atlantic on my way to old England. . . . I was quite pleased at the change of quarters from Spanish Town, but I had some difficulty in getting it effected. . . . This is certainly the best station in the Island. It is now perfectly healthy. The barracks, both officers’ and mens’, are most comfortable. There is a large tank, well supplied with water, where a proportion of the men bathe every morning, and water is conveyed to the kitchen and to all the field officers’ quarters. . . . I have never known the Regiment more healthy ; it is upwards of three months since we have lost a man and there is not a bad case in hospital. We still, however, suffer from ophthalmia. The General‡ arrived here in the *Barham* on the 17th April (1827), rode up to camp, and called on us the day he landed, and fixed a day to dine with us ; he is as kind as ever, had all those he knew at dinner as soon as he was settled, and constantly has some officers of the Regiment with him. He made his inspection on the 29th April last and I believe has made a very favourable report. He looked at the books at 10 o’clock, went round the barracks and hospital, and saw the men’s dinners ; at 5 o’clock he saw the Regiment under arms. The recruits were not in the ranks. We had the new clothing on and the men certainly looked very well. He appeared very much pleased, rode up after the *final salute*, and said ‘ Nothing could be better. I am perfectly satisfied, and never saw any body of men more steady under arms.’ He is very angry about the men that have been sent out from the Depot. I don’t know whether you saw them. They are certainly the worst I ever beheld. He

* Qr.-Mr. John Henry Lewis.

† Now the 2nd Bn. The Gordon Highlanders.

‡ Sir John Keane.

made a most minute inspection of them soon after his arrival, had a descriptive return of the whole made out with his remarks opposite the names of those to whom he objected, which he forwarded by the last packet to the Adjutant-General, with the strongest letter I ever saw. He stated that the batch of recruits sent out to the 33rd Regiment, instead of being *an acquisition to the Corps, were a perfect disgrace*, and he could not conceive how Major F.* could give his approval to such a positive hash. (This *entre nous*.) He has also made a report about the state of their clothing.

* * * * *

" I have paid some visits to the Hill (Stony Hill) lately. The 22nd† are a very good lot of fellows. I like Colonel Taylor very much.

" Birr, 12th April, 1828.

" MY DEAR FATHER,

" Poor George Simmons, the senior Lieutenant of the Rifle Brigade, began his military career as an assistant surgeon in the Lincoln Militia. After he volunteered into the Line he was enabled by strict economy to educate his younger brother Joe, now a Captain in the 41st Regiment‡ and by the favour and interest of his superiors to get him a commission in the same gallant corps with himself. George furnished him with his equipment and at different periods supplied him with money. Indeed, all his thoughts seemed to be about Joe and his welfare, so that in the different engagements he was in, when any of his brother officers were killed, his observation always was, "Ah! poor fellow—its a fate we must all look forward to—consoling himself by adding—'a step for Joe.' At last at Waterloo, George got a wound which they thought at first had killed him, when one of the men of his company was heard to say, 'Poor Mr. Simmons, poor fellow—well, its what we must all look forward to—step for Joe.' Of course, before this the saying had become a joke against George, and it continues so in the corps to this day.

* * * * *

" We had our half-yearly inspection yesterday and I had the pleasure of lodging in my quarters an old Antwerp friend, Sir John Oldfield§ of the Engineers, General Taylor's Aide-de-Camp,|| but our neighbours, the 88th, were beforehand with us in their invitation so that we had not the General to dine with us; our men, too, being almost all recruits, whose drill is unfinished, we did nothing in the way of field movements, etc.

* * * * *

" 27th April.—Nothing more of a relief for Jamaica unless we may consider the march of the 34th Regiment (which has been its full period at home) from Galway to Buttevant in the Co. Cork as a preliminary. They have not received any intimation of the kind, but neither did we receive notice until the month of June, and I certainly think it more than probable that they are one of the regiments destined for embarkation. In the meanwhile every day strengthens the notion which we all seem to have adopted that our period of service abroad is drawing to a close. We are five captains here with a full complement of subalterns, and though their attention has been drawn to the circumstance, yet no one is ordered out to the service companies, where so many are wanting to complete."

* * * * *

" Birr, 19th May, 1828.

Beautiful weather! The Depot of the 58th Regiment¶ has marched in from Mullingar under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Rowan, who has assumed command

* John Fogerty.

† Now The Cheshire Regiment.

‡ Now The 1st Bn. The Welch Regiment.

§ General, 1862, made sketch plan of Waterloo for Wellington.

|| Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert Taylor, Adjutant-General, 1828.

¶ Now 2nd Bn. The Northants Regiment.

of the garrison, but we do not hear that their arrival is to cause a move for us or the 88th†. The 58th Regiment is at Portsmouth under embarkation orders for Ceylon. The 61st‡ is to go out along with them. They were the two regiments relieved in Jamaica by the 33rd and 91st.

* * * * *

“ Get hold of the History of the Peninsula War by Colonel Napier§ of the 43rd||; it has a high character for authenticity. The Duke of Wellington has rendered him every assistance and it is said that the French generals did not refuse him anything he asked them. Col. Rowan¶ knows him well and has got the first volume, which I hope to be able to get the reading of. Col. Rowan¶ was one of the British Commandants of Paris. What a feather in a man’s cap even that is.

“ 27th.—We dined yesterday with the officers of the 58th, whom we had entertained the day they marched in. They are gentlemanly young men enough, but indulge too much in what is termed slang, which seems to be considered a fashionable accomplishment with the rising generation of officers. A son of the Earl of Suffolk is their adjutant; they labour under one disadvantage common also to the 88th, which is that of being all recently brought together from different other regiments. Now at our mess there is only one officer who was ever in any other regiment, and he has been some years with us; we have all been, like myself, brought up, as it were, with the 33rd, and have been accustomed to pull together under all circumstances, in good report and in evil report. We are the plainest but certainly by far the best regulated mess of the three—no ribaldry before servants—and more of sedate gentlemanly conversation after dinner. We give our friends better wine, too, though content with plain port and sherry except when a general officer or regiment dines with us, and then we sport claret as well as our neighbours, and that of a superior sort. We are unanimous, too, in thinking our own mess the best, which is a great thing. The irregularities and noise at the other two messes arise in some degree from their not having a field officer at table, as we have.”

