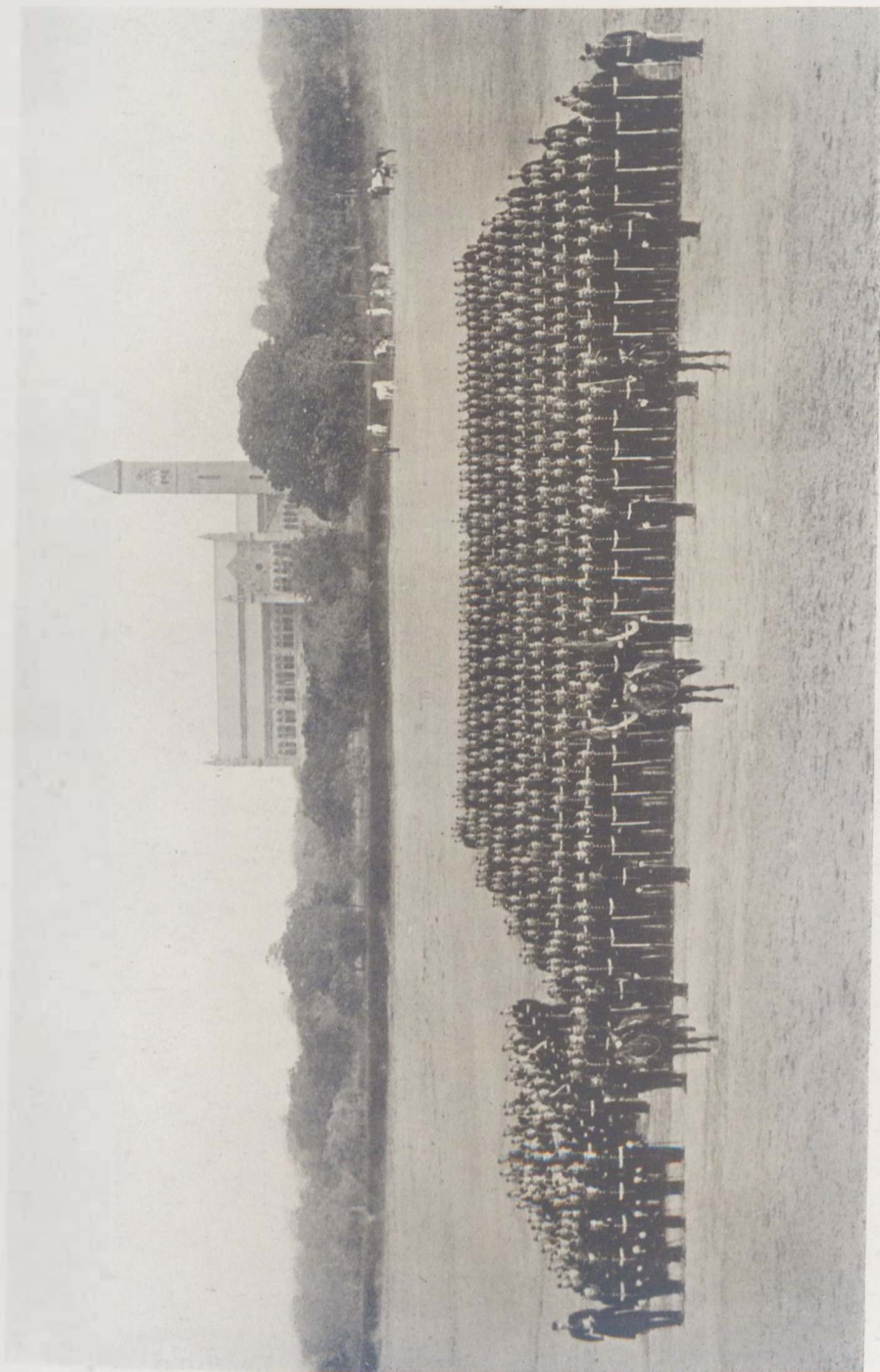


2ND BATTALION.



CAWNPORE, 1885.



The Journal of The Queen's Royal Regiment

VOL. II.]

MAY, 1928

[No. 2

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EDITORIAL

WE have great pleasure in announcing that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve an alliance between the Regiment and The Queen's Rangers (1st American Regiment) of Canada. We welcome this alliance, and trust that it will prove of interest and value to both Regiments. We have been in communication with the Officer Commanding The Queen's Rangers, and he has kindly sent a short history of the Regiment for publication. He has also promised to supply us with regular news of his regiment.

We congratulate Lieut. G. V. Palmer on gaining his cap for England at Rugby football. Lieut. Palmer played for England against Ireland, France and Scotland. It is just over 30 years since the Regiment had an International player, as in 1897 Lieuts. R. O. H. Livesay, R. H. Mangles and C. E. Wilson gained this honour.

