



1742



1800

THE
Havercake Lad

REGIMENTAL PAPER OF THE
1ST BATTALION DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S
REGIMENT.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

CONTENTS :

FRONTISPIECE—A Group of Veterans who were at York to witness the presentation of South African honors, and the Celebration of the Anniversary of Waterloo.

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Editorial	1	Athletic Sports	10
Cricket... ..	2	"Off Duty"	11
Depot News	6	The District Tournament ...	13
Hockey	8	Grand Naval and Military Tournament	13
Waterloo Day	9	Regimental Notes	14
York Military Tournament...	10		



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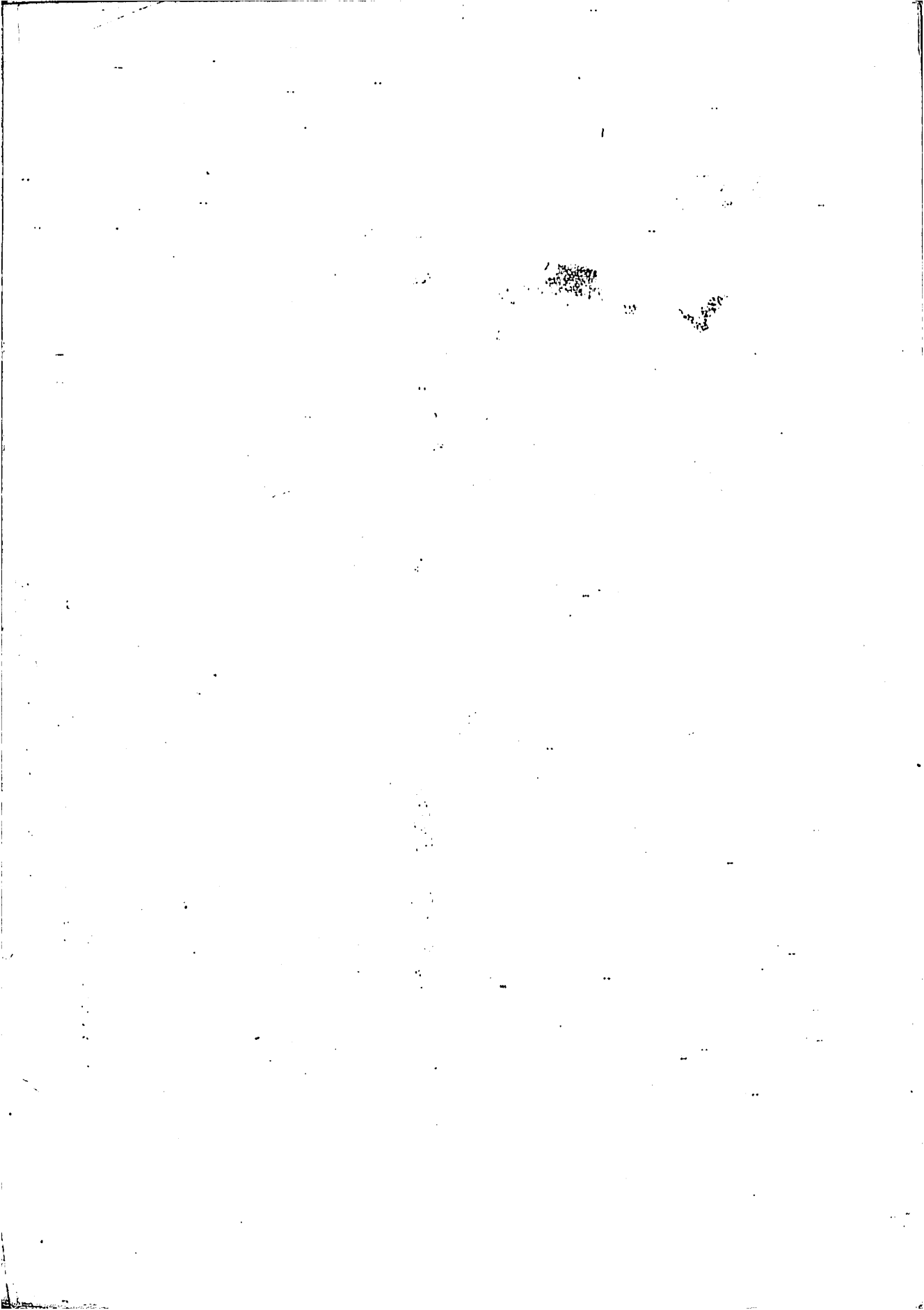
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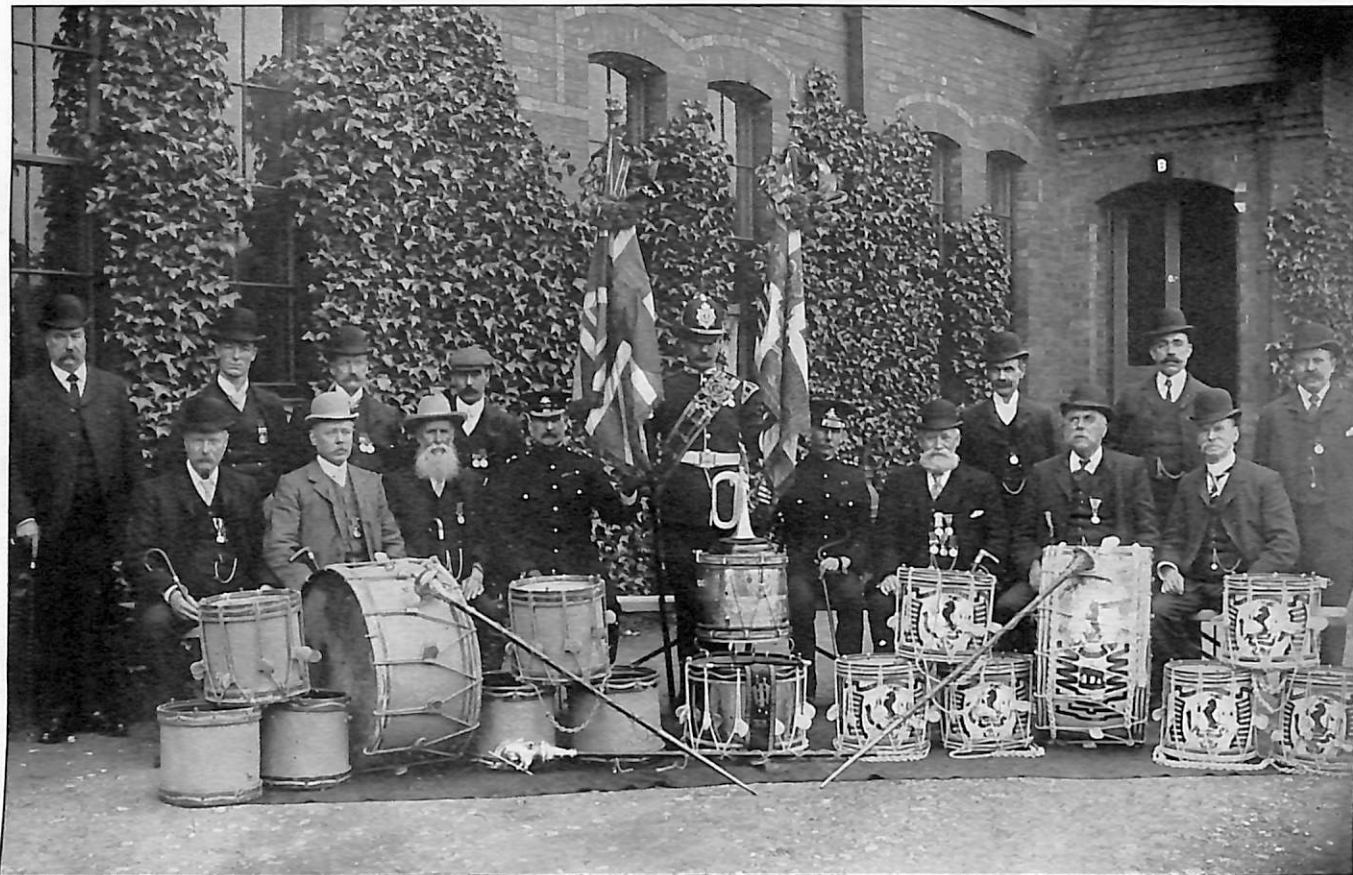


