

No.13 June 1929



# THE IRON DUKE

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

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

VOL. V.

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Band of the 2nd Battalion at Halifax, N.S., 1890.

# THE IRON DUKE

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## EDITORIAL.

SINCE our last number the anxiety which had been universally felt for His Majesty the King has been relieved by his wonderful, though slow, recovery. His message to the Empire on St. George's Day was typical of his kindly thought for his subjects. We offer our respectful wishes for his early restoration to complete health.

We congratulate the 1st Battalion on their winning the Southern Command rugby football cup, a triumph only tempered by regret at their not winning the Army cup; and also on their various successes in boxing. The individual achievements of Lt. Browne and Cpl. Townend in playing for the Army rugby team, and especially Cpl. Townend's place-kicking in the matches against Richmond and the French army, are noteworthy, while Lt. Dalrymple and Boy Tucker distinguished themselves in Army boxing.

On March 23rd, 1929, Lt.-Col. C. J. Pickering relinquished command of the 2nd Battalion, and we offer him our congratulations on his promotion to Colonel, and on his appointment as Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, 1st Division, and wish him a continuance on the staff of the success which attended his period of command. We also congratulate Lt.-Col. J. C. Burnett on his appointment to the command of the 2nd Battalion.

Col. N. B. Chaffers relinquished command of the 6th Battalion on Feb. 16th, 1929, and we congratulate him on his promotion to Brevet Colonel; we also congratulate Lt.-Col. F. L. Smith on his appointment to the command of the 6th Battalion.

Two deaths recorded in our obituary column are of melancholy interest. By the death of Major Denys Firth we have lost the late Editor of "The Havercake Lad," which, as mentioned in the first number of the IRON DUKE, was the magazine of the 1st Battalion and our immediate predecessor. For long we had hoped that he would contribute something in the happy manner of those days, but to our regret, with his many activities, he never found time to do so. In the tragic death of Capt. J. V. Kirkland the IRON DUKE has lost a very active helper. His contributions in the lighter vein over the initials of J. V. K. will be very much missed. A post-humous article by him appears on page 116.

In this number we bring to a close the series of extracts from the letters of Capt. Thain, which have appeared in every number since the second; and we take this opportunity of thanking Lt.-Col. W. M. Martin-Leake, who so kindly lent them, and Major Ince for editing them. In the next number we propose to begin a series of extracts from the letters of the late Capt. H. W. Bunbury, who served in the 33rd from 1839 to 1852. We are indebted to his son, Lt.-Col. W. St. Pierre Bunbury, who has very kindly put them at our disposal.

We also conclude in this number the extracts from a shooting diary of the late Lt.-Col. A. G. Horsfall, and we tender our sincere thanks to Mrs. Watson for so kindly lending the diary.

Our Frontispiece in this number depicts the Band of the 2nd Battalion in winter kit at Halifax, N.S., in 1890. Mr. A. Westbrook, who very kindly sent us the photograph, writes:—"I have not sent you the names for it is so many years ago and there are some I cannot recall, but the two officers, looking at the Band, are on the left, Capt. Bruce, Band President (now Brig.-Gen. C. D. Bruce, who wrote the History of the Regiment), and on the right Capt. S. C. Umfreville, the Adjutant. The photograph is a little faded, but if it comes out like the other one I sent you [Sgt. Westbrook and some Band boys, which appeared opposite page 65 of No. 12 of the IRON DUKE], I don't think you will have much to grumble at, for I consider that to be a credit to the publishers of the IRON DUKE."

## 1st BATTALION NEWS.

**D**URING the last four months the winter season has been in full swing. Clothes fitting parades have been as popular as ever. T.O.E.T's have followed T.W.E.T's with monotonous regularity, and that well-known game of chance, aiming off for wind, has collected its usual little band of devotees. January was bitterly cold and even in Plymouth the snow lay for a week, a most unusual state of things in this part of the world, while on the moor all kinds of winter sports were possible for several weeks.

The long hard frost stopped hunting, interfered seriously with rugger, and lent a touch of added ghastliness to individual training. In the Army Rugby cup we beat the Tanks after a magnificent game and thus won the Southern Command cup again, but in the semi-final we went down again to the King's Own at Exeter after a disappointing match. We congratulate them on winning the cup.

"Flu" claimed a large number of victims this year, especially among the officers, nine of whom were down at one time; our baths were frozen for a week, R.S.M's parades developed into a skating carnival, two more officers got married, and two bought bulldogs. The general gloom, however, has been relieved by our success in the Southern Command boxing and the really great effort of Boy Tucker in the Army Championships. At present with two companies at Tregantle we are much depleted, and as the whole Battalion will be at Tregantle for musketry in June, at Willworthy in July, and at Chisledon in August and September, Devonport will see very little of us this year. There was a chance of our appearing in the Southern Command Tattoo in August. This would have involved our spending three months from July onwards at Tidworth and the sacrifice of our cricket week; but most of us would have welcomed a little play-acting as a change from the more serious aspects of training. However it appears that this move has now been cancelled.

To turn to lighter pleasures, the sergeants' Paardeberg Ball was, as always, an unqualified success, and on April 12th the officers gave a second small dance in the Mess, which lasted till 2.30 a.m. As on the next day we entertained the G.O.C-in-C. to lunch during his tour of inspection, and were inspected ourselves on the Monday following, it was a busy week-end. However, everything, including the inspection, passed off very well.

In March the Commanding Officer, accompanied by three other officers, representing, presumably, the brains and beauty of the Regiment, went on a week's tour of the battle-fields. Each battalion in the Brigade was allotted one battle to study and describe on the actual spot, and to our lot fell the battle of Nonneboschen in the first battle of Ypres. They had good weather and a most interesting trip.

On April 15th the Commanding Officer received a letter from Major Owen by the first Indian air mail. It took exactly a week to reach Devonport.

### OFFICERS' MESS.

On March 12th we gave a small dance in the Mess, to which about a hundred guests were invited. Among those who attended were the G.O.C-in-C. Southern Command, the Area Commander, and Brigadier Grant. The Mess was lavishly decorated with flowers and coloured lights—too lavishly in fact, for the strain was too great for the cables or something, and all the lights went out with a bang as soon as the dance started, and in spite of, or perhaps because of, the efforts of naval engineers and signalling officers and orderly officers and the dance committee, and anybody else who had ever heard of a fuse, refused to come on again. Even the seductive notes of the Adjutant failed to rouse them, but thanks to the courage of the Band—notably the pianist—and the resourcefulness of the Mess staff in routing out hundreds of candles from the Quartermaster's stores or some such incredible place, we won through and carried on in a romantic and delightful dusk.

The next, or rather the same, morning we entertained the G.O.C-in-C. and his staff to lunch. This entailed a sleepless night for the Mess staff and a great strain, to which

they responded cheerfully, and we think they deserve a word of congratulation on their efforts.

"Flu" claimed many victims this winter, but it struck a very cruel blow at the dining members when it laid low Miss Macgregor and kept her in bed for nearly a month. This naturally curtailed our entertainments, but her many old friends will be glad to know that she is now as fit as ever. We have suffered two more casualties from the devastating disease of matrimony—namely, Capt. Fleming and Capt. Grimley. The former is now on a tour of duty at the Depot and the latter has taken over the heavy responsibilities of Staff Captain to the 8th Brigade. Major Owen left us in March to join the 2nd Battalion on promotion.

The following presentations have been made to the Mess during the past quarter:—From Major G. H. Keet, a silver cup; from Capt. W. M. Ozanne, a picture; from Mr. J. I. Tighe, a letter from his uncle, written during the Crimean War; from Mr. F. A. Wellesley, an Army List of 1788, showing the Hon. Arthur Wellesley as a lieutenant in the 41st Regiment.

We have also bought a billiard table, which we inaugurated in full state with a match against the sergeants at "Slosh." They claimed the victory, but the score board is in a dark corner of the room, and they brought their own marker.

### SERGEANTS' MESS.

A dance was held in the Garrison Gymnasium on Jan. 25th, at which over 200 were present. This is the first time we have so branched out, our usual entertainments being restricted to members and families. The affair was quite successful, although it clashed with other dances in the Garrison. We hope to have more of them. Whist drives and dances have been held in the Mess and are very much enjoyed by those taking part.

The annual Paardeberg Ball was held on March 1st this year, after the actual anniversary, for a number of reasons, but none the less successful. A gathering of 350 assembled. New ideas in lighting added to the effectiveness of the decorations, and a very successful function resulted.

On the occasion of the final for the Southern Command rugby cup the Mess entertained some 50 members and wives of the 5th R.T.C. to lunch. After the match tea was prepared and everybody proceeded to the Hippodrome, where seats had been reserved by the Mess for the visitors.

The billiards team still maintains its position in the league, if there is any change we are likely to be one place higher when the league is next published. The team lost in the second round of the District knock-out competition on March 11th, being beaten by the R.A. at the Royal Citadel.

A very enjoyable evening was spent as opponents of the officers in the Officers' Mess at the noble game of "Slosh," known in some places as "Russian Pool," at which we were victorious. However, they won a hollow victory at puggle billiards, probably because their hospitality was by this time getting a little overpowering. We always hope for more matches with the officers, not only at billiards, but they seem very difficult to arrange.

The annual tournament for Lt.-Col. Tidmarsh's cue resulted in a win for Band Sgt. Thorpe, C.S.M. Coates being the runner-up—a most unusual position for him. Brawn beat brains!

The Mess prize for the highest break was won by L/Sgt. Beadnell, who played off C.S.M. Spink after a tie. The Corporals managed to scrape home by 9 points on their table in a billiards match, but wait till they visit us!

Our travelling season commenced on April 3rd, two companies going to Fort Tregantle. It will be some months before we can settle down again as a Mess, but we hope to carry on with the various entertainments if possible.

The following changes have taken place in the Mess:—C.S.M. Hardisty to P.S.T.A.; C.S.M.'s Stead and Bourne to 2nd Battalion; Sgt. Broadbent to P.S.T.A.; Sgts. Stephenson and Jowett from P.S.T.A.



### THE DRUMS.

The annual silver bugle competition was held on Feb. 4th, 1929, and was judged by the Drum Major, Royal Marines, Devonport. Result :—1st, Dmr. Mokes, 76½ points, Commanding Officer's bugle ; 2nd, Dmr. Gale, 71½, Col. Thorold's bugle ; 3rd, Dmr. Shorrocks, 71.

On the same date the Drums of the 2nd Devon Regiment were entertained to tea, followed by a social evening. Surprising talent was discovered amongst our drummers, particularly the rendering of "A Farmer's Boy" by Dmr. Boon and Cpl. Horne's effort, "Sweet and Low." "Scots Wha Hae," with a Yorkshire accent that could not be eliminated, almost brought down the house, and certainly brought the canteen corporal to ascertain the cause of the riot. L/Cpl. Cadwallender must be congratulated on this great effort to crown a convivial evening. We sincerely thank Miss Stroud (canteen manageress) for her valuable assistance, which contributed so greatly to the success of the evening.

### RUGBY FOOTBALL.

Although we have yet to win the Army Cup, we can nevertheless look back on a very successful season. Since the last number of the IRON DUKE we have played two rounds of the cup. The first of these was the final of the Southern Command, in which we succeeded in beating the 5th Bn. Royal Tank Corps by two tries to nil. The team played at the top of their form and deserved to win a very fast and exhilarating game. The Devonport Services Club very kindly lent us their ground, which was better suited to accommodate the very large crowd that watched the game. The crowd must have been about 4,000.

The following is an account from the *Western Daily News* :—

The game was one of the hardest seen on the ground for many months. The football displayed was of a high standard, and had the ground been drier, there would almost certainly have been quite an exhibition of open play. As it was, the treacherous foothold brought many handling movements to an untimely end.

The Dukes were worthy winners, and would not have been flattered had their margin of victory been bigger. They owed their success mainly to the resolute tackling by the whole side, but due credit must be given to their forwards who set up a fast pace which they maintained to the end. With Lt. A. T. Young leading them the Tanks were always potential scorers ; but the international was never given any rope. Try as he would with reverse passes, "dummies," cut-throughs, and all the other tricks of which he is master, he could never get clear, so effective was the marking.

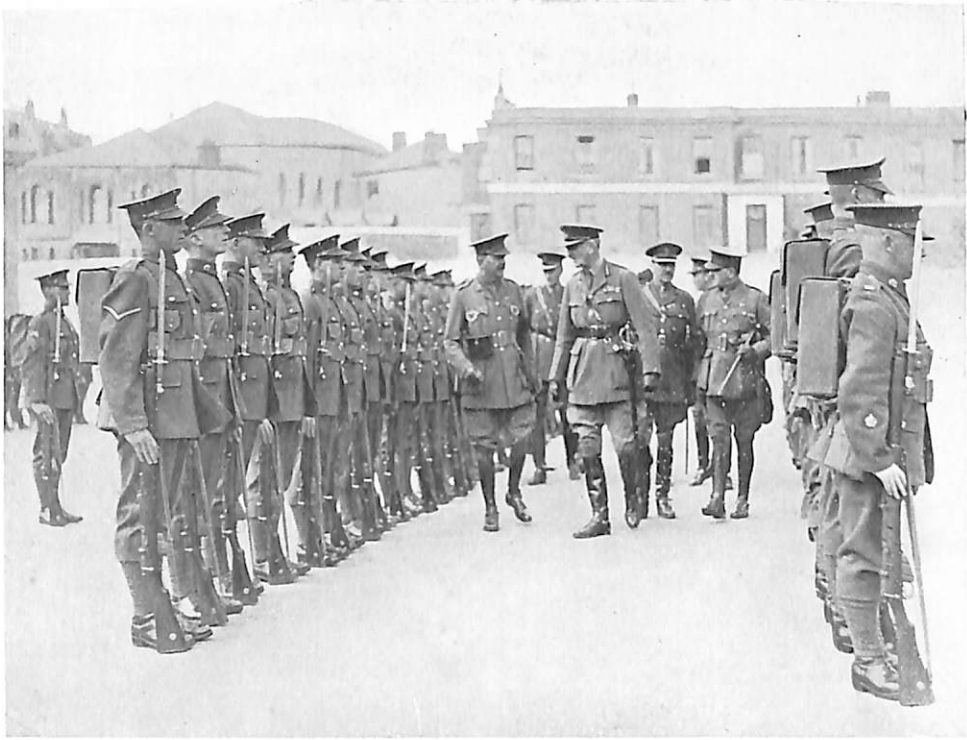
The respective packs were fairly evenly matched in weight, but the Duke's had the advantage when it came to heeling with the result that Young was most prominent in defence. He was quite successful as a means of breaking up attacks, but occasionally the smart following-up by the forwards outwitted him. In this department Lt. W. F. Browne excelled, as usual. Although to all intents and purposes a sick man—he left hospital only in the morning—he nevertheless played a great game, being always in the thick of the fray. Another semi-invalid, Lt. J. H. Dalrymple, who was also a flu victim, showed that he preferred the rugby field to hospital, for he gave a grand display, his defensive work being magnificent. But, where defence is concerned, tribute must be paid to Goodwin, who held the full-back position for the Duke's with an inspiring soundness.

The Duke's did most of the pressing in the first half, but over a quarter of an hour elapsed before they could open their account. Then Orr cut through to send Bentley over for a try which Townend failed to convert. This was all the scoring in the first half.

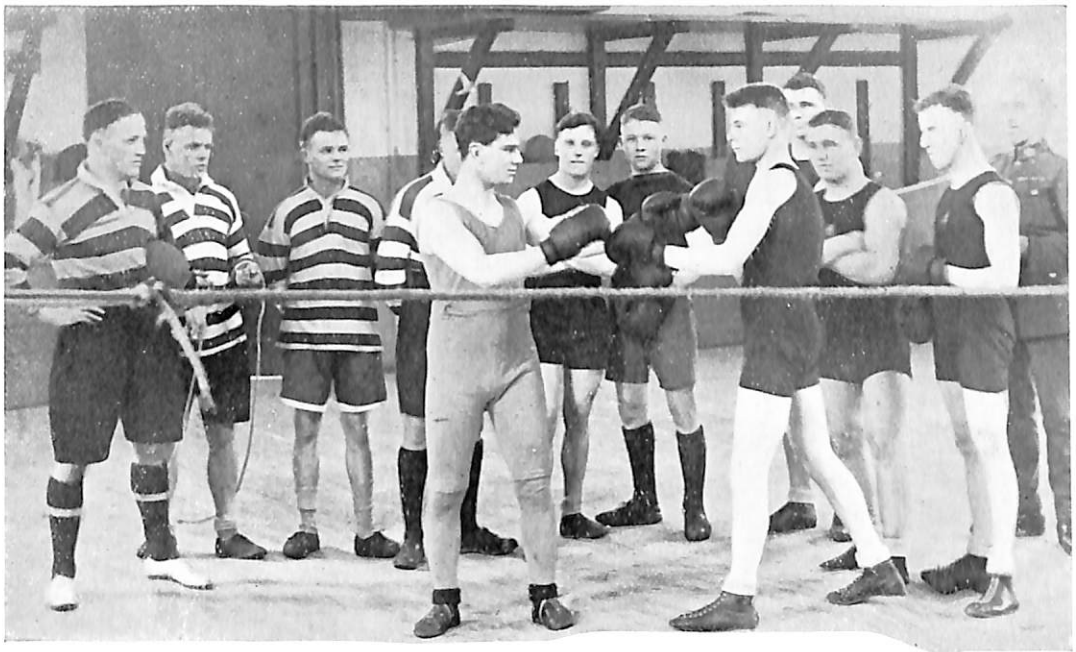
Thrill succeeded thrill in the second half, the Tanks striving desperately for the equalising try. But always there was a man to stop them, and in spite of some great work by Childs on the wing they were kept out. Just half an hour after the resumption the Duke's practically assured themselves of victory. Whitehead cut out an opening to send Dalrymple away with only the full-back to beat, and, as Barker was in close attendance, the task was a simple one, Barker taking Dalrymple's pass to touch down a try which again Townend failed to convert.

The Tanks made one great effort after this, Lt. Harding-Newman breaking away and racing at top speed down the field. Goodwin, however, was not found wanting, and a splendid tackle stopped the centre's progress.

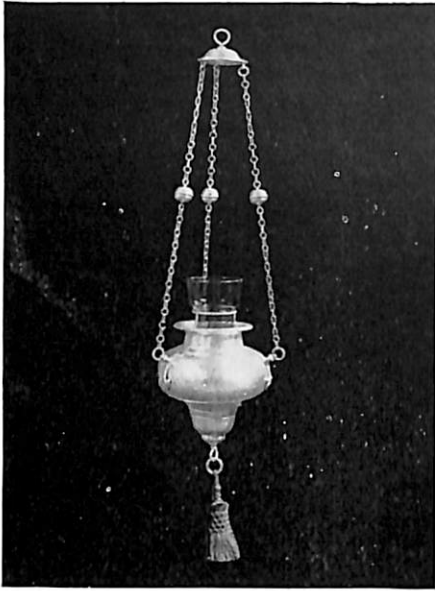
At the conclusion of the match the Commander-in-chief (Adm. Sir Rudolf Bentinck) presented the Southern Command championship cup to Lt. Browne, who has now received it for two years in succession.



**Lt.-Gen. Sir Archibald Montgomery Massingberd inspecting the 1st Battalion at Devonport, March 13th, 1929.**



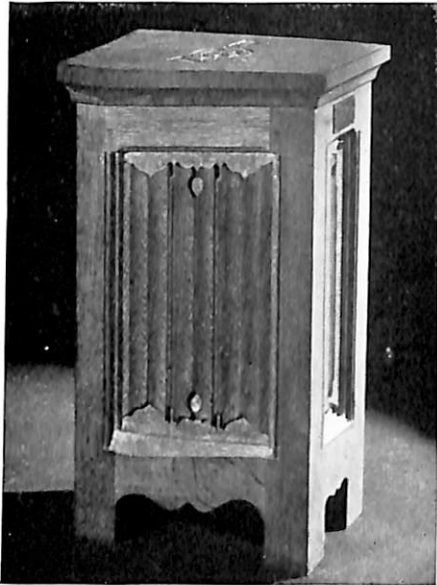
**Bugler Lake training the 1st Battalion Boxing Team.**



Lamp of Remembrance.



Lt.-Col. F. H. B. WELLESLEY and his son, 2nd Lt. H. V. F. WELLESLEY.



Credence Table.

(See page 100).

Our form against the Tanks gave us plenty of confidence for the match against the King's Own in the semi-final, but we seemed to strike an off day, and were beaten by a goal and a try to one try, after a very exciting and even game. On the run of the play we might have won, but threw away our opportunities. It has been proved beyond all doubt that in Army Cup matches especially, all chances must be accepted if victory is to be gained. At Exeter we had many chances but only succeeded in accepting one, while the King's Own seized the two chances they got and drove them home to the tune of eight points. In the last minute we had the opportunity of equalising and forcing extra time, but once again we threw this chance away, this time by failing to accept a pass. Cpl. Townend, too, was right off his place-kicking. He got two easy chances of placing penalty goals, but missed both. The agony of it all was that on the following Saturday, for the Army against Richmond at Aldershot, he placed three splendid goals from the touch line. All things considered we cannot help feeling that March 6th, 1929, was not our day, we lacked our customary dash, and nothing seemed to go right for us.

The majority of our first fifteen have been playing fairly regularly for the Devonport Services, thereby gaining valuable experience which, in several cases, has caused a great improvement in their play. Owing to the calls of Devonport Services we have often placed comparatively weak teams in the field on Saturdays for our first fifteen fixtures, and these have done very creditably against very strong local teams. A healthy sign has been the appearance of new blood, some of which shows distinct promise. The second fifteen played very consistently throughout the season, and the standard of play has been very much higher than was the case last year, the more so since very often owing to the filling of places in the first team and injuries, etc., the teams have more closely resembled third fifteens. We have not yet had the opportunity for playing off the inter-company challenge shield, and the result will not be available until the next number of the IRON DUKE. When we have given our full complement of players to the Devonport Services the trouble has been to discover enough players to fill our three teams. We are especially lacking in halves and threequarters. At the end of the season owing to injuries we found ourselves in sore straits. Especially was this the case when we travelled to Redruth, Cornwall, to play an evening match. Redruth is one of the strongest clubs in Cornwall, and we expected a severe defeat. The substitutes rose to the occasion in brilliant style and we were actually leading by 10 points to 6 points ten minutes from the end. The team then cracked, and retired beaten by 16 points to 10 points. This was certainly one of our best performances. The forwards, under Pte. Annesley, played with great dash.

We have other good games which give us pleasure to recall. Our defeat by Barnstaple at the beginning of the season by only 5 points, and our victory over the Royal Naval Engineering College by 18 points to 3 points in February. It was in this game that Lt. Faithfull injured his knee, and that was the only depressing incident in a particular bright display by the whole team. The Naval Engineering College beat us twice last season, but this season they can only claim one victory over us out of three games. There is no doubt our standard of rugger has improved all round since we came to this station. The first-class experience gained by playing for Devonport Services has been of inestimable value. The local Army v. Navy played on April 3rd at the Rectory Field, Devonport, aroused much interest. We had thirteen members of the Army side, and won an exciting and hard game by 22 points to 8. Major Wood was an interested spectator. Individually the players have done well, and some of them have covered themselves with glory while playing for Devonport Services, Devon County and the Army. The following is a survey of their respective performances. For Devonport Services the following have been practically regular players:—Lt. Faithfull, Cpl. Goodwin, Lt. Orr, Lt. Dalrymple, Pte. Glover, Pte. Eyre, Pte. Dowas, Cpl. Townend, L/Cpl. Foy, Lt. Browne, L/Cpl. Jones. Pte. Annesley is commencing to get fit and will, in all probability, be a regular first team player next season. Lt. Faithfull, unfortunately, got his knee damaged and he had his cartilage removed. He could not play for us in the semi-final against the King's Own,

and this was a tragedy as he was beginning to strike his very best form. We hope the operation has been successful, and look forward to seeing him playing regularly next year. Lt. Browne played in two representative matches for the Army against the Navy and the French Army. He was kept out of the R.A.F. match owing to a broken nose. He had the novel experience of playing scrum half against the Navy when A. T. Young had to leave the field with a broken collar bone. Cpl. Townend played in all three representative matches for the Army, and greatly distinguished himself in each one. It may surprise "Old Stager" that he has kicked quite a number of goals for the Army and the Devonport Services this year. Lt. C. K. T. Faithfull would probably have played for the Army too if he had not been injured. The Army this year went through the season with an unbeaten record. Lt. W. F. Browne and Cpl. Townend were regular members of the Devon County team, which reached the semi-final of the county championship. Lt. Faithfull was chosen for the game against Middlesex but his injured knee kept him from turning out. Had he done so he would probably have set up a record in the number of county teams he has played for, *i.e.*, Surrey, Hampshire and Yorkshire in the county championship matches. Pte. Dowas was also selected against Middlesex, but very sportingly stood down for Cpl. Townend when the latter found himself made available by the cancellation of the Army v. Navy match owing to frost. Cpl. Foy was reserve for two of the Devon County games, and Cpl. Goodwin, after his brilliant display for Devonport Services v. Plymouth Albion, in their second match, found himself in the reserve list against Middlesex. Goodwin played a few games for the Army as full-back, but was not quite up to the required standard. We must find a scrum half for next season, as Pte. Mannion, after showing improvement in his general play and length of passing from the scrum, of which we scarcely thought him capable, has decided to join the Army Reserve. Pte. Glover may go too. Mannion's place will be hard to fill, but we have plenty of forwards to take Glover's place. What we want more than anything is real pace on our wings, and strong penetration power in the centre. If we can only get these two we need have no fears for the future. Our forwards are on the light side, but they generally overcome this handicap.

### ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

The soccer season is almost ended, but we still have about half a dozen matches to play. Our luck has continued and we have defeated most of our opponents in the U.S. League (Devonport) Division I and Division IIA, especially in the latter. In Division III we have done quite well too.

The following are the further results of the different league matches played up to date:—U.S. League Division I, Jan. 22nd, Royal Marines, won, 1—0; Feb. 20th, 2nd Devons, won, 7—1; Feb. 14th, 2nd Worcesters, lost, 2—4; April 15th, 2nd Devons, won, 3—1. U.S. League, Division IIA, Feb. 19th, 2nd Worcesters, won, 3—1; and again on the 27th, 3—0; March 11th, H.M.S. *Erebus*, won, 6—0; April 6th, R.A.S.C., won, 7—2. We hope to win the Division IIA this year, the R.N. Barracks and ourselves being in the running, we oppose each other on April 23rd, and the result will be the deciding factor. The inter-company league is nearly completed and "D" Company seem certain to win it unless their luck entirely gives out, in which case "C" M.G. Company, the runners-up, will hold the Battalion association shield until next year. The garrison inter-company and battery Wallace Wright competition is still in full swing, Headquarter Wing, the winners last year, were knocked out this time in the first round, and "D" Company defeated "G" Company 1st Wilts. by 5 goals to 1, and so play in the semi-final on 16th April, their opponents being "G" Company 2nd Devon Regiment.

STOP PRESS.—Final soccer results:—U.S. League, Div. IIA, "D" Company beat R.N. Barracks 3—1; Inter-Company League, winners "D" Company; Wallace Wright Cup, "D" Company beat 2nd Devons 4—1 in semi-final and beat 16th Battery R.A. 1—0 in the final.

Sgt. Ward, Sgt. Myatt, Bds. Bray and L/Cpl. Owens have all played on several occasions for the local Army. Amongst our new players Pte. Parkyn and Pte. Craven are the most prominent.

The following represented the Battalion in the U.S. Division I and IIA leagues during the season:—Sgt. Ward (Capt.), Sgt. Myatt, Cpls. Kirkby, Hay, L/Cpls. Owens, Evans, Millor, Ptes. Dunn, Newby, Craven, Rumbold, Hickox, Parkyn, Aynesley, Godbehere, Hemblys, and Bdsm. Bray. Caps for the Season 1929 have not yet been awarded.

### HOCKEY.

The inter-company knock out competition ended the hockey season. This competition was, as usual, won by Headquarter Wing, but without the same amount of ease with which they had previously managed to win it. "A" Company provided their most difficult opponents, being beaten by one goal. This performance was mainly due to the very fine goal keeping of Pte. Collinson, who withstood a fierce bombardment from Headquarter Wing's forwards. He is both a find and a loss, as he has already proceeded on a vocational training course prior to taking his discharge from the Army.

Sgt. Thorpe has kept hockey alive in the Battalion, and it is due to him that the Battalion team has proved so successful in the few matches they have played.

They have obtained a name among the local clubs for their clean and hard play, and we hope to improve on the number of matches next year. The following are the results of matches played:—

Battalion v. Royal Marines, won, 7—6; v. Royal Marines, won, 5—2; v. Plymouth H.C., won, 7—1; v. Paignton Y.M.C.A., won, 4—2; v. Worcester Regiment, won, 7—6. Inter-company knock-out competition.—1st round, "H.Q." Wing 5 v. "D" Company 3; 2nd round, "H.Q." Wing 1 v. "A" Company 0; "C" M.G. Company 5 v. "B" Company 1; final, "H.Q." Wing 7 v. "C" M.G. Company 0.

### BOXING.

The boxing season of 1928-29 has had its interrupted moments, but it can be written down as the most successful season the 1st Battalion has had since it arrived home in 1923. To show the reasons for this statement it is only necessary to append the following list of successes gained:—

1. The 8th Infantry Brigade cup was won for the second year in succession.
2. The Southern Command inter-unit boxing cup was won for the first time.
3. In Boy Tucker we provided an Army boys' lightweight champion.
4. Lt. J. H. Dalrymple was runner-up in the Army officers' middleweight championship.