(To be continued.)

The Tale of the S.V.C.

IN the days of long ago, when there was no such thing as professional soldiering, each man’s safety depended on the strength of his own right arm, and the principle of self-defence was universally accepted; hence volunteering was the natural condition of affairs; those who could protect themselves did so, and those who could not disappeared from the race of life. And so the good people of Shanghai discovered as long ago as 1853, when there were only a few hundred people living in the Settlement. The Taipings were in revolt against the Imperial Government at Peking, and had captured Nankin, and there seemed a real danger of their marching on Shanghai, so the people of the Settlement, preferring to be amongst those who survived, determined to protect themselves and formed their first Volunteer Corps, which has ever since played an all-important part in the defence of the Settlement, and has, incidentally, been commanded by two officers from the Duke’s. The unexpected happened, as it always does in China, and the Volunteers woke one morning to find that the native city of Shanghai had been captured by the rebel Taipings, without any fighting; the Imperial troops arrived immediately afterwards and closely invested the city. Then, as now, great anxiety was felt in the Settlement on account of the acts of aggression on the part of the rebels and the Imperialists camped all round the Settlement. These finally culminated in a fixed battle between them and the Volunteers, aided by British and American naval forces, in all

† The Connaught Rangers, now disbanded.

‡ Now 2nd Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment.

§ Sir W. F. P. Napier, General.

|| Now the 1st Bn. Ox. and Bucks L.I.

¶ Lt.-Col. W. Rowan, 58th Regt., afterwards Field-Marshal.

about 300; the Imperial troops were driven off and their camps in the vicinity of the Settlement burnt. Of the 300, two men were killed and 15 wounded.

The British Consul, in reporting the action, stated that "I am satisfied that under existing circumstances in China there is less to be risked and lost by a firm and unhesitating resistance, whether the attacking party be insurgents or Imperialists, than must inevitably be incurred by any temporising or timid policy." These words might very easily apply to the present days.

After this both the Chinese parties left the Settlement in peace. The Corps was disbanded after the battle, and was not enrolled again until the Taipings once more threatened Shanghai in 1860; it now consisted of 150 strong. In 1862 the Taipings prepared to attack the Settlement and fires were started within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the British Consulate, and there is no doubt that the Settlement would have been overwhelmed if a snowstorm had not come to the aid of the 150 stalwart Volunteers, which lasted for 58 hours, and buried the country for days; when the snow cleared away, the Taipings found the Imperial troops were all they could deal with at the time.

Again, with the advent of peace, the Corps disappeared, and it was only when the massacre of Europeans in Tientsin took place in 1870 that Shanghai looked round for her Volunteers once more. The community rose to the occasion and a grand total of 405 of all ranks and arms were paraded, and for the first time a sergeant instructor was sent up from Hong-kong. Commandants succeeded commandants, and it was not until the three "Holliday" brothers, all born soldiers, albeit merchants, succeeded each other in command, that the Corps was put on a sound footing.

In 1886 the British Government presented the Corps with a battery of four Armstrong 9-pounder guns, but it was not till 1895 that the first paid officer of the Corps was lent by the British War Office as commandant. For more than 40 years the S.V.C. had found men willing to shoulder labour, expense, and responsibility purely for the public good.

In 1897 the S.V.C. did splendid work during the Wheelbarrow riots, and in 1900, during the Boxer rebellion, they largely increased their numbers.

From 1903 to 1908 Lt.-Colonel W. M. Watson* was in command of the Corps, which did valuable work in 1905 during the Mixed Court Riots.

In 1913 Lt.-Colonel R. N. Bray† took command, until he was recalled early in 1915 to join his regiment in France. When war broke out in 1914 the S.V.C. consisted of 1,011 rank and file, as follows:—The Light Horse, Artillery, Maxims, Engineer Coy., "A" Coy. British, "B" Coy. British, Shanghai Scottish Coy., German and Austrian Coy., American Coy., Portuguese Coy., Japanese Coy., Chinese Coy., Reserve Coy.

Since then several armoured cars have been added to their strength.

Immediately war was declared, the S.V.C. sent home as many as could be spared, and the Roll of Honour in Shanghai Cathedral bears the names of two hundred who paid the supreme sacrifice. Those who remained in Shanghai sent home to General Bray a gift of £60 with which to buy comforts for his regiment. For a few months at the commencement of the war this officer held the unique position of a British officer commanding German and Austrian companies. Their sense of discipline was so great that they gave no trouble and even asked for a special parade to say good-bye to their commandant when he was recalled to join his regiment and parted with him with many expressions of goodwill and regret. It was not till China joined the Allies that the German and Austrians were interned. By that time they had become very aggressive and the companies had been disbanded and have never since been reformed.

* Now Brig.-General W. M. Watson.

† The late Brig.-General R. N. Bray, C.M.G., D.S.O. He commanded the 2nd Battalion in France from 23rd May, 1915, to the 7th December, 1916, when he was given command of a brigade, which he held till 10th March, 1919. He was mentioned in despatches six times and was awarded the D.S.O., C.M.G., and a brevet lieut.-colonelcy. He again commanded the 2nd Battalion during its reorganisation at Sheffield and through the troublous period of its service in Ireland until his death on 23rd October 1921.—Ed.

During the last few years the S.V.C. has manfully defended the Settlement during many riots and have become a most effective force, many of its members holding war medals and decorations. The year 1925 was one of much trouble, both within and without the Settlement, spasmodic fighting taking place all round Shanghai. For 89 days that year the Corps were mobilised in aid of the civil powers. In 1926 it was again mobilised, and has kept the mobs at bay until relieved by British troops. Now this valiant body of men are standing side by side with the Regulars, doing their bit as they have always done it, as the *Times* of April 2nd this year says:—"The defences run mainly through crowded streets, and to maintain the precautions regarded as necessary, soldiers are incessantly on guard, while the Volunteers, mostly respectable merchants who were blooded in the Great War, are doing duty as severely as if they were in the trenches, when they ought to be attending to their business." All honour to this splendid body of men, who have won golden opinions from all Regular officers who have been connected with the Corps.