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A GROUP OF VETERANS

Who were at York to witness the presentation of South African honors, and the Celebration of the Anniversary of Waterloo, by their Batt. 1st Duke of Wellington's Regt., on 17th and 18th June, 1905.

The Havercake Lad.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

No. 2.]

YORK: AUGUST, 1905.

[PRICE 3D.

EDITORIAL.

OUR first number has been in the hands of its readers now for three months. The Editor's Staff are still alive, and perhaps this is its best, if only, testimonial. The sale of the paper is not quite up to that of the leading daily papers as yet, but this was hardly to be expected from the first edition.

It is to be hoped that all who are interested in the Regiment will do their best to help in so worthy a cause.

The one feature which stands out prominently in our present number is, naturally, "Waterloo Day!"

It was, indeed, a well-chosen occasion on which to commemorate the share of the Battalion in the South African War.

No better day could have been selected on which to add the honours of the present day to the glories of the past.

The occasion must have brought home very clearly to all that the men, who so bravely withstood the modern weapons of the South African War, were only repeating the tale of their forefathers, who fought with such doggedness in their "squares" against Ney's cavalry, ninety years ago.

Our Sports were held on the 19th of June; and though two heavy thunderstorms did their best to mar the proceeding, yet the entries were good, and the results highly creditable.

The introduction of a tent-pitching competition for Companies was a novel and interesting event, and one which we should like to see continued. The mile race, too, run by teams of 4 per Company, was also quite a success.

Owing to Ceremonial parades and Battalion training, Cricket has not got very far this year, although several matches have been played by the Band and Sergeants. But practice has been going strong, however, and the list of broken bats and coverless balls has been rapidly growing.

The Regimental team shows great promise, however, and out of its five matches played, has won two, lost one, and drawn two.

We have at last heard of our probable date of departure and place of destination. We leave about October the 3rd for India, and go up to Lebong.

We are glad to see so many extensions of service, and also to be getting back to the Battalion so many capable men, both in duty and games.

Our Battalion training this year has of necessity been very much curtailed, although several long marches in the neighbourhood, and a week's training at Aldby Park, has done a lot of good.

CRICKET.

OUR CRICKET this season has much improved in every department of the game.

We have had to play this season without Capt. Strafford and Lieut. Tidmarsh, but several men have stepped into the breach, and made up for the loss.

Our batting has been much better this year ; and there have been none of those unaccountable failures, which were almost the feature of last season's play.

Lance-Corpl. Green, Lieuts. Firth and Wilson, Sergt. Pollard, and Private Blackmore have all done creditably, while several others have good averages.

Blackmore has been a great help this year in the bowling ; and if he can get his pitch and find his length, he is very difficult to play.

Q.M.-Sergt. Mangles and Lieut. Firth have also taken several wickets. Perhaps the greatest improvement has been in the fielding, which at times has been brilliant. Lce.-Corpl. Green at the wicket and Sergt. Pollard in the slips, have been invaluable.

With such a team, it was a pity that so many of the matches that had been arranged should have had to have been scratched ; but we can at least look forward with a certain degree of confidence to our Cricket in India.

Owing to half the men in the Company Cricket teams being on furlough, it has been decided to abandon the annual struggle for the Cricket Shield till a later date. It is hoped that the mountainous district of Lebong will afford the necessary ground for the games.

We cannot leave the subject of Cricket without congratulating the Band on the keen way in which they have taken up the game this season.

They have played and won several matches with local clubs, and have in every way encouraged the game among the men.

It is by this sort of energy in arranging matches and playing practice games that a regiment can earn the name of a good sporting regiment ; and every help will be given to assist the promotion of practice games and smaller matches throughout the Battalion.

CRICKET.

Regiment *v.* The Yorkshire Gentlemen.

This match was played on May 31st, and ended in a win for the Yorkshire Gentlemen by four wickets.