The successes gained were due in a large measure to Bugler Harry Lake, the old I.S.B.A. and European bantamweight champion of 1921 to 1923. He is easily the best boxing trainer we have ever had, the boxers all liked him, and he certainly sent them into the ring thoroughly fit and with a sound knowledge of the straight left. Slowly, but surely, he corrected the majority of their faults, and it must have been a great joy to him to see them all box so splendidly against the 60th in the final of the Southern Command cup. That night they were all at their best, we only lost three fights in a total of 13; few punches were wasted; they stood up and boxed in the best amateur style and spirit; and their success was well deserved against a team of plucky and sporting boxers.

We again won the 8th Brigade boxing cup, more easily than we did last year, only losing two fights in the whole meeting. The four regiments in the Brigade all sent in complete teams, but both in the matter of condition and skill there was only one team in it. The success gained by Boy Tucker in the enlisted boys' Army championships was as welcome as it was well deserved. At Aldershot he won the boys' lightweight. He then proceeded with the boys' Army team to Brighton, where he took part in a team fight against the Brighton Boys' Club team. On Tuesday, 4th March, he was beaten by a Boy Taylor, a very good boxer indeed, but he put up such a plucky display that Georges Carpentier (the famous French boxer) who was a spectator, presented Tucker with a silver watch specially engraved. On the Thursday of the same week Tucker fought in the

finals of the I.S.B.A. boys' championships at the Stadium Club. He was beaten on points in the final by Boy Hall of the R.A.F. Unfortunately, Tucker had a temperature that evening, and he was probably feeling the effect of his severe fight with Taylor as well. Anyway, he failed to produce the form we know he is capable of doing, and was beaten more by fatigue than any special merit on the part of his opponent. It was unfortunate, as we did want him to add an I.S.B.A. championship to his Army title.

Tucker had the great honour of being selected to represent the I.S.B.A. boys against the London Federation boys in a team fight at the Albert Hall on March 27th. The boxing and the occasion, honoured as it was by the presence of H.R.H. Prince of Wales, was a thing long to be remembered. Tucker was again beaten on points, but earned full marks for a plucky display against a more experienced boxer.

Lt. J. H. Dalrymple was beaten in the final of the Army officers' individual middleweight championship by an excellent boxer in 2nd Lt. A. D. Black, but put up the best fight of the evening at the Stadium Club. His defeat proves once again that training for boxing and rugger do not go hand in hand. One has got to train for each separately. Lt. W. F. Browne entered for the same weight but could not compete owing to an attack of flu.

We held our novices' competition on November 21st, and this produced the creditable entry of eighty-two (82) including boys' contests. The standard of the boxing was above the average, and the spirit of every fight was excellent. We spotted some promising talent, but, unfortunately, the large draft of 176 to the 2nd Battalion robbed us of some good material. We hope the 2nd Battalion have discovered these, especially one, Pte. Davies, who has a natural left hook that won him his weight in the novices, and should win him many another contest.

It was unfortunate that the claims of the Army rugby cup, and an outbreak of influenza in the Battalion, forced us to scratch to the 2nd Battalion Lancashire Regiment in the third round of the Army inter-unit team championship. We had hopes of meeting the 43rd Light Infantry in the second round of the competition at the Isle of Wight, and of meeting the Welch Regiment in a boxing match at our old station, Gosport, on the return journey. Unfortunately, the 43rd scratched to us, and the trip did not come off. A great disappointment to us all.

In conclusion, we must again remind our boxers that we all suffer from lack of ring experience, impossible to get at Devonport owing to lack of amateur boxing. We have got some young boxers coming on and should have a good team for the next few years. Never before has our team trained so consistently and cheerfully, and our success and high standard is due to the team and the individuals forming it.

We much regret to say that Pte. Mills has decided to leave us. He is now at Chisleton doing a vocational training course. In all our contests he has generally provided the fight of the evening, and, with one exception, where he was unfit, gained a victory. We can only hope he will meet with the same success in civilian life as he did in our boxing ring. Pte. Mills was again awarded the Thorold Belt, and Boy Tucker the Boxing Cup.

The results of our boxing for the season are as follows:—

#### NOVICES' BOXING COMPETITION, 1928-1929, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST.

Flyweight.—Pte. Suggitt ("B" Company) beat Pte. Ashton ("A" Company) on points. Bantamweight.—Pte. Shade ("H.Q.") beat Pte. Mathews ("B" Company) on points. Featherweight.—Pte. Burnett ("D" Company) beat Pte. Dyson ("C" M.G.) on points. Lightweight.—Pte. Davis ("C" M.G.) knocked out Pte. Cundall ("H.Q.") with a left hook to the jaw in the first round. Welterweight.—L/Cpl. Wardle ("C" M.G.) knocked out Pte. Blasche ("H.Q.") in the second round. Middleweight.—Pte. Stork ("H.Q.") beat Pte. Moore ("H.Q.") on points. Lighthheavy.—Pte. Morley ("H.Q.") beat his brother Pte. F. Morley ("C" M.G.) on points.

#### Boys' FIGHTS.

Boy Horner beat Boy Walker on points. Boy Lewis beat Boy Horner on points. Boy Pointer beat Boy Gaylor on points. Boy Wilson beat Boy Breadon on points.

Lt.-Col. F. H. B. Wellesley presented the prizes to the winners at the conclusion of the competition, and congratulated all competitors on their boxing.

## PLYMOUTH GARRISON INTER-UNIT TEAM COMPETITION.

Bantamweight.—Pte. Longton (2nd Devons) beat Pte. Dyson on points. Featherweight.—Pte. Bagnell beat Pte. Stopher (2nd Devons) on points. Lightweight.—Boy Tucker beat L/Cpl. Simmons (2nd Devons) on points. Welterweight.—(first string), Cpl. Huntingdon beat L/Cpl. Warren (2nd Devons) on points. Second string, L/Cpl. Evans knocked out Pte. Brewer (2nd Devons) in first round. Middleweight.—Pte. Mills beat Pte. Whitehouse (2nd Devons) in the second round. Light-heavy.—Pte. Humpish beat Pte. Wallop (2nd Devons) in third round. Heavyweight.—Pte. Lippitt (2nd Devons) beat Pte. Annesley on points.

Result, counting 2 points for a win, 1 point for a lose.—1st D.W.R., 1st, 30 points; 2nd Devons, 2nd, 24 points; 1st Wilts. Regiment, 3rd, 9 points; 2nd Worcester Regiment, 4th, 8 points.

In the absence of Brigadier C. J. C. Grant, Lt.-Col. E. Hewlett, Commanding 2nd Devon Regiment, presented the cup and medals to the winning team at the conclusion of the boxing.

## ARMY INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE STADIUM CLUB, 6/2/1929.

Officers' Middleweight.—2nd Lt. A. D. Black (Green Howards) beat Lt. J. H. Dalrymple on points.

## ENLISTED ARMY BOYS' CHAMPIONSHIPS, HELD AT ALDERSHOT ON FEBRUARY 28TH AND MARCH 1ST.

Lightweight.—Boy Tucker beat successively Boy Gannon (R.A. College) on points, Boy Knight (King's Own) on points, knocked out Boy Degnan (Royal Scots) in the second round, and in the final beat Boy Green (East Yorks.) on points.

## ARMY BOYS' TEAM v. BRIGHTON BOYS' CLUB.

Held at Brighton, on March 5th, 1929, at Sussex Motor Yacht Club.

Lightweight.—Boy Taylor (boy amateur champion of S. England) knocked out Boy Tucker in the third round.

## IMPERIAL SERVICES AMATEUR BOYS' TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, HELD AT THE STADIUM CLUB LONDON, ON THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH, 1929.

Boys' Lightweights.—Final, A.A. Hall (R.A.F.) beat Boy Tucker (Army) on points.

## SELECTED CHAMPIONS OF THE LONDON FEDERATION OF BOYS' CLUBS v. SELECTED BOY CHAMPIONS OF THE R.N., ROYAL MARINES, THE ARMY AND R.A.F., AT THE ALBERT HALL, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH, 1929.

Lightweights.—J. Holmes (Eton Manor Hackney) beat Boy Tucker (1/D.W.R.) on points.

Lt. J. H. Dalrymple and W. F. Browne were selected to represent Army Officers v. Cambridge University, but could not compete owing to rugby injuries.

## FINAL SOUTHERN COMMAND INTER-UNIT TEAM BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP.

At the Garrison Gymnasium, Devonport, on 15th March, 1929, 1st Battalion D.W.R. beat 1st Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps by 27 points to 16 points.

OFFICERS. Welterweight.—Lt. Carroll, walk-over. Middleweight.—Lt. Dalrymple, walk-over. Heavyweight.—Lt. Browne beat Lt. Stephens (K.R.R.) in the first round.

OTHER RANKS. Welterweights (first string).—Cpl. Hawley beat Rfn. Styants (K.R.R.) on points; (second string) L/Cpl. Evans beat L/Cpl. Woolmore (K.R.R.) on points; (third string) Pte. Godbehere knocked out Cpl. Archer (K.R.R.) in the second round. Lightweights (first string).—Rfn. Dickel (K.R.R.) knocked out Pte. Cundall in the second round; (second string), Pte. McGough beat Rfn. Jones (K.R.R.) on points; (third string), Pte. Coulsey beat Rfn. Hardy (K.R.R.) on points. Middleweights (first string).—Pte. Mills beat Rfn. Vail (K.R.R.) in the third round; (second string), Cpl. Huntington beat Cpl. Silkett (K.R.R.) on points. Heavyweight.—Rfn. Thorne (K.R.R.) beat Pte. Annesley on points. Bantamweight.—Rfn. Mackay (K.R.R.) knocked out Pte. Boyle in the first round. Lightheavy.—Pte. Humpish beat L/Cpl. Foster (K.R.R.) on points. Featherweight.—Pte. Topps beat Rfn. Lawford (K.R.R.) on points.

## GOLF.

The first competition for the "Wood Silver Putter" was played over the Yelverton Golf Club on April 2nd. The conditions were 36 holes bogey competition under handicap. Capt. H. R. Kavanagh was the winner with a return of 7 down. Major H. W. W. Wood, the donor, was present, and played round with Lt.-Col. F. H. B. Wellesley, and afterwards presented the putter to Capt. Kavanagh.

We were lucky in having a fine day for the competition, though there was a fairly strong wind blowing, which made the homeward holes somewhat difficult. There were 14 entries, ranging from Ozanne, with a handicap of 2, to Everard, who considered that a



driver, a niblick, and a putter were quite enough clubs for anyone to carry. Rumour states that he could have dispensed with the putter, as bogey had won the holes before he reached the green, and indeed very often before he had left the tee. Anyhow, on being 16 down at the 16th he decided that there were more profitable ways of spending an afternoon than playing a second round. Harvey, who was 17 down at the end of the first round, was more optimistic, and after a good lunch, which lasted until about three, he decided to play again, and finished 32 down! We understand that he was very disappointed at only finding five balls during the day.

The "individual stalk," performed by the staff captain on the greens, was much admired by all. No star golfers were found, unless we count Kavanagh, who displayed remarkable skill in driving with an iron and holing out from bunkers, but our low handicap players and A.G.S. representatives were obviously below form and out of practice.

Our thanks are due to the Yelverton Golf Club for so kindly putting the course at our disposal.

We are very glad that Major Wood was able to be present during his short stay in England, and to present the trophy on the first occasion that it has been played for. We hope to see him on future occasions.

## 2nd BATTALION NEWS.

**W**E have, at the moment of writing, been in India exactly four months. This fact has been verified, otherwise one would hesitate to make the statement, so distant does that day seem on which we had our first sight of the Gateway of India.

Our first month was one of positively ant-like activity. In addition to the numerous affairs attendant upon arrival in a new station, we had to fit ourselves for the rigours of Brigade training, into which we were to be plunged in a month's time. Accordingly we dubbed our boots and route-marched three days a week, and by the end of the month were entirely re clothed in mind and body.

We had a short break for Christmas, and in spite of difficulties managed to infuse quite a festive atmosphere into the proceedings; unfortunately Col. Pickering was unwell on Christmas Day and was unable to visit dinners. On New Year's Day, as is the custom in India, the whole Garrison took part in a Proclamation Parade on the club polo ground, and in the afternoon entertainment was provided by a "pagal gymkhana," which the Club organised on the Battalion polo ground.

On Jan. 5th we set out on our eighty-odd mile march to Kazipur Camp. We were six days on the road, bivouacking beside native villages at night. At the beginning of the second day's march we dropped down into the Godavari Valley, and from then on the road ran straight and for the most part shadeless through flat cultivated country to Aurungabad.

At the end of the third day's march we came to Toka and crossed the Godavari river, which must be a fine broad stream in the rains, though at that time the crossing presented little difficulty except to some of the heavier transport. Our last halt was at Aurungabad, where the remainder of the Brigade was concentrated, and next day after a short march with a steep pull-up at the end we arrived at Kazipur. It had been a stiff march after our years of soft living in Singapore, but in spite of a good many sore feet the Battalion acquitted themselves really well.

The fortnight of Brigade training passed pleasantly enough. The weather was for the most part cool, so the lack of shade in an otherwise comfortable camp did not really worry us. Some really notable engagements were fought, and we had several days of rest when parties went to view the Ellora Caves and Daulatabad Fort. The Brigade was visited by the Deccan District Commander, Major-Gen. Burnett Hitchcock, and the G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command, Major-Gen. Sir William Heneker, and the Battalion obtained good chits from both of them.

We marched out of camp on Jan. 25th. Our first day's march was to have included a convoy scheme ; this was cut out at the last moment, and we had a fifteen mile march across country to our first bivouack. The second day we did nineteen miles to Toka, where we had a day's rest by the river ; from there on we followed the same itinerary as on the way out. The moon was now full, so we started our marches at 5 a.m., covered six miles by moonlight, and had our breakfast by the side of the road, thus avoiding the heat of the day. As our feet were harder and we were naturally fitter generally, the march back provided very few difficulties. Altogether the Battalion can feel justifiably pleased with their performance and it is fitting that Col. Pickering should have had such a successful conclusion to his period of command.

Since our return we have been chiefly engaged in settling down and life has been uneventful. We found the draft, under 2nd Lt. H. V. F. Wellesley, waiting for us when we got back, though they did not join us immediately, as a period of isolation is insisted on in India ; during this time they were employed on anti-malaria excavations in a nullah at the edge of barracks.

At one time it seemed as though our peace was to be rudely interrupted, when during the trouble in Bombay a railway strike threatened, and the Battalion was placed under orders to move at half-an-hour's notice to various vital spots along the line. However, the strike did not eventuate, so the orders were cancelled, the ammunition was returned to the Quartermaster, and we settled down again to our normal affairs.

On March 20th we had a ceremonial parade of farewell for Lt.-Col. Pickering, who left us on the 22nd for a staff appointment at Aldershot. At his departure the Battalion lined the road from the Mess and the Colonel drove off amid cheers, whose heartiness must not be taken as a manifestation of relief ; indeed, we were very sorry to see him leave. Col. Pickering has done an immense amount for the Battalion since he took command in Cairo, and his influence has been felt in every obscure corner of barracks ; at the same time no C.O. could have been more popular with all ranks. We take this opportunity of congratulating Lt.-Col. J. C. Burnett, who has taken over command of the Battalion.

This quarter has been saddened for us all by the death of Capt. Kirkland. Capt. Kirkland was out shooting and on swimming out after a bird which had fallen into a jhil, was caught in the reeds and pulled straight down. An obituary notice appears elsewhere in this issue and gives the details of his service. No one had the good of the Battalion more at heart than he had, or took a greater interest in every branch of its activities ; his death is a great loss not only to the Battalion, but to us all personally. We offer our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Kirkland in her great sorrow.

We also regret to record the deaths of Cpl. Govus and L/Cpl. Moran, both promising N.C.O's of No. 2 Company, who died in hospital shortly after our arrival in Ahmednagar.

### OFFICERS' MESS.

We propose to start these notes with a few details about our new quarters which may be of interest to those at home who, either by desire or force of circumstances, find themselves destined for foreign service in the near future.

Of Ahmednagar itself there is not much to be said. It is a secondary hill station, which means to say that it has a short and not too severe hot weather from March to June, the remainder of the year being pleasant. Beside ourselves, the Garrison consists of Brigade "H.Q.," an Indian infantry battalion, the Machine Gun and Tank Schools, and the Army Remount Depot ; the only place of entertainment is the small but quite good gymkhana club. It is a cheap station in that there is little on which to spend one's money, though Poonah and Bombay lie close enough for anyone suffering from a superfluity of ready cash ; actual living expenses for a subaltern are rather larger than in England, as he has to buy or hire his own furniture and support a large household staff.

Our barracks are among the newest in India, dating from 1910 ; the quarters are good, though lacking in quantity. There are only six single subalterns' quarters and the

remaining subalterns are inhabiting two spare married quarters. This has been feasible up to date, though what will happen when autumn brings the return of those on leave is less clear. Electric light is being installed; that is, an army of natives is engaged in digging up the roads and covering the walls of the bungalows with an imposing array of wires, plugs, and switches; the date on which we shall successfully operate these same switches is hidden in the mists of the future.

The Mess itself, apart from the kitchens and customary offices and outhouses, consists of three rooms, dining room, ante-room, and billiard room; round the whole runs a Verandah, which at the front door broadens out into the counterpart of the English house-agent's "lounge-hall." It is here that we usually sit, but it is a warm spot and of late the hot evenings have driven us into the open air. We miss the Singapore verandah, where one could be certain of any breeze that was going.

Inside, the Mess is still in the chrysalis stage; for in India we have to provide our own furnishings, and these things take time. Thus the billiard room is as yet but an expanse of stone floor, tolerably useful on guest nights, but otherwise merely an adequate repository for our more dilapidated pictures. However, our dining-room table and chairs have arrived, and the rest will doubtless follow in due course.

Social activity is naturally not so prominent as in Singapore. In December we gave a "house-warming" in the form of a Sunday morning at home, at which most of the English population of Ahmednagar appeared. The Bachelors' Dinner was, this year, held on Christmas Eve, as on New Year's Eve the Collector, Mr. A. M. Macmillan, had invited us all to a fancy dress dance. This year we had only five couples to entertain, but the proceedings were carried through with undiminished vigour; 2nd Lt. Exham was still our junior subaltern, and so was called on for the second time to reply to the toast of the ladies, a task which he performed with no little distinction. During the quarter we have also had the pleasure of dining our Brigadier, Brigadier B. R. Moberly, and also the officers of the 1st/2nd Punjab Regiment, our fellow battalion in Ahmednagar.

At a guest night on March 20th we entertained Lt.-Col. C. J. Pickering, Lt. and Qr.-Mr. Callaghan, Lt. and Qr.-Mr. Milner, and Mr. M. W. R. Umfreville, the son of Lt.-Col. H. K. Umfreville, who had come up to visit us from Bombay. Lt.-Col. Burnett admirably expressed our feelings at the loss of Col. Pickering, who, in reply, mentioned that only once before in this Battalion did he remember a Commanding Officer being dined out, and never before the presence at the same dinner of the incoming and outgoing Quartermasters.

We do not get many visitors in this part of the world. Apart from Mr. Umfreville, we have so far seen no one except Capt. Lowther, who arrived in April to inspect our rifles and stayed with us for a few days; we were very pleased to renew our acquaintance with Capt. Lowther and to meet Mrs. Lowther.

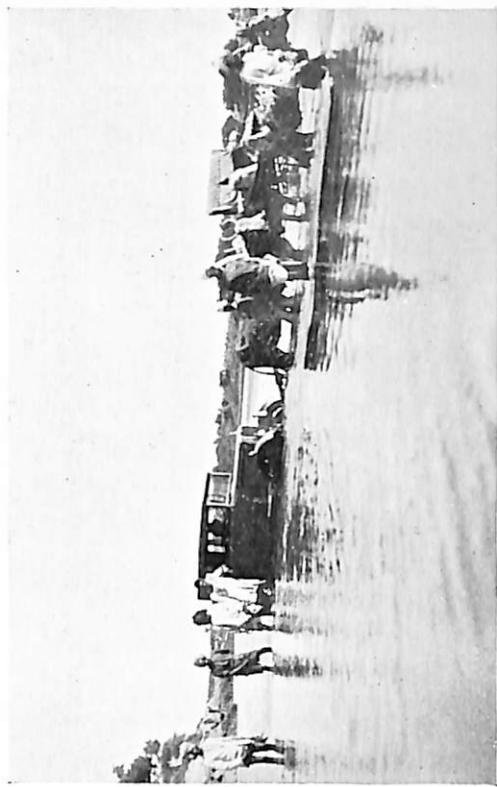
Among ourselves there has been a certain amount of coming and going. At first it was chiefly coming, and at one time every officer of the Battalion was present except one, which must be very nearly a record for a foreign service battalion. Lt.-Col. Burnett rejoined us in camp, and on our return to Ahmednagar we found Capt. Carey from Singapore and 2nd Lt. H. V. F. Wellesley from England. Then Capt. and Mrs. Sayers arrived, departed to Poonah, where Capt. Sayers sat for the Staff College exam., returned, and left for Simla on a staff attachment, altogether rather a spasmodic and muddling performance. Lt. and Qr.-Mr. Milner and family arrived in March, and shortly after the married patch was strengthened by the arrival of Mrs. Lennon. At the moment of writing, Major R. H. Owen is imminently expected.

Unfortunately there has been an equally large exodus. Lt. Hiddingh was, as usual, the first to leave, and was followed by Lady Henniker, Lt. and Mrs. Miles, Lt. and Mrs. Exham, and Lt. Armitage; Capt. Carey is off in the near future. Major Sir R. Henniker has gone to Wellington for the hot weather as Commandant of the Wellington Sanatorium, though we understand that this is not quite as bad as it sounds. Our only permanent losses, we hope, are Col. Pickering, whose departure is noted in the Battalion news, and Lt. and Qr.-Mr. and Mrs. Callaghan, who carry our best wishes with them to the Depot.

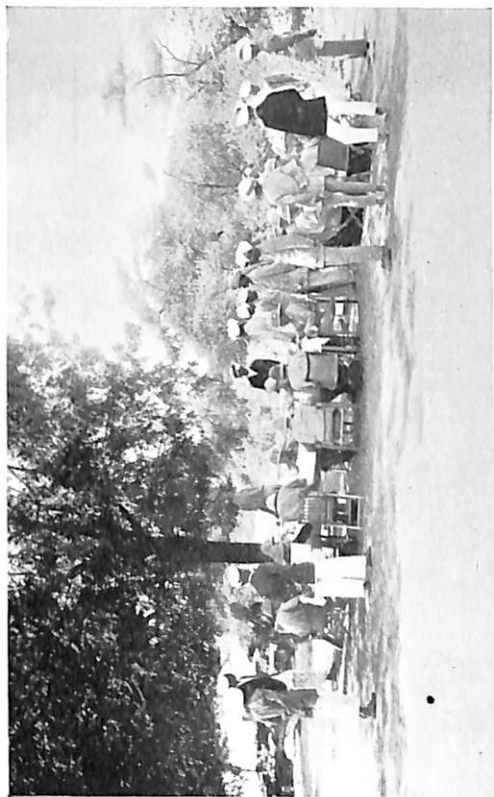
2nd BATTALION'S MARCH TO KAZIPUR CAMP.



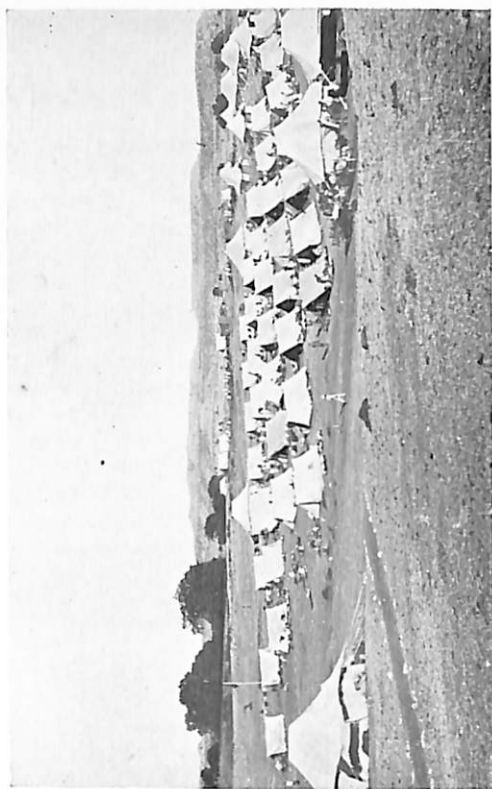
2nd Battalion crossing the Godaverri River at Toka.



Mess Car crossing the Godaverri River at Toka.



Officers at lunch, Toka.



2nd Battalion Lines at Kazipur.



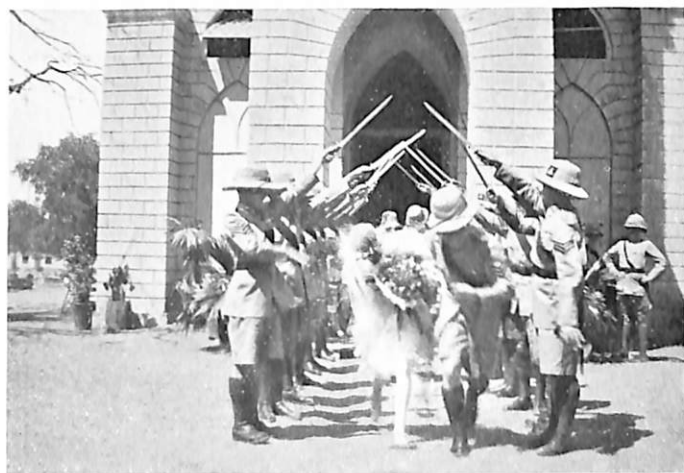
Daulatabad Fort.



One of the Caves at Ellora.



Part of big temple at Ellora.



Wedding of Sgt. J. Holmes and Miss Dorothy Carr at Ahmednagar,  
April 4th, 1929.

We have to thank Major Moore, late the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, for his gift of a print of the Coronation of Queen Victoria and a facsimile of a letter from her Private Secretary to the Duke of Wellington; and Lt. Harker Taylor for a print of the Duke.

### SERGEANTS' MESS.

Events followed one another rapidly during our first few weeks in Ahmednagar and it was not until our return from Brigade training that we were really able to start putting our Mess on such a footing as to enable us to enjoy ourselves after our strenuous times.

The march to Kazipur and back was enjoyed by all, with the exception of a few, who could not resist listening to the tinkle of the bells of Echelon "B."

Shortly after our return we were entertained to a tennis At Home by the Royal Tank Corps; about 20 members and their wives attended and an enjoyable afternoon was spent. During February we ran a very successful whist drive and dance, which was attended by about 80 guests from the Garrison. In March we had another whist drive and dance and also a tennis at home, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody. Tennis heads the bill on our social programme at the moment, and many of our ladies are well on the way to emulating the skill of Mdle. Lenglen.

We are at present concentrating on plans for our annual dinner, which is to be held on April 18th.

We have many names to add to our Mess roll and are pleased to welcome the following from the 1st Battalion:—C.S.M. Bourne, C.S.M. Stead, and Sgts. Molloy and Hemblys. We congratulate the following on promotion:—C.S.M. Wood, C.Q.M.S. Churchill, Drum Major Major, and Sgts. James, Holt, Knight, Smith, and Binney. We regret we omitted to mention the departure of C.Q.M.S. North in our last notes. C.Q.M.S. North retired after 21 years' service in the Regiment last year; he represented the Battalion at hockey for many years; we wish him every success in civil life.

WEDDING OF SGT. J. HOLMES AND MISS DOROTHY CARR.—A very pretty wedding took place on April 4th in St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Ahmednagar, when Sgt. J. Holmes, Officers' Mess Sergeant, 2nd Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, married Dorothy, daughter of Mrs. Pearce and step-daughter of R.S.M. Pearce. The bride, who was dressed in white georgette and carried a bouquet of white roses, was given away by R.S.M. Pearce and was followed to the altar by two little bridesmaids, Miss Joan Bennett and Miss Betty Bishop, who looked most attractive in pink crepe-de-chine. The best man was L/Sgt. Roach. After the wedding, a reception was held in the Sergeants' Mess, and a large gathering was present to inspect the many presents and to drink the health of the bride, which was proposed by Lt.-Col. Burnett. The honeymoon was spent in Bombay, and a large number of friends saw the bride and bridegroom off from the station.

### CORPORALS' MESS.

Our new station is totally different from Singapore, and the old adage—When in Rome, do as Rome does—applies very aptly here. Our football fraternity have donned white shirts and follow the fashion by playing tennis, at which several members are quite proficient.

The latest acquisition to the Mess is the gramophone, which is in great demand; in fact the needle is generally in a condition bordering on white heat.

The monthly whist drive and dance also has a large following and is always well supported.

We congratulate the ex-members of the Mess who have found fresh pasturage among the sergeants, and extend a friendly welcome to the new members from the 1st Battalion.

We regret to record the deaths of two of our members—namely, L/Cpl. Moran and Cpl. Govus, who died in Ahmednagar shortly after our arrival, and offer our condolences to their relatives.

## COMPANY NOTES.

## No. 1 COMPANY.

It is with very real sorrow that we record the death of Capt. J. V. Kirkland, who was posted to the Company in April, 1928. Actually he only joined us for the first time in December, on his return from leave, but we realise that we have lost in him a great friend; Capt. Gibson has once again taken over command of the Company.