R. E. B.

DUKEWELL AND INKWELL.

Dukewell and Inkwell, two very men,
Hung up their swords and took to the pen.
With their quips and sallies "here and there"
They made one officer tear his hair.
For they have one joke which never flags,
It's something to do with Oxford bags.
Worse still, a song they recently sang,
Something to do with a char-a-banc.

This latter, of course, was awful rot,
'Twas merely a dig at poor old —.
"Ere ceasing," you say? "we wish you'd tell,
Who is this fellow you call Inkwell?
Dukewell we know, but who is this other?
Is he the same, or is he his brother?"
This I will tell you, I say no more,
Both can be found in the House of War.

DREADNOUGHT.

THE ORIGIN, TITLES, AND NICKNAMES OF OUR BATTALIONS

(continued).

5th, 6th and 7th BATTALIONS THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT (WEST RIDING).

THIS series of articles commenced in Regimental Notes, 1923-24, with the 2nd Battalion (76th Foot) and the 5th (Territorial Army) Battalion; in order to have the complete series in the IRON DUKE, the Editor has decided to repeat these two. In this number the units dealt with will be 5th, 6th, and 7th (Territorial Army) Battalions: the account of the 5th Battalion has been rewritten and certain new facts included. As will be seen, the 5th and 7th Battalions have the same origin—namely, our 2nd Volunteer Battalion, which was an eleven company Battalion, and on the formation of the Territorial Force the 5th were formed from seven companies and the 7th from the remaining four, the early history, therefore, of the 7th Battalion will be found under the heading of the 5th Battalion.

The story of each of the three battalions has been carried down to 1908, when the Territorial Force was inaugurated, the only change of name after this took place in December, 1922, when the title of the Regiment was changed to the present one—The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding).

The "Corps" referred to later were really in most cases what we should now call companies, and small ones at that; they were rarely more than 100 strong, except in large towns.

5TH BATTALION.

The first mention of a volunteer military organisation in Huddersfield is contained in the *London Gazette* for 6th December, 1794, which gives a list of the officers of "The Huddersfield Corps of Fusilier Volunteers," the commissions of these officers dating from 18th November, 1794. In September, 1796, a fourth company was added to the Corps, and a battalion was thus formed with Sir George Armitage as lieutenant-colonel. This corps was disbanded in 1802.

In 1798 the "Huddersfield Armed Association" was formed, consisting of one troop of cavalry and two companies of infantry. They were not subject to military law, and could not operate further than ten miles from Huddersfield. This also disappeared in 1802.

On August 15th, 1803, there was a meeting of gentlemen, merchants, clergy, etc., at Huddersfield, and it was resolved to raise one corps of cavalry and one of infantry. The former, under the command of Major Commandant J. Lister Kaye, was called the West Yorkshire Volunteer Cavalry and the latter, under Lieut.-Colonel Commandant Sir George Armitage, Bart., was called the Upper Agbrigg Volunteers. In 1808 the two corps became one under the title of the Agbrigg Local Militia, which was disbanded in 1816.

In 1820, owing to local troubles, another "Armed Association" was formed and given the name of the "Huddersfield Independent Association." In the Army List this appears under date September 30th, 1820, as the "Huddersfield Infantry." In 1825 this "Association" was re-named the "Huddersfield Riflemen."

There then appears to be a gap in the local military activities until the Volunteer movement of 1859. In that year The Huddersfield Rifle Volunteers were formed, which in 1860 first appear in the Army List as the 6th West Riding of Yorkshire Volunteers, and it is from this corps that the 5th and 7th Battalions can claim uninterrupted descent.

In that same year two other corps, subsequently closely associated with it, were also formed in the neighbourhood—viz., 32nd West Riding of Yorkshire Volunteers at Holmfirth and the 34th at Saddleworth. In 1862 the 32nd, a weaker corps, was grouped with the 6th to form the 5th Administrative Battalion of the West Riding of Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers and in November, 1864, the 41st was raised at Mirfield and added to this administrative battalion.

Similarly in August, 1868, the 44th was raised at Meltham and added to the 5th Administrative Battalion, but this corps disappeared in 1876. In the same year, however, the 34th, which up to then had led a separate existence, was grouped up with the other three corps (6th, 32nd, and 41st) to form the 5th Administrative Battalion.

In 1880 this 5th Administrative Battalion was consolidated into one corps under the title of the 6th West Riding of York Rifle Volunteer Corps, and in January, 1883, the title was changed to 2nd Volunteer Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

In 1908 the seven companies with headquarters at Huddersfield (5), Holmfirth, and Mirfield became the 5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

6TH BATTALION.

On the 7th September, 1803, a large corps of cavalry and infantry called the "Craven Legion" was formed under command of Colonel Commandant Thomas Lord Ribblesdale, which on 24th September, 1808, became merged under the same commanding officer into the Craven Local Militia, which disappeared in 1816.

The next mention of a volunteer military organisation in the immediate vicinity of Skipton-in-Craven is under what is generally known as the Volunteer Movement of 1859, and it was in April, 1860, that the 12th Corps of Yorkshire (West Riding) Rifle Volunteers was formed, the first appointments being subsequently antedated to the 8th February of that year.