The REGIMENT.

1. Lce.-Corpl. Green, b Woodburn	1
2. Pte. Blackmore, b Squire	7
3. Lce.-Sergt. Robins, c Leather, b Woodburn ...	21
4. Lieut. Firth, c Squire, b Woodburn	92
5. Sergt. Pollard, not out	61
6. Col.-Sergt. Lister, c Raitt, b Woodburn ...	0
7. Col.-Sergt. Teasdale, b Woodburn... ..	11
8. Sergt. Rollinson, b Squire	0
9. Lieut. Taylor, st White, b Squire	0
10. Sergt.-Maj. Thompson, c Green, b Woodburn ...	5
11. Sergt. Wilson, c Luther, b Squire... ..	1
Extras	6
	<hr/>
	205

YORKSHIRE GENTLEMEN.

1. C. Leatham, b Firth	8
2. A. W. White, c Thompson, b Blackmore ...	17
3. A. C. G. Luther, b Firth	25
4. R. S. Leather, not out	120
5. Major Raitt, c and b Firth	14
6. Capt. Thackwell, b Firth	15
7. S. G. Squire, c Green, b Firth	5
8. W. Woodburn, not out	4
9. C. S. Jones	} Did not bat
10. E. C. Green	
11. F. A. Dunkely	
Extras	1
	<hr/>
	209

This match we played against a really strong side, the Yorkshire Gentlemen putting in one of the hottest teams they have played this season. The batting of Leather was too much for us, and but for him we should have had little difficulty.

They won the match seven minutes before time.

Regiment *v.* Bishopthorpe.

This match was played on the Strensall ground, on the 24th of June, and ended in a ten wickets' victory for the Regiment.

BISHOPTHORPE.

1. R. Holmes, b Blackmore	8
2. J. E. Cundall, b Blackmore	26
3. F. Akers, c Pollard, b Firth	1
4. A. Akers, c Robins, b Blackmore	1
5. W. Johnson, c Wilson, b Blackmore	3
6. R. Allenby, c Green, b Firth	2
7. F. Taylor, b Blackmore	4
8. M. Cundall, not out	8

THE HAVERCAKE LAD.

9.	J. Hudson, c Pollard, b Rush	...	...	...	1
10.	H. Akers, b Blackmore	...	...	...	0
11.	F. Brownbridge, b Rush	...	...	...	0
	Extras	...	...	...	2
					56

The REGIMENT.

1.	Lce.-Corpl. Green, not out	...	...	...	96
2.	Pte. Blackmore, c and b Cundall	...	...	...	37
3.	Sergt. Pollard, c Akers, b Cundall..	...	...	...	9
4.	Lieut. Firth, not out	...	...	...	27
5.	Lieut. Wilson				
6.	Sergt. Robins	}	Did not bat.		
7.	Pte. Sewell				
8.	Srgt.-Maj. Thompson				
9.	Col.-Sergt. Teasdale				
10.	Lce..Corpl. Rush				
	Extras	...	...	...	13

(for 2 wickets) 183

Thanks to the excellent bowling of Blackmore, and the really good batting display by Green, we had little difficulty in securing a ten wickets' victory.

Blackmore also batted very steadily for his 37, and is a real addition to the team.

Regiment *v.* St. John's College.

The score in this match is unfortunately not forthcoming. The game was played in bitterly cold weather, and ended in a draw in favour of neither side.

Everyone was glad to stop play, and partake of the hospitality generously provided by the College.

Regimental Team *v.* Pocklington Masters.

This match was played at Pocklington, on 20th July, 1905, and ended in a drawn game,

POCKLINGTON MASTERS.

1.	J. C. Dalton, b Blackmore	...	...	...	12
2.	H. G. Sale, lbw, b Pollard	...	...	...	30
3.	P. Dalton, b Thorold...	...	...	...	26
4.	J. D. Massey, c and b Pollard	...	...	...	4
5.	G. W. O'Merva, c and b Pollard	...	...	...	0
6.	H. C. Hodgson, run out	...	...	...	28
7.	R. Johnson, not out	...	...	...	37
8.	T J. Davies, c Thorold b Mangles	...	...	...	0
9.	C. R. Murray, b Mangles	...	...	...	4
10.	E. L. Donovan, not out	...	...	...	4
11.	J. Quirk did not bat.				
	Extras	...	...	...	4

The REGIMENT.

1. Q.M.-Sergt. Mangles, c Hodgson, b Massey	...	...	...	20
2. Lce.-Corpl. Green, not out	...	...	...	36
3. Sergt. Pollard, lbw, b Massey	...	...	...	7
4. Lieut. Thorold, not out	...	...	...	6
5. Pte. Blackmore				
6. Lieut. Wilson	}	Did not bat.		
7. Lieut. Carlyon				
8. Lce.-Copl. Rush				
9. Col.-Sergt. Lister				
10. Sergt.-Maj. Thompson				
11. Pte. Sewell				
Extras	...	...	...	3
				(for 2 wickets) 72

This match ended in a draw in our favour. Mangles and Green batted well for us. The feature of our team was their good fielding and catching, which was everywhere admired.

Regimental Team v. 18th Hussars.

This match was played on the Yorkshire Gentlemen's ground, and ended with an exciting finish, in a victory for us by 15 runs.

The REGIMENT.

1. Q.M.-Sergt. Mangles, c Neame, b Guildford...	6	c Masling, b Neame	...	21
2. Lce.-Corpl. Green, c Dunkely, b Neame	...	8	not out	...
3. Lieut. Wilson, run out	...	0	c and b Thackwell	...
4. Lieut. Firth, c Guildford, b Neame	...	39	not out	...
5. Sergt. Pollard, lbw, b Neame	...	6		13
6. Lieut. Carlyon, not out	...	13		0
7. Sergt. Robins, b Lundy	...	0		8
8. Lieut. Thorold, c Cape, b Neame	...	8		0
9. Col.-Sergt. Lister, b Neame	...	0		4
10. Sergt.-Major Thompson, b Lundy	...	4		6
11. Pte. Sewell, lbw, b Neame	...	6		7
Extras	...	7		97
				(for 2 wickets) 94

18th HUSSARS.