We were very sorry to lose C.S.M. Gentry, who has left us for "H.Q." Wing, but we congratulate C.S.M. Wood and C.Q.M.S. Churchill on their promotions and welcome the latter to the Company.

The Company acquitted themselves well on the march to Kazipur, and in spite of several sore feet, we all managed to get there. Since our return sport has been chiefly confined to the inter-platoon hockey competition; No. 2 Platoon got in to the semi-final, where they were beaten by No. 10 Platoon after extra time. In the inter-platoon cross country run No. 4 Platoon finished third; altogether we had five of the Company among the first twelve in, which looks fairly promising for the inter-company run.

As regards the platoon flag competition, No. 4 Platoon, last year's winners, are leading with No. 2 Platoon second. There is now only the barrack room and kit inspection to take place, so we stand a good chance of keeping the flag in the Company.

We welcome the men of the draft who have joined us and congratulate them on being posted to the best Company.

## No. 2 COMPANY.

On our return from Kazipur, we welcomed Capt. Carey back again as Company Commander, and also 2nd Lt. H. V. F. Wellesley, who arrived from England in charge of the draft.

Hockey has been our chief amusement this quarter, and we have had a good number of games, including one with the Machine Gun School (Indian Wing), which we managed to draw. No. 8 Platoon are to be congratulated on winning the inter-platoon hockey competition. No. 7 Platoon also did well to be placed second in the drill competition.

L/Cpl. Thompkins, Ptes. Bowman, Gill, Sheehan, and Shatts all went as Battalion representatives to Secunderabad, where the Deccan District boxing was held. Eight members of the Company also found places in the Battalion young soldiers' soccer team.

L/Cpl. Marron has gone to the wilds of the North-West Frontier, where he is reported to have found himself a comfortable billet at Rasmak.

It is with very deep regret that we record the deaths of Cpl. Govus and L/Cpl. Moran, both of whom will be greatly missed among us.

## No. 3 COMPANY.

Brigade training afforded us an excellent test of marching ability, after the long period of immobility in Singapore, and the Company was undoubtedly the best on the line of march out, in a unit that received high praise from those above.

In the inter-platoon cross country run for the platoon flag, Lt. Jones (1st) and Pte. Wallbank (4th) ran extremely well. No. 12 Platoon are to be congratulated on their excellent performance in being the first team home.

No. 10 Platoon won the drill competition and the whole Company showed a high standard.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. J. V. Kirkland on the sad loss she has sustained.

## M.G. COMPANY.

The Company have now settled down to life in our first Indian station and find it fairly pleasant. We have the distinction of being one of the very few M.G. companies in the country, and apparently caused no small stir among the powers that be.

We were fortunate in taking over a good Indian platoon of Jats from the Gloucestershire Regiment and also a good lot of mules from the Middlesex.

We welcome C.S.M. Bourne, Sgt. Hemblys, and a draft of 18 other ranks from the 1st Battalion. The Company is now up to strength and the annual turnover has resulted in our getting some 40 odd new hands out of the last draft. We congratulate the following on their promotions:—Sgts. Hemblys, Jowett, and Sweet, and L/Sgt. Binney.

The Company has not yet had much opportunity of doing a great deal as regards games; most of our matches have been friendlies or inter-platoon matches. We find we have some promising material amongst our new hands and we hope to do well later on.

We congratulate Sgt. Jowett on the birth of a son.

#### HEADQUARTER WING.

On our return from Kazipur, the inter-platoon hockey competition took place and was won by No. 8 Platoon. The Band and Drums met in the second round, and after no less than three games (three hours' play in all) the score was still even. However, in the fourth contest the Drums managed to win 1—0; this is the first time since this competition was started that any two teams have required four matches to produce a result, and the Drums are to be congratulated on their eventual win.

The Company hockey and soccer teams are both showing good form in their practice matches; we have two promising new players in Ptes. Goodman and Myers, who should have a good chance for places in the Company team.

We did well in the platoon cross country run, in that the Band came in second and the Signallers fourth; our other two platoons, the Drums and No. 3 Group, lost themselves on the course and were placed last.

Several changes have taken place since our arrival in India. Sgt.-Major Gentry has come to us to take the place of Sgt.-Major Ramsbottom; Sgt. Churchill has left us to be C.Q.M.S. of No. 1 Company, and Sgt. James has taken his place in the Signal Section. Cpl. Major from No. 2 Company has been appointed Drum Major, and L/Cpls. Codd, Stead, and Orrell have all been promoted corporals. R.Q.M.S. Coulter, C.Q.M.S. Hemblys, and Sgt. Robinson have proceeded to England to spend six months' leave, and Sgt. Fitter has taken over the duties of A/C.Q.M.S. of "H.Q." Wing.

#### GAMES.

On our arrival in Ahmednagar we were faced with an entirely different set of conditions from those existing in Singapore. Although there is plenty of ground in and about barracks, it is for the most part cotton soil, stony, covered with dust, and full of cracks in the dry season, and, so we are told, developing into a thick quagmire in the wet weather.

The two games which flourish at this season of the year are soccer and hockey. Soccer grounds are fairly easy to manage, as the above-mentioned conditions do not affect them to any great extent; so each company has its own soccer ground. Hockey was more difficult. When we arrived there were two grounds, one a very uneven and dusty ground behind the Sergeants' Mess, and the other in front of the orderly room, on what had originally been a polo ground. As this ground has been returned to its proper use, the hockey committee had to look elsewhere and have found a good level piece of ground which has served well, though constant use has made its surface pretty dusty.

Cricket is played seriously in the rainy season, by which time we hope to have made an adequate pitch. As regards rugger, diligent search has been made for a suitable ground, without much success up to date, and it looks as though most of what rugger we get will be played out of the station.



Owing to the question of grounds and the lack of opponents, there is not much to record concerning games. Hockey certainly is flourishing and is dealt with under a separate heading. One cricket match was played on the Club ground against the Machine Gun School, in which we were beaten by 68 runs; Pte. Taylor took 4 wickets for 18 runs and Pte. Osborne 5 for 76; Lt. Harker Taylor was our highest scorer with 27. At soccer, company fixtures were arranged for all companies against the Tank School.

In March, the Young Soldiers' (under three years' service) soccer team and the Battalion boxing team journeyed to Secunderabad to represent the Battalion in the Deccan District tournaments.

The Young Soldiers' team consisted entirely of men of the draft who had only been in the East a matter of three weeks, and were not yet accustomed to playing football under a grilling sun, on a ground baked hard and plentifully covered with dust. Despite the adverse conditions, the team gave a remarkably good account of themselves in all their matches. Their first opponents were the 9th Lancers, and they emerged from this encounter with a score of 3 to 1 in their favour. Two days later they had to play the Suffolk Regiment on their ground. Owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the contractor, they had to walk a mile and a half to the ground before playing. Once more they gave a remarkably good account of themselves and led by 2 goals to 1 for three-quarters of the game; but, with only 15 seconds to go, a bad miskick from behind caught the opposing centre-forward and rebounded into goal, making a draw.

As it was getting dark, no extra time could be played, and the replay was fixed for two days' time; for this game the Suffolks fielded four fresh men. At full time, having penned the Suffolks in their own goal area for the last 20 minutes, a draw of 1 all resulted. An extra ten minutes each way was played, which was almost entirely composed of shooting by our team, who unfortunately could not find the net. Then the ball was punted hard up the ground to the Suffolk left wing, who managed to race through and put it into our goal; as the ball was spotted, the whistle went for time. The following composed the Young Soldiers' team:—Ptes. Goodman, Green, H., Tiffany, Newell, Leach, Green, W., Baxter, Poulter, Deighton, L/Cpl. Curran, Ptes. Hopper, Brannon.

In the boxing only four teams had entered—namely, 9th Lancers, Royal Corps of Signals, Loyal Regiment, and ourselves. The Loyals were the favourites and expected to walk away with the Deccan District Championship. After a very keen contest in which there were some excellent bouts we managed to beat them by 13 points to 11.

Next night we had to take the ring against the Signals, who had had a fairly easy time in the first round against the Lancers; three of our team had knocked their hands up on the previous night, and the light weight was warned by the M.O. that he entered the ring at his own risk, as he had damaged the drum of his ear. Despite these handicaps, some lively bouts were witnessed and at the end of the match the points stood at 12 all, so the reserve lightweights were called on to settle the argument.

In the opinion of many of the spectators, this bout was the finest of the meeting. Both men started very fast and the ring looked as though a whirlwind had been let loose in it. Disaster came for us at the beginning of the second round, when our man, in rushing in, was swung off his feet and caught his head on the boards. This slowed him up somewhat and a very good fight was lost by a narrow margin. The following represented the Battalion in this competition:—Ptes. Beanland, Birch, Burke, L/Cpl. Tompkins, Ptes. Gill, Bowman, Morgan, Farnell, Shatts.

### HOCKEY.

After our very nearly first-class hockey ground in Singapore, we were somewhat disappointed to find only two remarkably indifferent grounds in our barracks here, both inches deep in dust. However, this has not affected the keenness, which is steadily increasing year by year, of all ranks of the Battalion. We have just finished the inter-platoon competition, which has been the most keenly-contested of any we have had. Perhaps the closest match was that between Nos. 19 and 20 platoons (Drums v. Band).

This match was only decided after three replays. The final was between Nos. 8 and 10 platoons. This was a really fine game, the best match in the competition. It was won by No. 8 Platoon by 3 goals to 1. They are to be congratulated on a very good performance. The standard of hockey throughout the whole Battalion is higher than last year, and with the talent at present available, there is no reason why the Battalion should not do very well in future. The 1st XI. is, at the moment, the same as last year, but, provided we can get plenty of 2nd XI. fixtures, there should be several changes for the better.

Our results up to date show a bad start, as we were badly beaten by the Police, but our last two matches show a decided improvement :—v. Ahmednagar Police, lost 2—5 ; and lost 1—8 ; v. Machine Gun School, won 4—2, won 4—0, and won 7—1 ; v. 1st/2nd Punjab Regt., lost 1—2 and lost 0—3 ; v. Machine Gun School, lost 2—4 ; v. 1st/2nd Punjab Regt., won 1—0 and won 3—1.

The inter-company shield competition is taking place in April. Now that we can play hockey all the year round, we are also running an inter-company league.

### RACING.

The opportunities for amateur racing in this part of India are few and far between, but in the short time we have been here we have done what we can.

Whilst on Brigade training in January a small point-to-point meeting was held. There were three events, the chief of which was the inter-regimental team race. This race, which was over a course of about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles, was won by Major Cholmley's Pat (Lt. Armitage) by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths from Lt. W. A. Woods' Nurse (Lt. Higgingh). As Lt. Owen, on Col. Pickering's Charlie, was fifth, the team cup passed into our keeping, with something in hand. The individual race was won by Lt. W. A. Woods' Tiny (Owner), while Capt. Kirkland finished third on Precious.

On March 9th a gymkhana meeting was arranged on the Ahmednagar course. A programme of six events (of which two were confined to Indian riders) was carried out without a hitch, and was remarkable for the desperate finishes in nearly every race.

In the polo scurry (three furlongs) Lt. W. A. Woods' b.g. Tiny (Lt. Armitage) was just beaten by a short head, with the same owner's b.g. Baby third. The East Ridge handicap (six furlongs) saw Lady Henniker's b.m. Lady Sidney (Lt. Owen) beaten by only half a length, with Lt.-Col. Pickering's ch.g. Gold Stud (Brigadier Anderson) third.

The Gunners' cup (four furlongs) provided a thrilling finish, when Mrs. Kirkland's b.g. Precious (Lt. Armitage) won from Capt. Fraser's b.g. Lido Lad (Major Woodland) with only a head in hand, while in the Consolation Plate, which concluded the meeting, a further desperate struggle took place all the way up the straight and ended in Capt. Fraser's Lido Lad (Mr. Sym) securing a short head verdict over Lt.-Col. Pickering's Charlie, which was again ridden by Lt. Armitage.

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A few years ago a submarine bound for the East hit some wreckage in the Bay which necessitated a short stay for repairs at Gibraltar. The ship's company were accommodated in some small wooden huts in the yard, and members of the crew were detailed off to act as stewards and servants for officers. One night the captain of the submarine asked a guest to dinner, and was horrified to see an old stoker petty officer enter with the first course, soup, his thumbs being completely immersed. The captain, addressing the temporary steward, said, "Jones, take your thumbs out of the soup." "It's all right, Sir," he replied, "it's not 'ot!"

—From *Our Empire*, March, 1929.

## DEPOT NEWS.

A SENSE of humour is an inestimable asset! Its value was fully shown in February, when the whole country was in the grip of the great frost. Here in Halifax we got full benefit from the icy blasts and began to wonder whether we ought not to produce a photograph to rival that published opposite page 188 (Vol. II.), IRON DUKE, of the 2nd Battalion at Halifax, N.S., in 1890! Water, which is normally "on tap" in this neighbourhood, became a very scarce and prized commodity, and carrying parties had to be organised and, armed with every available form of bucket, marched out into the road outside barracks to obtain the wherewithal with which to wash, cook, and drink (the sequence of the necessary offices of water will be appreciated by all who know the Depot) from stand pipes erected by the Corporation. In other words, at one time we were completely frozen up; and after that came the still more humorous time of bursts. In fact we are not sure whether we have finished with these yet, as, in spite of the glorious weather which we had throughout March, a burst took place on the last day of that month. However, never mind bursts. Throughout March and April up to the time of writing the sun has shone almost daily and those of us who had believed Halifax to be always cold, wet, and dismal, have had to revise our opinion of it.

Little of interest has occurred since we penned the last notes. It always seems a little late to describe Christmas in a June number, but reference must be made to the childrens' annual Christmas tree, which was held on Dec. 29th. The Depot strength in children is well over 50, and a cheery, healthy party they were. This year a "Shute" was introduced as a side-show and proved a tremendous attraction—and not only to the children! Father Christmas looked in at the party at the right moment and had not forgotten to bring his sack of treasures with him.

On Feb. 19th three officers went over to Giggleswick to carry out an examination of candidates for Certificate "A." They much enjoyed visiting the School and were greatly impressed by the high standard which the O.T.C. has attained. We congratulate Major Dyer on his brevet majority and wish him success in his new school, of which he is to be headmaster.

We have received from Bishop Frodsham, Vicar of Halifax, two buttons of the 76th Regiment, found by Capt. T. W. Doke (R.N.) in James Fort on James Island in the river Gambia. The fort was completed in 1628 and occupied by a garrison, traders, and a governor. In 1800 they all moved to Bathurst and the island has been deserted since. There is no written record of the garrison, but the 76th never served there, so it is an interesting speculation how the buttons got there. These buttons, which have been placed in the Depot Museum, are naturally very worn, but the one clearly bears the figures 76, whilst the other bears an elephant, but whether there is anything else on it is hard to decide. We are most grateful to Bishop Frodsham for presenting these interesting buttons to us.

We also wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Alban Wilson for sending us a copy of the diary written by Capt. MacGrigor, who served in the 33rd from 1797 to 1799, and was present at the capture of Seringapatam. The diary is most interesting, and we hope it will be possible to publish extracts from it in the IRON DUKE. Mrs. Wilson herself is connected with the Regiment, her grandfather, Major Priestley, having served in the 33rd for many years.

On Dec. 17th Lt.-Col. Wellesley visited the Depot, and in the evening the T.A. Adjutants dined in the Mess to meet him. On April 9th we gave a farewell dinner to Col. A. E. Irvine on relinquishing command of the 147th Infantry Brigade (T.A.). Everyone regrets Col. Irvine's retirement, and our best wishes go with him. We hope that Mrs. Irvine will speedily be restored to better health.

Once more we have to record changes at the Depot. Capt. J. W. Scott is leaving us on promotion, though at present we do not know to which battalion he is to be posted. His vacancy here is being filled by Lt. Carroll, whilst Lt. Haslock is taking over the

Adjutancy of the Depot. At the time of writing, 2nd Lt. T. A. Shurlock (Supplementary Reserve of Officers) is attached to us for a month.

In the recent first class certificate examination Sgt. Slane, L/Sgt. Seaton, L/Cpl. Moran, and Pte. Prince obtained certificates, whilst Sgt. McGowan and Cpl. Johnson passed in three subjects, leaving only one to be taken next time. The result reflects great credit both on Sgt. Instr. J. W. Spencer, Army Educational Corps, who worked hard in preparing the candidates, and on the candidates themselves, who for some months have given up all their spare time to working for the examination. Congratulations to all concerned.

### SERGEANTS' MESS.

At the time of writing things are very quiet in the Mess, therefore there is not much to record.

Our programme of entertainments for the winter season has been completed, and, thanks to a very efficient amusement committee, we have had many enjoyable evenings at whist and dancing.

A ball was held in the Mess on New Year's Eve, about 180 being present, including the Commanding Officer, the officers, and their ladies.

The annual dinner, followed by a concert, was held on Jan. 15th. This was a huge success.

Congratulations to Sgt. Slane and L/Sgt. Seaton on being awarded first class certificates of education.

We welcome Sgt. Berry to the Mess, and wish good luck to Sgt. Rattigan, who has retired on pension.

### SPORT.

Our activities during the winter have been confined to association football and a little hockey. The Depot XI., although occupying only a moderate position in the Saturday League, has succeeded in getting into the final of the Halifax Association Football Cup, and will meet Sowerby United on April 27th. The semi-final against Holmfield proved a closely-contested game, which the Depot won 4—3. Sgt. Seaton and Cpl. Sutherland have always been prominent. Hockey has chiefly been confined to scratch games on the square between Depot Headquarters and the Recruit Company, owing to the green being levelled for the cricket season. We are very glad our new ground is now completed; this should be a very great advantage next season, and should prove one of the best grounds in Halifax.

Cpl. Hawley has represented the Battalion in the inter-unit team boxing.

## 4th BATTALION NEWS.

Since the last issue of the IRON DUKE very little of importance has occurred. Evening classes for the training of N.C.O's and selected privates were continued up to the end of January. These classes have been very instructive and were well attended.

On April 13th the Battalion furnished a guard of honour to Lord Lascelles on the occasion of his visit to Greetland in connection with the unveiling of a memorial tablet.

At the end of January the Battalion lost a very valuable Warrant Officer, C.S.M. A. Parkin, who was discharged on Jan. 31st, owing to the new T.A. Regulation that does not admit men with disability pensions to re-engage. C.S.M. Parkin served for 32 years with this Battalion. He was one of the volunteers who proceeded with the draft to South Africa during the South African War. He proceeded to France with the Battalion during the late War, and although he lost an arm in 1915, he was retained as an instructor until the end of the war.

**SERGEANTS' MESS.**—The annual dinner was held at the Crown Hotel, Halifax, on Saturday, April 13th. The diners numbered eighty. In addition to the serving officers of the Battalion, were the following guests:—Col. A. E. Irvine (147th Infantry Brigade Commander), Col. R. E. Sugden, and Col. J. Walker. The dinner was followed by a smoking concert. The evening was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

## 5th BATTALION NEWS.

The Officers' Ball, held in the Huddersfield Drill Hall on Dec. 21st, 1928, was most successful. The orchestra from H.M. Grenadier Guards played for dancing, and the decorations were most effective, especially the illuminated fountain playing through coloured lights on to a pool filled with gold fish. Souvenir spoons with the Regimental crest were presented by "Father Christmas" to all the ladies present.

The sergeants of the Battalion held their annual dinner at the Boot and Shoe Hotel, Huddersfield, on Feb. 1st, 1929, which was well attended and enjoyable. Their annual ball was held at Huddersfield Drill Hall on March 1st, 1929.

"A" Company's annual ball took place, as usual, in January, at the Drill Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and dancing continued until the early hours. "D" Company, taking advantage of their Drill Hall at Mirfield being redecorated, revived their N.C.O.'s dance, last held in 1913, which was also a very great success, socially and financially.

We are glad to report that the O.C. Headquarter Wing has recovered from the illness which he should have contracted in the nursery, and is now recuperating in the Canary Islands.

Each of the four companies have held their own prize distribution in their respective drill halls. "A" Company at Huddersfield, the prizes being presented by the Vicar of Huddersfield (Canon A. Baines); "B" Company at Holmfirth, Col. G. P. Norton; "C" Company at Kirkburton, Major M. N. Cox, commanding the Depot, Halifax; "D" Company at Mirfield, the Brigade Commander, Col. A. E. Irvine.

"A" Company, accompanied by the Band and Drums, held their annual Church Parade on Sunday, Feb. 17th, at St. John's Church, Huddersfield.

We congratulate Sgt. J. Yaxley, 1st Battalion, on being presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. This medal was presented by the Brigade Commander at the Mirfield prize distribution.

Congratulations to Lts. J. L. Pott and E. E. R. Kilner, each on the birth of a daughter. We also most heartily congratulate Lt. Pott on passing his examination for promotion to Captain.

On Wednesday, April 10th, the officers entertained the Brigade Commander, Col. A. E. Irvine, to a farewell dinner at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield. We are all sorry to say good-bye to him and wish him and Mrs. Irvine much happiness and prosperity in their retirement.

The individual training season is now drawing to an end. The first two companies commence firing their annual course on April 14th on the Deerhill rifle ranges.

## 6th BATTALION NEWS.

The training season commenced on April 1st, and parades for drills and musketry are now in full swing. The annual camp is to be held at Ulverston from July 28th to August 11th.

Col. N. B. Chaffers completed his period of command on Feb. 16th, 1929, and has been posted to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers with the rank of Brevet Colonel. Major F. L. Smith has been promoted to the rank of Lt.-Colonel, and assumed command of the Battalion from Feb. 16th, 1929. Capt. J. S. Spencer has taken over the duties of

Second-in-Command from Col. F. L. Smith. Capt. E. H. Llewellyn has taken over command of "D" Company at Keighley. Lt. G. Fell has assumed command of "C" Company at Skipton. Lt. E. D. R. Whittaker has assumed command of "A" Company at Barnoldswick. Congratulations to Lts. G. Fell and J. M. Ogden on their promotion.

A farewell dinner to Col. N. B. Chaffers was held at the Black Horse Hotel, Skipton, on Jan. 25th, 1929, at which 20 officers were present. The usual toasts were honoured and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The toast of the Colonel was proposed by Capt. Spencer, and in reply Col. Chaffers said he much regretted having to relinquish command of the Battalion. His associations with the officers had been very happy, and he was glad that the officers were now at full strength. He announced the receipt from headquarters of an intimation that the machine gun platoon of the Battalion had received highest marks throughout the Brigade for general proficiency. That, he said, was a signal honour.

C.S.M. W. F. Waind (W. Yorks Regt.), having completed his tour of duty on the permanent staff of the Battalion, has been reposted to his unit. C.S.M. H. Hardisty, 1st Battalion, has been posted to the permanent staff of the unit, in relief of C.S.M. Waind. Sgts. W. H. Ratcliffe and M. Robinson and Cpls. J. E. Bridge and W. Hawkins, "H.Q." Wing, attended a course of instruction in machine guns at Strensall during February, 1929, and obtained satisfactory reports. Pte. J. Pickles, "H.Q." Wing, has qualified at a local course of range taking.

The strength of the Battalion on March 31st, 1929, was 17 officers and 482 other ranks.

## 7th BATTALION NEWS.

MUSKETRY, 1928.—The figures of merit for companies was as under:—1st, "B" Company, plus 26·14; 2nd, "H.Q." Wing, plus 17·91; 3rd, "D" Company, plus 16·51; 4th, "A" Company, plus 12·37; 5th, "C" Company, minus 19·78.

MINIATURE SHOOTING LEAGUE, 1928-29.—The result of this competition was as follows:—"B" Company, 1st, 12 points; "H.Q." and "C" Company tied, 10 points each; "D" Company, 3rd, 8 points; "A" Company, 4th, 0 points. Highest averages in Battalion (possible 28).—1st, Lt. H. Bridge, "C" Company, 27·0; 2nd, C.S.M. Hellawell, A, "B" Company, 26·37; 3rd, L/Sgt. Wood, N., "B" Company, 24·71.

ANNUAL BATTALION DINNER.—The annual Battalion dinner was held at the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, on Friday, Jan. 25th, 1929, and passed off very well.

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.—The 7th Battalion team won the group cross country championship at Kirkheaton on 9/3/29, v. 5th Bn. D.W.R. The Battalion entered a team for the 49th (W.R.) Divisional cross country championship at York on Saturday, March 23rd, 1929. The team was as under:—Pte. A. Norcliffe (capt.), Pte. J. Norcliffe, Pte. W. Cousins, Pte. W. C. Cook, L/Cpl. S. H. Squires, Pte. W. Taylor, Pte. W. Davies, Pte. N. Titherington. The 7th Battalion gained second place in this competition, and the first two men home were Pte. A. Norcliffe and Pte. J. Norcliffe of this Battalion.

GENERAL.—It is to be remembered that this year is the "coming of age" of the Battalion as part of the Territorial Army, and a supper is being held on April 8th in commemoration of it.

## 9th BATTALION NEWS.

After a lapse of some years, a re-union of members of the 9th Battalion was held in Halifax on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 1929. Between 50 and 60 sat down to dinner at the Crown Hotel, Horton Street.

Col. E. M. Huntriss, who formerly commanded the old 9th, was present and "in command again," and he was supported by Major Robertson, who came specially from Winchester College, and Lt. Bladen, Stoke-on-Trent. For the space of a minute the men

stood silently at the tables, at the request of the Colonel, in commemoration of "the men who went out with us but never returned." Arrangements for the re-union were carried out by the two secretaries, Messrs. W. Fletcher and A. Lucas, both of Halifax. A telegram of good wishes was received from the Editor of the IRON DUKE.

Major Robertson, in proposing the health of "The 9th Battalion," mentioned that he had tried to get a move on in the production of the Divisional history. Ten years had gone and it was not yet out, though it was all written. Still, whether there was a Divisional history or not, the 9th Battalion would live in the memory of many.

Col. Huntriss later replied, and observing that he commanded the Battalion a year, said he was voicing the feelings of all by expressing their gladness at the good news about the King. (Applause.) Proceeding, he said he never thought he should have an opportunity of speaking again to the men of the 9th Battalion. He and others spent time and money after the war in bringing about these re-union gatherings, and for a year or two they were a great success, but since they seemed to lag. "I regard it as a great compliment to me," he continued "to be asked to come here to-night, and though it is only for a few minutes, I feel it a great privilege, to take command again." The kindness of the two secretaries in arranging the re-union, and of Major Robertson in coming all the way from Winchester, where he was looking after other people's children, spoke well, he considered, for the *esprit-de-corps* of the 9th Battalion. It would never die so long as re-unions could be continued. Since the War he had been abroad to Africa and America, but he implored the men never to think that he could ever forget the days when he was among them in France. It was his privilege, too, on Nov. 11th each year, to put a small wreath of Flanders poppies on the memorial in the Parish Church, and in every week of the year a small bunch of flowers was placed there in memory of their dead comrades. The Battalion had been able during the last few years to help a few men who had been down and out. A small fund was worked on the same lines as the O.C.A. of the Regular Battalions. If it was brought to his notice that a man required help, the case was inquired into and if he found that he possibly could, he always helped that man. (Applause.) In concluding with a reference to the IRON DUKE, the Regimental magazine, edited by Col. Trench, formerly in command, Col. Huntriss said there was now a great bond of union between the Regular Battalions, the Territorials, and the Service Battalions.

After the dinner, a social and musical evening was spent, and the proceedings were kept up merrily for two or three hours.

## 1st BATTALION THE YORKTON REGT. NEWS.

NEWS of the Battalion is quiet during the winter months, as our activities are "frozen up" to some extent as far as training is concerned. However, several interesting functions of a social nature have been enjoyed.

A Garrison dinner was held in October, at which the officers of the 16th Canadian Light Horse and those of the 64th Field Battery R.C.A. joined us. The dinner was presided over by our Hon. Lt.-Col., Brig.-Gen. Alex Ross, and this get-together evening was enjoyed by all. It was decided to make these gatherings an annual affair.

Word received from Capt. H. M. Lovell, O.C. "B" Company, located at Kelvington, reports an enjoyable Easter Monday military ball. A full hall of happy people from all parts, good music, and, not least, good service by the mess staff. A real success, and typical of the thoroughness of "B" Company.

"A" and "C" companies, stationed at Yorkton, have held weekly parades for training in all branches at the Old Court House during the winter months. These meetings have been the means of signing up a number of recruits. Major J. O'Regan, Capt. I. E. Berner, and Lt. H. L. King have had these parades in hand, and these officers report two strong companies for annual camp. It should be mentioned that the W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s of these companies have worked very hard toward the successful results obtained by these trainings.

The next big activity is annual camp, to which all are looking forward.

Scene: The Local Theatre.

Characters: Harassed producer and Pte. Harvey, 1st Bn. Yorkton Regiment. Pte. Harvey is assisting as stage hand (no doubt exists as to his nationality).

Overture ended. Lights flash and flash. No result. Audience in an uproar. Ah! at last!

Producer: "Hi, there, come on, man, come on. Run up the curtain!"

Pte. Harvey (thrusts head round the drop curtain): "Run up the curtain yourself! I'm employed 'ere as a stige 'and, not a blinkin' squirrel!"

## The 13th Battalion Mascot.

THROUGH the courtesy of Col. C. V. Edwards, the officer in charge of Infantry Records, York, we are enabled to publish the following facts:—

Lt.-Col. R. J. Colnson, late the Hampshire Regiment, on taking over command of the 13th Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment at Dunkirk, during the summer of 1919, found attached to and living with it a small boy, about ten years old. He had apparently been with the Battalion for some time, and was a sort of regimental mascot, dressed up and called "Sgt.-Major George Nicholson."