At various dates about this time other corps were raised in the neighbourhood, which later became the recruiting area of the 6th Battalion; these corps were the 15th (North Craven), 23rd (Burley), 25th (Guiseley), 26th (Ingleton). In 1861 these five corps were associated together under the 2nd Administrative Battalion with headquarters at Skipton. In 1865, 1866, and 1875 respectively the 35th (Keighley), 42nd (Haworth), and 45th (Bingley) were added. By 1880 the 25th and 26th Corps had disappeared, and in the March of that year the 2nd Administrative Battalion was done away with and the six corps, of which it then consisted, were consolidated as a battalion under the title of the 12th Yorkshire, West Riding Rifle Volunteers, the headquarters remaining at Skipton. In August of the same year they were renumbered and became the 9th instead of the 12th. In April, 1882, they, in company with the other volunteer battalions, were shown in the Army List under the 33rd Regimental District and as part of the West Riding Regiment. January, 1883, saw another change, and the Battalion received the title of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment), and this title was retained until the constitution of the Territorial Force in August, 1908, when they became the 6th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

7TH BATTALION.

As has been stated at the beginning of this article, the story of the origin of the 7th Battalion is the same as that of the 5th Battalion until 1908, when the abolition of the Volunteer organisation made way for the Territorial Force, and the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of "The Duke's," which, as has already been stated, had eleven companies, was divided up and the four companies situated at Lees, Mossley, Saddleshworth, and Slaithwaite were taken for the Colne Valley Battalion. Four new companies were formed at Golcar, Marsden, Micklehurst, and Milnbridge respectively, and in this way the 7th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) was formed.

P. A. T.

(To be continued.)

Penang Hill.

ANYONE who can find the time and opportunity to visit Penang Hill will be amply repaid for making the journey. The hill, a long jungle covered ridge, is about five miles behind Penang town and only its foot can be reached by car. The funicular hill railway presents an extremely alarming appearance when first sighted, visions of a mechanical breakdown, with its consequent involuntary and rapid descent into Penang, crossing the mind. However, the dollar ticket taken and the taxi from Penang paid for, there must be no thoughts of turning back. With a slight jerk and a rumble, the little one carriage train starts its upward journey, and any nervousness is quickly dispelled by the wonderful panorama which begins to spread itself before you. For 10 minutes the train climbs steadily upwards before it reaches the halfway station, where a change is made; another 10 minutes climb and the summit is reached. The top of the hill is nearly 2,500 feet above sea-level and a really wonderful view is to be seen. Below is Penang town, its palm trees, houses and crowded shipping all dwarfed into the semblance of toys. Looking North and East across the straits appears line after line of hills, rising in height up to the distant blue hills of Kedah. Kedah Peak and Taiping Hill stand out prominently, a hazy blue colour and frequently wreathed with small white clouds. To the West lies the ocean, dotted with ships of all sizes from liner to sampan and junk. It is wonderful a view and quite beyond the powers of an exceedingly amateur pen to describe.

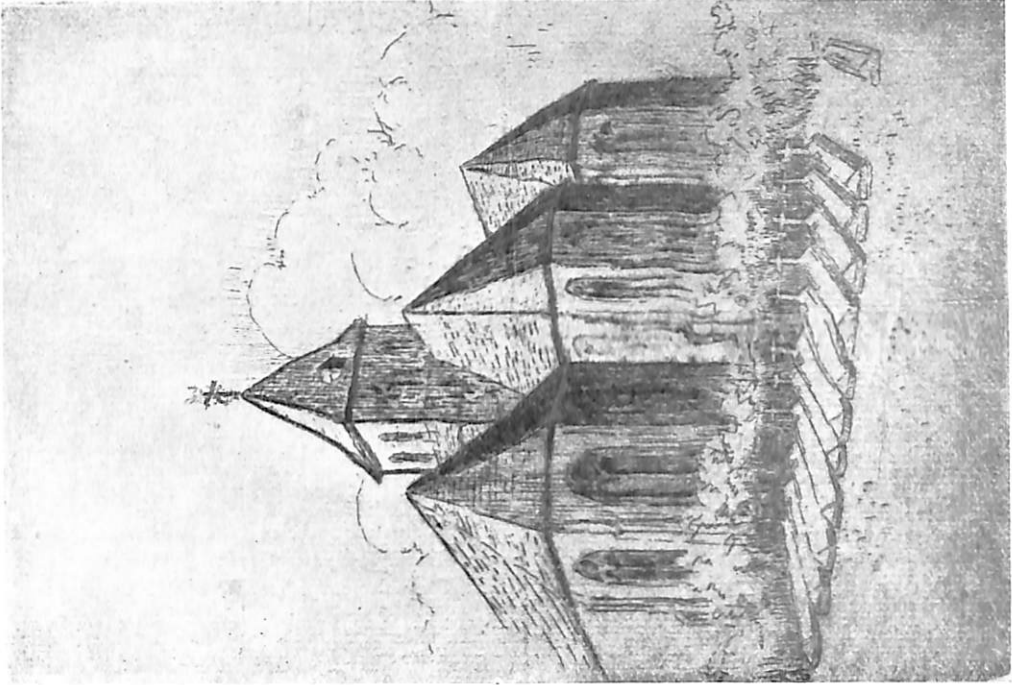
Up on the hill itself the air is wonderfully fresh and cool, and the nights are often very chilly. A wood fire is by no means unusual and several blankets are necessary



"F.H.B.W."



Lt.-Col. J. C. de Balinhard, D.S.O., the retiring Commanding Officer
of our Allied Canadian Regiment.



Reninghe Ist Church.

at night. At present there are not many bungalows in use, but on all sides sites are being cleared and houses put up and a motor road is being constructed.

In conclusion, may I advise all those who are suffering from Singapore ennui, and are in need of a little peace and cool air, to go to the hill's hotel, the "Crag," or, better still, to scrape the acquaintance of some resident who owns a suitable bungalow.

K. G. E.

Correspondence.

Stratford Toney, Salisbury,

26th Feb., 1927.