1. Lieut. Wood, c Carlyon, b Mangles	...	...	19
2. Lieut. Neame, b Mangles	...	...	8
3. Lieut. Dunkely, b Firth	...	...	34
4. Capt. Thackwell, c Sewell, b Firth	...	...	1
5. J. H. Clayton, c Mangles, b Firth	...	...	0
6. Corpl. Masling, b Firth	...	...	1
7. Capt. Cape, b Mangles	...	...	0
8. Pte. Sykes, b Mangles	...	...	9
9. Pte. Guildford, b Firth	...	...	4
10. Pte. Hepworth, c Sewell, b Mangles	...	...	0
11. Lundy, not out	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	6
			82

We only just pulled this match out of the fire. Our catching was indifferent, and our opponents' score should have been considerably lower than it was.

Firth with batting and bowling, and Mangles with bowling, helped to secure the victory; the late Carlyon caught a really splendid catch at a critical point of the game.

Regimental Team *v.* Bishopthorpe.

This match was to be played at Bishopthorpe, on Saturday, 29th July, but after waiting in pouring rain for half-an-hour, it was decided to abandon the match, and another date was fixed on for the return fixture.

DEPOT NEWS.

WITH all last year's team practically available, we started the season with excellent prospects, but, so far, the results have scarcely come up to expectations. In the League matches especially, we have not done well, having lost five matches against three won. Our best performance as yet is the double defeat of Pontefract Depot, who, with five Officers playing, have quite a strong batting side. RESULTS:—

- 11th May, *v.* *Barnsbees*.—Barnsbees 98; Depot 72 (Major Wood 35).—Lost by 26 runs.
- 16th May, *v.* *Brighouse Tradesmen*.—Depot 95 (Major Wood 34, Thomas 22, Slinger 17, Howarth 16); Brighouse Tradesmen 104.—Lost by runs.
- 18th May, *v.* *Tramways*.—Depot 151 for 7 (innings declared) (Newton 43 not out, Finnegan 25, Slinger 16); Tramways 26.—Won by 125 runs.
- 25th May, *v.* *Halifax Tradesmen*.—Depot 98 (Major Wood 24, Beese 14); Halifax Tradesmen 103 for 2 wickets.—Lost by 8 wickets.
- 1st June, *v.* *Prudential*.—Depot 65 (Slinger 16, Howarth 14); Prudential 93.—Lost by 28 runs.
- 14th June, *v.* *Huddersfield Co-operative*.—Depot 126 (Major Wood, 75 not out); Huddersfield 76.—Won by 50 runs.
- 15th June, *v.* *Halifax Thursday*.—Depot 139 (Slinger 37, Beese 34, Barnes 19); Halifax Thursday 128.—Won by 11 runs.
- 22nd June, *v.* *G.P.O.*—Depot 37 (Slinger 16); G.P.O. 123.—Lost by 86 runs.
- 29th June, *v.* *Walker Clarks*.—Depot 140 (Major Wood 60, Newton 16, Howarth 10); Walker Clarks 24.—Won by 106 runs.
Beese 6 wickets for 7 runs; Newton 4 wickets for 11 runs.
- 4th July, *v.* *Brighouse Tradesmen*.—Depot 31 (Howarth 13); Brighouse Tradesmen 82.—Lost by 51 runs.
- 11th July, *v.* *Queensbury*.—Depot 63 (Howarth 15, Finnegan 14); Queensbury 64.—Lost by 1 run.
- 13th July, *v.* *Barnsbees*.—Depot 89 (Finnegan 26, Wilson 17 not out, Newton 20); Barnsbees 92 for 8 wickets.—Lost 2 wickets.

26th May, v. Pontefract Depot, at Halifax.

DEPOT.

1. Major Wood, b Ripley	...	...	...	...	0
2. Pte. Slinger, b Ripley	...	...	...	...	0
3. Pte. Newton, c Bond, b Ripley	...	...	...	...	0
4. Capt. Barton, c Stourton, b Ripley	...	...	...	...	0
5. Q.M.-Sergt. Beese, c Ripley, b Bray	...	...	...	...	46
6. Capt. Toogood, b Hotson	...	...	...	...	40
7. Capt. Townsend, c Bond, b Bell	...	...	...	...	10
8. Sergt. Dr. Thomas, b Coppen	...	...	...	...	2
9. Sergt. Major Olliver, b Coppen	..	...	...	...	4
10. Lce.-Corpl. Wilson, lbw, b Armstrong	...	...	...	...	13
11. Col.-Sergt. Allen, not out	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	11

126

Ripley, 4 wickets for 28	Bray, 1 wicket for 17	Hotson, 1 wicket for 12
Coppen, 2 „ 24	Bell, 1 „ 26	Armstrong, 1 „ 8

PONTEFRACT.

1. Hon. E. Stourton, b Beese	...	...	...	...	21
2. Major Bond, b Beese	...	...	...	...	0
3. Sergt.-Major Hotson, b Newton	...	...	...	...	4
4. Pte. Bray, c Wilson, b Beese...	...	...	...	...	2
5. Capt. Armstrong, b Newton	...	...	...	...	2
6. Pte. Brockley, b Beese	...	...	...	...	0
7. Corpl. Shirley, run out	...	...	...	...	3
8. Col.-Sergt. Briggs, c Newton, b Beese	...	...	...	...	11
9. Pte. Coppen, c Slinger, b Beese	...	...	...	...	12
10. Col.-Sergt. Ripley, run out	...	...	...	...	4
11. Bugler Bell, not out	...	...	...	...	8
Extras	...	...	...	...	19

86

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Beese ...	12	2	25	6
Newton	12	2	42	2

14th July, v. Pontefract Depot, at Pontefract.

DEPOT.