On receiving orders to take the Battalion to England for disbandment, Lt.-Col. Colnson tried to find out whether the boy had a home anywhere, but without success. Being faced with the alternative of leaving the boy with the French authorities dealing with lost children or taking him to England and finding a home for him there, he chose the latter. On disbandment of the Battalion at Shoreham in October, 1919, the boy was found a home with the parents of a soldier of the Battalion, named Trenholme, at Thirsk.

Lt.-Col. Colnson agreed to the arrangement, and a fund was raised, called the "Mascot Nicholson" Fund, and a Miss Richardson, daughter of the Rev. — Richardson, living at Thirsk, has acted with him as co-trustee.

Lt.-Col. Colnson has constituted himself the boy's guardian, and last Christmas, after consulting his co-trustee and the boy's employer, Mr. Walker, removed him from the Trenholme family at his own request. Also, at the boy's request, Col. Colnson has applied for his naturalization as a British subject. He considers him to be undoubtedly of French nationality.

We should welcome any information our readers can give as to how and when the boy came to be adopted by the 13th Battalion.

## THE COMING OF AGE OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY.

WE print below the message from H.M. the King to the Territorial Army on the occasion of their coming of age:—

Craigweil House, Bognor.

On this, the 21st anniversary of the formation of the Territorial Army, please convey my sincere congratulations to all ranks.

The Empire will never forget the inestimable services rendered by Territorial troops throughout the Great War, more especially during those early and critical days before the New Armies were ready to take the field. The gallantry and self-sacrifice of the men who fought and fell will be an inspiration for all time.

I send my best wishes for the future of the Territorial Army.

April 1st, 1929.

GEORGE R.I.



## THE REGIMENTAL WAR MEMORIAL.

AN account appeared on page 190 of No. 11 (October, 1928), Vol. IV., of the IRON DUKE of the inaugural ceremony of the Lamp of Remembrance in the Regimental Memorial Chapel in York Minster. Photographs are now given of this handsome silver lamp and of the Credence Table, presented in memory of Lt. M. J. G. Whittam, 8th Battalion *vide* page 45 of No. 9 (February, 1928), Vol. IV., of the IRON DUKE.

## OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATIONS.

### 1st, 2nd and 3rd (P.S.) BATTALIONS.

DURING the period from July 1st, 1928, to date, the Committee have received 182 applications for assistance—including those referred to in No. 12 issue—and of these, 109 have been assisted by grants to a total of £190 0s. 4d. and six by loans to a total of £116. Eighty-six have been assisted from the O.C.A. Fund to a total of £155 16s. 11d., nine have been assisted from donations received from Lt.-Col. W. G. and Miss C. Officer to a total of £11 5s., eight from the 3rd Battalion fund to a total of £4 8s. 11d., four from the 9th Battalion fund to a total of £15, two from the 10th Battalion fund to a total of £3 9s. 6d., making a total of £190 0s. 4d.; £40 of the £116 granted as loans to members has been refunded up to date. In addition to the above grants, 14 have been given clothing and boots.

The Committee have received from the 2nd Battalion two sums on account of collections on behalf of the widows of the late Pte. E. Cole and Cpl. F. Govus, amounting to £66 14s. 5d. and £13 10s. respectively. Both amounts have now been paid to the respective widows. In addition, the Rev. G. Hewitt, Church of England Chaplain, Ahmednagar, has obtained a grant from the "Byng" Fund of £8 for the widow of Cpl. Govus. This amount has also been paid to the widow. The Committee sincerely thank the Rev. G. Hewitt for his kindly efforts on behalf of Mrs. Govus.

The Committee have again to thank Lt.-Col. W. G. Officer for further gifts of clothing; also Capt. V. C. Green, Lt.-Col. M. V. Le P. Trench, and Mrs. Eddis, of Rowsham, Harrow. Mrs. Eddis was resident in Rangoon during the period the 2nd Battalion was stationed there from 1899 to 1902.

The Committee regret to announce the deaths of the undermentioned:—Capt. W. H. Yeoman, ex-C.S.M. H. Dewhirst, ex-C.S.M. R. Drumm, ex-Sgt. J. Teasdale, ex-Pte. J. E. Lloyd, ex-Bandsman G. T. Oliver, and ex-C.Q.M.S. G. Harrison. The sympathies of the members of the Association is given to the families of each.

The annual London Dinner was held at the Maison Lyons, Shaftesbury Avenue, on Saturday, April 27th. Seventy-five members attended.

The Colonel of the Regiment was, owing to a chill, unable to attend, and in his absence Brig.-Gen. C. V. Humphrys presided. Others present were:—

Brig.-Gen. P. A. Turner, Cols. J. A. C. Gibbs and C. J. Pickering, Lt.-Cols. K. A. Macleod, F. H. B. Wellesley, L. Herapath, and W. G. Officer, Majors C. W. G. Ince (Hon. Sec., London Dinner), E. C. Boutflower, and M. N. Cox, Capt. E. Bellew, E. Brook, E. Hanna, C. E. Naylor, Duncan Paton, C. Oliver, R. A. Scott, Capt. H. K. O'Kelly arrived immediately after the dinner, Lts. F. R. Armitage, O. Buckley, W. F. Browne, J. Hanna, E. J. Readings, C. Westmacott. 1st Battalion.—R.S.M. E. Smith, Sgt. J. Myatt, L/Sgt. F. Alexander, Cpl. A. Martin, L/Cpl. E. Tite, Pte. A. Henn. Depot.—Sgt. F. Balls, Cpl. J. E. Smith.—Messrs. A. C. Blanchard, W. Blanchard, F. Boyle, J. Brewer, F. Burns, G. Carney, W. E. Clarke, D. Coppack, W. Cowling, H. Davis, J. Dodman, R. Duffy, R. J. Duffy, J. Eycott, J. Eycott, Jun., Pensr. H. George, W. H. Gower, M. Grady, E. Hanwell, L. A. Harper, J. J. Hart, A. Hemblis, A. E. Lindsell, W. Mathers, T. Matthews, F. May, F. P. Mockridge, F. Murphy, J. W. Paling, J. F. Parker, H. Rawson, W. Rush, A. C. Smith, T. Sunderland, J. A. Stafford, A. E. Tippet, E. C. Taylor, A. Westbrook, A. Whitaker, J. Whittaker, T. White, J. Woodcock, and the

Reporter from the Halifax Courier & Guardian, who served with the 1/4th during the Great War. The oldest soldier present being A. Westbrook, who joined the Regiment in 1870.

After the toasts of "The King" and "The Regiment" had been duly honoured, the Chairman read a message from the President, in which he expressed his regret that he was not allowed to attend, but hoped that all present would have a pleasant evening. Other messages were received from the Editor of the IRON DUKE, Capt. J. H. Moore, and the Leeds Branch of the O.C.A.

The Chairman opened his remarks by expressing the regret of all present at the absence of the President from that meeting and, on behalf of all present, he expressed the hope that Gen. Sir Herbert Belfield would soon be well again. Gen. Humphrys went on to say how proud the Regiment must be of the deeds of both the 1st and 2nd Battalions in work and in play. Both Battalions had received excellent reports on their efficiency, and in the field of sport they both held wonderful records. During the past year the 1st Battalion had won the Southern Command rugby cup, and boxing cup, and had carried all before them at the Southern Command Horse Show. They had also done well in the Army rugby cup. The 2nd Battalion before leaving Singapore had distinguished themselves at polo, rugby and association football. Before closing his speech Gen. Humphrys mentioned that he had met that evening one whom he had not seen for forty-five years, and he made the room ring with laughter at some racy stories of the Regiment in those past times.

After dinner old comrades gathered together in groups, and from the cheerful noise there was no doubt that all were enjoying the renewal of old friendships. It was generally agreed that the dinner was an excellent one, and, consequently, the room has been re-engaged for the London Dinner on the day of the association cup final in 1930.

#### LEEDS AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

The first annual general meeting took place at the Adelphi Hotel, Leeds, on Friday evening the 25th January, 1929. The President, Mr. N. E. Teal, had unfortunately to leave soon after the meeting opened and the Chair was therefore taken by Capt. C. Oliver, vice-President. Before a very good attendance "A toast on the recovery of His Majesty 'The King'" opened the meeting. The question of an annual dinner was discussed and the hope was expressed that every member would endeavour to be present. In recognition of their good work the officials and committee were re-elected for a further twelve months. In order to conform with the rules, three members were necessary to complete the committee and Messrs. Banham, Watson and Storey were elected. An open social followed the meeting, several ladies being present.

Old days, old friendships were recalled and revived at the first annual dinner of the Branch which was held on Saturday evening, the 2nd March, 1929, at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, in commemoration of the "Battle of Paardeburg." Mr. Normal E. Teal, President of the Branch, occupied the chair, supported by ex-Sgt. J. L. Serle (Teddy) and ex-R.Q.M.S. A. W. Steele, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

The toast of the Regiment coupled with that of Gen. Sir Herbert Belfield, was proposed by Capt. C. Oliver, who said that throughout his varied experience he had never yet come across a unit anywhere where discipline and interior economy were better or where there was a happier feeling between all ranks. It was that spirit which the Old Comrades' Association sought to perpetuate in civil life.

Old Comrades present included Sgt. T. Greaves, who joined the 1st Battalion 46 years ago, Ptes. John Tobin and T. West, who first went on the square 38 years ago, and Capt. C. Oliver, who retired last year after 37 years' service. Truly one can say "old soldiers never die."

Mr. W. Paling, Hon. Secretary of the Regimental Association, congratulated the Leeds and District Branch. Leeds he stated had performed some wonderful work in the short time, and great credit must be given to the officials. They had given a fine lead to Bradford and Sheffield where he hoped similar branches would be established.

An old friend of the Regiment was present in Mr. Frank, who accompanied the 1st Battalion on the territorial march through Yorkshire in 1903. He was the correspondent of the *Yorkshire Herald*, and compiled the record of the march.

The evening was marked by the meeting of two very old friends, "the long and the short of it." Ex.-C.S.M. T. Hayton, who stood 6 ft. 3½ ins., and Pte. G. Storey (Tapps), who never stood over 5 ft. in ammunition boots.

In addition to those already mentioned, the following were present:—

Messrs. J. N. Allan, P. Atkins, M. Banham, G. Barker, H. Barrett, J. W. Devine, G. Finding, G. Foster, R. Gilligan, J. Harrison, R. J. Hill, R. M. Hill, J. B. Holmes, R. K. Jones, A. Kershaw, H. Oxley, W. Parker, A. Phillis, J. E. Tillotson, E. Tweedy, J. Tobin, L. E. Vickers, J. H. Webster, C. L. Waterhouse, W. Wilkinson, and W. Watson.

The dinner was followed by a most successful social, which was attended by several ladies.

#### 4th BATTALION.

The annual meeting which was held on Saturday, 23rd February, at the Queen's Hall, Halifax, after which 200 Old Duke's dined together, was the most successful gathering of the Association since the war. Among those present were:—Brig.-Gen. R. E. Sugden, Col. J. Walker, Lt.-Col. A. L. Mowat, Majors H. H. Aykroyd, E. P. Learoyd, W. C. Fenton, and W. F. Denning; Capt. E. V. Blakey, W. B. B. Yates, F. Irish, A. Shaw, N. T. Farrar and N. S. Beswick, and Lt. L. Pratt.

Mr. H. Haigh presided over the meeting, and extended a hearty welcome to the many old comrades.

The financial statement was submitted by Major Learoyd. The income and expenditure account showed an excess of expenditure over the income of £8 7s. 7d., and the balance sheet showed capital of £1,119 9s. 8d.

The secretaries' report was read by Lt.-Col. Mowat, and the following are extracts from it:—"It is with profound regret that it is necessary to record the death of Lt.-Col. H. S. Atkinson, T.D., J.P. In the midst of a busy life so largely devoted to public service he always found time to take a great interest in any work connected with the welfare of ex-service men. By his passing the Battalion has lost an old commander who was loved and esteemed by all who had the privilege of serving with him, and the Association has lost a much valued and honoured member.

Finding work for unemployed members has had the constant and earnest attention of the committee. By appealing to employers of labour and giving letters of recommendation, it is pleasing to report that the committee has been successful in placing 23 members in suitable employment.

During the past year groceries to the value of £164 15s. 3d. have been distributed.

During the year the sum of £96 4s. has been advanced in the way of loans to enable members to extend or commence small businesses of their own, and in the same period £34 6s. has been repaid by members.

Several members who have been seriously ill have been sent away to the seaside for convalescent treatment, and, undoubtedly, have benefitted greatly by the change of air. The committee also interests itself in the welfare of children who lost their fathers during the war, and in three cases, thanks to the assistance granted by the committee, these children are receiving higher and better education than they otherwise would have had."

Officials appointed for the ensuing year were:—Chairman, Mr. F. Smith; vice-chairman, Major Fenton; treasurer, Major Learoyd; secretaries, Col. Mowat and Major Denning.

The loyal toast having been honoured, Gen. Sugden proposed the toast of "The Regiment." After referring to the present activities of the various battalions of the Regiment, Gen. Sugden went on to say that he did not think there were many Army battalions which could show such a gathering as that ten years after the Armistice. Coupled with the toast was the name of Major Aykroyd, who was about to take over command of the battalion. They knew that the battalion under his command would be in good hands.

The chairman, in proposing the health of Col. Mowat, Major Denning and Major Learoyd, recalled how Col. Mowat speaking from the Town Hall steps ten years ago when the Battalion returned from France, said he hoped that he might be spared so that he could give some part of his life in the service of ex-servicemen, and especially those who had served under him. They all knew how well he had kept his word.

One of the features of the gathering was the community singing conducted by Mr. King, with Mr. H. Lunt, also of Liverpool, as pianist. Old wartime songs, folk songs, and choruses popular in the 90's were heartily sung and thoroughly enjoyed.

The Association is extremely pleased to learn of the honours recently bestowed upon one of their members, Brig.-Gen. Sugden, late Commander of the 147th Infantry Brigade. He is now a J.P. of his native town, Brighouse, and Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding. In February he was also appointed chairman of the Yorkshire area of the British Legion. Another member of this Association, Mr. F. Carrington, has recently been appointed chairman of the Elland Branch of the British Legion.

All "Old Duke's" will join in wishing Major E. P. Chambers "much happiness." He was married to a Leeds lady last week. Major Chambers was the first treasurer of this Association.

The severe weather and lack of employment has kept the Association very busy since the last issue of the IRON DUKE. Cases have been helped from Rotherham, Birmingham, Bradford, Barnsley, Durham, and East Yorkshire in addition to many cases in the local area.

### 6th BATTALION.

The annual report for the year ending 31st December, 1928, shows that the Association is still progressing.

The report, presented by the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Capt. J. Churchman, showed an increase of 20 members during the year, despite the fact that the names of 22 members have had to be erased owing to non-payment of subscriptions. Three new life members and one honorary life member have been admitted, making a total of 18 life members of all ranks.

We have to regret the loss of two members by death during the year:—ex-Sgt. J. Wildman, who died in September, 1928, and Lt. J. Brennand, who died in January, 1929.

The finances of the Association are still in a very sound state, the balance at the bank on the 31st December, 1928, being £114 7s. 1d., an increase of £18 19s. 11d. on the previous year.

Several cases for relief have been investigated, and grants to the amount of £4 have been made.

The next annual meeting and dinner will be held on the last Saturday in November, due notice of which will be sent to all members.

## REGIMENTAL RECORDS CUPBOARD.

THE desirability of having some central place where Regimental property and records can be safeguarded has been under consideration for some time. This want has now been met by the purchase of a steel cupboard which has been placed in the Officers' Mess at the Depot under the personal supervision of the Major in Command.

Rules have been approved for its use by the Colonel of the Regiment, and copies of these have been sent to the Officers Commanding the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the Depot; also to the Secretary and Treasurer of the following funds:—War Memorial, Dinner Club, Regimental History, O.C.A., and the Editor and Business Manager of the IRON DUKE.

All correspondence in connection with depositing documents, etc., should be addressed to the O.C. Depot, who will also give any other information asked for.

## THE WAR MEMORIAL PENSION FUND.

(1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD BATTALIONS.)

THERE has been no change to record during the past twelve months. The same three pensioners are still on our roll, Mr. J. B. Pearce, Mrs. S. J. Shelston, and Mr. D. O'Shea. The accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1928, are as follows:—

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.
Balance brought forward 1st		Paid out in pensions ... ..	65 0 0
Jan. ... ..	0 11 10	Typing, postage, stationery,	
Income from 3½ per cent. Con-		etc. ... ..	3 9 3
version Loan ... ..	69 5 2	Printing annual statement ...	0 12 6
		Credit balance of Fund ..	0 15 3
	£69 17 0		£69 17 0
	£69 17 0		£69 17 0

### INTENTIONS.

Daddy made a nonsense of his Company attack,  
 His orders were ambiguous, his frontage was too small ;  
 He's never very clever before breakfast, people say,  
 And his appreciation wasn't explicit at all.  
 His plan was most original, quite off the beaten track,  
 But in practice, it was obvious, it wasn't really right ;  
 And a culminating bloomer my poor Daddy made to-day—  
 He hadn't his intention written down in black and white.

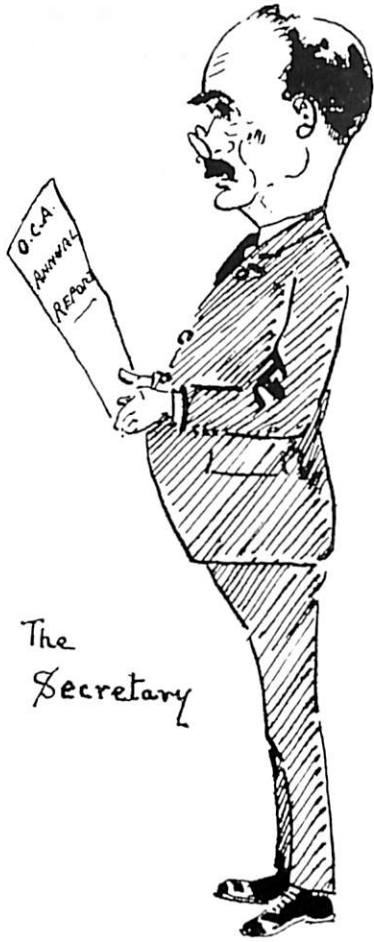
Oh, Daddy ! what do the good books say ?  
 Isn't it clearly written ?  
 " A definite intention is essential to success,"  
 And you blundered on without one till you got in such a mess,  
 That the Brigadier was livid at your sickening display,  
 And you naturally got severely bitten.  
 You meant to beat the enemy, you meant to take the hill,  
 But all you did, poor Daddy, was to make the Colonel ill,  
 Because, you silly clown,  
 You forgot to write it down,  
 And put it in your pocket like the good books say.

The Colonel said that Daddy was deplorably inept,  
 (The Colonel uses words that I can never understand),  
 But the Brigadier was quite a good deal less polite than that,  
 So Daddy's for the high jump, and he'll get a reprimand,  
 And Daddy's very poor ; he hasn't got a bean except  
 His pay, and if he gets the sack, we'll simply starve outright.  
 Oh, Daddy, do remember to get your intention pat,  
 And have it in your pocket, written down in black and white.

For Daddy ! that's what the good books say.  
 Isn't it clearly written ?  
 " All subordinate commanders must have their intentions fixed,  
 And written down on paper, so as not to get them mixed."  
 And Daddy, dear, it's obvious that if you disobey,  
 You'll go on getting most severely bitten.  
 You meant to beat the enemy, you meant to take the town,  
 You meant to do a lot, but, ah ! you didn't write it down ;  
 And now you're on the mat,  
 And you'll get a bowler hat  
 If you go on disregarding what the good books say.

R. G. T.

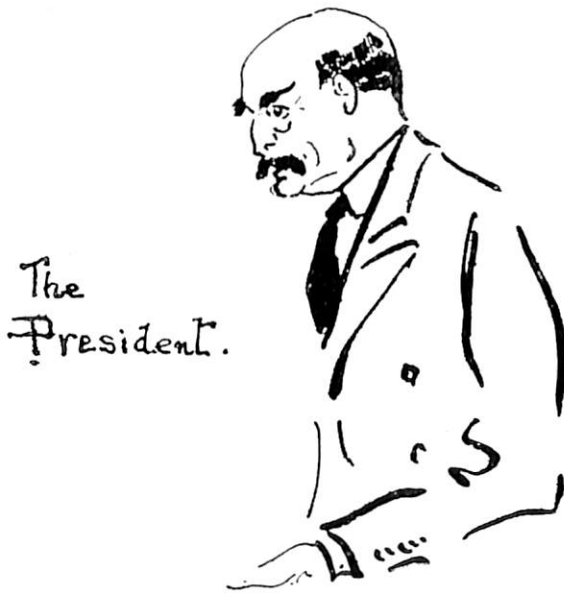
THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION.  
(O.C.A.)



The  
Secretary

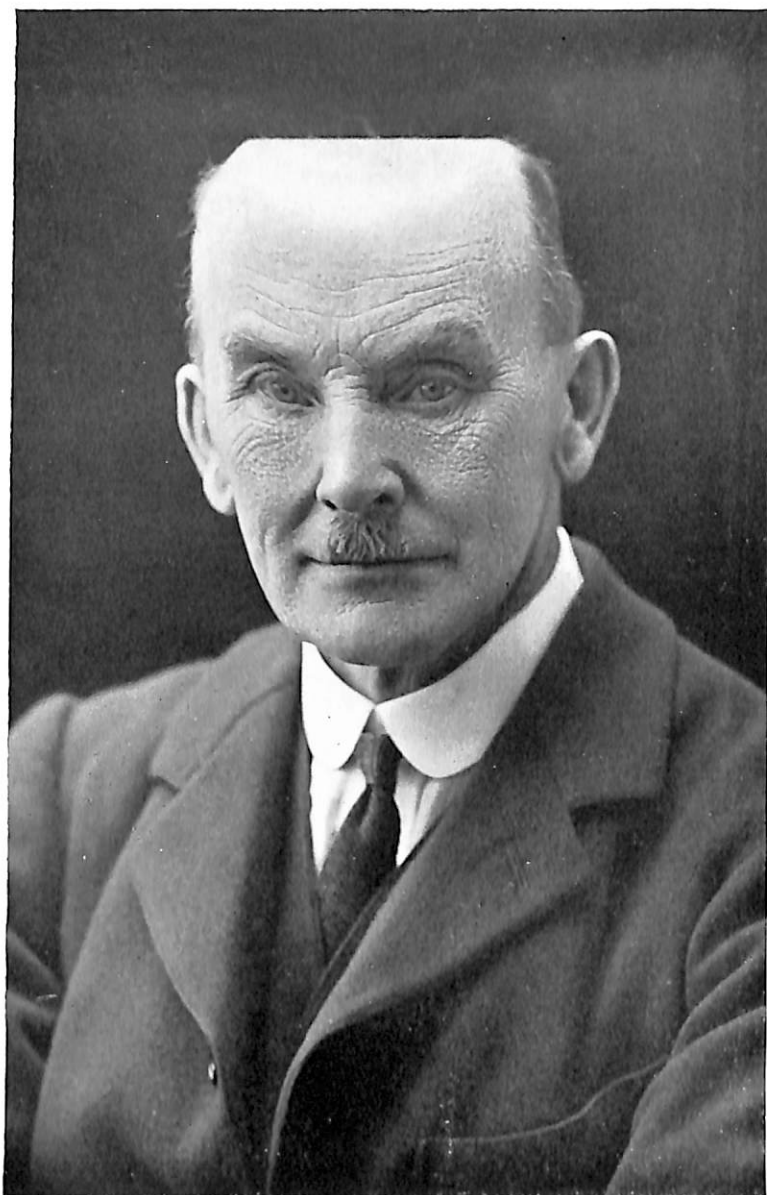


A. Trustee.



The  
President.

W.S.



Colonel J. A. C. GIBBS, C.B., Hon. Treasurer Regimental War Memorial Fund.

## Extracts from Letters written by Capt. William Thain.

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

(Continued from page 54, No. 12, February, 1929.)

[The following extracts complete the series which have been published in the IRON DUKE since its second number. In closing these extracts, I take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to Lt.-Col. W. M. Martin-Leake, late the Cheshire Regiment, for so kindly lending such interesting letters for the purpose of making extracts.

C. W. G. I.]

“Naas, 7th Nov., 1829.

“MY DEAR FATHER,

\* \* \* \* \*

“On the morning of the 4th, after three days notice Major-Gen. Dalbiac (late 4th Dragoons) arrived from Dublin at 9 o'clock, attended by Capt. Sullivan, 3rd Dragoon Guards, his A.D.C., and Capt. Lord Brudenell, 8th Hussars, Brigade Major. When they came the weather was rather rainy, therefore he proceeded first to the examination of our books in the Mess room, with which he found no fault, and might have praised, but that he is not given to flattery or commendation.

\* \* \* \* \*

“General Dalbiac is a little old man and apparently peevish. I don't think I saw him smile once. He reprimanded and found fault without mercy, but praised nothing. He did say our men's rooms were very creditably clean and he also recommended the Commanding Officer of the 53rd to go and take pattern by them, but it would be impossible to come to any conclusion as to his opinion of our discipline or efficiency. The inspection was an unsatisfactory one; if wrong in anything we were not corrected, and if right in everything we were not told so.

\* \* \* \* \*

“Lord Brudenell ran away with another man's wife, and I have heard that when Lord Cardigan (or whoever his father is) first saw the lady (then married to his son) he remarked that he was not surprised that Brudenell should fall in love with a woman so beautiful! Poor comfort for Capt. Johnson, her former husband. I have got such a nice lad as an ensign to my Company (first cousin by the bye to Lord Brudenell), George Aug. Vernon Graham, from the Royal Military College, son of Lt.-Col. Vernon Graham, late of the Queen's, and nephew of my old friend Sir George Cooke. Grote\* is in London, and writes that he had seen Sir John Keane, who told him that everything was in train for Knight's succeeding Moffatt† and his getting his majority. Knight expects a letter from Sir John about it to-morrow or next day—'Step for Joe.'‡

\* \* \* \* \*

“Our Jamaican intelligence is down to the 7th Sept., when they|| were quite healthy and still at Fort Augusta.”

“Naas Bks., 24th Nov., 1829.

“MY DEAR FATHER,

“Parade for muster this morning, and a very cold morning it is with a strong north-easterly wind. After muster, was read the copy of a letter to the Right Honorable Lt.-

\* Capt. Grote.

† Lt.-Col. Samuel Moffatt.

‡ See the IRON DUKE of June, 1927 (No. 7).

|| The 33rd.



Gen. Sir John Byng from Lord Hill, forwarding his Lordship's comments on the Reports of the several Committees of enquiry held to investigate the Books and Records of certain corps in this country. The letter is sent to each of the said corps with his Lordship's comments respectively, and contains the expression of his deep regret that so much that is bad should have been practised in said corps, obliging him to make such severe animadversions as he has done, etc., etc., etc., forming together with the comments themselves a useful lesson to commanding officers and others calculated to last at least through the present generation. The letter is much better written than the comments are, which give evident proof of having been drawn up either by an inferior hand or else with much less temper and deliberation. Those upon the Depot of the 33rd Regiment state that 21 cases of *fraud* have been discovered, 11 of which, however, have been explained. Did ever anybody hear of a fraud having been explained? Surely Lord Fitzroy Somerset\* should have written 11 errors and 10 frauds, if frauds there were any which is not at all proved except inasmuch as that the parties when brought before the Chelsea Board of Pensions took oath that the statement of services in their discharges were correct. The saving to the public in these 21 cases is £28 per annum, and £130 to be refunded by quarterly stoppages from the pensioners. Some of the individuals have been ordered to refund the whole of the sum over issued, some only one half, and some none, but all are reduced to their proper rate of pension according to the Regulations in force at the time. If you consider that in regiments similar cases have been discovered by hundreds, you may conceive what good will have been achieved by the time the whole army has gone through the same ordeal. Every discharge granted in the 33rd since 1812 is to be minutely enquired into as soon as the description books with the service companies have been received, embracing a period of 17 years, 11 of which I was Adjutant. The fact of some mens' services not having been completed in the Depot description book, and that of the allowance called oil and emery money having been applied contrary to regulations, are strongly animadverted on, as is also the circumstance of the men having one year been charged 7½d. each for shoulder knots.

\* \* \* \* \*

"To your question 'Whether or not the Peninsular men have or have not the same right to prize money as those of Waterloo?' my answer is that there doubtless is Peninsular prize money as well as Waterloo prize money. The Peninsular War was divided into three or more periods, and the claimants for prize money were classed accordingly. Thus a man might be entitled to share as belonging to the first, second, or third class, which was determined by the date of his landing, and that of quitting the Peninsular. So some few became entitled to the prize money of all three classes, who had the good fortune to survive the whole war from the time the army landed in Portugal to the time it returned from Bordeaux.

\* \* \* \* \*

"We have just received some copies of Supplementary Articles of War. By one of them it is ordered that a soldier may be deprived of additional pay and beer money for two years if convicted before a District or Garrison Court-Martial of having been drunk four times within twelve months, or twice drunk for duty or parade within the same space of time, as proved by reference to the defaulters' book or by competent witnesses. By another it is directed that no soldier shall be discharged unless his services, conduct, character, and the cause of the discharge be ascertained before a regimental board consisting of a major, or second-in-command, and two captains, to be held for the purpose of verifying and recording these necessary particulars in the discharge, on which document the decision of the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital on the soldier's claim will be made. Some others against malingering, wilfully maiming, etc., are also most useful.