DEAR SIR,

In reference to "Middlebrow's" quotation at p. 46, No. 6, Vol. III., it is quite possible that the first Duke of Wellington could trace a descent from Edward I.; a *very* large number of people can do the same. In fact, a genealogist of note has called this Monarch "the father of us all." If he could do so, it would of course invalidate "the Regiment's claim to be the only one which takes its name from a person not of royal blood." Personally I have never heard of this claim; I always understood that the claim was that the Regiment was the first and only one to be officially named after a *Commoner*. I am aware of the fact that one dictionary (Collins) describes a commoner as "one under the degree of a noble," which, properly interpreted, means, "not a gentleman," as all gentlemen of coat armour are, heraldically, nobles; and that another dictionary describes it as "one under the rank of a Peer"; but the meaning of commoner as I understand it was accepted by the Regiment and by many others, and as I myself accept it, is a person *not a member of a reigning house*.

Yours sincerely,

C. S. COLLISON.

Singapore,

9th February, 1927.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I am writing in reference to the query raised by Colonel Hayden in his article "Ypres Revisited," which appeared in No. 5 issue of the IRON DUKE.

On the top of page 311 he mentions the memorial cross erected at Reninghelst Church. This cross was put up by Captain and Quartermaster C. E. Shepherd, M.B.E., D.C.M., and it was made by the 2nd Field Company, Royal Engineers.

I enclose a sketch showing the graves outside Reninghelst Church. This drawing was, I believe, made by a Cpl. Murphy, R.A.M.C., who was attached to the Battalion for water duties.

Yours truly,

C. J. PICKERING, Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding 2nd Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regt.

The Editor, the IRON DUKE.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

Major H. A. N. Forte, writing from Porlock, West Somerset, says:—"When I was on leave in Mysore in 1897, the Rajah put a brother officer and myself up and sent us about in his carriages. I remember going over Seringapatam and noticed especially the graves of the 33rd Regiment in the Church there, any number of them, officers and men, all kept up and lettered quite clearly. I think the Mysore State must keep them up as they are a great contrast to most of the graves one sees in old burial grounds in India"—We wonder if any of our readers have visited Seringapatam since 1897 and can state if the graves are still as well kept up.

Major A. J. Preston, writing from Swainston, Kilmessan, Co. Meath, says:—"Referring to the presentation of Colours to the 4th Battalion, mentioned on page 41 of No. 6, at that time the 4th Battalion had no adjutant appointed, an officer from the Depot (myself) being detailed for training, and I acted brigade major on the occasion of the Colour presentation by H.R.H. the late Duke of Clarence. I remember we had a sumptuous luncheon in the grand stand of the racecourse at two guineas per head. The Duke, just as we sat down, said he would like parade an hour sooner. I had just time to swallow my soup, drink my own glass of fizz, wash it down with the glass of ditto of my neighbours on each side, and rush off to form up the parade. That's all I got for my two guineas. Three Volunteer battalions were present.

Tramp Types.

"**T**IME, gentlemen, please." This from the presiding lady of the small back room, specially reserved for the use of sea captains in a hotel near Cardiff Docks.

This request brought the last yarn to a speedy end and the party broke up, wishing Captain Sugden and his supercargo, a friend of the owner, a good voyage, for they were sailing next day with coal for Buenos Aires.

These two made their way through the docks to their ship, the *North Durham*, to be received on board by the night watchman and a little lady called Twizzums, to wit, the ship's cat.

By 7 o'clock next morning they had cast off and with a husky "Good luck" from some sleepy port official, they slipped out of the basin and made for the open sea.

After swinging the ship in Barry Roads to test her compasses, the pilot went over the side and then they started off down the Bristol Channel with the North Devon cliffs in view and Lundy Island, with its memories of Westward Ho! rising up over the port bow.

Clewing up and washing down were the order of the day, and by nightfall, as they slipped past the twinkling lights of a fishing fleet at anchor, the good ship *North Durham* had been washed clean of all superficial coal dust and dirt.

Captain Sugden was a proper Yorkshireman and one of the old school who, having been brought up in sail, had very little use for steam. He seldom went below the lower bridge, but at the same time he knew of and controlled everything that went on in the ship. He was always busy and spent a large part of his time making wire gauze doors, which proved of untold value when they got to fly-infested South America.

His right-hand man was Mr. Evans, the first officer, a cheery soul from South Wales, sometimes known as Frolicsome Bill the Sailor, young, but with a wide experience of the sea in peace and war, never ruffled, always ready for any emergency, and a hard worker, who knew how to get the best out of everybody. He was ably backed up by Mr. Stallard, who hailed from the Isle of Wight, and whose caustic remarks on a certain type of yachtsman were a joy to listen to. He was a real handy man and blessed with a dry sense of humour.

Add to these young Sparks, the wireless operator, an ardent devotee of physical jerks, and the supercargo, who was not, and there was the saloon complete.

In a small cabin, a little aft of the saloon, dwelt the four apprentices, a constant source of amusement to the whole ship. Two of them belonged to South Shields and two to Gateshead, and great were the arguments overheard in favour of their respective towns.

Demons they were for work, up to any mischief, and always merry and bright. One of them, Jakes by name, was reputed to be the grandson of a comedian or clown, and he certainly had the hereditary trait. He always had a slightly mad half-hour about sundown, when he was either singing the latest popular songs in the approved style or up to some devilment.

Brown, another and rather serious-minded apprentice, was seen making his way across the deck one evening merely clothed in a pair of slacks, when Jakes, creeping up behind him with a can of cold water, immediately seized the opportunity and the slack of Brown's nether garment and emptied the can therein. His coup was entirely successful and order was eventually restored by their two messmates.

Amidships was the engine room with old Mucklewain as presiding genius. Needless to say, he hails from north of the Tweed. He hopes to retire some day and find a small house in Scotland with plenty of golf and fishing near by and a car of sorts to tinker at. Any old car will do, so long as it still has an engine. Old Koch, the boatswain, was a Russian, and although he had twenty-five years' service in our Royal Mercantile Marine, his knowledge of the English language was still very limited, so that when he got annoyed and wanted to become really fluent the result was highly entertaining.

The crew were all English. They were a fine lot of men and very good at their job. Incidentally, they were well mannered and always clean and spotlessly turned out after the day's work was over.