1. Major Wood, c Hotson, b Creswell	...	...	...	...	7
2. Pte. Slinger, b Creswell	...	...	...	...	2
3. Lce.-Corpl. Howarth, c Bell, b Armstrong	...	...	...	...	55
4. Q.M.-Sergt. Beese, retired	...	...	...	...	19
5. Capt. Barton, b Armstrong	...	...	...	...	37
6. Pte. Newton, b Creswell	...	...	...	...	36

7. Col.-Sergt. Finnegan, c and b Bell	3
8. Lce.-Corpl. Wilson, b Bell	0
9. Capt. Burt, run out	15
10. Sergt. Dr. Thomas, c Singleton, b Hotson	15
11. Sergt.-Major Oliver, not out	8
Extras	3

206

PONTEFRACT.

<i>First Innings.</i>				<i>Second Innings.</i>			
1. Hon. E. Stourton, b Newton	3	c Newton, b Wood	6				
2. V. A. Jackson, lbw, b Beese	11	not out... ..	56				
3. Sergt.-Major Hotson, run out	1	b Wood	0				
4. Capt. Armstrong, b Howarth	29	c Newton, b Baton	5				
4. Sergt. Singleton, run out	8	c Slinger, b Barton	0				
5. Bugler Bell, b Newton	20	c Newton, b Barton	0				
6. Major Bond, b Newton	1	c Wilson, b Wood	4				
7. Col.-Sergt. Ripley, run out	0	b Finnegan	17				
8. Capt. Stanton, b Barton... ..	2	not out... ..	14				
9. Pte. McCormack, b Finnegan	8	—	—				
11. Col.-Sergt. Creswell, not out	0	c Newton, b Wood	0				
Extras	6	Extras	10				
	89	(for 8 wickets)	118				

	<i>First Innings.</i>				<i>Second Innings.</i>			
	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Newton	8	1	29	3	—	—	—	—
Besse	7	0	22	1	—	—	—	—
Howarth	5	1	8	1	—	—	—	—
Barton	4	0	15	1	6	1	16	3
Finnegan	2	0	9	1	3	0	19	1
Wood	—	—	—	—	10	0	67	4

HOCKEY.

IT seems somewhat out of season to talk of Hockey in July; but perhaps our first year's results as a team may be of interest. We only started the club in December, but were fortunate in obtaining fixtures with several good clubs, and, generally speaking, our record may be considered satisfactory. In all we played 25 matches, winning 12; losing 8, and drawing 5, and scored 70 goals against 53. Victories were gained over Pellon (2), 1st Battalion (2), Bramley (2), Keighley Saints, Broomfield, Huddersfield St. George's, Leeds Corinthians, and Halifax. We drew with Halifax, Brighouse, Huddersfield (2), and Halifax New School, and were beaten by Ardsley (2), Leeds Corinthians, Benson's Company, Halifax, Keighley Saints, Keighley, and Brighouse. Our team was Sergt. Stroud (goal), Capt. Thurgood and Col.-Sergt. Finnegan (backs), Col.-Sergt. Sweeney, Capt. Barton, and Col.-Sergt. Baxter (halves), Lieut. Jubb, Col.-Sergt. Brennan, Sergt.-Major Oliver, Major Wood, and Sergt. Taylor (forwards).

The Second, or Veterans' Team, under the captaincy of Col.-Sergt. Walsh, played four matches, drawing two, and losing the others.

With most of last year's team available, we are hoping for an even more successful season this winter.

WATERLOO DAY.

THE presentation of our South African honours, namely, the "Relief of Kimberley," "Paardeberg," and "South Africa, 1900-02," took place in Fulford Barracks, on Saturday, 17th June. Lady Rundle kindly consented to perform the ceremony of fixing the new honours to the Regimental Colour.

No better day could have been desired for the ceremony, which took from 11.45 a.m. till 1 o'clock, and all the arrangements for the crowds which arrived to witness the spectacle were perfect.

Precisely at 12 noon General Rundle, with his staff and escort, rode on to the parade ground, and inspected the line, after which the line formed double Companies, and advanced to the saluting point. The South African Honours were then pinned on to the Regimental Colours by Lady Rundle, after which the Colours were trooped. The ceremony was brought to a conclusion by Lady Rundle and Mrs. Thorold placing laurel leaves on the Colours, after which the Companies marched off to their private parade grounds, headed by fifty veterans.

Amongst the veterans was Mr. Illingworth, who is eighty-one years of age. He left the Regiment in 1864, with twenty-three years' service, and is now the oldest Havercake veteran.

The men's dinners were inspected by Lieut.-General Sir Leslie Rundle, who went round every barrack room.

After the ceremony, a large party of guests were entertained at lunch by the Officers of the Regiment.

CHURCH PARADE.

The Colours were taken to the Garrison Church on the following day, the actual anniversary of Waterloo. The following account is taken from the *Yorkshire Herald* :—

CHURCH PARADE.

THE ARMY'S "SACRED AND HOLY PURPOSE."

The parade of the troops at the York Garrison Church yesterday morning attracted a very large concourse of spectators, from the fact that it was known that the Duke of Wellington's Regiment would take their Colours with them. The rain had cleared away, and though the atmosphere was oppressive, there was a bright sunshine, which tended to greatly enhance the brilliance of the parade. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment assembled in their barrack square, and, headed by their band and fifes and drums, alternately playing quick-steps, they marched to the church in the cavalry barrack square. The Colours were carried by Lieut. Fairburn and Second-Lieut. Firth, and the splendid appearance which the Regiment presented was the theme of general admiration. It was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Thorold. Soon after the infantry and the 18th Hussars, the latter under the command of Major W. P. M. Pollock Morris, D.S.O., had taken their seats, Lieut.-General Sir Leslie M. Rundle, Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, arrived, attended by Brigadier Mends, Lieut.-Colonel Dawkins, Major Wanlass O'Gowan, and Capt. the Hon. Douglas-Pennant, A.D.C., Colonel Tidmarsh, a former commanding officer of the Duke of Wellington's, was also present, as were also the veterans of the Regiment. The band of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, conducted by Mr. Neill, was stationed by the organ in the south-east of the nave, and played the "War March of the Priests," and Lieuts. Fairburn and Firth, carrying the Colours, marched slowly up the centre

aisle, and took up positions on either side of the chancel, close to the altar rails, and stood at attention, facing east, the whole of the service. They never relaxed the position until the National Anthem was sung at the end, when they lowered the Colours, and then held them aloft whilst the Benediction was pronounced. The Rev. H. Little, Chaplain, conducted the service, which was one of the most devout and impressive character. The band accompanied the singing, the hymns being "Brightly gleams our banner," "Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty," and "Onward, Christian Soldiers."