\* \* \* \* \*

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\* Secretary at Horse Guards, 1827.

" There has also been received from the Secretary at War ' Instructions for Keeping the Regimental Records of Soldiers Services,' which appear to me to be most excellent. I wish I could send you a copy, for you would be pleased to see that at length everything is brought to depend upon character and conduct, and I think we may expect to see a very great improvement in the *morale* of the army resulting from these Regulations and Instructions. The King's Warrant containing the Pensioner Regulations is dated 14th Nov., 1829, and Sir Henry Hardinge's\* Instructions bear date the 25th Nov., 1829—perhaps they may appear in the Monthly Army List or United Service Journal for December or January.

\* \* \* \* \*

" Naas, 18th March, 1830.

" MY DEAR FATHER,

\* \* \* \* \*

" We met with a sad disappointment soon after I wrote to you last, in learning that the intention of removing us to England had been changed, and we had almost made up our minds for a long stay in this country, when to our great joy Mackay received a letter from his friend Enoch†, Deputy A.Qr.-Mr.-General at the Horse Guards, three days ago, stating that orders had been sent to the Navy Board to provide transport for us from Dublin to Liverpool, and that we are to be quartered in the Northern District.

" In the Northern District there are six depot stations—viz., Stockport, Burnley, Hull, Carlisle, Sunderland, and Berwick, so that you may amuse yourself by quartering us in your imagination at any one of these you may think the most likely to be our destination, for we know nothing more than I have told you.

\* \* \* \* \*

" Naas, Good Friday, 1830.

" MY DEAR FATHER,

\* \* \* \* \*

" This last month (25th Feb.—24th March) has been a very heavy month for me. New cap, forage cap, sword, belt, £9 10s. 6d., though I went the cheapest way to get them that I could and did get them cheaper than any of the other officers by at least three pounds. New coat and epaulettes not yet paid for, owing to my wanting the ready, and which therefore stands another item against me in the bill of the Baron Stulz, who never duns, but I perceive claps 5 per cent. on if not paid off at the end of the year. Five pounds for a new outfit for a new servant and so on to the tune of three and thirty pounds, a quarter's mess and Band subscription, £3 8s. 8d., included. The abstract of my account runs thus:—Messing, £3 6s. 5½d.; wine, £1 12s. 1d.; breakfasts, 14s. 7d.; clothes, £13 6s. 11d.; washing, 2s. 6d.; servants, £4 15s. 4½d.; subscriptions, £3 8s. 8d.; postage and stationery, £1 3s. 3d.; pay sergeant, £1 11s. 11d.; trip to Dublin, four days, £2 7s. 3d.; sundries (including charity, hair dresser, etc.), £1 1s. 4d.; total, £33 0s. 4d.

\* \* \* \* \*

" Did I tell you that the recruiting was stopt until regiments fell below 660 privates? Six service companies at 78 instead of 82, and four reserve companies at 48 instead of 53. Our service companies by the last returns were 81 privates each, so that unless an extraordinary number of casualties should occur, it seems unlikely that we shall send out a draft this year, and we have seven captains out.

\* \* \* \* \*

" Your most affectionately,  
" WM. THAIN."

(Concluded.)

\* Secretary at War, 1828-30.

† Lt. John Enoch, 23rd Regt.

## CAPTAIN BROWN.

Boy ! the tub from my bath-room, with a dozen chatties bring,  
 That, whilst seated in the water, o'er me may this punkah swing,  
 Pour the chatties gently o'er me ; let me sit awhile in peace,  
 For one blissful hour forgetful, I am Brown of the Police ;  
 Brown at whom decoits have trembled, Brown at whom the public looks,  
 As the active Superintendent of a dozen great Talugs—  
 Great Talugs in which each morning some dread deed of murder's done,  
 And a score of arson cases flare before each morning sun !  
 But, enough ! why should I boast me ? have not I this day been taught,  
 That to woman's greater folly, all our greatness is as naught ?  
 Foolish Woman ! foolish Alice !—ah ! how can my tongue repeat,  
 That one name, which is so bitter, yet was once so very sweet—  
 Sweeter than than breath of lilies, yes, than music sweeter yet—  
 Sweet as when you read promoted to your name in the *Gazette* !  
 Alice, Alice ! thou hast scorned me, though I woo'd thee many a day,  
 Jilted me for that goose Jenkins of the Revenue Survey.

Yet I thought that I had won thee—how I praised thy eyes, thy hair,  
 Told thee what the glass must tell thee—false one, thou art very fair ;  
 Curse thy beauty ! Brown the dauntless, Brown the dread of Wahabees,  
 To a woman, a weak woman, bent in vain his suppliant knees.  
 Shall I e'er forget this morning how my heart leap't in my breast,  
 As I rode up to her compound in full Regimentals dressed ;  
 Redder than my scarlet facings rose the blush upon her cheek ;  
 When I took her hand, and kneeling, cleared my choking throat to speak,  
 " Alice," said I, " pearl of women " (heedless of her sudden frown),  
 " Alice, ducky-darling, hear me, hear your own devoted Brown ?  
 " Sir," she answered, " say no more please, I—hem—only yesterday,  
 " Was engaged to Mr. Jenkins of the Revenue Survey."  
 Blood and thunder, fire and furies ! from my knees I leapt in wrath,  
 Knocked my shins against a foot-stool, crush'd a kitten in my path ;  
 Leapt into the saddle, wildly, madly, homeward dashed away,  
 Gnash'd my teeth and swore at Jenkins of the Revenue Survey.

Boy, pour yet another chattie, for my head is getting hot,  
 Ha ! there's virtue in the coolness of the water in that pot ;  
 Let the water trickle, trickle, dropping like a gracious rain,  
 To revive the wither'd fancies of my poor love-blasted brain ;  
 Love, what word is this I utter ? lips of Brown that word eschew,  
 Leave it to the spluttering idiot, or barbarian yahoo ;  
 Love, my watchword shall be murder ! every Thug shall hear my name,  
 Blackest niggers blanch with terror at the thunder of my fame ;  
 Ho ! each bloated Bramin rascal, who my visage stern may see,  
 Trembling with a vague amazement, shall perspire great drops of ghee ;  
 Yes, the Governor shall hear it, and my worth shall be confessed,  
 Till at length the Star of India blazes on my loyal breast ;  
 Then, ah ! then, shall I take vengeance—foolish Alice, thou shalt own,  
 Alice Jenkins—what a treasure thou once lost in Captain Brown ;  
 Terrible shall be my vengeance ! I will wed a Pariah Maid,  
 Future Browns shall yet wax browner, till at length in black they fade ;  
 I will rear a score of children, teach them to be true Hindoos,  
 They shall worship cows or devils, or whatever they shall choose ;  
 They shall chew the finest betel—on rice, stale salt fish subsist,  
 And in their own bandies driving, learn their bullocks' tails to twist ;  
 But enough ! I'm getting chilly, there's a tickling in my nose,  
 Have I caught a cold, I wonder, boy—atschie ! quick, get my clothes,  
 Alice Jenkins, tschi ! false Alice—there's a buzzing in my ear,  
 Tschi ! confound it, in the water I have stayed too long I fear ;  
 Vengeance ! tschi ! but why defer it ? yes, I'll go this very day,  
 And smash the head of that goose Jenkins of the Revenue Survey.

SECUNDERABAD, 14TH MARCH, 1875.

[The above poem has been sent us by Capt. C. Hyde, of 2706 Selma Avenue, Royal Oak, Burnaby, B.C., late Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion, who writes that it was printed in Secunderabad Military Prison while the 2nd Battalion was in that station, he being a warder at the time.]

## Extracts from a Shooting Diary by the late Lt.-Col. A. G. Horsfall, D.S.O.

(Continued from page 46, No. 12, February, 1929.)

April 16th, 1905.—Very ill during the night, but a little better in the morning. I think it must have been the result of the chill I got yesterday; there was no rain at 5 a.m., but a thunderstorm started at 5.30 and lasted till 1.30. Owing to the way the thunder echoes in these deep valleys, there seemed to be no pause between the different peals of thunder. It snowed or hailed the whole time and the ground round my tent was soon deep in snow. My bearer was down with fever, all my clothes were soaking wet, it was bitterly cold, and I could get no supplies, as the stream, which had come down in big flood, completely cut me off from the shikarris and coolies. A real cheery day. A fresh storm came on at 3 p.m. and lasted till 4.30, when it cleared up for a bit and I went out with the glasses just above the camp, but had to bolt back for my tent almost immediately, as a fresh storm started. About 5 p.m. old Mouhla, who had gone a long way up the stream and crossed by a snow bridge, arrived with some milk and eggs. I gave the milk to my bearer and, with Mouhla's assistance, lighted a fire inside my tent, and although the smoke almost choked me, I managed to cook myself an omelette, while Mouhla made me some chupatties. With these and a packet of soup and some cocoa I made quite a good meal and was quite hungry too, as I had felt too seedy all day to eat anything but a few water biscuits and some tea. About 6.30 p.m. there was actually a glimpse of blue sky, but a fresh storm came on and lasted till I fell asleep.

April 22nd.—Shifted camp to Bruit as I got news of a big bear there that was reported to be very bold and had recently mauled three men. It appears the bear had been killing several goats and the villagers near determined to try and kill him. As they turned out in mass to beat for him, three of them being armed with old muzzle-loading guns. They found the bear all right and started to honk him out of a patch of jungle, but he was not taking any honking and charged the crowd, who thereupon fled. The three men with guns stood firm and fired, all three shots took effect, one hit the village headman and the other two hit other villagers, whereupon the bear charged the three sportsmen and pulled their faces off. I saw one of them, and he was not a pleasant sight, the bear having clawed away practically the whole of one side of his face. This was some three weeks after he had been mauled. The man seemed to be getting on fairly well.

We reached Bruit about noon and after having breakfast I went out to look for the bear but never saw him, and finally returned to camp about 9 p.m.

April 30th.—Had breakfast and then shifted camp to Makau village, en route to Choo-chooriah. There was a funny incident on the march. Two of my permanent coolies were away fetching letters, etc., so I had taken on two other men just for the march. These men had begun grumbling about their loads and would not go on, so my permanent coolies told them that I had got a permit from the rajah to shoot three men and that I had shot one and wanted to get good heads for the other two, but unless these beggars did their work my own coolies said they would ask me to shoot them, though they were not good specimens. The two poor beggars took it all in and set off like lamplighters. I noticed my own coolies roaring with laughter and asked what it was all about, and they told me.

May 1st.—Went out at 4.30 a.m. to look for the bear and forded the stream with a good deal of difficulty; it was waist deep and there was a very strong current. Found the bear was in a cave, so I had about a ton of brushwood collected and made a real big blaze to try and smoke it out, but all to no effect. I was so annoyed about it that I had the fire cleared away and crawled into the cave with my rifle. I got in about ten feet or so and then got stuck. I got in a beastly funk for a minute or so, as I was regularly jammed and expected the bear might come for me. However, I managed at last to

struggle free, but could not get any further in, so chucked it. How those great big brutes of bears manage to get down such narrow caves I can't make out.

[After various stalks after bear, some successful and some otherwise, Horsfall started home, and on May 8th parted with his shikari at Kalel.—ED.]

May 8th.—Had a most affecting parting with old Mouhla and the old man broke down completely. My bearer stopped behind a bit to comfort him; he showed me all his chits, over 20 years of them, and not a single bad word in any of them. Quite half of the writers say he is the best shikarri they have met with, and every one says he is quite straightforward, honest, and truthful. He is quite the best native I have met—a little, rather wizened old man with a beaky nose and grey moustache, a wonderful climber, and keen as mustard, and yet when one misses an easy chance after a long stalk, however disappointed he is, he always tries to cheer you up, always very anxious about you when climbing over bad ground, and whenever we had a gale or heavy rain at night I used to hear the old man coming round to see my tent was all right. Very kind hearted. Whenever we entered a village all the children used to flock round him and yet he never had to speak twice to any of the coolies. I had got to know him pretty well, as often when we were sitting spying for game he would give Mardaywar the glasses for a bit and we would discuss all sorts of subjects and he would tell me stories about other sahibs he had been with. A wonderful judge of distance too; at first I used to back my own opinion as to the range of an animal, but I found he was never much out, and towards the end always sighted for whatever distance he said. The poor old man was very anxious about his grandson, who was down with fever, so I gave him all the quinine I had left and several tins of concentrated soup.

May 9th.—Marched to Chamba, taking the rifle in hopes of seeing a ghooral, but saw nothing. Rajah Bourri Singh had sent a pony to meet me at Mazroon.

Found two other fellows in the new dāk bungalow that has just been finished. One of them just back from a month over Burnoor way had only got one bear and two ghooral; the other was on his way up to Lahoul, and as he had come up provided with all sorts of wonderful appliances, but no cooking pots, I let him have mine.

May 11th.—Marched into Dalhousie, returned unexpended stores, paid off the coolies, cashed an R.T.R. (with great difficulty, as the bank babu would persist that I spelt my own name wrong, so I had to write it very clearly to please him), and, having spent the night at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, and thanked the proprietress, who seemed surprised to see me back alive, as she said I looked so ill when I started, set off early the next morning for Pathankot, en route to Dinapore and duty.

#### HINTS AS TO KIT TO WEAR.

**HAT.**—A soft puttoo hat is far more comfortable than a topi and is much less conspicuous; it also comes in handy to sit on when sliding down snow slopes.

**SHIRT.**—Flannel shirts are best, and may be, with advantage, khaki in colour. A soft flannel khaki hunting stock is very comfortable to wear round the neck, but personally though I had some with me I did not wear them.

**SWEATER.**—A good thick grey sweater comes in very handy in the early mornings; as it gets a bit warmer, it can be taken off and given to the coolie to carry. I think about the best colour is the brownish grey shade of the Government jersey that used to be kept in the quartermaster's stores of British infantry regiments.

**COAT.**—Greyish brown or, better still, grey with a very slight brown tinge is about the best colour, and the lighter the shade the better. I had two suits made of puttoo, but any old shooting coat if of the right colour will do; have the side pockets made large enough to take a pair of field glasses easily, as they are much more easy to get at if carried here. It is as well to have straps on the sleeves so that you can button them tight round the wrists, and also have a double layer of cloth at the elbows or soft leather caps, otherwise you will find if you have much crawling to do when stalking that you will soon wear the elbows through. Have the coat made really loose and with patch pockets at the side.

**BREECHES.**—Of same material as the coat, and they must be really loose at the knee. I always wore breeches fastening with a strap and buckle below the knee; it is as well to have the seat of the breeches and the knees made of double thickness or else leather covered, the former for sliding down snow slopes and the latter for stalking.

**LEG WEAR.** — One thin pair of woollen socks with a thick pair over them (the Government pattern of grey worsted socks are as good as any others for the outer pair) and putties worn inside the boots and not over them.

**BOOTS.**—I found ammunition boots as good as anything. I got them half a size larger than the boots I usually wear and had plenty of

big nails put in; small nails are useless. The following is a good way to make the boots really soft and comfortable:—Put them in a pail of water for five to ten minutes, then take them out and rub in carefully one pot of vaseline, then put them out in the sun to dry; dubbin or vaseline them yourself every day on coming in. In case there is much snow or very bad ground to get over, instead of wearing these a pair of thick socks with a separate division for the big toe; over your coolies can make for you daily.

**STICK.**—A good thick khud stick as sold anywhere up in the hills, about four feet long and about half as thick again as your thumb, with a good iron point, and make sure it is sound.

**WATERPROOF.**—A light khaki waterproof is very useful. I used a Burberry slip-on; it is no weight and may save you many a wetting; a coolie can carry it.

**IN THE POCKETS.**—A good big coloured silk handkerchief, watch, note-book, and indelible pencil; a wrist watch is more handy, but is very liable to get broken when climbing; field glasses; about ten rounds of ammunition (shikarri can carry the rest if needed); a good strong knife with 6-inch blade and saw and a spring catch to prevent the blade shutting; the Balsa tool outfits as sold by the Army and Navy Stores are very compact, handy, and strong, and may take the place of a knife; a few biscuits and some chocolate; matches, string, toilet paper.



A good strong canvas and leather rifle cover is almost essential, as it saves the rifle a lot of knocking about and getting wet, and if provided with a sling is no nuisance to carry.

Whatever you do, don't start eating ice or snow ; it only makes you much more thirsty.

The above is only a rough list of what I found most suitable, and is only intended as a guide for absolute novices. Those who have already done any shooting will know best what to take.

(Concluded.)

## Aintree.

MY cousin Richard, who is more like a friend than a relation, said it was worth crossing continents to see, that one's education could not be described as completed until it had been seen ; furthermore, that thousands of Americans had crossed the Atlantic just to see it and it alone. Why should I not therefore waive my prejudices and motor seventy miles for the privilege of watching between sixty and seventy horses race each other for four and a half miles—jumping meanwhile.

We went together and together arrived in the paddock, wherein I literally rubbed shoulders with the élite. Gossip writers of our more famous "Dailies" or even "Weeklies" could not have stepped upon more ducal insteps than I during my first half-hour there, but this is snobbery pure and simple.

Richard, I must mention, wears a white raincoat together with a flat-brimmed bowler hat. These garments, coupled with a red face in which he invariably wears a straw, lend to him an atmosphere usually associated with "horsey men." In short, he wears the air, on a racecourse, of "one who knows."

As from such a one I gratefully received "inside information" regarding the winner of the first race. Unfortunately the information failed to fructify, and by way of consolation Richard led me to what he humorously described as "The Sherbert Tent"; there he ordered two bottles of beer. I was very touched and appreciative.

I was informed that in order to be certain of a good view of the big event it would be wise to take up a position in the vicinity of the top of the big stand, but before doing so I was to invest whatever money I felt justified in risking. I was also informed that "a good outsider was as likely as not." I should here say that previously I had, with the aid of a pin and a list of the probable starters, arrived at a decision as regards the winner.

Richard, half-truthfully, in his frank way, mentioned that I had difficulty in differentiating with any degree of accuracy between a horse and a ham sandwich, and whilst recognising the soupçon of truth contained in this statement, I refused to be deterred. I therefore approached, with some diffidence, a stoutish gentleman adorned in an alarming check suit ; his tailor will undoubtedly describe him as a "plucky buyer." He was equipped with a stout leather satchel, also a gold watch chain, which toned exactly with the *tout ensemble*. Altogether he had a gilt-edged appearance and I was not disappointed with my reception. In reply to my query, he said in a hoarse paternal voice, "Soldier's Joy, Sir?" "Sixty-five to one to you, Sir," and then in a sudden burst of confidence he surprised me by adding, "Furthermore, as the 'orse 'appens to be my farver's, Sir, I can only say should he win I shall be only too 'appy to make you a present of 'im." What could have been pleasanter than this? The man literally beamed as he took my one-pound note and I left him feeling I had made a friend.

Richard and I then made our way to the top of the aforementioned stand. During our progress we were somewhat rudely buffeted owing to the vast dimensions of the crowd. Of the great race itself I can say little, as I saw little. The crush upon the stand was so intense that I was quite unable to lift a finger to scratch my nose which, owing probably to excitement, itched intolerably. I was also rather embarrassed by the thought that should my horse win, would Richard consider it *infra dig* were I to suggest trotting

him home led from the dicky seat of the coupé. However, to cut a long story short, neither Richard nor I were clever enough to pick the winner, and at the conclusion of a rather exhausting hour, found ourselves again in the paddock, cheering the winner, a gallant outsider, but not mine.

Richard then said, in a way which is all his own, "What about the other half?" This, as I have grown to know, meant literally, "I bought you a bottle of beer two hours ago, it is incontestably your turn now to buy one for me." As I have previously stated, Richard is more like a friend than a relation, consequently I fell in with his whim at once.

He led me again to the place where beverage is purveyed, but on this occasion to a definitely more select and an infinitely more superior place. I requested the being behind the counter to supply two bottles of beer, and he replied rather shortly, I thought, that only champagne was served there. Richard at my elbow said, "Never mind, the best is good enough for me," and I, in my excitement and weakness, "fell." "The Being" produced the champagne, and as I felt for the notes wherewith to discharge my debt, I realised quite quickly that the jostle previously experienced at the top of the big stand had been to the actual profit of some sportsman and that my lucre and I had parted. Richard paid.

My maturer thoughts on this experience have given me quite a warm glow of pleasure. I now know what Richard knew then, that the place of refreshment was "Champagne only"—and Richard paid.

S. N.

## Selections from the Diary and Letters of the late Lt. J. W. Russell, an Officer of the 9th Battalion.

(Continued from page 58, No. 12, February, 1929.)

OCT. 4TH, 1915.—Went on duty at 9.30 a.m. to get the lines tidied up for an inspection by General Allenby. At 11 a.m. the old boy turned up with General Pilcher and two Staff nobs. A. did some of the hardest work he had done for some time trying to see something to find fault with; eventually he spotted some muddy periscopes. I lied like the deuce and said they had only just come up in that condition. Then Wannell arrived from the other end of our line and gave an entirely different excuse! However, they said no more about it. After the Brass-hats had gone we had lunch and waited for our "relieving" officers to arrive. One eventually turned up at 5 p.m., a captain of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, who long ago discarded their horses in England. He seemed "a hard case" but was quite a decent fellow. We gave him tinned herrings and dry bread for tea, and then began waiting for his troops to arrive. They were due at 10 p.m., but began to turn up about midnight. They seemed very decent fellows, Britishers who had gone over to Canada, hardly any "Canadian-born" in the regiment; a fine set of men, mostly toppling built. However, they were a condescending lot of beggars and did not all turn up till 4 a.m., when we started filing out! One officer, who came to Walsh to ask where the Western Redoubt was, said, with proper nasal accent, "Say, sonny, where are these western shacks?"

OCT. 5TH.—We march this evening for "Gerty-wears-velvet." Our ultimate destination is said to be on the south of our line, perhaps really for some fun at last!

Marched over twelve miles at a gruelling pace, the men grumbling like the deuce. Arrived at G. at midnight, stiff and somewhat weary. Short parade at 12 to inspect rifles and respirators. Stroll with Potts up "Monty Cats," but too misty to see anything.

OCT. 6TH.—We are still enjoying ourselves, very comfortable farm billets, and nice class of people. It is awful about dear old K. I am most awfully sorry to hear about it. Still, such things have to happen, and we know that every fellow who goes under in this war has done the highest duty he could do. Such things are much worse for the people at home; we out here get more callous and expect anything. I must write to



his people, though I am a beastly bad hand at writing letters of that sort. It is after the war I shall miss the dear old fellow most. Down to the orderly room at 7 p.m. to hear the "Adjer" talk on latest methods of attack. We came back hungry, but contented, with the prospect of a proper meal. We had roast chicken and leeks followed by rum-omelette and coffee. We drank the health of "Fletcher and his money," as he has been the only man with money on him for the last three weeks, and we are always tenderly touching him for grub-money!

OCT. 7TH.—Kingston came along to see me about raising an Officers' XV. v. Men's XV. We made out a side and hope to get enough to play to-morrow. After lunch went off and tried to buy a fillet off a calf I saw killed in the road just before. The fat old butcher said it was too fresh to be cut for fillets, but offered to sell me a lump of stuff which I thought was its heart. Feeling bold and curious, I paid two francs and carried it off. When I got back, Fletcher congratulated me on having bought some really good stuff, calf's liver, which we are going to have for supper.

Went into the town with Potts and found two quite passable shops, one with quite a gay mademoiselle. Bought some odds and ends, and then went into an R.C. church where they were singing a hymn to the tune of "Abide with me"; it sounded quite good to the ears. Then went to a tailor's, where I bought a bobbin of silk. Met Benjy and Walsh and walked home with them. Neither Kingston nor I could get a promise from the "Adjer" to play Rugger. Took staff parade at 9 p.m. and turned the guard out at 10.30 p.m. Potts very snappy because I woke him up and because he is detailed to take R.C. parade at 6.30 a.m. to-morrow!

OCT. 8TH.—Easy morning parade. Bagged Pott's cap and strapped it on top of the head of a calf, who ran about trying to shake it off. When poor little P. remonstrated, I had to collar the calf and take its bonnet off! Doggy and Alan came round at 12 to see if the match was still on. Short bombing parade after lunch; wounded one fellow *very* slightly in the leg. Then dressed for Rugger; lent my new blue shorts to Potts and wore my old grey pants, but I was the only man on the ground—a first-class field with Rugger posts!—with stockings and footer boots, so I was a bit of a feature. The Officers' XV. was Knight, Hawkes, Potts, Walsh, Benjamin, Pinto, Kingston, Young, Robertson, Low (padre), McColl, Savory, Ferguson, Dacre, Huxtable, and myself. At half-time the men had scored three points to our none. After that the officers' training became worse and worse and the men got a goal and two more tries. It was jolly good fun. After the match Kingston found that Benjy had fractured his collar-bone. He must have played twenty minutes with it broken; quite a plucky effort!

[NOTE.—The Battalion stayed in billets at Godesvaersvelde till Oct. 22nd. The diary for those days gives a happy record of parades, inter-company matches, dinners, etc., finishing with a "B" v. "C" company athletic meeting, which was a draw, and final supper on the 21st, described as follows.]

OCT. 21ST.—We had the Adjutant and "B" Company officers to a really first-class supper. Menu as follows:—Soup, kidneys and liver, fruit trifle, sardines on toast, coffee. For drinks we had stout and champagne mixed in a big bath-jug, white wine, and Benedictine. We had real glasses, borrowed from the billet people, and a white table-cloth, also borrowed. We had a jolly merry dinner and talked till midnight. The "Adjer" told us we certainly beat "B" Company at dinner giving. Major Rodgers promptly promised to go one better when he had the chance; so the "Adjer" promised to come and be the judge again! Went to bed and slept till 8 a.m.

OCT. 22ND.—Marched at 1 p.m. to our present abode, arriving 6 p.m. The men are sleeping 15 to a tent, which helps to keep them warm. Potts, Capt. Robertson, Savory, and I are sharing a tent. After coffee and bread and jam, we turned in and slept somewhat restlessly—chilly, and the ground jolly hard after our soft mattresses!

OCT. 27TH.—Had to get up at 6.45 a.m. Savory, Walsh, Cully, and myself had to parade with 100 men for some inspection. Eventually only twenty men and one officer were wanted, so being junior I got let in. Marched into P. and lined up along a road.

There were detachments of 25 men and one officer from every unit in four Divisions. When we were jolly fed up with standing about, the King suddenly came along, taking the salute of each unit. He had a dozen Brass-hats with him, including the Prince of Wales. After a bit he came back in a motor and we gave him three cheers (after first cheering the wrong car full of staff officers, which seemed to please them!) Stayed in town with Stuart and had lunch—jolly good omelette and coffee. Then tramped back to the Battalion, which had moved into the huts we first occupied on arrival in Belgium (Canada Huts).

At 4 p.m. started for the theatre with Potts, old Bobber, Benjy, Giles, and Knight. We walked about a mile and then jumped a lorry. Pinto and Kingston rode in. The show is called "The Fancies." The actors are some officers, including one of the R.A.M.C., who goes up with an ambulance to the trenches every night after the performance, and two quite pretty (*sic* M.R.) French girls (Lanoline and Grisoline!) We got in good time into our seats, stalls, which Bobber had booked in advance. I saw three Oundelians, but only had a chance of speaking to Wilkins. The show was roarily funny—all comic songs and a jolly good assortment of dresses, kilts, old fishermen, dress-suits, etc. One of the girls sang "Gilbert the Filbert" and the other songs in pigeon English ("You'd naver berlieve me," etc.). Caught another "bus" back to within three-quarters of a mile of camp, and straight to bed after good big slices of cake.

(*To be continued.*)

## Thoughts on Sport.

THE rugby season is just finished, the Association Cup Final is a thing of the past, and the South Africans and the 'Varsities have started their first cricket matches, winter should be over, spring should be in full force and summer almost here, but, like the games, we seem to be getting a bit of everything all jumbled up.

We did not manage to win all the five Test Matches, and one cannot help wondering how much nearer Australia would have been if they had given their young players a chance at the beginning. The South Africans are not making any error in this direction, as they have brought over a distinctly youthful side. There is one "old stager" whose name one misses and who in past teams always pulled his weight; I refer to A. D. Nourse, an old "Duke's." He played for Natal whilst still a drummer in the 2nd Battalion, but his cricket capabilities being recognized by the Natalians, he was, much to our annoyance, bought out before the Battalion left for India; he was certainly a good investment for South Africa. He has, I believe, now settled down somewhere in Cape Colony.

Rugby football has not dealt very kindly with us since I last "thought," and when I say us I mean England and the Regiment. The English selectors, no doubt after due deliberation, made very considerable changes in the team in the middle of the season; this may be good policy as regards the future, but is always risky for the present. Whether or not the old team would have beaten Scotland, who can say? Regimentally we suffered a great disappointment when the King's Own again beat the 1st Battalion by a narrow margin, a disappointment by no means lessened when one hears from eye-witnesses that we had by far the best of the game, and that the result was more our fault than that of the King's Own! I am told that we shall have pretty well the same team next season, so we must hope for better things and not be downhearted! If the 1st Battalion did not bring off the Army rugger, we must not forget that they won the Southern Command Cup against some hot sides and that in boxing they also had a big success. The 2nd Battalion have not had a chance to do anything very much in the sports line, what with their change of stations in December and Brigade training most of January, but I am told that they earned many good marks at the training camp, which, as newcomers to the "Shiny," is rather remarkable.