Four weeks after leaving Cardiff the *North Durham* was making her way up the Boca river to her berth on the outskirts of Buenos Aires and near to a large refrigeriferio or cold meat store, where cattle by the hundred are slaughtered, cut up, and frozen under one roof. Nearer still, alas! was this establishment's bone yard. They certainly did sprinkle some chemicals over it, but it seemed of little use. Flies and mosquitos were everywhere and it was not the scent of violets that was wafted on the breeze.

No sooner had they made fast alongside than on board came a port officer, resplendent in gold-laced uniform, complete with clanking sword and, incidentally, an ever-ready palm that was liable to protrude unostentatiously behind.

After him came all the rag-tag and bobtail of job hunters, prospective night watchmen, tailors, laundresses, etc., and a disreputable, shifty-eyed, cut-throat looking lot they were too, shouting, gesticulating, and obsequiously endeavouring to carry favour. However, they and their blandishments were soon dispersed towards the gangway by the honeyed words of Captain Sugden, ably backed up by the peaceful persuasion of Frolicsome Bill.

It did not take long to conclude business with the port officer, whose chief requirement seemed to be some liquid refreshment, so that in half an hour after making fast, Captain Sugden and the supercargo were on shore and making for the centre of the town, where in addition to the ship's agent are situated the best restaurants, cafés, and theatres. Captain Sugden knew what was good and where to get it, which suited his companion. Enough said.

DREADNOUGHT.

Reviews.

SCOUTING ON TWO CONTINENTS, by Major F. R. Burnham.—Frederick Russell Burnham may be said to have begun his scouting life at the age of two. His mother happened to be alone with him in her shack when she was surprised by Red Indians. She hid him in a patch of maize and told him to remain there without making a sound, then fled for her life. Next day, when she returned with armed help, she found the shack burnt to the ground, but the child unharmed, solemnly blinking up at her out of the middle of the maize patch. This was a good beginning for a life of adventure so thrilling that Sir Rider Haggard said of it:—"Burnham in real life is more interesting than any of my heroes of romance."

In his early twenties, Burnham experienced a great temptation. A friend of his in Arizona had put all his savings into a company that turned out to be fraudulent, and he proposed to take the law into his own hands and reimburse himself by a horse theft on a large scale, in which he asked Burnham to join him. The latter hesitated, until a letter from his stern old uncle, containing the adjuration, "Remember, you come of the wrong stock to make a villain," tipped the scale in the right direction. Henceforth all Burnham's energy, perspicacity, and nerve were enlisted on the side of law and order; his talent for scouting was employed in tracking down various desperate characters, and in the struggle against the Apache Indians, whose treachery and cruelty were as notorious as their valour. From the Indians Burnham learnt much that was of great value to him in later life. For instance, when lying in wait for an enemy, "The Indian scout will make a little buried fire of dry, smokeless twigs, warm up the ground all the afternoon, bury the embers under the earth, and then lie on the warm spot until toward morning, when it will have cooled again. Then he will make a tiny fire of two crossed sticks, wrap his blanket around him if he has one, and doze and freeze by turns until the sun once more brings warmth and another day of silence and watching. What the white scout has to learn from the Indian is the power to endure loneliness. . . . Negroes and most savages have not the inner strength to meet this test of solitude."

In 1893, at the age of thirty-one, he went with his wife and child to Africa. Admiration for Cecil Rhodes was the magnet which drew him. The family trekked from Durban to Mashonaland in a four-horsed waggon, and that journey alone would be a remarkable achievement for any ordinary man.

Burnham was a shrewd practical judge of character, as every scout must be, and his remarks about Rhodes, "Doctor Jim," and Oom Paul make excellent reading. His clear and lively narrative

of the first and second Matabele wars should be of special interest to our readers, as the 2nd Battalion who were in Natal at that time, sent detachments to take part in them.

Mining fever was in Burnham's blood, and he took part in the gold rush to Klondike, to be recalled, at the beginning of the South African war by the telegram: "Lord Roberts appoints you on his personal staff as Chief of Scouts. If you accept, come at once, quickest way possible." Of his adventures in the Boer war we can only describe one of the most picturesque. In order to ascertain the strength and position of Cronje's laager at Paardeberg, he floated down the Modder river disguised as a floating carcass, with his head in an empty packing case covered with a green cowhide.

It is a platitude that modesty is the hallmark of real achievement, but there is something particularly engaging in Major Burnham's unaffected candour. For instance, he confesses that when he was asked to stay at Oxford the prospect filled him with alarm, but adds, "My hosts quickly found the limits of my mental horizon, and there was not an embarrassing moment." And a very human confession is of the humiliating discovery when he was given the D.S.O., that he was no different from any other primitive man, and "inwardly glowed and strutted with an exaltation which I sincerely hope was not visible to my friends."

This is a capital book; written by a man of action, it has a style that for its clearness and vigour a literary man might envy; while the interest of its subject matter is unique.

52 YEARS A POLICEMAN, by Sir William Nott-Bower, K.C.V.O.—We can scarcely imagine a time when our friend "Robert" was not a familiar object of the urban landscape; and yet, incredible as it sounds, in 1835 there was a doubt whether it was desirable to have police forces at all; and when Sir William Nott-Bower became head constable of Liverpool in 1882, "The uniform of the force was ridiculously out of date, the principal officers wearing long coats and silk top hats and the men wearing tunics with the skirts heavily kilted." Anyone who is interested in the development of this side of our social organism, in the careers of notorious criminals such as Charles Peace, or in the story of the London air-raids from the point of view of the police, should read these interesting memoirs. The author was gazetted to the 33rd Regiment on leaving Sandhurst, and served for a short while at their Depot at Sheffield, being subsequently transferred to the King's Regiment. He and his fourth son now a captain in the Royal Engineers, both secured the Sword of Honour at Sandhurst and Woolwich respectively; and he tells us, "The two swords now hang crossed in my library; I imagine the only instance where father and son have both secured them."