YORK MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

THIS TOURNAMENT was held on the 26th and following three days of April, at the Exhibition Buildings, York.

It was started by Lieut.-General Sir Leslie M. Rundle, in aid of Military and Civil Charities, and all Regular troops of the District took part.

Although infantry are naturally at a disadvantage when pitted against mounted troops at such a display, yet we venture to claim that no brighter or better conducted piece of work was offered to the public than that of the physical drill team, under Sergt.-Major Thompson. Both the Sergt.-Major himself, and the men who worked so keenly under him, are to be warmly congratulated on the excellent quality of their work.

Great difficulty was found in fitting the old tunes used for physical drill to the somewhat altered form of drill as it is to-day, and both Bandmaster Neill and Sergt. Drummer Clerk were invaluable in their assistance.

The Colonel kindly permitted the whole Battalion to attend on Thursday afternoon, and their bright uniforms and keen interest in the performance were very noticeable.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

OUR Annual Athletic Sports were held on the 19th June, and, in spite of the somewhat showery conditions of the weather, provided some very interesting events. A large programme of twenty-three races was drawn up, and an excellent number of entries was the result.

The tent-pitching competition was a new and interesting event, each Company sending in a team to compete.

The obstacle race was rather too hard for the majority of runners, owing to the soft state of the ground, which rendered the slippery board almost impossible.

One of the most attractive races was the Sergeants' costume race—the "policeman," the "red devil," and the "Scotchman" being among the most amusing.

The following is the list of events:—

PROGRAMME.

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|---|
| 1 | Throwing Cricket Ball, 5/-, 3/-, 2/- | 13 | Regimental School Girls' Race—
under 8, 4/-, 2/-, 1/-; over 8, 5/-, 3/-, 2/- |
| 2 | Long Jump, 10/-, 7/6, 5/- | 13a | Tent-pitching Competition, £1 |
| 3 | Putting the Shot (20 lbs., with follow)—
7/6, 5/-, 2/6 | 14 | Garrison Mile—open, 25/-, 15/-, 10/- |
| 4 | Band Race (220 yards), 15/-, 10/-, 5/- | 15 | Officers' Race—a Cup. |
| 5 | 100 yards, 15/- 10/-, 5/- | 16 | Tilting the Bucket, 10/-, 5/- |
| 6 | High Jump, 10/-, 7/6, 5/- | 17 | Team Race of 4 men, 1 mile—
£1 10s. and 10/- |
| 7 | Sergeants' Race (440 yards), 15/-, 10/-, 5/- | 18 | Egg and Spoon Race, Bicycle—
7/6, 5/-, 2/6 |
| 8 | Enlisted Boys' Race (220 yds. handicap)—
7/6, 5/-, 2/6 | 19 | Tug of War—Teams of 8, aggregate
90 stone |
| 9 | ¼-mile, 20/-, 15/-, 10/-. Open to Garrison | 20 | Tortoise Race, Bicycles, 7/6, 5/-, 2/6 |
| 10 | Regimental School Boys' Race—
under 8, 4/-, 2/-, 1/-; over 8, 5/-, 3/-, 2/- | 21 | Obstacle Race, 20/-, 10/-, 5/-, 4/- |
| 11 | Hurdle Race (120 yds.), 15/-, 10/-, 5/- | 22 | Consolation Race, 15/-, 10/-, 5/- |
| 12 | Costume Race for Sergeants, 10/-, 5/- | | |

Mrs. Thorold kindly gave away the prizes after the races.

“OFF DUTY.”

RAT-TRAPS AND RED TAPE!

WITHIN a thousand miles of P— was a store, in which a large quantity of military clothing was kept, pending emergencies; and to keep down the rats there was a cat, for which a small subsistence allowance was drawn monthly.

Retrenchment, however, was the order of the day, and the officer in charge was ordered to indent for “Rats, trap, wire, iron galvanized, Mark 1, in the proportion of one to every one hundred suits of clothing.”

In the “Changes in War Material” an elaborate picture and description of the above appeared, and the cat was declared obsolete, and was handed over to the Commissariat Department to be sold. The number of traps, according to the proportion, was found to be 193, and accordingly 20 traps were demanded. The indent came back with one trap disallowed, but, by way of consolation, it was stated—“that fractions of a trap exceeding .5 would be considered as a whole trap.” Thereupon the officer in charge of the clothing store pointed out that the odd thirty-three suits of clothing would be at the mercy of the rats, but without avail.

The 19 traps duly arrived, and a return, A.F.X. 1063, was ordered to be submitted monthly. The return in question was arranged in birdcage form, and was a masterpiece of its kind, showing at a glance the amount of clothing in store, the cubic measurement of each room, the number of traps in hand, and the number of rats caught each day. Mice were to be shown under “Remarks”! The percentage of rats caught to suits of clothing, and of rats to traps, was to be marginally noted.

As it was found that the officer in charge of the clothing store might endeavour to take credit for mice as rats, the measurements of the animals caught were ordered to be inserted, and the officer in charge was authorised to demand “a suitable service rod for the purpose.”

The officer in charge of the clothing store, anxious to show the keen interest he took in the matter, demanded “gauges, measuring cartridges, and live shell,” which would enable measurements to be taken to 1-1000th of an inch.

The authorities pointed out that these gauges were fitted with gun-metal screws, and intended for measuring explosives only—"a condition presumably not applying to rats"—and that their use with articles of a non-explosive character would therefore be "highly irregular, if not dangerous," and that the operation must, in any case, be carried out under magazine regulations, with felt slippers, in an isolated building, 400 yards from a road. "A plan of the locality was to be submitted."

An application that the term "live shell" might be extended to include "live rats" was rejected, and it was suggested that an ordinary 2-foot rule would be sufficiently accurate for ordinary purposes. This was accordingly demanded, but elicited the reply that "these stores formed part of chests, tool, carpenters'," which were "only allowed at stations for which carpenters' shops were authorised."