And so for the time, farewell.

"OLD STAGER."

## The Capture of Ahmednuggur—August, 1803.

THERE is, in the Officers' Mess of the 2nd Battalion, an old book (printed in London in 1804), entitled "Notes Relative to the Late Transactions in the Mahratta Empire." The following extract from it may be of interest in that it concerns the station in which the 2nd Battalion find themselves at present.

The extract follows an account of the negotiations between various powerful Mahratta chiefs, and a resumé of the political situation leading up to the Mahratta Wars. Daulut Rao Scindiah, the Raja of Berar, and Jeswunt Rao Holkar had combined to usurp the power of the Peishwa of Poonah, with whom the British Government had a treaty of alliance, and had gathered like vultures round the territory of this dying potentate.

It is interesting to note that, at this time, Major-Gen. Wellesley's Corps de Reserve at Moodgul consisted, among others, of "Five companies of the 33rd Regiment and seven companies of the 80th Regiment." As far as can be seen, the 33rd took no active part in the following operations.

"The season pressed for decision. The actual prevalence of the rainy monsoon in the provinces of India, which must become the theatre of war, was highly favourable to our operations, and equally unpropitious to any hostile movement of the native powers."

Accordingly—"With a view to the settlement of the Peishwa's territories, and to await the issue of the negotiation with the confederate Mahratta chieftains, Major-Gen. Wellesley marched from Poonah with the main body of the forces under his command on June 4th, 1803, and on the 14th of the same month encamped at Walkee, within a short distance of Ahmednuggur, a strong fort belonging to Daulut Rao Scindiah, at the distance of about 80 miles from Poonah. The force under the command of Major-Gen. Wellesley amounted to one regiment of European and three regiments of native cavalry, two companies of European artillery, two regiments of European and six battalions of native infantry, with a considerable train of artillery, a large proportion of artillery lascars and native pioneers, and a body of 2,400 horse, furnished by the Raja of Mysore.

"Major-Gen. Wellesley received intelligence of the issue of the British Resident's negotiations with Scindiah and the Rajah of Berar on August 6th, but was prevented from moving by a very heavy fall of rain, which lasted for three days, and which had rendered the road from Walkee to Ahmednuggur totally impassable. The weather cleared up, however, on the 7th, and on August 8th Major-Gen. Wellesley commenced his march towards the fortress of Ahmednuggur, the fortified town of which was on the morning of the same day attacked and carried by escalade. On arriving within a short distance of the fortress three parties were immediately formed for the purpose of assaulting the fortified town. The party on the left, commanded by Lt.-Col. Harness as brigadier of the day, consisted of two flank companies of his Majesty's 78th Regiment and the advanced picquets; the centre attack was composed of eight companies of the 74th Regiment with some sepoys, under the orders of Lt.-Col. Wallace; and the party on the right was commanded by Capt. Vesey, who had under his orders the two flank companies of the 74th and the 1st Battalion of the 3rd Regiment Native Infantry.

"The attack under Capt. Vesey succeeded without difficulty; but the scaling ladders of the party on the left, under Lt.-Col. Harness, were placed against a part of the wall which had no rampart, and the troops were fired at from the inside of the town as soon as they had reached the top of the ladders, without the possibility of descending into the town to charge the enemy. Col. Harness, finding that he could not obtain a footing on the wall, drew off the party, and entered the town at another point. In the meantime his centre attack under Lt.-Col. Wallace had moved on and placed the ladders against a bastion, which they carried with great ease. The enemy made some resistance in the streets, a party of Arabs actually charged the grenadiers of the 78th. They were instantly repulsed and put to flight, and the town was soon afterwards evacuated by the enemy, who had suffered some loss."

The account of the storming of the fort itself we find in Major-Gen. Wellesley's own despatch, headed "Camp at Ahmednuggur, August 12th, 1803."

"On the 9th I reconnoitred the ground in the neighbourhood of the fort, and on that evening Lt.-Col. Wallace, with five companies of the 74th Regiment and the 2nd Battalion 12th Regiment, seized a position within four hundred yards of it, on which, in the course of that night, a battery was constructed for four guns to take off the defences on the side on which I proposed to make the attack. This opened at daylight on the 10th, and it was so advantageously placed, and fired with such effect, as to induce the Killedar to desire that I should cease firing in order that he might send a person to treat for his surrender. In my answer I told him that I should not cease firing till I should have taken the fort, or he should have surrendered it; but that I should listen to whatever he was desirous to communicate.

"Yesterday morning he sent out two vakeels to propose to surrender the fort, on condition that he should be allowed to depart with his garrison, and that he should have his private property.

"Although I consented to this proposal, it was 5 in the evening before the hostages arrived in camp, without whose presence I refused to stop the fire from the British batteries. According to his engagement, however, the Killedar marched out of the fort this morning, with a garrison of 1,400 men, and the troops under my command took possession of it. . . .

"Your Excellency must be well acquainted with the advantageous situation of the fort of Ahmednuggur on the frontier of his Highness the Nizam, covering Poonah, and as an important point of support to all our future operations to the northward. It is considered in this country as one of its strongest forts; and excepting Vellore, in the Carnatic, is the strongest country fort that I have seen. It is in excellent repair, excepting the part exposed to the fire of the British troops.

"I shall have hereafter the honour of transmitting to your Excellency an account of the ordnance, stores, and grain which it contains."

Immediately after the capture of the fort, Major-Gen. Wellesley proceeded to take possession of all the districts dependent on Ahmednuggur, yielding an estimated annual revenue of 634,000 rupees. A respectable garrison was stationed in Ahmednuggur; and every other arrangement being completed, Major-Gen. Wellesley continued his march.

The next part of Wellesley's march—namely, from Ahmednuggur to Aurungabad, is the identical march which the 2nd Battalion made in January to and from Brigade training. He crossed the Godavery river on the 24th, presumably at the same spot as the 2nd Battalion—namely, Toka, and on August 29th arrived at Aurungabad.

Aurungabad was the last bivouac of the 2nd Battalion before reaching Kazipur Camp; and it is said, though we have no definite proof of the fact, that no British troops have been quartered there, even for a night, for over a hundred years, and that the last were Major-Gen. Wellesley's.

J. V. K.

## Tommy Atkins in Society.

We hear on good authority that Miss Jane Brown, the charming debutante, has been transferred from the unattached list as "best girl" to Sgt. Lovelace.

Some three evenings ago, at a somewhat late hour, the new wing of the canteen at Mordon was opened by Pte. Cracksman. There was an entire absence of ceremony, and the whole affair was carried out in the quietest and most unostentatious manner.

Pte. Cornerboy, having retired from the Army, has taken up again his former appointment of Inspector of Public Buildings. Interviewed by our representative, he declined to give any reason beyond the bare statement that the Army didn't know a good man when they saw him.

Pte. Absentee, accompanied by Cpl. Keeper and a friend, left London yesterday by the midday train. On arriving at Aldershot he at once took up his quarters in the apartments kindly set apart for him by the authorities in the regimental guard room, where he will remain some days.

The Loamshires are much regretting the departure of Miss "Tilly" Smith, daughter of that distinguished soldier, Cpl. Smith. This charming young lady has gone on service with the rank of general, £30 a year, and every evening out.

Pte. Batman has joined the house party at the Duke of Bradford's, accompanied by Capt. the Hon J. R. Montgomery.

Reports from Bulford state that Smith's Fried Fish and Supper Bar, the local Ritz, is crowded each evening with distinguished personages. Few of its clients leave without carrying away with them some of the dainty produce of this establishment.

Finding the strain of regimental duty too heavy, Cpl. Weary has retired from the active list and gone into the quartermaster's office.

There is at present a good deal of activity in house-letting. Pte. and Mrs. Grey have taken "Broker's Cottage," an ideal summer residence, Pte. Jones has gone into residence at the "Glass House," and Pte. Walker has taken "His Hook."

Following the example of so many leaders of society, Pte. Spud Murphy is shortly leaving the Army and going into the coal and 'tatur business.

We learn that Pte. Crayon, who left the Army last year, is creating quite a furore in artistic circles. His exhibition, which is being held on the pavement outside the Bull and Bush, is drawing large crowds daily.

JOHN AYE.

## EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY OF THE GREAT WAR.

(Continued from page 50, No. 12, February, 1929.)

**A**FTER describing his leave in England, and various delays at Southampton on his return journey, Sgt. Miles continues:—

Nov. 17<sup>TH</sup>, 1916.—Another trying journey lasting all night and the next morning, and we find the Battalion in the same place as we had left it. A bit of luck for me, as it means a good billet.

Nov. 22<sup>ND</sup>.—After being here (Domleger) six weeks, and having a thorough good rest, we prepare to go up towards the line again. Here we are in the village of Bertaucourt. There is a large factory here employing hundreds of girls, who make quite a fuss of our Tommies. It is a very straggling village, and the company is scattered over a large area. We only stay here one night, worst luck (I have a very good billet) and off again to-morrow. Now we are in a village known as Rhubempré, a funny little village. We are only here for to-night. Next we go to Englebelmer. It is pouring with rain, and the old billets (tumble-down barns) are leaking at the roofs, so it is anything but pleasant. Still with two blankets, and a good old fire, we managed to keep warm and more or less cheerful. We stop here two days. From here we go into the line at a place called Beaucourt Hamel, to the right of Beaumont Hamel, and to the left of the river Ancre and Thiepval Wood. It is still pouring with rain, and the mud is inches thick everywhere.

We relieve the Naval Division (63rd). They have had a rough time judging from the number of dead lying around. We passed, on our way up to the front line, a German transport that had apparently been caught by our shell fire. The wagons were smashed to matchwood, and there were dead horses everywhere. A whole convoy had evidently been wiped out right at the cross roads. This is an unhealthy spot, we soon find out, shells coming from all directions, and the mud is in most places up to our waists.

DEC. 4TH.—We have been in the line a week to-day. The dugouts here are very deep, but the roofs drip with water, and there is six inches of water under foot. We have to sit on boxes and put our feet up into recesses cut out of the walls to try and keep dry. Gum-boots are issued to us, but I don't like them, as there is a danger of frost-bitten feet. They tend to retard the circulation of the blood. There are dozens going sick with trench fever, and I don't wonder at it, for nowhere about here is it less than a foot deep of mud, and the dead bodies all around smell terribly. Still, it could be worse.

Last night we were relieved by the Lincolns (33rd Brigade). We had one particular bit of bad luck when one of the mules carrying four one-gallon jars of rum got bowled over and we lost all the rum. To-morrow we go back to the village of Englebelmer *via* Hamel and Mesnil. There was a general's motor car badly damaged by a shell, and we learn that one of our generals had been severely wounded. Both Hamel and Mesnil are shell-shattered villages void of any inhabitants and still under shell-fire. Now we are at Englebelmer, but buses are coming for us to take us back for a rest to-morrow.

This village is Archives, and right down the main street are big lorries belonging to the A.S.C. It is a nice little village and we are very comfortably billeted. We arrived here about 2 o'clock in the morning and found hot tea and rations waiting for us. We were in an awful state, covered from head to foot with mud. All the next day we were trying to get some of it off. We are issued, a good many of us, with new clothing and boots. Not before time either.

DEC. 22ND.—Christmas Day for us, as we go into the line on Christmas Eve. This is our first Christmas in France, too. I have had two parcels and several letters from home. Well, we had a very enjoyable Christmas Day. Most of the lads had had enough Vin Blanc and Vin Rouge to make them merry. We passed the time by a game of football in the afternoon and a quiet game of cards in the evening. It poured with rain at night.

DEC. 25TH (Christmas Day).—We are back in the trenches on the Ancre. We came as far as Lancashire Dump (Avelouy Wood) in motor buses. We stay here until New Year's Day, when we go right back. The weather is simply awful now, raining the whole day long day after day. It is quite a common occurrence for a fellow to lose his boots and socks through being stuck in the mud. I was leading the way up with a ration party last night when they passed the word up that one of the fellows had disappeared down a shell-hole. When I went back to investigate, I found that the fellow had sunk up to his armpits in the mud in a deep shell-hole. We managed, after great difficulty, to extract him from his precarious position.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1917.—I shan't forget to-day, or rather last night, in a hurry. Evidently our gunners were vying with each other as to who should fire the last shot of the old year. First one battery and then another would send over a salvo, until "Jerry" was fed up and thought he'd have a hand in the fun. And didn't he give it us too! We were back in supports and had two cookers blown up and four cooks wounded, and a couple of dugouts blown up, one of which caught fire. But the irony of the whole thing was when one of the chaps who had just been warned to proceed on leave was killed while going along the trench to tell his chum the good news. We get relieved to-night thank goodness.

After a good deal of marching, we eventually arrive at a village called Beaumetz (not the same as before mentioned). This is on the Somme and very decent billets too. Evidently we are out for a long rest, for we have ordered wood and felt from the R.E.'s to repair our billets and make camp beds.

JAN. 19TH.—We have been here a fortnight and are quite comfortable in our billets. We have arranged a Divisional football competition, and matches take place almost daily.

We have also formed a concert party, which gives concerts three times a week. So we are having quite a good time. The rations, too, are quite good. We hear that our fellows have advanced considerably from the trenches we last occupied. I thought there would be an advance before long, as I believe "Jerry" was preparing to retire when we were there; owing, I think, to the state of the roads being almost impossible to get through the mud. I forgot to mention a little incident that occurred whilst on our last tour of duty in the line. A company of Dorsets, on the right of the river Ancre, went over one night on a bombing raid, but they went over the second line of trenches before they saw a Boche, but coming back they ran into swarms of them. They were evidently hiding in the subterranean tunnels, of which there were hundreds in this sector, when they first went over. The Dorsets, many of them, were taken prisoners. The next night two companies of the Yorks went over. They must have gone a kilo, and never met a living soul.

FEB. 28TH.—We move to-morrow. I'm going on the lorry, as my leg is still stiff.

MARCH 6TH.—After a long journey, passing through the recently captured villages of Le Sars and Bapaume, a large town, we arrive at a little village called Hermies. Last night we took over a camp of the Australians. This village is just behind the firing line, which is just in front of Havrincourt Wood. On our left is Bullecourt, where our Territorial Battalion had such a rough time a few days ago. It seems fairly quiet here at present. The village is a heap of ruins. We relieve the Australians in the line to-night.

MARCH 10TH.—This is very quiet compared with the last place and the weather is quite springlike. I was indulging in a bath in the trench yesterday with the aid of an old large saucepan when who should come along but the Divisional general ("some" person out here); he had to smile to himself as I was perfectly naked and had no chance of putting anything on.

E. M.

(To be continued.)

## Seringapatam.

THROUGH the courtesy of the Editor of the *Sketch*, we reproduce opposite photographs of Seringapatam, which appeared in that paper on June 21st, 1899, with the following explanatory account:—

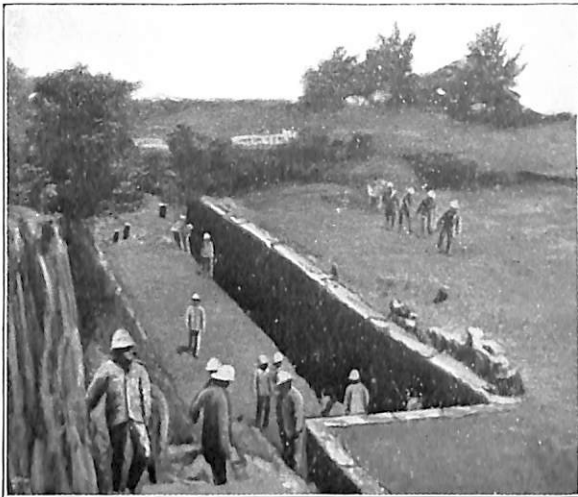
An admirable attempt to teach Tommy the reason of his presence in India was made on May 4th, 1899, when eight officers and two hundred men of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment visited Seringapatam, and were told the history of its fall exactly a hundred years ago. Hyder Ali defeated us in the war of 1767-9, but was beaten in a second campaign, 1778-82. Another war (1790-2) ended in Tippoo (his son) yielding us half of his kingdom and paying £3,000,000. He ultimately plotted with the French. The British Lion thereupon attacked the Tiger by sending a magnificent army of ten thousand men against him, which reached Seringapatam on April 5th, 1799. The town was held by fifty thousand men, and was surrounded by fortifications. But it was stormed by Sir David Baird (who had been a prisoner in Tippoo's dungeon for three years), and fell on May 4th, 1799. Tippoo fled from the outer to the inner fortifications, but was shot just as he was entering the Sally Port, where he was discovered after sunset under a heap of the slain. The central portion of the old State of Mysore was restored to an infant representative of the Hindu Rajas, whom Hyder Ali had dethroned, while the rest was partitioned between the Nizam, the Mahrattas, and the English. Sir George Harris was raised to the peerage, and the future Duke of Wellington got his marquissate. That, in brief, was the story told to the Duke's Regiment of how we increased our Indian Empire.

It is noteworthy that in the first campaign against Seringapatam the 76th Regiment formed part of Lord Cornwallis' right attacking column under Gen. Meadows; whilst in the later campaign the 33rd Regiment formed part of Gen. Baird's left assaulting column. Commemorative medals were struck on both occasions and are described on page 113 of No. 7, Vol. III., of the IRON DUKE, and photographs of them appeared on the opposite page.

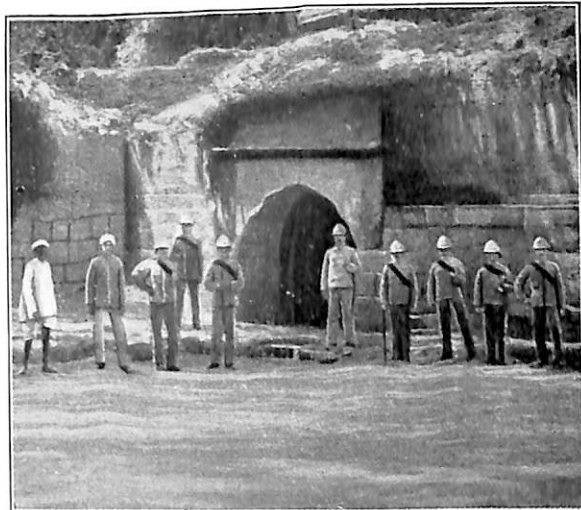
THE CENTENARY OF SERINGAPATAM.



Major-Gen. McLeod explaining to men of the 2nd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment the incidents of the siege from the place where the breach was made in the outer wall. (Photographed by Armr.-Sgt. Price).



The Dungeons under the ramparts (photographed by Captain J. A. C. Gibbs), where Tippoo kept his prisoners, whose writing is still visible on the walls.



The Sally Port of the inner wall (photographed by De Tufo, Bangalore), where Tippoo made his final stand and was killed.



33rd REGIMENT.



WATERLOO (Obs.).



CRIMEA (Obs.).



TURKISH CRIMEA (Rev.).



WATERLOO (Rev.).



ABYSSINIA (Obs.).



TURKISH CRIMEA (Obs.).



CRIMEA (Rev.).



ABYSSINIA (Rev.).

## REGIMENTAL MEDALS.

FROM the earliest times medal collections have been made by private individuals, also very fine old ones are to be seen in museums and other public institutions; but it is only of comparatively recent years that regimental collections have become more or less general. After the South African War the War Office decided to offer regiments and battalions specimens of any medals earned in former campaigns by members which happened to remain unclaimed in the Medal Department; such medals to be held in trust by the regiment. The result of this decision no doubt accounts for the fact that it is the exception in these days to go into any officers' mess and not to see some sort of collection, small or large, hanging on the walls; and one cannot help thinking how many chances have in the past been missed of acquiring for a few shillings many additional medals, which, if they have escaped the melting pot, now cost pounds. Personally I should like to see the War Office offer extended so as to enable units to obtain at cost price, if necessary on trust, any of their former members' medals they might like to acquire, which remained unclaimed after a certain time had elapsed since the date of being authorized. Some day it is to be hoped collections may be seen in all sergeants' messes and even regimental institutes, as, not only would they serve to remind the younger generations of the campaigns of their predecessors, but an opportunity would be afforded for bequests of medals to their old regiments by many who have no near relations to prize them, and thus obviate their finding their way to auction sales, or, worse still, to the pawnbrokers.

\* \* \* \* \*

In the present paper only those medals and the clasps awarded officially to either the 33rd Foot, the 76th Foot, or to units of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment are dealt with. Fuller details about each variety, as also the authorities for each issue, and to which regiments, etc., are to be found in one of the many excellent works which exist on the subject, a copy of one of which is, I believe, in each battalion of the Regiment.

## MEDALS GRANTED TO THE REGIMENT.

## (1) TO THE 33RD FOOT.

**WATERLOO** Authorized in Gazette of 23rd April, 1816. Medal of silver, 1·4 inches in diameter. Ribbon, crimson with blue edges. Obverse, the head of the Prince Regent. Reverse, the figure of Victory with the word "Wellington" above, and the word "Waterloo" with the date June 18th, 1815, below it in the exergue. The medal was originally issued with a steel clip holding a large steel ring, but the latter was replaced in many cases by bars of various patterns by the recipients. Names and regiments were indented in large block letters on the rim of the medals. The official medal roll of the 33rd contains 581 names.

**CRIMEA** Two medals.

(a) The British medal authorized in General Orders of December, 1854. Silver, 1·4 inches in diameter. Obverse, the head of Queen Victoria with the words "Victoria Regina" above, and the date 1854 in the exergue. Reverse, the figure of Victory crowning a Roman warrior with a laurel wreath, and the word "Crimea" inscribed vertically on the left of the figure. Clasps, ALMA, BALACLAVA, INKERMAN, SEVASTOPOL, the last named was subsequently authorized for issue to every man who had served in the Crimea between the dates 1st Oct., 1854 and 9th Sept., 1855, and had been present at Alma *and* Inkerman, or at one or both of the battles of Inkerman and Balaclava. Only one infantry regiment was "officially" present as a unit at Balaclava on 25th October; the 33rd in common with the rest of the infantry had suffered so heavily at Alma as to be incapacitated from action. Seventeen only of the Regiment were recorded as entitled to this clasp.

The names and regiments of recipients are to be found either indented in block letters or engraved. Owing to the medals having been originally issued with plain rims and then subsequently called in to have them officially indented, many men who had received theirs personally from Her Majesty at the Horse Guards Parade in May, 1855, were unwilling to part with them for fear of not getting the identical one back. This resulted in permission being given to have the medals engraved under regimental or other private arrangement.

The bulk of the medals were despatched to regiments whilst still in the Crimea, but the method of issuing them left much to be desired, for instead of being assembled and engraved according to the rolls before despatch, medals and clasps arrived in separate packages and often by different ships, resulting in no little confusion in their distribution as well as in the arrangement of the clasps. Many men were known to have received clasps to which they were not entitled. Medals are often to be found incomplete as regards the Sevastopol Clasp, no doubt owing to men having left the Service or having died prior to it being authorized, and no claim having been sent in for it.

(b) The Turkish medal issued by the Sultan to all British, French and Sardinian soldiers and sailors engaged in the war. Silver, 1·4 inches in diameter, with a crimson watered ribbon with green edges. Obverse, a gun with a map of the Crimea over it, standing on the Russian flag with an anchor and mortar alongside, and with the four allies flags grouped in the background. The arrangement of the flags differs according to which nation the medal was intended for, the flag of that country being in front with that of Turkey, and the other two in the rear. The medal for the British troops bears the word "Crimea" and the date 1855 in the exergue. Reverse, the Sultan's cypher in a wreath, and the word "Crimea" in Turkish characters below and the Hegira date 1271.

Owing to the majority of those intended for the British being lost in transit through the ship being wrecked, an indiscriminate issue of the balance was made without regard to nationality, and consequently British troops in many cases received medals intended for the French or Sardinians. In addition to the arrangement of the flags they are easily distinguished as the former has the words "La Crimée" and the latter "La Crimea" in place of simply "Crimea" in the exergue. Like the British medals they were issued without names, etc., and many are to be found still in this condition. Generally speaking they were roughly executed, and it is recorded that a better die was subsequently made in England and new medals struck for officers in place of those issued originally.

The official medal roll of the 33rd contains 1303 names.

ABYSSINIA Awarded to all troops engaged in the Abyssinian War between 4th Oct., 1867, and 19th April, 1868. Medal of silver, 1½ inches in diameter. Ribbon 1½ inches wide, crimson with broad white edges. Obverse, a crowned and veiled bust of Queen Victoria within a beaded circle, and surrounded by a nine-pointed star, in each of the inner angles of which is a letter of the word Abyssinia. Reverse, a wreath of laurel within which is inscribed *in relief*, the name and regiment of the recipient within a beaded circle. An imperial crown and a large silver ring for suspension purposes surmount the medal.

The official medal roll of the 33rd contains 862 names.

(Complimentary medals bestowed on members of the 33rd for these three campaigns will be mentioned later on in this paper).

(To be continued.)

J. A. C. G.

## MEN OF MOMENT, No. 6.

THE FIELD OFFICER.  
(Meditates upon his figure).

At the sad eventide, when all the earth  
Is hushed, and all the little breezes quiet,  
I meditate on my increasing girth,  
And with decision stern  
All luxuries to spurn,  
Resolve that I must organise my diet.

Now wings the bat his swift, mysterious flight,  
The colours fade upon the distant hills,  
And still I wonder wildly why despite  
The lore of Mr. Müller  
My waist grows ever fuller,  
And, ah! the incidence of tailors' bills!

The lambs have ceased their skipping; there is  
peace,  
Save where some hidden nightingale awakes.  
How strange the little lamb should grow obese  
And so soon turn into  
Some stout and ponderous ewe,  
Considering the exercise it takes.

Night falls—and lo, the splendour of the stars,  
I hear a badger badging in the bank,  
I beat my head against th' unyielding bars,  
For why should gold laced cap  
Entail this handicap?  
Why should my waist grow greater with my  
rank?

So, subalterns, attend unto my song,  
You of the lissome waist and cheeks of down  
Restrain your young exuberance; for ere long  
The day will come, I ween,  
When you must choose between  
A slender figure and a major's crown.

You make reply, "We will eschew rich fare  
Like steak-and-kidney pudding, Sir, because it  
Adds inches to the Torso." I declare,  
"Your hopes must wilt before  
The unexorable law,  
That extra pay means adipose deposit."

O. P.

## Capture of the Wonderwork, September 14th, 1916.

THE capture of the Leipzig Salient was among the last of a series of minor actions which had to be undertaken with the object of preparing the way for larger operations to follow in the Battle of Flanders Courcellette, Sept. 15th, 1916, and the operations which resulted in the capture of Thiepval, the Stuff and Schwaben Redoubts, Sept. 26th, 1916. To the 32nd Infantry Brigade, 11th Division, which consisted of the 9th West Yorkshires, 6th Yorkshires, 8th Duke of Wellington's, and 6th York and Lancasters, was assigned the task of capturing the nests of machine guns situated on the lower slope of Thiepval Ridge behind the Hohenzollern Trench, known as the Wonderwork (German trench map Wunt Werk), taking Turk Street, a small trench which lay between Hindenburg and Hohenzollern, on the way.

The only information available about the Wonderwork was that it was impregnable. Even the heavies could make no impression on it, and there is no doubt that it was a very strong post with its machine guns admirably placed, the only way to take it being to follow the barrage as closely as possible and to knock out or capture the enemy machine gunners before they could get to work.

By 4.30 p.m. the Brigade was in position for the attack. Zero hour had been fixed for 6.30 p.m., the 8th Duke of Wellington's and the 9th West Yorks each being disposed on a two-company frontage with one company in support and one in reserve. A full complement of bombers and four Lewis guns were to accompany the attacking troops; each man carried 220 rounds of ammunition, six bombs, extra rations, and in the case of the attacking companies each man had either a pick or a shovel.

The attacking companies were to go forward in two waves, Duke of Wellington's on the right, West Yorks on the left; and both were to make for the final objective (the Wonderwork), leaving a few men in Turk Street, the first objective, as they passed it. The 6th Yorkshires were to make a bombing demonstration to the left of the West Yorks, the York and Lancasters forming the general reserve.

Going up the line we passed any number of guns, the gunners cheerfully informing us that they were going to help us all they could. They did, too; I never saw more accurate shooting than they put in that day.

At 6.28 p.m. the first waves left Hindenburg Trench, forming up in the open as coolly as if on an ordinary parade; and I immediately moved the first supporting wave, which it was my job to take over into the trench they had left. This movement was greeted by spasmodic firing from Turk Street, and a machine gun began to stutter in a rather erratic manner, which meant that somebody was nervous.

At 6.30 p.m. the bombardment began, and a perfect storm of shell fell on the enemy's positions. Turk Street, only 150 yards away, disappeared in the haze caused by bursting shells. The bombardment was carried out by a part of the 2nd Corps Heavies, three batteries French "75's," the 11th Divisional Artillery, and part of the 25th and 48th Divisional Artillery, with Stokes and machine guns in addition.

As the barrage began to creep forward, our fellows and the West Yorks followed it so closely that they sustained a few casualties from our own shells. The enemy had by now put down a heavy barrage which caused a good many casualties, particularly among the attacking force, and we had quite a few. However, we went out and brought any wounded in that we could find, and of course there were several who could walk; in fact it was surprising how badly men could be wounded and still keep on their feet. The attacking troops had gone on—that was all the information any of them could give us. About this time a man arrived with a two gallon jar of rum which had been sent up; he had just placed it down very carefully when a shell splinter struck it and smashed it to bits; his language must have been awful, only we could not hear much of it for the din. The enemy barrage lifted shortly afterwards, so perhaps they heard him. I can imagine some people smiling at the idea of rum in the front line during an attack. Well, I would just give them a turn of front line work as we had it on the Somme in 1916.