Since our last issue Lieut.-Col. J. Rainsford-Hannay, D.S.O., has left the Regiment on completion of his tenure of command of the 2nd Battalion, and, before these lines appear in print, Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., will have completed his period of command of the 1st Battalion. Both these officers have spent many years in the Regiment, and have given their services unsparingly to it. We offer them our best wishes for the future, and hope that their long connection with the Regiment will still be maintained.

In response to numerous requests we publish in this issue an account of Lord Howe's victory of "The Glorious First of June," 1794, which initiated the Regiment's connection with the Royal Navy. It will be remembered that Lord Howe's flagship, the *Queen Charlotte*, eventually became H.M.S. *Excellent*, which is now the Royal Naval School of Gunnery at Whale Island. With this ship the connection is still maintained by the exchange of telegrams on every June 1st, and by an annual cricket match. Shortly after the return of the 1st Battalion to England in 1910, the Captain and Officers of H.M.S. *Defence* presented to the Battalion a small wooden mallet made from the wood of one of the old wooden ships bearing that name. The mallet had been made by the ship's carpenter, and, to emphasize the connection of the Regiment with the House of Braganza, he had carved on one end of it the arms of that family. Curiously enough, the presentation was made just about the time that Portugal became a Republic. The Captains of H.M.S. *Excellent* and H.M.S. *Defence* were present at the dinner held in 1911 to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the raising of the Regiment.

We thank all those who have been kind enough to send in articles, etc., for publication, but there must be many more of our readers who have had interesting experiences in various parts of the world, and to these we appeal to send us the story of these experiences. Very few illustrations have been sent in for this issue, and we hope this defect will be remedied for our next number. We ask forgiveness for labouring the point that unless every reader helps us, in some way or other, the Journal cannot maintain its present level.

We publish elsewhere announcements regarding the Officers' Dinner, All Ranks' Dinner and Old Comrades Association Garden Party at the Depot, and we would remind those intending to be present at any of these gatherings of the necessity of notifying the respective secretaries.

Our next number will be published in November, and we ask intending contributors to send us their news, articles and photos not later than October 15th.



Photo]

LIEUT. G. V. PALMER.
"The Army" and "England."

[Swaine, New Bond St.

THE QUEEN'S RANGERS (1st AMERICAN REGIMENT).

Headquarters: 860, Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. C. T. Ingles.

BY the gracious approval of His Majesty the King, The Queen's Rangers now carry the full title of its earlier organizations, Queen's Rangers, 1st American Regiment, and wears the badge as it appears on the Regimental Colours of 1780 and the buttons first used one hundred and fifty years ago; but, above all, the Regiment carries on the traditions made and honours won by those early pioneers and sturdy Loyalists who served in its ranks in times gone by.

The history of the Regiment is inseparably linked with that of Canada, and more particularly Toronto, consequently it is most fitting that this old Imperial unit, now a part of the Militia of Canada, should have its headquarters in this city.

All who are familiar with the early history of Canada will remember that whereas war was declared between France and England in 1756, a bitter struggle between the French and English settlements in America had been going on for several years. The French to the north of the Great Lakes, in Canada, and the English in the narrow strip of coast-land between the Atlantic and the Allegheny Mountains, both sought to obtain control of that vast stretch of forest country, the valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries. Encouraged by the French, their Indian allies from the north carried fire and scalping-knife into the border settlements of New England. Early in 1756, Robert Rogers organized a band of scouts for the protection of the settlements in the forests of New Hampshire, and in July, realizing that offence is often the best defence, joined an expedition then being assembled at Albany, for service against that thorn in the flesh of the English Colonies, the French fort of Ticonderoga. Throughout the following autumn and winter these scouts proved so indispensable a branch of the service that in March, 1756, Rogers was summoned to Boston and given a commission as Captain and instructions to raise a company of scouts for the bushranging service of the Army. This company was named "The Queen's Rangers." By the end of the first year six additional companies had been raised and Capt. Rogers granted a step in rank. Other companies were added later, until eleven in all had been organized, and although often dispersed on various services, all were under the command of Major Rogers. Such was the beginning of that famous corps popularly known as "Rogers' Rangers."

The Rangers were the eyes and ears of the Army, messengers for the conveyance of intelligence from one district to another, guides and protectors of convoys on the lonely forest roads and exposed waterways. In advance they took the lead, and in retirement closed the rear. When the main body was inactive, as in winter quarters, they were constantly on the move, watching and guarding the various approaches and harassing the enemy. If information was wanted the Rangers obtained it by the ordinary methods of reconnaissance, by stealthily seizing a prisoner, or by attacking in force.