The January number of the JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF ARMY HISTORICAL RESEARCH maintains its usual high standard. It is enlivened by a card of greeting from the Editor, embellished with two woodcuts in the antique style. It contains an interesting discussion on the history of the song, "The British Grenadiers," which appears to have been introduced as a topical song in a popular pantomime in 1780, but is possibly much older. There is also a fascinating article with illustrations, "Pictures of the Death of General Wolfe." The picture, by Benjamin West, familiar to most of us from childhood, is described as "A most illegitimate piece of work and quite unworthy of the popularity which it has unfortunately achieved."

MIDDLEBROW.

NOTES FOR SECTION COMMANDERS, by Lieut. J. Jefferson, Welsh Guards (Gale & Polden, Ninepence net). This is a useful book for all N.C.O.'s, for training, both in barracks and in the field. It contains in a very concise form all the latest principles for teaching Weapon Training and Section Leading. The notes on message reading should serve as a useful reminder. The book is made in a handy size with a few spare pages for the individual's own notes.

F.H.F.

Our Contemporaries.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following regimental journals:—*The Covenanters* (Jan., March), *The Tiger & Sphinx* (Jan., March), *The Dragon* (Jan., Feb., March, April) *The Snapper* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Bugle* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Litwhite's Gazette* (Jan.), *The Light Bob* (March), *The Artillery College Technical School & A.C.P. Journal* (March), *The China Dragon* (Oct) 1926, Jan., 1927, *The Spring of Shillelagh* (Dec., 1926), *The Leopard* (Oct., 1926), *The Gunner* (Feb.) also *The Journal of the Society of Army Historical Research* (Jan.).

Personalia.

WE congratulate Colonel P. R. Simner, D.S.O., on his selection for the command of the 2nd London Infantry Brigade (T.A.) when it becomes vacant in June. Colonel Simner, who is at present commanding the 10th London Regt. (T.A.), served in our 9th Battalion during the war until 1916, when he was given command of the 10th West Yorkshire Regt. He was mentioned in despatches four times and was awarded the D.S.O. and bar.

We offer our best wishes to Lt. K. G. Exham, of the 2nd Battalion, on his engagement to Miss Joan Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and the late Mrs. Alan W. B. Hamilton and grand-daughter of the late Sir Robert G. C. Hamilton, K.C.B. Mr. Exham is the elder son of Lt.-Colonel F. S. Exham, D.S.O., who transferred to the R.A.O.C. from the 1st Battalion some twenty odd years ago.

Mr. F. A. Potts, late 9th Battalion, is we understand, to lead the Cambridge Marine Biologists' Expedition to the Great Barrier Reef of Australia this year. The expedition will centre its work on a small area near Cairns in Queensland, where there is the most remarkable assemblage of coral reefs in the world.

We congratulate Captain William Harvey, late 33rd Regt., of 411 Skipton Road, Keighley, Yorks, on being selected by the Army Council for the award of £50 under Art. 650 of the Royal Warrant, in recognition of his distinguished services. Captain Harvey, who is 88 years of age, enlisted in the 33rd on the 16th February, 1858; he served with them through the Abyssinian campaign of 1867-68, and was promoted quartermaster and hon. lieutenant in 1879, retiring on 19th August, 1894.

We congratulate Captain and Mrs. A. E. Miller, of Kalalu, Kenya Colony, on the birth of a son and heir, on 30th March, 1927, at Nairobi.

We hear that Captain R. S. Cholmley, who is serving with the 4th East African Rifles, is coming home on leave shortly. He hopes to look up the 2nd Battalion in Singapore on his way home, and arrive here about the end of July.

ARMY OFFICERS' ART SOCIETY.

The above Society was founded in 1925 by the late Lieut.-Colonel A. F. Owen-Lewis, D.S.O., Green Howards, in order to afford to officers holding or having held a permanent commission in the Regular Army or Royal Marines, and interested in, or practising any form of art, an opportunity of getting into touch with one another and of exhibiting their work once a year in a leading London art gallery.

Two exhibitions have already been held and have proved successful. A considerable number of sales were effected on each occasion, and the proceeds of the exhibitions, after payment of expenses, were handed over to F.M. Earl Haig's Fund for Ex-Service Men: £46 19s. 4d. was handed over to this Fund as the proceeds of the last exhibition.

An exhibition will be held next October in new galleries now in course of construction in Burlington Gardens.

The election of members is vested in the committee, who may require candidates to submit examples of their work. These need not necessarily be framed, and can therefore be sent without difficulty from any part of the world.

The annual subscription is £1 5s., which entitles a member to exhibit four works free of further charge. Two more may be admitted on payment of a hanging fee of 5/- each.

Officers interested are invited to communicate with the Hon. Secretary, 2 St. Leonard's Terrace Chelsea, S.W.3 who will be pleased to answer any enquiries and to forward a copy of the Rules and List of members.

R. H. W. WILSON, LT.-COLONEL, Chairman of Committee.
F. A. WILKINSON, MAJOR, Hon. Secretary.

February, 1927.

Obituary.

We regret to have to record the following deaths:—

ALLARDICE.—On the 19th April, at Winchester, Catherine Mary Allardice, widow of Colonel John McDermott Allardice, late 76th Regt., aged 82. Mrs. Allardice always took a great interest in the doings of the Regiment and was a most enthusiastic supporter of the IRON DUKE; we were indebted to her for the information regarding the Whittingham Medal, which appeared on page 130 of No. 2. The late Colonel Allardice joined the 76th in 1856 and assumed command in 1880.

FENN.—On the 27th of January, at St. Jean de Luz, France, John Cyril Douglas Fenn, C.M.G., late Colonial Secretary, Cyprus, younger and last surviving son of the late Colonel Edwin Glass Fenn, late commanding 33rd Regimental District.

HARRIS.—On the 11th February, at Hove, Brig.-General Richard Handcock William Henry Harris, C.B., late East Surrey Regt., aged 75. General Harris commanded the 33rd Regimental District from 1902 to 1905. He served in the Afghan War, 1878 to 1879, Waziri Expedition, 1881, South African War, 1899 to 1900, in command of his regiment, taking part in the relief of Ladysmith, including the actions of Colenso, Spion Kop, Vaal Krantz, and Tugela Heights, where he was dangerously wounded.