A strong case was accordingly made out for the erection of a carpenter's shop, which was sanctioned at a cost of some hundreds of pounds.

Meanwhile, the officer in charge of the store acknowledged the receipt of the traps, and requested instructions as to how they were to be set. The reply came that "the matter had been under consideration, and instructions would shortly be published."

The first monthly return showed several suits of clothes destroyed by rats.

The authorities gave evidence of the energy they have always displayed on an emergency, and a very complete pamphlet was issued within a month, in which the mining of iron, drawing out into wire, method of galvanizing, manufacture into traps, and system of inspecting, testing, and passing into service were exhaustively dilated on, and profusely illustrated.

Nevertheless, the second return was like the first. "Were the instructions regarding the setting of traps strictly adhered to?" "Yes, the clothing destroyed was doubtless part of that for which the traps were disallowed," was the triumphant rejoinder. Another trap was allowed; but it was in contemplation to make a corresponding increase to the suits in store of 67 suits.

The third return showed rats caught "nil," and more clothing destroyed.

A Mark 2 was introduced, which differed from Mark 1 in that the wire was not galvanized, and the iron was obtained in Germany.

No rats were caught; and further destruction of clothing. "None but men of superior intelligence were to be permitted to touch the traps, and a warrant officer was to be struck off duty and detailed to instruct them. "A return was to be submitted monthly to show the number of men instructed."

In selecting the warrant officer, the claims of a man who had caught bandicoots in India were ignored, and the opportunity of infusing fresh blood into this important service was neglected. The grievance was duly aired in a military contemporary.

The worthy soldier who was selected elaborated a drill in accordance with the "spirit of the instructions," which, after various extensionary motions to develop the trap-setting muscles, commenced with "Take up traps," and ended with "Ease springs."

Badges in gold and worsted of crossed rats' tails were authorised to be worn by men who attained a certain stage of proficiency. Still trap-settings caught—and the destruction of clothing continued. "The return showing number of men instructed was to be submitted in duplicate once a week." Even this failed to produce an improvement.

It was suddenly discovered that the trap, though known as "trap, rat, wire, iron galvanized, Mark 2," was in fact made of ungalvanized iron. The responsibility for this blunder could not be brought home to anyone, but after some discussion

the nomenclature was amended, and "Changes in War Material" were ordered to be at once corrected accordingly, and a certificate furnished. The amendment was made retrospective, and past returns were to be re-submitted. These were still found to be blank, and no improvement ensued. The authorities were reluctantly compelled to admit that the traps had not answered their expectations, and that there appears to be no fault either in the traps or their setting, and enquired incidentally what bait was used. The officer in charge of the clothing store pointed out that no allowance was made for bait in the regulations, and that he could not be expected to provide it out of his own pocket.

In the end the cat was re-introduced into the service, and "was to be strictly adhered to for the purpose of catching rats." The traps were ordered to be retained "for instructional purposes only."

Our Depot correspondent tells the following story of what occurred during a Field-day at P. M. Burg, in 1896 :—

"The Battalion was advancing to the attack in successive lines with great military precision, and the enemy were suffering severely (?) from our sustained volley firing (any section commander who dared to adopt any other description of fire was lucky if he escaped with a reprimand.).

"Our energetic Adjutant, when exercising a general supervision, espied a man who was acting as a file between the reserve and second line, marching along in a very slovenly manner. He galloped up to him, and said, "Who the d—— are you"? The answer came back—"I'm a scout"!—

It is not recorded what happened next; but the hero of this story shortly afterwards joined the band. His scouting propensities have, alas, been nipped in the bud, and his energies are now centred in blowing the trombone.

THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT.

THE unmounted events of this annual tournament took place in the Gymnasium; and, from our Regimental point of view, at least, were a great success. Sergt. Theed ran right through all his fights for the "Sabres," and, after an exciting final with Col.-Sergt. Truelove, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, succeeded in winning the Bronze Medal. Sergt. Aniss only just missed getting into the final for the "Bayonet v. Bayonet" event, being knocked out after a close fight in the semi-final. In the team competition for "Bayonet v. Bayonet," our team secured an unopposed victory, and not a few of them felt disappointed that no team had turned up to meet them.

Again, in the "Novices" Bayonet Competition, we secured both first and second prizes, Ptes. Burrows and Beaumont easily proving successful.

GRAND NAVAL and MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

WE entered a team for the Open Bayonet Competition this year at Islington, and though we were not successful (our team being narrowly beaten by the Norfolk Regiment by 5 fights to 3), yet it gave our men an insight into tournament fighting which is bound to be useful to them in the future. Sergeant Aniss was indefatigable in his training of the team, who all worked splendidly, and we think that experience alone prevented them from doing better.

No. 8181	Pte. A. Haigh, 'H' Company, is granted extra duty pay (3d.), Assistant Orderly Room Clerk.
„ 7694	Lce.-Corpl. (unpaid) I. Roebuck, 'H' Company, to be Lce.-Corpl. (paid).
„ 8116	Pte. R. Stow, 'E' Company, to be Lance-Corporal (unpaid).
„ 7541	„ W. Marshall, 'E' „ „ „ „
„ 8295	Lce.-Corpl. (unpaid) H. Thompson, 'H' Company, } to be Lce.-Corporals
„ 7259	„ „ E. Ogden, 'B' Company, } (paid).
„ 7825	„ „ G. White, 'G' Company, }
„ 8389	Pte. J. Holland, 'B' Company, to be Lance-Corporal (unpaid).
„ 7546	Boy A. Constantine, 'B' Company, to be Drummer.

GOOD CONDUCT BADGES AND SERVICE PAY.