Their services were always in demand. Some companies took part in the capture of Louisburg, and later accompanied General Wolfe and took part in the capture of Quebec and of its defence the spring following. Other companies led the expedition against St. John, Que., and did their share in the capture of Montreal. Four days after the capitulation of Canada to the English, Major Rogers was sent with two companies to take over the French forts of Detroit and Michlemakana, then the far western outposts of French authority, and to administer the oath of allegiance to the French settlements. On September 30th,

1760, Major Rogers reached the site of the present city of Toronto, and describes it as "a most convenient place for a factory" (trading-post). After completing his mission, he and his companies marched through the vast forests to New York, making the journey in six weeks. In 1763 part of the Rangers were back in Detroit, helping in its defence against the rebellious Indians under that renowned chief, Pontiac. Shortly after the quelling of the Indian insurrection the officers were placed on half-pay and the Rangers disbanded.

In 1775 war broke out between Great Britain and her colonies in America. Major Rogers reported to General Howe, at New York, on August 6th, 1776, and was at once granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and ordered to raise the Queen's Rangers from among the many Loyalists in the district. Even before the regiment was fully recruited it was in the forefront of battle, holding and defending the outposts of the Army. Early in 1777 Lieut.-Col. Rogers was succeeded in command by Lieut.-Col. French, who in turn relinquished his post to Major Wymess about midsummer. Under Major Wymess the regiment won its first great laurels. Of its part in the Battle of Brandywine, General Kryphausen, the divisional commander, says in his report to Lord Howe, "I must be silent as to the behaviour of the Rangers, for I want even words to express my own astonishment to give him an idea of it." Their loss was heavy, about one-fifth of the whole British loss, but their reputation was made. Major Wymess being one of the casualties, was succeeded by Capt. John Graves Simcoe, transferred from the 40th Foot, with the rank of Major. Major Simcoe took over his command in October, 1777.

Under Major—later Lieut.-Col.—Simcoe, the fame of the regiment spread throughout the ranks of both armies, until it became the pride of one and the dread of the other. When any enterprise demanded exceptional daring and resourcefulness the Rangers were inevitably chosen for it, and at the end of the war the Commander-in-Chief reported to the King that the regiment "has been the perpetual advance of the Army. The history of the corps is a series of gallant, skilful and successful enterprises against the enemy, without a single reverse."

Shortly after the occupation of Philadelphia the regiment took part in the fierce conflict at Germantown, and throughout the following winter was continually on outpost duty. On the withdrawal from Philadelphia to New York in 1778, the Queen's Rangers, with a battalion of light infantry, formed the rearguard of the Army and fought with unexcelled courage and spirit at the Battle of Monmouth.

On May 2nd, 1779, a general order was issued, "that His Majesty, anxious to reward their faithful service and spirited conduct on several occasions, has been pleased to confer upon them the following marks of his Royal Favour . . .", in consequence of which the regiment was styled and numbered, "The First American Regiment."

In the autumn of 1779 one of the most brilliant exploits of the war was carried out by the regiment. The Americans had collected a number of boats some miles up the Raritan River, for the purpose of attacking New York, and these the Queen's Rangers were ordered to destroy. In order to carry this out the Rangers marched fifty-five miles through the enemy's country in the course of a day and a night, dodging bands of enemy militia, skirting a military station and passing within a few miles of Lee's cavalry brigade.

In the spring of 1780 the regiment took an active part in the capture of Charleston, and was then moved back to the defence of New York. At the end of the year the Rangers were ordered to Virginia, and here their remarkable achievements distinguished the regiment as the most efficient in the British Army. Night and day they harassed the enemy. Their prowess with the bayonet in a close fight, their speed in pursuit, and, beyond all, their invincible spirit, made them at all times a terror to the enemy.

But a force greater than their own was at work, and eventually the army of which the regiment was a part was couped up in Yorktown, and on October 10th, 1781, surrendered to the combined French and American armies. Col. Simcoe had offered to take his Regiment through the American lines and escape to New York, but Lord Cornwallis decreed otherwise. But the regiment refused to surrender its Colours, and these were spirited away from the beleaguered town, and after many years have now found their final resting-place in Toronto.

For two more years the remnants of the Regiment did duty in and about New York until, peace being signed, it was ordered to disband. The officers were given British Army ranking and placed on half-pay: the regiment was permanently incorporated in the Army. Many of the officers and men settled in what was then New Brunswick and Canada, where many of their descendants live to-day, still holding in the highest honour the memory of the regiment.