Shortly after this I had crept out to see if possible what was happening in front, and when I turned round to get back I saw that a man (one of ours) had followed me. I did not know him, and I said, "Hello, what are you doing here?" He replied, "Well, you are here, Sir, and you might have been hit, and there would not be anyone to bring you in."

About 7.30 p.m. the C.O., who was rather anxious, as he had received no reports, sent me to find out what had actually happened; so I took a corporal and off we went. Desultory shelling was still going on, and the moon was just showing through the clouds. We came first to Turk Street and found the caretakers, who told us that there were some men in the dugouts and that they were going to do them in if they tried to get out. (I believe 120 were collected there the next day.) This was quite satisfactory, so we went on and soon came across some men digging. I found the C.S.M. of "Z" Company and found out that all the officers had become casualties, which decided one thing, that I had to stop there and carry on. The Wonderwork was captured, the problem now was to keep it, as the enemy were certain to come after it before long. I found out where our left flank joined the West Yorks, our right being in the air. Over 100 prisoners had been taken, most of whom were utilized to carry wounded back. I sent back for one platoon to assist in consolidation and one platoon to collect wounded, three Lewis guns, as we had lost three, and two Vicker's for defensive purposes, all of which arrived in due course.

When the Vicker's guns arrived I had already decided on their position; the officer who came with them did not like my selection, as he had to place them some considerable distance apart, so I had to tell him rather pointedly that there was only one fellow running that bit of the show and it wasn't him. He was hit by a stray shot while I was talking to him and died shortly afterwards. Then the French "75's" started counter-battery work, firing over our trench, and very soon we had to lie down, as the wind from their shells nearly blew us over, so I sent back and got them switched off. Our men were quietly digging when I spotted a party coming up; I went to see who they were, and found that they were an officer, sergeant, and about 35 men of the Brigade Field Company, R.E. The officer asked me if I knew where his men had to go, as he had to hand them over and get back (I think he wanted to get back). I said I would show them where to go, and I put them on making our right flank secure. They had been sent to work

on a communication trench. Shortly afterwards the R.E. sergeant sent me word that he had spotted a party, presumably enemy, coming on to the right flank. That was sufficient indication to me that a counter-attack was coming; so I stopped all work, passed word on to the West Yorks, and got ready for it. I had one Vicker's on the left flank and one on the right for traversing fire, four Lewis guns to use bursts of fire on any enemy groups who might appear, and about 160 rifles to pick off anyone they could; no officers except myself, and I think five sergeants all told. I went along to the right flank and found everybody ready and saw what appeared to be 50 or 60 men coming directly on to our right flank. I at once passed word back for everyone to watch the ridge about 100 yards in front, as I thought that was where the real attack would come from. We then waited until the party on the right flank were about 60 yards away (it was fairly moonlight) and then asked them what they wanted. They commenced to run towards us, but 30 rifles and a machine gun opened on them, and they just disappeared. As our right flank opened fire, enemy bombers and riflemen came over the ridge in shoals, but our fellows opened such a deadly fire on them that, although they tried, they never got anywhere near us and after a time the attack died out. There was no further fighting, and we were relieved the following day about 12 p.m. Our casualties were 242. The trench we dug in consolidating was afterwards shown on our trench maps as West Riding Trench.

W. M. C.

## War Without Tears.

### EXERCISE I.

1. We are about to fight a battle. It is some years since we have made the war; we are not quite sure how it is that one commences.
2. Let us first take up a position on the top of the most high hill. It is clever that, because the General will not bother himself of the climb and will remain with the enemy in the valley.
3. We have gained the summit. We are tired, but we can eat our oranges; the enemy are not so tired, but they will get the raspberries, is it not?
4. The battle has commenced itself. Look! We are attacking in all directions. Is that not then magnificent!
5. Where are the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant? I do not know; nobody knows; it is all very difficult. Let us ask the man who is beating the mule.
6. The enemy did not hear our machine guns. It must have been that the wind was finding itself from the wrong direction, because we all heard them. The General was doubtful but the Chief Umpire has persuaded him. The ammunition was at the bottom of the hill. Machine guns are a very wonderful invention.

### EXERCISE II.

1. The vanguard has come under artillery fire. What should they do now? They should push on. Why then are they lying in the ditch?
2. The vanguard commander is running. He does not run very fast. Perhaps he can shoot better than he can run? But yes, he is a terror to the pigs, that one!
3. The advanced guard is held up. How do we know that? An umpire has told us. The advanced guard commander has not sent back a message. It must be that he has forgotten; one cannot remember everything.

### EXERCISE III.

1. We are defending the city. It is market day in the city, but we cannot see the market. However we can see a funeral; one cannot have everything.
2. The Intelligence Officer has climbed the hill. He can regard the enemy. We cannot see the enemy but we are in the shade and the funeral is more interesting.

3. The enemy advances himself. Our pickets are overwhelmed ; they can now eat their haversack rations. We will launch ourselves of a counter-attack.

4. Battalion Headquarters is under fire. We do not care, us ! The Commanding Officer is very calm ; one is inspired by his example ; it is magnificent.

5. The Adjutant has been wounded to the nose ; he cannot write any more messages. He does not write very well, anyway. I wish I had been wounded, I also.

6. The enemy are still advancing ; we are still going to launch a counter-attack. Surely the enemy will gain the city ! No ! because our machine guns have been firing at them for a very long time.

7. How far can machine guns shoot themselves ? Ours can shoot themselves a very long way.

8. The enemy are still advancing ; they cannot come much further because there is no more room. We are still going to launch a counter-attack.

9. The pickets have finished their haversack rations. Brave fellows ! They have started firing again. That is good because they are now on the other side of the enemy.

10. What are all those men over there ? That is the counter-attack. Name of a name ! Is that then how appears a counter-attack ?

R. G. T.

## A CRIMEAN LETTER.

[The Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion has lately received a most interesting present from Mr. J. I. Tighe in the shape of a letter written by his uncle, who was then serving in the ranks of the 33rd in the Crimea. The letter itself is well preserved, and well written in a fine flowing old-fashioned hand on three double sheets of very thin paper, one blue, one yellow, and one green, probably the latest fashion in notepaper in the N.A.A.F.I. of those days. The bulk of the contents are reproduced here exactly as written except for alterations in punctuation. The letter is dated July 20th ; the Allied Forces embarked at Varna on August 29th ; the battle of the Alma was fought on September 20th ; and Sebastopol fell almost exactly a year later.—O.P.]

Province of Bulgaria, Turkey,  
Camp Devna, July 20th, 1854.

My dear Parents,

I sit down to address you once more after a long silence—hoping that this will find you all in good health and every other blessing that this world can afford you. I never was better in my life than at present. I have as good health as I need wish for, only I am not quite as fat as when you seen me. I received your kind and well dictated letter of 30th June, but as we were not properly settled, I could not write before this as my last letter was from Scutari. We left Scutari Camp on the 29th of May and landed the 31st at Varna. We were encamped on Varna Plains for 5 days when we got the route to Aladyn one day's march from Varna. We was well treated when in Varna, but when we went to Aladyn we got what we call it hot and warm. We remained at Aladyn for 25 days, and during that period there never was an army could be so much put about as we was. We had to march out twice a week, besides field days in marching order, at 9 or perhaps 7 o'clock. The evening before we would get the order for the following day, cook our beef overnight (God forgive me for calling it beef), strike tents at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning, keep working until 7 when we ought to breakfast according to order, but God help the half of us, there's none for some—for if they get their bread overnight, their shure to eat it their that gone with fatigue and hunger ; and them that's more fortunate to have a small portion of Black Eck (or) bread, they have neither tea or coffe, milk or even as much as a good drink of Spring water, but is forced to wet their food with stagnant water, that is lying in our canteens all night. We then march out for several miles through horses, tents, and all our encampment under a scorching sun. Perhaps we may get back

by 1 or 2 o'clock pitch our tents and sit on the sand (for grass there is none) to some buffalo beef without salt or pepper or even the smell of soup. Dear Parents we were not quite so bad all the time. Their was some time that we got coffee without sugar at 9 or 10 o'clock of the day. When the men on duty is forced to mount guard without breaking their fast. I myself had to do it for one. I dare say the great fault of all this is that the commissary was never up with our Division in time. Perhaps for one week after one day's march we would get them up and would then live on green beef and our allowance of bread. Well now for the Field Days. General Brown ordered 2 field days a week in marching order and his Brigadier General Aarie is shure to have 2—3 more for his own private practice. Well as before (we) get an early breakfast of the same sort of food as above related, go 2 or 3 miles through bushes, trees and every kind of obstacles, up to your knees in sand under a sun that is enough to burn the brains of the strongest animal, much more of a weak delicate handful of men. For we are no more than a handful in comparison to what we was at home and not half as strong. We get home by half past one or two o'clock, then they keep us on fatigue duty until tattoo. So by marching and field days, fatigues and other duties and bad diet, that it would be better for us to be fighting all the time than to be as we are always with a wet shirt. I can safely say that my shirt is never dry from 4 o'clock a.m. to 8 o'clock p.m. : but all this does not daunt us as long as we have good health. I will tell you an instance of the Aristocratic tyranny of the physicians of our army. There was one man of the 19th regiment sick in the morning at Aladyne, the surgeon said he was not ill, only trying to miss the field day. He accordingly went to the field day, but was forced to fall out on the field and in or about one hour after he came home he died from nothing but fatigue. They buried him the same evening with nothing for his coffin but a blanket. So if a man is sick or bad, he may be, for they will hardly give him a dose of salts.

My chief reason for telling you all the affairs of our army is that I know people thinks at home we are well off and gets everything we want. We was to get porter, potatoes, rice, tea, sugar, coffee and in fact everything that we would require. Certainly I must say we have seen a little of some of the above articles. We got two pints of porter since we came out. We got tea twice or three times, rice as often and then as much as would feed a hungry child of 9 months old. They are more liberal with the coffee. They give it as it is, whole, and a very small allowance of sugar, that is when they do give it (at) all but often we was doomed to go without any and if we grumbled or said anything they would tell us that they did all they could for us—that we was better off than the army of the last campaign. But what matter for all this if they did not give so much drill and fatigues. They did one good thing for us, they did away with the stocks on the line of march and they got our blankets carried, but ourselves they know would not be able to carry them, for the sun is as strong as ever it was in India.

We left Aladyne on the 30th of June for Devna one day's march and 2 from Varna. We are nearly on the side of a hill on a plain of several miles surrounded by mountains almost on every side. We have to go at least one English mile to the top of one of these mountains in the heat of the sun for wood and carry it like donkeys on our back and what's worse still they would not allow us to mifs one parade of any kind. It not only for cooking the wood is brought but to build stables for horses, summer houses for officers besides several things that's too numerous to mention, all to keep us employed—but if they break our constitution, they cannot break our hearts, for I never seen a more loyal army than ours is in this affair. The only thing you will hear, and go through whatever regiment you will, is all about the Russians and when we will have a slap at them. Its the only thing we want is to have a shy with the enemy. If we do we will let them know the kind of metal the English soldier is made of. The only talk here is of Sebastopol. I believe myself this time that we are going to storm that fortress. We leave here on the 22nd for Varna back where we came from, there to embark for Sebastopol, us and the French. As soon as we take it I will make off some keepsake for my sister from some Russian lafsie or perhaps a fashionable old cha-bouk (pipe) might be acceptable to my dear father.



But do not fret on my account, for I am shure the hand of God is with me, for I never had a day's ill health since I seen you, and in fact our Division has very good health all through. The water we use is very bad. River full of water snakes and other obnoxious animals as well as reptiles, and like the wood its about the same distance from camp ; but there's spring water to be had at about one or two miles from us. Certainly when the River water is boiled for cooking our rations it's purified. There's one thing I must say in praise of this country for rich lands, beautiful views, and fruitful meadows richly adorned with all sort of fruit trees that you can mention. Also it's a great place for poultry, eggs, and milk, and all quite cheap. But there not worthy to possess such a place for they are lazy idle useless in almost every sense unlesf smoking and drinking Rakai or eating onions. There is a wonderful army of the French here, somewhere about 60 thousand of as good looking, warlike, as determined soldiers as ever I seen, both horse and foot, and they would die for any of our men. I was one night in their camp at Varna, before I left, and they thought to make as much of me as if I was an officer of some powerful nation.

At anyrate one word for all English and French. I am shure they would clear the world before them and I would not care if I was one of them, and I am very proud of my position as I hope to be one of the number that will muzzle the Russian Bear and revenge the wrongs of the weak on the tyrant's head. All I wish in the world for is to bring us at it at once and not delay as long as we have the fine weather. Let us reap our harvest, for if the winter comes and our roads are blocked with snow or ice we may be forced to part with the fruits of our spring toil. But enough of this for the present.

I am your dear son, James Dempsey

Address :—33rd Duke of Wellington's Regiment, No. 3355, " G " Company, Light Division of the British Army en route for the seat of war, Turkey, via Marseilles France.

We left Devna 24th July and since I have not had time to send it away. We are at a place called Monastir, one's day's march farther on. We left on account of sickness. Their has been a great number of dead, but thank God it's all nearly over. I had a letter from Johnnie. He is well and in good health.

## Personalia.

WE print opposite page 81 a portrait of Lt.-Col. F. H. B. Wellesley, commanding the 1st Battalion, with his son, 2nd Lt. H. V. F. Wellesley, who has just joined the 2nd Battalion. It is an uncommon occurrence for father and son to be serving in the Regiment at the same time, and it is an added interest that they should be members of the Duke of Wellington's family.

We congratulate Brig.-Gen. R. E. Sugden on his being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

In the *Morning Post* of April 6th the following paragraph appeared :—

"Lt.-Col. F. G. Peake, Officer Commanding the Arab Legion in Transjordan, while on a visit a few days ago to Um Jimal, on the Syrian frontier, which was thought to be occupied by a French post, was captured by a band of Syrian Bedouin against whom action was taken recently by the Transjordan Frontier Force. The Bedouin robbed him of his valuables and threatened him with death, but he was saved from their hands by a friendly Sheikh, who kept his aggressors at bay until a French patrol came to the rescue. The stolen articles were then returned. Neither Col. Peake nor his driver was injured."

We congratulate Col. Peake on his escape.

We offer our best wishes to Major and Mrs. E. P. Chambers, who have recently been married. Major Chambers is an old member of the 4th Battalion. Also to Sgt. and Mrs. Holmes, who were married at Ahmednagar on April 4th. Sgt. Holmes is Mess Sergeant of the Officers' Mess of the 2nd Battalion, and Mrs. Holmes was Miss Dorothy Carr, daughter of Mrs. Pearce and step-daughter of R.S.M. Pearce, the Regimental Sergeant-Major of the 2nd Battalion.

We hear from Lt.-Col. W. G. Officer that he and his family are moving to Liss, near Petersfield, in May for a few months. In a recent letter he writes :—

"I saw the finals of the Annual Boxing Tournament at the Duke of York's Royal Military School at Dover on March 28th. It seems that since Christmas the boys had been boxing five nights a week, so events went with a run. Boxing was spirited and vigorous in nearly every bout and the boys of 10 and 11, who opened the entertainment, set a good standard of pommelling. There is one boy there, Berkeley by name, who comes from the Regiment, a sturdy boy of 12, whose father was killed in the War, he told me. I don't know who nominates boys, so can't say which Battalion the father served in. The School was in perfect order and the cook-house would have satisfied even Capt. Oliver, including the meals served up there."

Mr. H. Deane, formerly Bandmaster of the 2nd Battalion, has been appointed Bandmaster of the Leeds British Legion Band. We wish him every success in his new appointment. It was under his baton that the 2nd Battalion Band won the Divisional Band Contest in 1918.

## Daulatabad Fort.

**E**IGHT miles to the north-west of Aurangabad (named after the Emperor Aurangzeb, and now garrisoned by two Indian infantry battalions of the 11th (Ahmednagar Infantry Brigade) stands the Fort at Daulatabad, the Deogarh (God's Fort) of the Hindus. This fort was originally constructed by the Hindus and later improved by Aurangzeb, and is one of the most marvellous achievements of the military engineers of olden days.

The isolated cone-shaped hill on which it stands rises abruptly from the plateau to a height of 700 feet. From the base up to a height of about 150 feet the rock is a perpendicular, artificially smoothed scarp, terminating in a moat cut out of the solid rock, 30 feet deep and 30 feet wide, which it is impossible to scale.

The defences consist of an outer moat and four walls, one within the other. The passage to the upper works is by way of a dark tunnel, from ten to twelve feet high and about the same in width, cut into the heart of the hill, winding and steadily ascending, with numerous false passages and booby-traps, and ventilated by airshafts.

The opening leading to the fortress above used to be covered with a large iron plate, which can be seen to this day, on which a large fire was kindled. In order that this fire might burn fiercely, a hole three feet in diameter was pierced in the rock, and through it rushed a constant current of air, producing the effect of a bellows.

The fortress was positively impregnable so far as an attack by force of arms as available in those days was concerned. The ingenious defences made entrance impossible, and an ample water supply, drawn from a natural spring near the crest of the mountain, exists within the walls.

It was through a trick of unkind fate that the Raja Ram Deo was compelled to hand it over to the Muslims in the middle of the eleventh century. The story goes that he was hunting in the jungle when news was brought to him that the enemy was approaching. He issued orders that provisions should immediately be brought into the fort and stored against a siege. The men sent out on this errand came upon bags of what they took to be wheat, deserted by a caravan of traders, who had been going north with it when they heard that the Muslim army was advancing. The bags were carried within the walls and stored, but when opened were found to contain salt instead of wheat. The Raja could not bear to see his people die of starvation and therefore surrendered.

There are several very quaint old guns mounted on the battlements, two of which bear the names of British frigates, possibly captured by pirates in the Indian Ocean in the early days. The largest of these guns, cast in bronze and measuring 16 feet in length, with a rifled bore of 6 inches, is mounted on the extreme summit of the fort.

The story is told that a French engineer officer, captured by the Moguls, was offered his freedom if he could mount the gun. It took him two years to get it into position. On the completion of his task he was given his freedom by being thrown over the perpendicular side of the fort into the moat.

Near the summit is built the Palace of the Emperor, which is in a wonderful state of preservation. In the outer courtyard of the palace one is shown the entrance to a secret passage which, tradition has it, leads underground from the fort to one of the Temples at Ellora, and was constructed to enable the Hindu Raja of Deogarh and members of his family and court to go there to worship.

It is said that Raja Ram Deo's beautiful daughter escaped by this route, but some Muslim soldiers came upon her by accident in one of the rock-cut shrines and took her prisoner. They incidentally discovered the chambers and mutilated the sculptures in them.

At the foot of the fort rises the Tower of Victory, the Chand Minar (Silver Tower), erected by one of the Muslim victors to commemorate his conquest. Standing on an oblong platform, which forms a basement of 15 feet high, and contains 24 chambers, the tower rises to a height of 100 feet and is 70 feet in circumference at the base, tapering slightly towards the top. This tall pillar was originally covered with glazed Persian tiles, of which, unfortunately, very few remain.

The fort is garrisoned by a company of Khillahdars—the hereditary garrison—dressed in the quaintest of uniforms and armed with muzzle loaders. One old gentleman we met had become a Lance Naik after 150 years.

Around the fort are the old city walls, now a mass of ruins and dense jungle, inhabited by panthers and peacocks. "Ichabod"—the glory has indeed departed.

A few miles to the north of Daulatabad is the old village of Kagazipura (Paper Tower) where the Brigade was concentrated for training. The road to it, traversing a steep ghat, was originally constructed by the Hindus and later improved by Aurangzeb; it has been recently realigned for motor traffic by the Nizam's Government.

Kagazipura is still struggling to keep alive its hand-made paper industry, introduced in the time of Aurangzeb by craftsmen brought by him from Northern India. The methods and implements they use are centuries behind the time.

The road now leads us to the old fortified town of Khuldabad—five miles north of Kāgazipura. It is better known as Roza, "The Place of Tombs," and was the scene of many fierce battles during Brigade training, not to mention the Brigade point-to-point. It well deserves its name, for it is the abode of the dead, containing nearly 1,500 sepulchres of saints and sages, kings and viceroys. It is the last resting place of the Emperor Aurangzeb, who, during his later days, led a life of austere simplicity.

We now leave the plateau and descend the ghat by a winding road until we reach Ellora.

Some centuries after Gautama, the Buddha (Enlightened One) had about 525 B.C. discovered the way to escape the suffering to which human flesh is heir, the monks of his faith selected this spot—with others such as Ajanta and Trimbak—to make their cloisters.

For a thousand years pious hands, driven by religious zeal, chipped with chisel and mallet at the living rock, which spreads horseshoe fashion round the basin of a mountain torrent, like the god Shiva's moon crest, with its two horns facing the setting sun.

During the monsoon water pours down in a cascade and leaps into the gorge which it has cut below. Pious pilgrims possessing imagination made potent by a faith which holds that nothing really exists but that all is illusion, bathe in the stream and imagine that they are being purged of their sins by the sacred waters of Ma Ganga pouring over the brow of the Maha Deo, another name for the same god.

The monks fashioned lofty, well lit shrines and monasteries opening off verandahs. To support the roofs they left masses of rock which they fashioned into pillars, harmonious in size, varied in form, and all wonderfully carved.

Brahmins and Jains took up the work where the Buddhists left it, so that, in the thirty-four cave-temples to be seen to-day, we get three completely different types of rock-hewn architecture.

The carved elephants and deities had to bear the brunt of the fury of the Muslim invaders, who, like Cromwell's Ironsides, battered off their heads and trunks, broke their arms and legs, and left only ruined remains of what had been exquisite works of art. So grand were they, however, that even to-day one is awe-struck by these mutilated monuments.

M. E. M.

## The Bosthoon.

### A TALE OF THE SEVENTIES.

NICHOLAS O'Leary, or as he was familiarly known in his latter days "Ould Nic," was looked upon as a prosperous man. Early in life he began his career in "The Monster Shop" of the Butter City. His occupation was to sweep off the dust left by its customers on the floors of that establishment. His employers found him steady and punctual and as *he* was ambitious, slowly but surely, and round by round, he climbed the ladder of promotion. When I next introduce him to my readers he filled the responsible position of inspector, in other words, he became what is vulgarly known as a "shop-walker." He stood 6ft. 1in. in his stockinged feet, upright as a drilled soldier, and clothed in a frock coat and dittos, made in the establishment, which showed off his brawny figure to perfection. His beat lay between the main entrance through a maze of counters up to the lace department, and it was here that he first gained his laurels. There was a "Je ne sais quois" about his manner and a polite persuasiveness in his methods that he never allowed a customer to escape unparcelled.

He was equally successful in love as in "wear," and, having gained the affections of a pretty dark-eyed "colleen" in the above department, after a short courtship they were married. In due course the first-born arrived; he was christened "Dermot"; then in succession followed Denis and Desmond. Nicholas, finding his quiver filling with such punctual rapidity, cautioned his wife, but she affirmed that as long as there was an Irish name beginning with a "D" unrepresented in the family, she would continue, so "Donough" appeared. "Nic" thereupon pronounced a capital "D"—also next came a girl. "Nic" d—d again, so her mother had her christened *Damaris*; finally she concluded with "Daniel," and it is with him chiefly this tale deals.

They grew up a jolly lot of children. Daily their playful shouts of "Dan" and "Dam" echoing through the windows of the nursery so shocked the neighbours that complaints were tendered to "Ould Nic," and it was with difficulty that he was enabled to explain the situation. One by one the boys were absorbed into the business. Each began as a "cash here," and then became circulated as a "salesman" into a department.

Dan grew up in stature and appearance the image of his father, but although by his good looks and captivating delutherings\* he became the "Darling" of the "Young Lady" assistants, as one of the "Staff" he was a failure. Dan's aspirations pointed elsewhere. He loved an outdoor life—games, sport, and, above all, a military profession beckoned him.

When relieved from "bondage," as he called the shop, he used to loiter about Mr. Donovan's livery stables. Here he was given odd mounts and, I regret to add, that by absenting himself "without leave" from his duty, now and then he borrowed a mount, generally an unfinished hunter, for a day with "the Duhallows, or the Muskerry Hounds."

Hence he never settled down to his work but bemoaned his fate and complained that if "sentence for life" to an indoor profession he would soon expire from rapid consumption. So hoping to satisfy his great love of animals, his father had him posted to "the

\* Irish method of pronouncing delude.

toy" department. Here he struggled till he was about 16 years old, dusting Noah's arks, tin soldiers, rocking horses (on which he sometimes rode), and toy guns, a giant amongst the pigmies, but every Saturday morning what time he heard the sound of the cornet, lute, harp, sackbut, and all kinds of music proceeding from the band of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment out for the regimental route march, he disembarked from his Noah's ark and tramped alongside the band from the Lee Bridge down Patrick Street and for a mile or so beyant the city.

Of course the management of "The Monster Shop" objected to these oft-repeated "absences without leave," and Dan was cautioned. The boy begged his father to take him out of "The Lion's Den," as Daniel styled his counter. "I want to be a soldier," said he, "especially an horse soldier, and I'm going to enlist." This threat alarmed his parents, and after much deliberation he offered to qualify and join the British Army as a surgeon.

In those days surgeons were gazetted to regiments, wore their gold-splashed uniforms, contributed to the mess and band funds, and became "one of ours." So Dan joined the Medical School at Trinity College, Dublin, passed all its examinations with distinction, and applied for a commission.

His parents suggested a kilt, feather bonnet, and all the appurtenances thereof, but Dan, thinking of his cold shins on a frosty morning, preferred a saddle and bridle, and shortly afterwards saw his name in the *Cork Constitution*, gazetted surgeon to the —th Dragoon Guards.

This was glorious news to him, and so he sang—

"There's not a thrade that's goin' worth knowin' or showin'  
That's not for glory growin' sez the bowld soldier boy."

Shortly afterwards Dan crossed by the Holyhead mail boat and joined his regiment at York. I hinted that he was a good all-round sportsman. He rode straight to hounds, was a first-rate shot. He was good tempered, sang melodiously, and stood the raggings which cavalry in those days indulged in; consequently in a short time he was voted a capital fellow.

Society in the Minster city fancied the cavalry. Infantry, like silver in the days of Solomon, was nowhere. The county petted, feted, and almost spoilt the cavalry. The —th D.G.'s had lately arrived in York after a tour of what they called "Foreign Service" in the South of Ireland. The officers had picked up a few Irish words, such as "Thurumpogue,\* Colleen, Bosthoon,† etc., and they rang the changes on these and, scarcely knowing the meaning of the word, they christened Dan "The Bosthoon." Dan excepted, there was not an Irishman in the regiment. He was thus a "rara avis in terris" and, aided by a rich Cork brogue and a delutherin tongue, he took the "Tyke" girls by storm. Should you by chance have visited Coney Street at the fashionable shopping hour you could not fail to see Dan once more laden with parcels as he acted escort to some fair purchaser.

Christmas leave was at hand. The delights of the Minster city had so outshone the muddy pleasures of the City of Butter that for his two first years' service Dan had denied himself any leave, and as he had resolved to teach the Patrick Street "Squireens" how they did it in Coney Street, he applied for 2½ months' leave, which was granted. Hunting days excepted, Dan's soldier-like figure could daily now be seen looming up through the fog and drizzle of Patrick Street. Some of his former companions he cut, some he snubbed, and all he patronised. But even a worm will turn, so the Squireens plotted how they could pay him off. They resented his conceit, but in order to have their revenge they decided to "butter him up." Dan, we noticed, rode well and straight. An invitation to dinner at the Club and an offer of a special mount for "The Duhallows" on the following day was duly posted and accepted.

The party was voted a great success. The dinner was excellent. Champagne flowed from "Jereboams" (as double magnums were styled). The chief topic was sport, hunting

\* Irish for "give me a kiss".

† A word used in Co. Cork, not a flattering term, to describe a "ne'er-do-well."

in particular, alternating with song and chorus. Everybody bragged alternating with whiskey punch. The festive party broke up just as Aurora gilt the skies and the hosts reminded their guest that his mount would be at the Club door punctually at 11 o'clock. They hinted that the horse was the "Divil" to ride, but Dan flushed with "Dutch courage" and boasted that if he were the Divil himself he'd tame him.

Next morning, as the clock chimed 11, Dan, faultlessly dressed, sauntered (in pink) up to the Club entrance. Just as he swallowed a stiff brandy and soda, his "Mount" limped round the corner. He was fearfully and wonderfully accoutered. Two heavy bridles with bits corresponding adorned his head, a heavy crupper encircled his tail, and his broken knees were hidden by knee-caps. Two grooms, one on each side, led him. The Club windows were crowded with spectators, who shouted, "Take off those spurs, that horse won't stand them!" What he remarked in reply I would rather not chronicle. To the grooms he yelled, "What the d—l are all these paraphernalia about?" A stiff glass of Middleton whisky and a "bob" each had enlisted the grooms into the plot. "Begorra, Captain," they replied, in chorus, "wan bridle is to pull him down when he rares (rears) and the other to pull him up when he rowls (rolls)." A loud and somewhat vulgar guffaw from the spectators who lined the windows and crowded the steps greeted these remarks.

I was sorry for Dan, for after all he was a good sort. The old screw limped back to his stable, Dan limped to the post office and wired to himself "To return to his regiment without delay." Poor fellow, he felt "Limp all over."

He hurried home, packed his portmanteau, and, shaking the Cork mud off his feet, caught the 2 o'clock mail to Kingstown and in a gale of wind crossed the Irish Sea, having thrown up his leave.