LLOYD.—On the 7th January, at Bath, Major Francis Elliot Lloyd, aged 86. Major Lloyd joined the 76th as an ensign on 3rd July, 1860, and exchanged into the 25th Foot as a captain in 1878. Colonel G. L. E. May, of Rockingham, Winchester, who served with him in the 76th, writes:—"He was at the Staff College in 1876 to 1877, I think, served in the Afghan War, 1878 to 1880, part of the time with the 25th and afterwards with the staff. He was retired in, I think, 1880, as he was then 40 years of age and only a captain. The rule of turning out captains at the age of 40 was done away with shortly after and the War Office offered to bring Lloyd back again a year or two after he had been retired, but at that time he had bought a farm in Canada and could not well change his plans. He had lived for nearly 30 years in Bath. His wife died some years ago, and he has left one daughter, unmarried.

OZANNE.—On April 21st, 1927, Dorothy Margaret, beloved wife of Captain William Mainday Ozanne, of Tynwald, Hythe, Kent, and daughter of the late F. Douglas Osborne, Rossnaree, Slane, Co. Meath.

WHITAKER.—On May 16th, 1927, at Manfield Grange, Darlington, Major Arthur Marmaduke Whitaker, late Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of the late William Whitaker, of Breckamore, Ripon, age 57.

OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE WORK OF THE 1820 MEMORIAL SETTLERS ASSOCIATION.

The story of Canada and the salient features in the growth of Australia and New Zealand are generally well known, but few are aware of the part played by that small band which left these shores in the year 1820 and after many hardships landed on the then barren shores of Algoa Bay, South Africa. To alleviate the distress following the Napoleonic Wars the Government of the day voted a sum of £50,000, and 3,500 British subjects took advantage of the assistance. How well justified was this expenditure can be judged from the census taken during the Centenary celebrations in 1920. This census showed that the descendants of the original settlers numbered not less than 150,000 or fully one-tenth of the white population of the Union of South Africa. One outcome of the Centenary celebrations was the formation of the 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, which is unique in the annals of the Empire. The motive which actuates its members is, in the words of the Chairman of its General Council, the Earl of Selbourne, "The love of South Africa and the belief that Britons who settle there can be of great service to the Empire and do good for themselves."

It is generally admitted that the prospects for the young farmer in South Africa are unsurpassed, but the presence of a large native population narrows the field of immigration. All unskilled labour and much of that labour which passes almost imperceptibly from unskilled to skilled is done by natives or coloured people and therefore, a man who would take advantage of the opportunities must command at least a small capital.

The climate of South Africa can hardly be beaten because the variations of the altitude and latitude allow the settler to choose the climate he prefers, and in which he thinks there is the best chance of success. There is the ordinary mixed farming, dairy farming, cattle ranching, sheep farming, growing of mealies, fruit both citrus and deciduous, cotton and tobacco. Nor does this exhaust the list, but gives some idea of the varieties.

The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, through its network of branches in South Africa, and its offices in London and Edinburgh, helps and advises the settler from the moment he applies to them for assistance until he is in beneficial occupation on his own farm. It approaches the problem of filling the vacant spaces from a different angle from that generally employed. Its keynote is the placing of each individual settler in the environment best suited to his particular need and capacities. Training with board and lodging all free is arranged with established and reputable South African farmers for long or short periods, according to the aptitude of the settler. Various categories are dealt with, and the amount of capital which the Association considers is a safe amount on which to start depends on the experience of the intending settler.

A party of British farmers, under the leadership of Mr. Herbert Padwick, recently visited the Union and had every opportunity of examining the methods adopted by the Association. In Mr. Padwick's report he states: "The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association has won approval for the excellent and disinterested work it does in fathering the settler in South Africa. No sounder advice can be given to the intending settler than to go out through the Association and thus secure steamship and other available concessions. There are several settlement schemes run by land companies, some on what seemed reasonably good lines; but our advice to the settler is to put his faith rather in the 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, whose sole concern is the settler's welfare. From what we saw we can realise the soundness of the warning given by the Association against buying South African land without seeing it and against setting up on a farm without knowledge and experience of local conditions."

Full information may be obtained on application to the Secretary, 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, 199 Piccadilly, London, W.1.

War Office Notes.

ARMY PROMOTION. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

8th February, 1927.

It is officially stated that the educational qualifications required for promotion to warrant and non-commissioned ranks have been revised in view of the progress made in educational training.

As from 1st July next the educational qualifications required for promotion will be as follows:—

- (1) To warrant officer, Army Educational Corps, a special certificate (the equivalent of Matriculation).
- (2) To warrant officer in any corps other than the Army Educational Corps, staff sergeant storeman, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, staff sergeant, Royal Army Pay Corps, Artillery clerk, II. Division, and various sergeant clerks, a first-class certificate.
- (3) To colour sergeant, sergeant, lance-sergeant, corporal, bombardier, engineer clerk lance-corporal, armourer private, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, etc., a second-class certificate.

TERRITORIAL ARMY. REGIMENTAL PROMOTION.

11th February, 1927.

The Territorial Army Regulations have been amended so as to provide that all substantive lieutenant-colonels who have completed four years in a lieutenant-colonel's command or in an appointment carrying that rank will be eligible, if recommended, for promotion to the rank of brevet colonel as a reward for their services in the T.A. All substantive lieutenant-colonels will, provided that they have completed four years in command of a unit or in an appointment carrying that rank, be eligible by selection for the substantive rank of colonel and will, if selected, be promoted to that rank on vacating their command or appointment.

WORK FOR DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.

21st February, 1927.

During January, 85 soldiers completed their courses of vocational training at Hounslow and Catterick and were discharged from the Army on the termination of their colour service. Of this number, 70 obtained immediate employment in civil life, some going to bricklaying, carpentry, and agriculture, and others to motor and electrical work, painting and decorating, and many other forms of employment.

Digitised by The Regimental Archives