Shortly after his return to England, Col. Simcoe was elected a Member of Parliament, and as such took a prominent part in debates relating to Canada. On the division of this country into the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, in 1791, he was appointed the first Governor of the former. He at once asked and obtained permission to reorganize the Queen's Rangers, and with the regiment reached Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) during the summer of 1792. At Montreal he had been joined by Capts. Shank and Shaw, who had marched their companies, in the depth of a very cold winter, from New Brunswick. When Col. Simcoe determined on the establishment of the town of York on the north shore of Lake Ontario, and the location there of the seat of Government, the regiment crossed the lake and commenced clearing the forest and the erection of the first buildings of what is now the city of Toronto.

As one purpose of the re-establishment of the regiment was to facilitate colonization, the Rangers were given the task of clearing the forest and building roads between the settlements. Roads about Kingston, Dundas Street leading westward from York, roads about Queenstown, and finally Yonge Street leading northward from York to Lake Simcoe, are lasting memorials of their pioneering efforts. But the threat of war soon took them from these peaceful tasks, and they were placed in garrison of York, Detroit and the Niagara frontier.

In 1796 Col. Simcoe left Upper Canada, and was succeeded in command by Lieut.-Col. Samuel Smith (afterwards the first Surveyor-General of the Province). In November, 1802, the situation being quiet and the likelihood of invasion of Upper Canada having passed, the regiment was ordered to disband.

When war-clouds threatened in 1837, Lieut.-Col. S. P. Jarvis, the eldest son of Lieut. William Jarvis, who served in the regiment during the Revolutionary War, was placed in command and ordered to raise a regiment to be known as The Queen's Rangers and for the first time as part of the Militia of Canada. Under his command the regiment served throughout the MacKenzie Rebellion, taking part in the encounter with the rebels at Montgomery's Tavern. It continued to garrison Toronto until July, 1838, but though then dismissed from active service, it continued to function as a Militia unit until again disbanded in the early 'forties.

In November, 1914, the 20th Infantry Battalion was organized for active service, and served throughout the Great War as a unit of the 2nd Canadian Division. After nearly five years of service it was disbanded in Toronto in 1919, and very soon reorganized as a unit of the Active Militia. In 1925 authority was obtained for its amalgamation with the 2nd Battalion The York Rangers, then about to be disbanded, the amalgamation to be the reorganization of the Queen's Rangers. Now, by the gracious consent of His Majesty the King, this Regiment, which has been so closely identified with the beginnings of our country and city, is again an active regiment of the Militia of Canada within our midst.

1st BATTALION

SINCE the publication of the last number of the Journal there have been extensive changes in the 1st Battalion. All our reservists have left us, to return to civil life, and, we hope, to good jobs. They were a credit to their several regiments whilst they were with us, and we were very sorry to see them go. We have received one draft from the Sudan and two from England, and we have sent home a fair number of time-expired men.

On September 12th and 13th "B" Company proceeded to Shameen, the International Settlement on an island in the Canton River just by the city of Canton. They were accompanied by a section of the Machine Gun Platoon, and took over the defences of the Settlement from the King's Own Scottish Borderers. They remained there for a month, during which time they were most hospitably entertained by the residents, who spared no pains to make the troops feel at home. As a small return for this hospitality the Band and Drums went up for a few days, and a very successful Torchlight Tattoo was given by the garrison. "C" Company are now in Shameen, and unless the programme is changed they will be relieved in a few weeks' time by "D" Company.