But if the squireens had seen the welcome Dan received from his brother officers and the smiles he won from the fair ones in Coney Street, I greatly doubt if they would have considered their victory decisive.

A. J. P.

## Reviews.

THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, No. 493, February, 1929.—This number contains three articles of special interest to the infantryman. "The Training of an Infantry Battalion," by Lt.-Col. W. N. Nicholson, of the Suffolk Regiment, has some interesting remarks on the task of a C.O. in training his officers, and how the difficulties of training N.C.O.'s and other ranks in a battalion at home may be overcome. In "Organisation by Threes," Brigadier O. C. Borrett discusses the advantages to be gained in the field, more especially in the attack, by the organisation of a battalion in threes—*i.e.*, three companies with three platoons each, the latter containing three sections each. He illustrates from actions in the Great War, where offensives so frequently broke down from the lack of that last bit of push, the faults of the four company basis, and the consequent deficiency of depth. Thirdly, "The Elimination of Infantry," by Major Redway.

Other articles of more general interest are "The Part of the Retired Officer in the Future of the Empire," in which various forms of employment, and the necessary income and capital required for them, are given prominence. "The Work of the British Navy in the Far East; Battleship Life in the Early Eighties," contains some amusing incidents of those days, one of which is worth repeating. "During one evolution the commander, who was not pleased with the work aloft, hailed the captain of the main top, 'Main Top there, Main Top, you're about as much d—d good up there as I am down here,' a remark which was capable of a different interpretation from that which the gallant officer intended." Perhaps the most important article is a lecture given by Gen. Von Seect, of the German Reichswehr, entitled "Modern Armies," in which the small, highly-efficient peace army is spoken of as the most likely and useful form in modern warfare, owing chiefly to the very rapid changes and improvements in modern armaments, which render large stocks too expensive to be kept constantly up to date.

ED.

THE EMPIRE AND THE ARMY. By the Hon. Sir John Fortescue.—It is not often that a book, written specifically as a text-book for an examination succeeds in being at the same time a reference-book of much value to the general public, and a history stirring enough to thrill the heart of any boy. Although written, as the author says, primarily for the soldier working for a first-class educational certificate, it is sure to appeal to a much wider public. It was an excellent and original idea to trace, step by step and side by side, the stories of the expansion of the Empire and the evolution of the Army; it certainly makes the development of both far more easily understood and remembered. If only, one reflects, one had been taught history like that when one was at school! But few writers and fewer

teachers of history have the power possessed by Sir John Fortescue of compressing the results of years of study into a few clear pages; and, while not omitting the significant detail, of showing the underlying motives and causes which led to the general trend of events. With too many writers of his extensive and deep knowledge, one cannot see the wood for the trees; but he gives us, as it were, a clear view from the air of the whole outline of the forest.

The general impression left by the book is one of pride in the achievements and character of the British soldier, who, in spite of changes in uniform, armament, and organization, remains substantially the same throughout the centuries. Another fact that emerges is that, as Field-Marshal Sir George Milne points out in his foreword, few if any of the wars engaged in by the British Army have been in any sense wars of aggression; and, "no League of Nations, however ideal in composition and constitution, could possibly have prevented more than a very small proportion of them." This is a book which one would like to see prescribed as a text-book to be studied by every politician in the country. It would do them all the good in the world.

A BOOK OF BROADSHEETS.—With introduction by Geoffrey Dawson, Editor of the *Times*.—Some one defined drink as the shortest way out of Manchester; but there is a shorter and a better way—something good to read. Even in ordinary life we all feel the need to escape from "the confined circle of dailiness," and refresh our minds, each according to his taste, with the written word; how much more necessary then, in war-time conditions, and in the filth and monotony of the trenches! It was the realization of this need which inspired the *Times*, in the autumn of 1915, to publish these "broadsheets." They were originally printed on sheets of paper thin enough to be folded and enclosed in a letter without adding to its weight, and they consisted of selections of the best passages, grave and gay, in English prose and verse. There was to be no standard, said one of the selectors, save "good of its kind"; there was "room for everyone's pets, except elephants." Whole assortments of them were sent to officers to be distributed according to taste among the men of their command. There was never any question, we are told, about their popularity among those for whom they were put together, and the *Times* received many grateful letters; the only complaint being from a writer who had been compelled to read aloud "Mr. Micawber" twice over to the men in his dugout and "The Game of Cribbage" three times!

It is a typically English anthology; and Sir Walter Raleigh well expressed its chief characteristic when he wrote:—"I confess I like the idea of this library. Apart from its main use, it seems to me to symbolize the cause for which we are fighting. . . . We believe in freedom, and we mean to keep it. We will fight as long as we can stand, so that the world may still be a place where spontaneous and playful persons . . . may lead a life free from fear. There is no better expression of freedom, in all its senses, than English literature."

There is only one criticism to be made of this volume, and that is that it ought to have been made small enough to be slipped into the pocket, and carried anywhere.

"MIDDLEBROW."

A BOOK ON HORSEMANSHIP.—The Riding School at Sandhurst is said to have been a terrible place in the bad old days, where cadets were "taught" to ride by terrible methods. Authorities on the history of the College are at one in the view that the old-fashioned methods were calculated to discourage rather than encourage the pupil, and that the general standard of horsemanship amongst subalterns has since those times immensely improved from the more intelligent and "human" instruction given. No one is better qualified to speak of practical horsemanship than the Equitation Officer at Sandhurst, through whose hands pass hundreds of cadets yearly; cadets who have ridden a great deal; ridden well or ridden thoroughly badly; cadets with a hunting seat, a "jockey's" seat, or no seat at all.

What the instructor, who has to deal with all these types has to say about riding, should be well worth reading, and we may therefore look forward with interest to "Practical Horsemanship," by Capt. J. L. H. Barrett, 13/18th Hussars, published by Messrs. Witherby, 326 High Holborn.

## Our Contemporaries.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following regimental journals:—*The Covenanter* (Jan., March), *The Tiger & Sphinx* (Jan., March), *The Dragon* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Bugle* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Light Bob* (Jan.), *The London Scottish Regimental Gazette* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Hampshire Regimental Journal* (Jan., Feb., March), *The Sapper* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Gunner* (March), *The St. George's Gazette* (Jan., Feb., March, April), *The Lilywhites' Gazette* (Jan.), *The Argyllshire Highlanders News* (April), *The Journal of the Army Educational Corps* (March), *The Snapper* (Jan., Feb., March, April); also *Our Empire* (Feb., March, April).; and *The Journal of the Society of Army Historical Research* (Jan., April).

## Obituary.

We regret to have to record the following deaths:—

DEWHURST.—On Dec. 28th, 1928, at his home, 43 Pendragon Lane, Bradford. Mr. H. Dewhurst enlisted in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment on June 10th, 1885, served with the 2nd Battalion in Bermuda, Halifax, N.S., St. Helena, and Natal, S.A. Was posted to the 3rd Battalion, P.S., in 1890, served with the 1st Battalion during the South African War, and was severely wounded at Paardeburg; was afterwards posted to the P.S. of the 6th Battalion at Keighley, and served there till discharged to pension on 9/6/1906. He rejoined the Regiment in September, 1914, and served during the Great War till demobilised in January, 1919.

DRUMM.—On February 15th, 1929, at St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford. Mr. R. Drumm enlisted in the 76th Regiment on the 9th March, 1874, served with the 2nd Battalion till 1897. Posted to the P.S. of the 6th Battalion and was discharged to pension in 1906. Rejoined the Regiment in September 1914, and served till May 1918.

FIRTH.—On Feb. 24th, 1929, at Biddenham, Bedford, Major Denys Firth, late the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 46. Major Firth, son of the Rev. W. A. and Mrs. Firth, was born at Brighton in 1883. He was educated at Haileybury, passing on to Oxford University, where in 1903 he obtained a University commission, and joined the 1st Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment at York, proceeding with them to India in 1905. In 1913 he was invalided to England with a serious illness, which prevented him from serving overseas until 1915, when he proceeded to France and was severely wounded in the leg. He served with a cadet battalion at home until the end of the war, when he was invalided from the service. After a course of training in forestry at Cambridge, Major Firth took up land agency work in Scotland for two years. At the end of 1921 he was appointed an Assistant Commissioner to the National Savings Committee, his work covering Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Huntingdonshire. Major Firth was a good all-round athlete. He was in the Haileybury Cricket XI., and on one occasion hit up a century in the annual match against Cheltenham at Lord's. He played for the 1st Battalion at cricket, rugby, and hockey, and when in York played frequently for the Yorkshire Gentlemen. He was also quite useful at golf, tennis, and racquets, was a keen fisherman, and a great walker and lover of nature, a typical example of a gentleman and a sportsman, and his unfailing kindness and good humour endeared him to those who knew him intimately. His lameness from his wound must have tried him sorely, but he never complained; and up to the day of his death he was as untiring and energetic as ever, both in his work and in the many voluntary social activities which he undertook, chief of which was his work among the Boy Scouts, of which he was an assistant District Commissioner. In 1911 he married Dorothy Lindsell, daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Knox Lindsell and Mrs. Lindsell, who, with four sons and one daughter, survive him.

HARRISON.—On March 23rd, 1929, at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, after a very long illness. Mr. G. Harrison enlisted in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment on 28/10/1904, serving with the 1st Battalion till 10/8/1919, the remainder of his service being with the 2nd Battalion and the Depot. He was discharged on Oct. 27th, 1925, no longer physically fit for any form of military service.

KIRKLAND.—On Feb. 28th, 1929, accidentally drowned whilst shooting near Ahmednagar, Deccan, India, Capt. John Vesey Kirkland, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and late of Fordel, Glenfarg, Perthshire, aged 39 years. Capt. J. V. Kirkland, eldest son of the late W. A. Y. D'U. Kirkland, of Chesham Bois, Bucks, and Mrs. Kirkland, of 53 Temple Fortune Hill, N.W.11, was born at Saskatchewan, Canada, on Jan. 24th, 1890; he was educated at Haileybury and Sandhurst, and in 1911 entered the 1st Bn.



West India Regiment, then serving at Sierra Leone. During the War he served as Adjutant to the 4th Bn. (Service) British West Indies Regiment in Egypt, France, and Italy, and was promoted temporary Major. He was wounded and mentioned in despatches in 1917. He returned with the British West Indies Regiment to Jamaica in 1919. In 1920 he was attached to the 1st Bn. the Border Regiment, then stationed at Castle Bar, County Mayo, Ireland, and later transferred to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He joined the 2nd Battalion at Collinstown Camp, County Dublin, in October, 1920, and served with that Battalion continuously until his death. He married, in 1919, Maryele Wemyss Rhodes, younger daughter of the late Lt.-Col. J. H. Rhodes, R.A.M.C., and Mrs. Rhodes, of Beau Rivage, Pontac, Jersey, who survives him.

TEASDALE.—On Feb. 14th, 1929, at St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford. Mr. (late Sgt.) J. Teasdale joined the 1st Battalion in 1890, and served with them in the South African War and was wounded. He rejoined during the Great War and served with the 8th Battalion, being severely wounded at Suvla Bay.

YEOMAN.—On April 8th, 1929, at his home, Wynberg Cottage, Paignton, Capt. W. H. Yeoman, late the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 61. Capt. Yeoman enlisted on Feb. 9th, 1885, and joined the 2nd Battalion in Bermuda on Oct. 5th, 1886, serving with the Battalion in Halifax, N.S., the West Indies, and South Africa until July, 1896, when he was posted to the Depot. He served in the South African War with the 3rd Battalion, being mentioned in despatches. On Oct. 20th, 1906, he was commissioned Lt. and Qr.-Mr., and served at the Depot until the outbreak of the Great War, when he proceeded to Earsden and North Shields with 3rd Battalion. He retired with the rank of Hon. Captain on account of ill-health on July 16th, 1917. He held the Queen's Medal and King's Medal for South Africa, the Good Conduct Medal, and Coronation Medal (1911). He leaves a wife and one son and three daughters. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Gibson (Violet) has two children and the second daughter, Mrs. Waite (Nellie), has two children. Capt. Yeoman was a keen gardener in spite of very poor health. Mrs. Yeoman says "My husband thoroughly enjoyed reading the IRON DUKE, and there was never any gardening done on the day it arrived."

We regret that we have been unable to obtain any information regarding Mr. J. E. Lloyd and Mr. G. T. Oliver, whose deaths are mentioned on page 100, but we understand that Mr. Oliver was one of the Band boys in the photograph of Sgt. Westbrook and Band boys opposite page 65 of No. 12 of the IRON DUKE.

## Correspondence.

19 Nellie View,  
Richmond Hill,  
Leeds,

23rd March, 1929.

Dear Sir,

In the "Extracts from Letters written by Capt. W. T. Thain, Adjutant, 33rd Foot," published on page 206 of the IRON DUKE, October 1928, the following entry appears:—

"13th December, 1828. A new lieutenant from the half-pay of the 42nd Regiment joined my company on the 10th, a handsome man with his left arm in a sling. At Waterloo he was a volunteer in the 69th in our Brigade, and received three and twenty wounds."

Although no name is given I think there is sufficient evidence to identify this officer as Lt. Clarke, who received his commission as Ensign in the 42nd Royal Highlanders "as a recompense for his gallant conduct" when serving as a volunteer with the 69th (South Lincolnshire Regiment), now known as the 2nd Battalion The Welch Regiment.

On June 16th, 1815, at Quatre Bras (*i.e.*, two days before the Battle of Waterloo) the 69th when forming square were stopped by the Prince of Orange, who ordered the battalion to re-form column, and to deploy into line as no attack by cavalry need then be apprehended. This was a most regrettable error on his part, for at that very moment Kellerman's French Cuirassiers and Hussars were approaching, unseen owing to the tall rye. While deploying, and, consequently, almost helpless against cavalry, the 69th were charged by the French cavalry, and suffered very heavy losses. It was in this meleé

that Volunteer Clarke received his wounds while tenaciously defending the Regimental Colour. Clarke did not release his hold on it although he received twenty-three wounds from sabre cuts, and had lost the use of his right arm. According to one account Clarke killed or wounded three of the French cavalymen who attacked him.

At the time of his death in 1831, Clarke was, according to Sir William Butler's "Narrative of Historical Events connected with the 69th Regiment of Foot," still a subaltern officer in the 42nd Foot, having presumably been re-transferred from the 33rd to the Black Watch. Although only a small part of Clarke's military service was spent in the 33rd, the Regiment may well be proud to have had such a man among its officers. It was unfortunate for him that he lived in the days when V.C.'s were unknown, and officers' promotions were obtained mainly by purchase. For the benefit of readers it may be as well to explain the meaning of the term "Volunteer," as applied in Clarke's case. At the time of the Napoleonic wars it was a common occurrence for a young man whose birth and education were such as to fit him for an officer, but who had not the necessary means to purchase a commission, to join some regiment going on active service as a "Volunteer" in the hopes of winning a commission in the field. Although usually allowed to mix with the officers when off duty, a volunteer had to carry out all the usual duties of a private soldier in the ranks.

The following account of the action in which Clarke distinguished himself, quoted from Vol. X, Chapter XXIV, page 313, of the Hon. Sir J. W. Fortescue's "History of the British Army," shows that Clarke's bravery must have been witnessed by many of his future comrades of the 33rd and 42nd, also that it was only by a stroke of luck (*i.e.*, their disposition not having been interfered with) that the 33rd did not meet the fate of the 69th:—

"Shortly afterwards, the French cavalry came up the road for their fourth attack, and catching sight of the Thirty-third, which was moving in column of companies through the rye at the highest point of the plateau, galloped upon them. The Sixty-ninth being, through the folly of the Prince of Orange, deployed, made shift to throw itself into square, and, apparently, could have succeeded, had not the captain of the Grenadier Company wheeled the two right hand companies about in order to fire, instead of closing in the face of the square. In a moment the horsemen were in the middle of them. The two companies were destroyed, the rest were partly broken, one colour was captured, one hundred and fifty men were killed and wounded; the remainder saved themselves by taking refuge under the bayonets of the 42nd and 44th."

The following is another account of the incident as described in a letter from Lt. F. H. Patterson, of the 33rd, to his brother:—

"The enemy perceiving we were prepared for them, made a movement to the left, instead of advancing, and broke in upon the open columns of the 69th, which, being in a low part of the field, had not observed them. The havoc that then took place was very great, and one of their colours—I think the Regimental Colour—was carried off in triumph."

The colour in question was sent to Paris as a proof that the Emperor had resumed his old role of conqueror. Needless to say, this was NOT the colour entrusted to Volunteer Clarke.

Yours faithfully,

R. MAURICE HILL.

To the Editor the IRON DUKE.

#### KING THEODORE'S DRUM.

Mr. A. W. Steele, late R.Q.M.S. of the 1st Battalion, writing about the account of the capture of King Theodore's Drum which appeared on page 48 of our last issue, says, "I do not know if it is general knowledge that the Sergeant Drummer's staff of the 1st Battalion is adorned with gold and silver from part of the treasure taken at the capture of Magdala."

### Bad Handwriting.

In a letter to the *Times* of Feb. 9th, 1929, the following story, related by Sir William Fraser in his book "Words on Wellington," appears:—

J. C. Loudon, the eminent landscape designer, wrote to the Duke for permission to visit Strathfieldsaye to inspect the "Waterloo beeches," the famous trees which were planted as a memorial of the battle. The writing of the note was not very clear, and the Duke, reading the signature as "C. J. London" instead of "J. C. Loudon," replied as follows:—

"My dear Bishop of London,—It will always give me great pleasure to see you at Strathfieldsaye. . . . My servant will receive orders to show you as many pairs of breeches of mine as you wish, but why you should wish to inspect those I wore at the battle of Waterloo is quite beyond the comprehension of yours most truly, WELLINGTON."

The Bishop of London (Blomfield) was naturally astonished to receive this communication, and showed it to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the whole Bench of Bishops. They came to the melancholy conclusion that the great Duke's sanity was gravely to be doubted. However, satisfactory explanation soon afterwards relieved them of their unhappy misgivings.

## Notices.

### REGIMENTAL TIE.

A Regimental Tie for Other Ranks of the 1st Battalion has been chosen and approved, price 2s. 6d. It consists of Broad Maroon and Broad French Grey Stripes, the Regimental Colours.

Any other rank of the 1st Battalion requiring the above Tie should send 2s. 6d. and postage to :—The Adjutant, 1st Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regt., North Raglan Barracks, Devonport, Devon.

### LEEDS AND DISTRICT BRANCH, OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION.

A Branch of the Old Comrades' Association has been formed in Leeds, and Officers, W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and men on leaving the Service and resident in or near Leeds will receive a very hearty welcome. The main object of the branch at present is to enable past members of the Regiment to meet at regular intervals for social intercourse.

### GIBRALTAR POLO CLUB.

Fernando, the polo groundsman for 48 years, is now seriously ill, bed-ridden, and in reduced circumstances. A pension fund is being opened. It is thought that many officers who have served in Gibraltar and have known Fernando would like to subscribe. Subscriptions, however small, will be gratefully received, and should be sent to :—The Hon. Secretary, Gibraltar Polo Club, Gibraltar.

### A HISTORY OF THE ARMY ORDNANCE SERVICES.

It is proposed to publish the History of the Army Ordnance Services in a book of three volumes. It has been written by Major-Gen. A. Forbes from records, diaries, and personal narratives of officers. It is thought that the ground covered by the book will be of much more general interest than the average regimental history, and should therefore appeal to everyone interested in the British Army. The three volumes are as follows :—Vol. I.—From the Conquest to the Crimea. Vol. II.—From the Crimea to the Great War. Vol. III.—The Great War, with a postscript describing post-war changes.

Anyone wishing for further information as regards subscription forms, etc., is requested to write to Col. A. R. Oldfield, Norman House, Westbourne, Emsworth, Hants.

## RESULT OF ADVERTISING COMPETITION.

The following are the results of the free advertising competition set on foot by the Association of Service Newspapers, details of which appeared in a loose-leaf announcement in No. 11 (October, 1928) of the IRON DUKE. We congratulate Sgt. Firth, of the 7th Battalion, and Cpl. James, of the 2nd Battalion, on winning prizes :—

RESULT OF VOTING.—1, Player's, 14,758; 2, Crosse & Blackwell, 11,281; 3, N.A.A.F.I., 8,806; 4, Wills's Gold Flake, 6,434; 5, "O.K." Sauce, 5,811; 6, Gillette, 5,472; 7, Bryant & Mays', 5,208.

Two competitors were successful in estimating the placing of the whole six advertisements, and divide the first and second prizes, receiving £20 each :—C. A. Gunston, 130 Station Road, Hendon, N.W.4 (H.A.C. Journal), and Pte. J. Brittain, R.A.S.C. Headquarters, Canal Brigade, Moascar, Egypt (R.A.S.C. Journal).

The third prize is divided between Sgt. F. Firth, 7th Bn. Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Drill Hall, Milnsbridge (Iron Duke), and Pte. W. Mayle, 2nd Bn. R.W. Kent Regiment, "H.Q." Wing, Fort George, Guernsey (Queen's Own Gazette), who receive £2 10s. each.

Further prizes of £1 each have been distributed to the following competitors :—Pte. C. Adcock, No. 5768452, 1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment, Gt. Western Camp, Shanghai, China (Britannia); Mrs. A. H. Graham, Weedon, Northants (R.A.O.C. Gazette); Sgt. E. C. Jerram, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Victoria Barracks, Belfast (Sprig of Shillelagh); Mrs. Jerram, Victoria Barracks, Belfast (Sprig of Shillelagh); Pte. W. A. Steed, 2nd Bn. Royal Tank Corps, Pinehurst Barracks, Farnborough, Hants (Royal Tank Corps Journal); L/Cpl. J. Whittaker, Tank Gunnery School, West Lulworth, Dorset (Royal Tank Corps Journal).

The Committee have also distributed a further twenty-one consolation prizes of 100 Navy Cut Cigarettes, kindly presented by Messrs. John Player & Sons, to the following :—Sig. F. Aveling, Royal Corps of Signals, Catterick Camp; Bdsman. E. Bromley, 1st Bn. The Welch Regt., Gosport, Hants; Q.M.S. Wm. Brown, R.G.A., Portsmouth; Pte. L. A. Cole, K.S.L.I., Shrewsbury; Band Sgt. F. Cousins, 2nd Hampshire Regt., B.A.O.R.; Pte. H. Chapman, 1st Loyal's, "A" Coy., Trimulgherry, India; Pte. D. Chedghey, "C" Co. 1st Bn. Som.L.I., Kowloon, Hong-kong; Dmr. G. W. Franklin, 1st Hampshires, Multan, Punjab; Mrs. D. Hicks, 1 Blenheim Avenue, Deal, Kent; Cpl. W. James, 2nd Duke of Wellington's Regt., Ahmednagar; Pte. A. E. Jones, 15 Platoon, "D" Coy., 1st K.S.L.I., Razmak; Armt. Staff Sgt. J. W. Lindsay, R.A.O.C., Manora, Karachi; Sgt. J. McKimmie, 1st Gordons, Delhi; Mrs. R. Misa, 27 St. John's Hill, S.W.11; Bdsman. Ormester, 2nd Bn. Prince of Wales's Vols., Jubbulpore; Pte. Price, Loyal Regt., Aldershot; Mrs. M. Smith, 2nd Royal Fusiliers, B.A.O.R.; Sgt. Instr. S. R. Virgo, A.E.C., Bangalore, S. India; Pte. G. Welch, "A" Coy., 2nd Bn. King's Own Royal Regt., Rawalpindi; Pte. G. Wilkinson, The Green Howards, Moascar Camp, Ismailia; C.S.M. F. T. Worrall, 6/7th Bn. Manchester Regt., Manchester.

## Some Notes on Vocational Training.

By Lt.-Col. F. K. HARDY, D.S.O.

The pamphlet issued with A.C.I.219 of 1928 gives full particulars of the facilities which exist for soldiers to undergo vocational courses in subjects other than those taught at an Army Vocational Training Centre. The advantages to be gained by these "Outside Courses" does not seem as yet to be fully realized by serving soldiers, so a few notes drawn from a year's experience of the scheme may not come amiss.

The scheme for outside courses is this:—

A soldier can apply through the usual channels for vocational training in any subject he likes. His application in due course reaches me as Commandant of A.V.T.C., Hounslow. I, in turn, approach civilian schools or bodies who may be prepared to accept the applicant as a pupil. If they agree and I am satisfied that the instruction will be suitable, the course is arranged. The soldier, of course, has to pay the whole fee demanded by the civilian school and also his travelling expenses between Hounslow and the school. He does not, however, have to pay the fee of 7s. 6d. per week, which soldiers doing a course at an Army centre have to pay.

Before putting in for one of these courses a soldier must be sure of several points. He must have enquired into the possibility of obtaining employment in the line he takes up. Unless he has some definite aim in view success is unlikely. Previous knowledge of the subject is in most cases essential, as the soldier will be trying to do in six months something the civilian beginner would take a year or more to do. He must be prepared to work twelve hours a day if necessary when learning and to put down a good round sum in fees for his training. These fees vary from a £1 or so to £25.

The soldier must in fact know exactly what he wants, why he wants it, and should prepare himself for the course by previous study and by saving money for his fees and other incidental expenses.

In submitting an application, the soldier has to add a letter in his own handwriting, explaining his reasons for requiring the training and giving details of any experience he may have had. The name of a suitable school or place of instruction should be given, if known. The fuller detail given in this letter the better chance there is of arranging a course. Civilian schools have to be asked if they will accept the applicant as a pupil and those of the better kind will not do so unless they think he will prove successful. It is a great help if the name of a suitable school can be mentioned, and there is no reason why a soldier should not make tentative enquiries himself. In fact if the training is required at a business house or firm it is better that this should be done. It should be remembered that these courses can only take place in the London area.

Applications for training in a remarkably wide range of trades and callings have been received, and it has been possible to arrange training in over 15 different subjects as widely different as ladies' hairdressing and monumental masonry.

The largest number of applicants have been for book-keeping. This is a subject I would not advise anyone to take unless they have a definite end in view. The labour market is full of girls who can do the work and will do it for 25s. a week. The next most popular has been "Knowledge of London." This is training in order to pass for a Scotland Yard licence as a taxi-driver. The test is extremely hard, even for a Londoner, for he has to know the streets, clubs, theatres, and principle buildings like a book, and a man has to be quick witted and put in long hours of work in order to pass in six months. It can, however, be done, and employment is a certainty. I am told on good authority that an enterprising taxi-driver in London can earn £5 per week.

Salesmanship is a subject for which there has been a considerable demand, but at present there is no suitable whole-time school. Quite a number of soldiers who were unable to get vacancies at this centre in the motor mechanics class have attended for an outside course in motor driving at a well-known civilian school.

Pastry cooks and bakers have been accepted at the L.C.C. School of Bakery and a printer at the London School of Printing. Previous employment at the trade is, however, an essential at these two particular schools and at some others.

Wireless operating has been taken by several, but without considerable previous knowledge six months is too short a time in which to get the Postmaster-General's certificate.

There is an excellent school for ladies' hairdressing available, but the fees, £25, are prohibitive in most cases.

Ticket writing is a subject which has been taken in only one case, and is seemingly one which soldiers, who can do a bit of drawing or sketching, might make enquiries about. There may be good chances of employment.

Success where it has come, and it has come in many cases, has been due entirely to the ability and energy of the soldier himself. Similarly those who have failed have done so through their own lack of ability and determination.

In conclusion, these outside courses are an undoubted boon to soldiers who have taken the trouble to investigate the possibilities of obtaining employment after a course, and who prepare themselves beforehand to take full advantage of the teaching they will receive.

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Regimental Journal—"The Iron Duke," Liwyn-celyn, Pental, Machyulleth, N. Wales. Regimental Association—Old Comrades' Association, The Depot, Halifax.

Regular and Militia Battalions.

Table with columns: 1st Bn. (33rd Foot), 2nd Bn. (76th Foot), Depot, 4th Bn., 5th Bn., Colonel, Officer Commanding Depot. Includes details on uniforms, scarlet facings, and territorial affiliations like '3rd Bn. (6th West York Mil.)' and 'Territorial Army Battalions.'

Colours ... Belfield, Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert E. K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.B.E., D.S.O., ref. pay, 218/09 p.a. [R.] ... Cox, Major M. N. M.C., D.W.R. ... 25/2/28

1st and 2nd Battalions—contd.

Table listing various officers and their ranks for the 1st and 2nd Battalions, including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their respective appointments and dates.

1st and 2nd Battalions—contd.

Table listing officers for the 1st and 2nd Battalions, including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates of appointment.

3rd Battalion (Militia).

Table listing officers for the 3rd Battalion (Militia), including Lt.-Colonel, Major, and Captains, with their names and dates.

4th Battalion (Territorial).

Table listing officers for the 4th Battalion (Territorial), including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates.

5th Battalion (Territorial).

Table listing officers for the 5th Battalion (Territorial), including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates.

6th Battalion (Territorial)—contd.

Table listing officers for the 6th Battalion (Territorial), including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates.

7th Battalion (Territorial).

Table listing officers for the 7th Battalion (Territorial), including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates.

8th Battalion (Territorial)—contd.

Table listing officers for the 8th Battalion (Territorial), including Lt.-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, with their names and dates.

# INFORMATION PAGE.

THE EDITOR still requests articles and stories of a light nature and personal notes, which, with all other contributions, for No. 14, should reach him not later than the 15th August. Punctuality in this helps him immensely and renders possible the publication of the I.D. to time.

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