No. 3197	Pte. T. Kelly, 'A' Company, is granted 3rd G.C. Badge, 17/3/05.
„ 7324	Lce.-Corpl. Brown, 'H' Company, is granted 1st G.C. Badge, 27/2/05.
„ 5806	Pte. H. Robinson, 'E' Company, is restored G.C. Pay, at 1d., 9/9/04.
„ 2496	Dr. R. Robinson, 'B' Company, is granted his 4th G.C. Badge, 16/4/05.
„ 7244	Pte. J. Wood, 'F' Company, is granted Service Pay 6d. and 1st G.C. Badge.
„ 7441	Lce.-Corpl. Ellison, 'H' Coy., is granted his 1st G.C. Badge, 22/4/05.
„ 7430	Lce.-Corpl. Outhwaite, 'F' Co, is granted his 1st G.C. Badge, 23/3/05.
„ 6398	Lce.-Sergt. Bradford, 'D' Co, is granted Service Pay at 7d., 30/4/05.
„ 3197	Pte. T. Kelly, 'A' Company, is granted Service Pay at 7d., 4/5/05.
„ 6521	Pte. W. Rayner, 'D' Company is granted Service Pay at 6d., 19/4/05.
„ 72 ¹ / ₄	Boy F. Sheering, 'A' Company, } granted their 1st G.C. Badges.
„ 7308	Boy C. Chenery, 'A' „ }
„ 7471	Pte. W. Geldard, 'D' „ }
„ 6925	Pt C. Cruse, 'E' Company, is granted Service Pay at 5d., 20/4/05.
„ 5920	Lce.-Sergt. Riley, 'H' Company, is granted Service Pay at 7d, 28/11/04.
„ 7259	Lce.-Corpl. E. Ogden, 'C' Coy., is granted Service Pay at 6d., 10/5/05.
„ 7500	Pte. F. Davey 'C' Company, } are granted one Good Conduct Badge.
„ 7348	„ B. Ford, 'C' „ }
„ 7841	„ H. Brown, 'D' „ }
„ 3403	„ T. Huggins, 'B' Coy., is granted 2 Good Conduct Badges, 16/5/05.
„ 5458	„ R. Smith, 'D' Company, is granted Service Pay at 7d., 23/5/05.
„ 7510	„ R. Sykes, 'C' Company, is granted 1st G.C. Badge, 10/7/05.
„ 7486	Lce.-Corpl. S. Beaumont, 'D' Coy., is granted 1 G.C. Badge, 8/7/05.
„ 7303	Pte. F. Foster 'B' Company, is granted Service Pay at 7d, 10/7/05.
„ 7501	„ R. Sykes, 'C' „ „ „ „
„ 5524	Lce.-Corpl. J. Davis, 'H' Co., is granted his 2nd G.C. Badge, 22/7/05.



CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

The following Non-commissioned Officers and men have been granted Certificates of Education since our last number:—

FIRST CLASS.

No. 4758 Col.-Sergt. H. Dyson. No. 8069 Lce.-Corpl. R. Adair.
7550 Pte. M. Burnby (except one subject).

SECOND CLASS.

No.		Co.	No.		Co.
4758	Lce.-Corpl. J. Linn	D	7332	Lce.-Corpl. C. Roberts	H
7430	Lce.-Corpl. T. Outhwaite	F	7967	Lce.-Corpl. J. Wedge... ..	E
8246	Pte. G. Meyman	A	7429	Boy A. Crabtree	G
6893	Boy W. Watson	A	7669	Boy W. Haste	C
7324	Lce.-Corpl. W. Brown	H	7546	Boy A. Constantine	B
7936	Lce.-Corpl. A. Woodfield	E	8301	Pte. W. S. Oakley	B
7658	Boy J. Rosendale		6546	Corpl. T. Smith	G
7878	Lce.-Corpl. A. Smith... ..	G	7899	Lce.-Corpl. J. Willis	A
8120	Pte. W. Cusick... ..	E	8213	Pte. F. Eggleton	D
8228	Pte. C. Thornber	G	7913	Lce.-Corpl. A. Cartwright	B
7825	Lce.-Corpl. G. White	C	4530	Lce.-Corpl. J. Vott	H
7718	Lce.-Corpl. D. Abbott	G	8117	Pte. T. Robinson	E
8401	Pte. J. Chadwick	B	8248	Pte. A. Whitaker	B

The following births have taken place in the Battalion:—

Leila Helen Beatrice, infant daughter of Sergt (o.r.c.) R. J. Sly, 27th Apr., 1905.
 Florence May, infant daughter of Corpl. Acteson, 28th April, 1905.
 Alfred Henry & James William, infant sons of Corpl. J. Ramsden, 27th June, 1905.
 Albert William, infant son of Pte. R. Colclough, 29th June, 1905.
 Eric George, infant son of Lce.-Sergt. Wiggins, 22nd June, 1905.
 Florence Rose Catherine, infant daughter of Corpl. Linn, 1st July, 1905.
 Stephen Henry, infant son of Sergt. Barrow, 9th July, 1905.

MARRIAGES.

Col.-Sergt. Pilgrim and Mary Mona Crisp, at St. George's Church, York, 10th June, 1905.
 Lce.-Corpl. Gilbard and Beatrice Ethel Robson, at Fulford Church, 12th July, 1905.

We regret to make the following announcement. Lieutenant G. C. B. Farrell, West Riding Regiment (Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force), died at Kintaups, Gold Coast Colony, on the 6th March, 1905.

The following have got Certificates:—

No. 7854	Pte. F. Newbury, 'A' Company,	} Cold Shoers, 22nd May, 1905.
" 8130	" R. Procter, 'B' "	
" 7942	" A. Palmer, 'C' "	
" 5898	Sergt. W. Sutcliffe, 'C' Company, 1st Class Gymnasium Certificate.	
" 5912	Corpl. J. Rush, 'E' Company, Assistant Instructor's Certificate for Signalling.	

RIFLE SHOOTING AT STRENSALL.

17th May, 1905—The Right Half Battalion *v.* the Left Half.—The Left Half won easily; Sergts. Wilkins^{on}, McCormack, and Col.-Sergt. Teasdale shooting best for their side.

13th May, 1905—The Regiment *v.* Detachment of the K.O.Y.L.I.—The Regiment won easily; Sergts. Teasdale, Wood, Wilkinson, and Robinson, all making good scores

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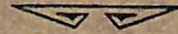
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