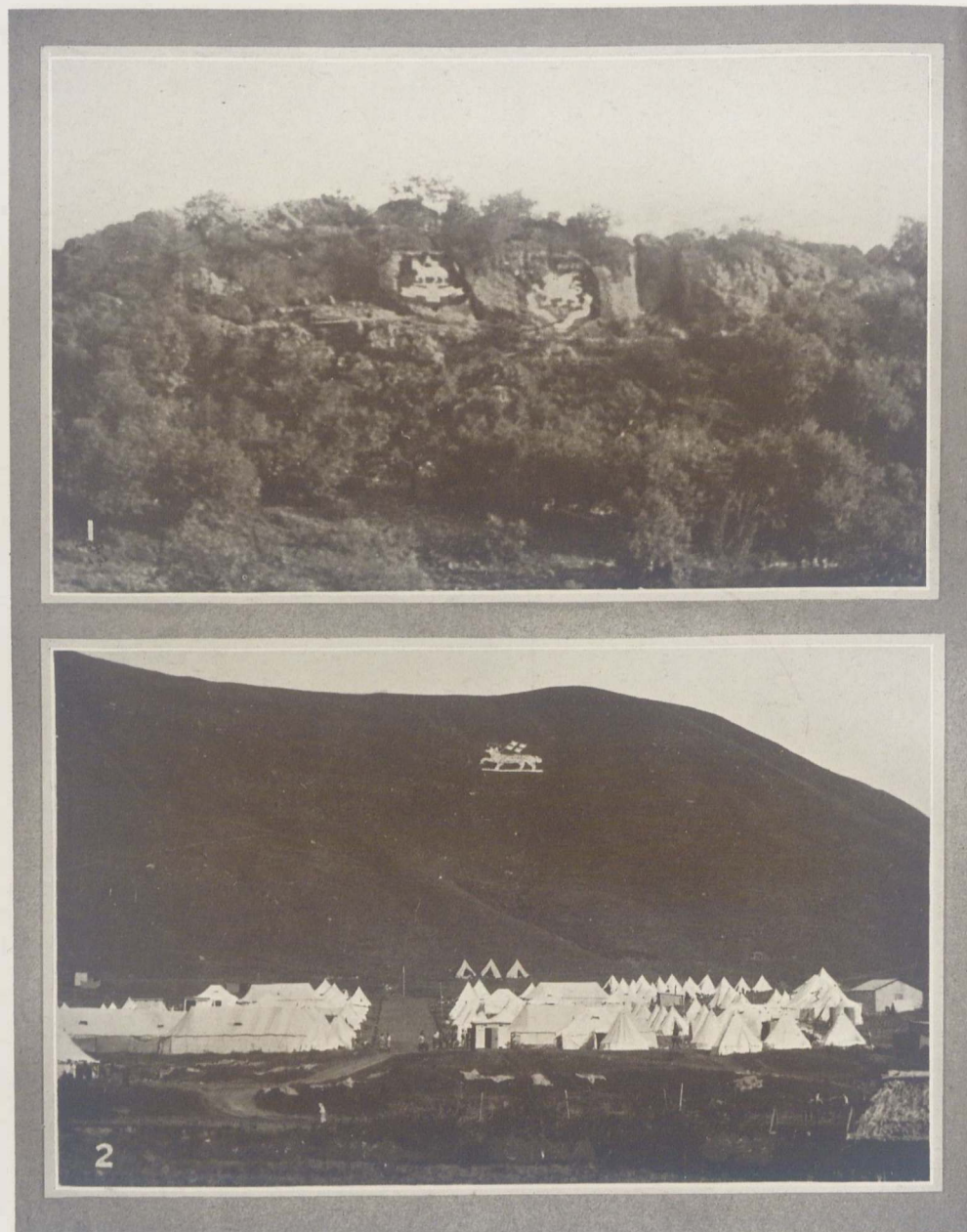
On November 9th the Battalion left Hong-Kong Island and moved into Hankow Barracks, Sham Shui Po. These barracks are on the outskirts of Kowloon, about three miles from the Hong-Kong Ferry, and consist of wooden huts with concrete foundations. We are a little doubtful what will be the result if we happen to be in the path of a real typhoon next summer!

At this time we welcomed our first draft since we came abroad. This consisted of 272 men from the 2nd Battalion, who were accompanied by Lieut. Combe and Lieut. Newell. They had embarked on the *Somersetshire* at Port Sudan, and had an uneventful voyage.

On November 16th the advance party, under Capt. Routley and Lieut. Coward, left for our camping ground at Sun Wai, near the Chinese frontier of the leased territory. Misfortune befell this party, as they had a severe gale just after getting the tents up, and almost every tent was flattened out by the very heavy wind and rain. Before the Battalion left for camp the whole system for the running of the Battalion sports and games was completely reorganized in the form of a Battalion Sports Board. The Board is now composed of: The Second-in-Command as President, the Third-in-Command as Hon. Treasurer, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major as Hon. Secretary. Each form of sport has its own committee of company representatives, with an officer as chairman and a selection committee chosen by the committee for that particular game. After we reached camp this scheme was elaborated, and, incidentally, greatly facilitated by the pooling of all the company stocks of sports kit and the balances of the company sports funds as they stood at that date. This system is now in full running order and is proving very successful. The start of the regimental games store was greatly assisted by the very kind gift of a large number of pairs of football boots by Lieut.-Col. Clarke.

We were in camp at Sun Wai for practically a month, which did not give us much time to get through all our training. The weather, however, was very fine, and enabled us to make the most of what time there was.

Full use was made of the racecourse just outside the camp. Three football grounds and one hockey ground were fitted in, and during the afternoons these grounds were never idle from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. In this way we were able to play



1. Regimental Crest carved on the rocks at Cherat, India, 1903. (The Buffs' crest next to it.)

2. Regimental Crest made on the hill at Sun Wai Camp, Hong-Kong, 1927.

off an inter-platoon football league, which was won by No. 10 Platoon of "C" Company, who beat a Machine Gun team in the final. We also had a very successful athletic sports meeting, where the championship was again won by "C" Company, largely due to the individual efforts of Pte. Bunn.

Towards the end of our stay in camp we had some most interesting tactical exercises in conjunction with the Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery and Royal Air Force. Opportunities were given for officers of one branch of the Service to command units of other branches, and many difficulties and limitations of which we had been in ignorance were thus explained.

On one occasion the Battalion marched to the town of Sha-Tau-Kok, which is half in the leased "New Territory" and half in China. Our arrival in force caused no little stir amongst the townspeople. Before returning to barracks we left our mark on the countryside in the form of an enormous lamb on the hillside behind the camp. The very steep slope, combined with the fact that all the rocks used to make the badge had to be carried from the top of the hill, made the process of building somewhat hazardous. The work was completed by lamplight on the last night of our stay.

While we were in camp we also carried out some most instructive field firing. Each company did an attack scheme, supported by overhead machine-gun fire. We also had inter-section rifle and Lewis gun falling plate competitions, and inter-sub-section machine-gun competition.

We returned to Sham Shui Po on December 19th by march route, a distance approximately of twenty-three miles, during which we had no casualties. Lieut.-Col. Sir Victor Mackenzie and the officers of the 2nd Bn. Scots Guards very kindly sent their Pipe Band about four miles up the road to play us in. Their music was greatly appreciated by everybody.

The Battalion has taken its share in the sport of the Colony, and we are represented in most forms of sport. 2/Lieut. Kealy went to Shanghai and Manila to play Rugger for Hong-Kong. Lieut. Dickinson, Lieut. Burton, 2/Lieut. Kealy, Clr.-Sergt. Handscomb, Sergt. Hooper and Sergt. Dodds played hockey for the victorious Army side which won the Sim Shield after beating the Hong-Kong Club, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

Sergt. Hooper, Pte. Bunn, L./Cpl. Barclay, Pte. Richardson and Pte. Cantor have all figured in the football world of Hong-Kong, and Capt. Bingham, Lieut. Burton and L./Cpl. Miles all played cricket for the Army.

Our losses in officers include Lieut.-Col. Hunter to England to take command of the 2nd Battalion, Major Watson on retirement, Capt. Welman to the Depot, and Lieut. Oldham on sick leave. It is hard to say how sorry we were to lose Major Watson, after his long period of service with the Regiment. He leaves a gap which it will be very hard to fill.

Against these losses we must reckon the arrival of Lieut.-Col. Boyd from Brigade Major of the Blackdown Brigade, Major Prendergast and Capt. R. C. Wilson from the 2nd Battalion.

On March 1st the Battalion adopted the new organization, "A" Company being disbanded to make way for Machine Gun Company. It is early yet to say how the new organization will affect us, but we seem to be shaking down very well at present.

Before closing the Battalion news some mention must be made of the excellent concert produced by the Drums on the stage in the Regimental Institutes. The sketches, written and acted by members of the Drums, were a most praiseworthy effort, and "Lady De Bolo," with her curious galaxy of guests, brought down the house with enthusiasm.

On Sunday, March 4th, the Battalion was ordered to find a Guard of Honour of two officers and fifty men, on the occasion of the departure from Hong-Kong

of Marshal Li Chai Sum, the Cantonese War Lord, who had been visiting His Excellency the Governor. Capt. W. G. R. Beeton commanded the Guard, which consisted of fifty men of the Machine Gun Company. 2/Lieut. J. B. H. Kealy carried the Regimental Colour.

The losses from the Sergeants' Mess are dealt with in the "Sergeants' Mess News," but I cannot close without wishing the best of luck to Regimental Sergeant-Major Fulbrook, who left us to return to England in the *City of Marseilles*.

SERGEANTS' MESS NEWS.

GENERAL.

Since the publication of the last report in the November issue of the Journal, we have moved our quarters, forsaking Hong-Kong for Sham Shui Po Camp, Kowloon.

We anticipated the change would be for the better, as on the Hong-Kong side the Mess was unavoidably split up, whilst here, in camp, we are "one." We are still realizing our anticipations! This after nearly five months!

Our "huttet" mess has been in the throes of dismantling and remantling ever since we have been here, and it is anticipated that the "renovations" [*sic*] will be completed after we get to Malta!

Now that the summer is approaching we have had fire-places installed, and the draughty sides of the "huttet mess" are "going to be" bricked up—at least we are told so!—and other amenities to comfort are promised!

However, with the aid of wicker chairs, and tables, and "yarn" mats, we manage to rub along, if not in comfort, in the best manner possible under the circumstances, and, being all together, we manage to create an atmosphere of cheeriness, in spite of our surroundings.

The latter end of November and the first three weeks in December were spent under canvas at Sun Wai, a spot on the map in close proximity to the frontier of the "New Territory." The weather clerk being kind, we had a most enjoyable stay. Whilst there, every afternoon was devoted to sport, and many competitions—football, hockey, athletics, etc.—were held, the recreation facilities being eagerly seized upon by everyone.

We returned to Sham Shui Po Camp on December 21st. Christmas Day and Boxing Day were spent quietly in the Mess, the members on these days assisting their companies.

On December 27th we held our Christmas dinner, described more fully under "Entertainments."

Nothing further of note occurred during January and February, except the departure of several of our members to the United Kingdom, particulars of whom are related below.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The functions, etc., held during the period under review were as follows:—

In September a whist drive, followed by a dance, was held in the Mess, Victoria Barracks, Hong-Kong. All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In October, we held a special "farewell do" on the occasion of the departure of H.M.S. *Frobisher* to the United Kingdom. Our "buddies" of the Senior Service turned up in goodly numbers, so much so that the Mess was packed to its utmost capacity. The arrangements made by the Entertainment Committee were all that could be desired, and the "smoker" was voted one of the best of its kind spent in Hong-Kong.

On Christmas morning we opposed the Corporals in a "football match." Both teams turned out in "fancy dress," the weird costumes of the Corporals' team beating ours by a mile. The "lady" of their team was, to use a Yankee expression, "easy on the eyesight," and had no end of "admirers"! The Drums, playing a bugle march, headed the Corporals' team to the ground; our team followed with a jazz band playing a slow march! This affair, quite impromptu, created a great deal of amusement.

Our Christmas dinner, held on the 27th, was followed by a "cheery gathering." All arrangements for the dinner were placed in the hands of a reputable firm of caterers in Hong-Kong, and were admirably carried out. The Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, Adjutant, Quartermaster, all Company Commanders and Heads of Departments graced the occasion with their presence, and among our other guests were representatives of the Royal Artillery, 2nd Scots Guards, Royal Engineers, Royal Army Service Corps, and Royal Naval Dockyard Police. The "after-dinner cheery gathering" went with a swing. "Notable" speeches, in the order stated, were given by the senior Company Sergeant-Major, President of the Sports Board, and Adjutant, the subjects, chosen by the gathering, being "Is brown green or green brown?", "Administrative duties of the Battalion Sports Board," and "Proficiency Pay under its Serial Headings." The speakers had a wide and variable knowledge, and ably digressed on the subjects chosen, the subdued chuckles of the audience testifying to the amusement caused.

Our next entertainment was provided by our friends of the Royal Naval Dockyard Police, in their mess in Hong-Kong. A series of games, billiards, etc., were played, in which we came out second best, our friends being much too strong for us. A return visit was held in our Mess a fortnight later, at which we turned the tables. Both evenings were marked by a spirit of joviality and comradeship throughout, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

On the occasion of the departure of our Regimental Sergeant-Major to the United Kingdom, we held a farewell show in the Mess. The small band, provided from the Band of the Battalion, with their snappy, jazzy tunes, helped materially towards a very successful evening's entertainment. An outstanding feature of the entertainment was a "most elucidative and instructive" speech by one of the senior members, the theme being "Am I 'A' or 'H.Q.'?" The merriment caused by this speech took about half an hour to subside.

MEMBERSHIP.

Since our last publication the following members have departed or joined:—

Departures.—Time-expired: R.S.M. A. Fulbrook, Ctr.-Sergts. P. Cooper, A. Eastnan, E. Cromwell, A. Stedman, Sergts. E. Hillier, J. Cheeseman, and F. Skinner. To 2nd Battalion: Sergt. J. Donaldson.

Joined.—On promotion: Sergt. Wyles, L./Sergts. Wadey, Caldicutt, Lee and Budd. From 2nd Battalion: Sergt. Selmes. From Embarkation Staff: Sergt. Goodman.

CORPORALS' MESS.

Since the last notes were written we have moved from Hong-Kong to Kowloon, and are situated in huts at Sham Shui Po Camp. It is indeed better because we are all together now, instead of being split up as we were before. Shortly after our arrival in Sham Shui Po, we had a week of settling down, and then moved out to Sun Wai Camp.

Previous to camp we welcomed some non-commissioned officers from the 2nd Battalion, who came to us from the Sudan, and everyone agrees that they had a good reception in the way of "Chinese" weather.

Christmas came round two or three days after we arrived back at Sham Shui Po, and a few of the Corporals' "Diehards" successfully held a fancy dress football match against the Sergeants on Christmas Day. It created great fun among the troops, especially when the "cup" (specially made for us from silver paper out of Gold Flake packets) was presented to "Captain" Watford, of the Sergeants' team, by "Lady" Howland, who congratulated the Sergeants on their great success. No one knows what became of the "cup," but I have it on good authority that it is being kept in seclusion until next Christmas, when it will be played for again, at Malta?

A social evening was held on Boxing Night, and the room was very nicely decorated for the occasion. Invitations were accepted by all the corporals' messes in the garrison, for what proved to be a very successful evening. Great credit is due to the committee on making it a good show, especially as for a good many members it was the first Christmas away from home.

Two or three games of football have been played against other corporals' messes in the garrison, and we have done well to lose only one out of the series.

We have said good-bye to some very old members of the Corporals' Mess, who have gone home to England for discharge, etc. We wish them all success in their new sphere of life.

We are now busy getting ready for the annual inspection by the G.O.C., which takes place on Monday, March 19th.

The members of the Corporals' Mess have bidden good-bye to R.S.M. Fulbrook, and trust that he will be as successful in civilian life as he was with the Battalion.

Everyone is now looking forward to the summer, especially as we have had a rather severe winter, when the Mess hope to have a few more happy outings like last year.

THE FIRST DRAFT FROM HOME.

A draft of seventy-three other ranks from the Depot, then at Shaft Barracks, Dover, was placed under orders to be held in readiness to proceed to join the 1st Battalion at Hong-Kong. This draft was not the first to join the Battalion, as the 2nd Battalion had sent one of 272 strong from the Sudan.

The draft from home consisted of details and band-boys, who, owing to the fact that they were not of the age required for active service, had been left at Dover when the Battalion sailed for China in April, 1927. There were also a few recruits who had just completed their recruit training, included in the draft, and three non-commissioned officers who had been left behind were also included. They were Sergt. H. C. Goodman, Cpls. J. W. Settle and A. G. Iles.

During the leave period, orders were received that the draft would embark at Southampton on November 22nd in the H.T. *Dorsetshire*, and that Major (now Brevet Lieut.-Col.) J. D. Boyd, D.S.O., who had recently completed a tour of duty as Brigade Major, would be in charge.

Bdmstr. J. Buckle was also included, but about a fortnight before embarkation it was notified that he would not proceed, as he was taking over a band in Canada.

The draft left Dover at 6.10 a.m., and many Doverians turned out at this early hour to wish them God-speed. On arrival at Southampton at 2 p.m., orders were given for the embarkation to be carried on with at once. The *Dorsetshire* set sail at 4 p.m., amid the cheering of people on the quayside.



1. Guard of Honour for Marshal Li Chai Sum.
3. "D" Coy.—A Musical Interlude at Lyemun.

2. "A" Coy.—A Bathing Party.
4. Sun Wai Camp, 1927.

It was soon discovered that space on board was very limited. Drafts for regiments in India and China were aboard. The deck companions of our draft were drafts of the Coldstream and Scots Guards.

The voyage was excellent, and rough weather was only encountered twice. From Southampton to Gibraltar the sea was calm, and few suffered from *mal de mer*. After leaving Gibraltar choppy seas were met, and this continued during the trip to Malta. A storm was raging around Malta, and twenty-four hours were lost, as it was impossible to put into Malta on the evening of November 30th. It was afterwards learned that Malta had experienced the first rain since March. Malta was left at about 4 p.m. on December 1st, and the journey was uneventful to Port Said. The troops were beginning to get tired of the sea, and when the boat arrived at Port Said at 2 a.m. on December 4th practically everyone was awake.

The stay at this port was short, as refuelling took very little time, the boat being driven by Diesel engines requiring oil only.

The boat left Port Said at 9.30 a.m. and commenced the passage through the canal, which took about nineteen hours, as the boat had to tie up to allow homeward bound ships to pass. The chief ships which passed were the hospital ship *Maine* and the ss. *Cathay*, carrying the Australian mail. Port Suez was reached in the early hours of December 5th.

On December 5th orders were given out that drill and topees would be worn by all ranks, and this order was very welcome, as the heat was getting uncomfortable.

Throughout the voyage the band, composed of the band-boys of the 1st Battalion, which was the only one on board, gave performances almost every day. They were under the able direction of L./Cpl. Lavin.

Concerts and sports were arranged to ease the monotony of the journey. A table showing the entries and results of the draft is appended to this narrative.

On December 14th a farewell concert was arranged, as 600 troops were leaving at Bombay. This concert was a great success. The master of the ship, Captain English, gave an item which was the most popular on the programme. This was the "Dorsetshire Anthem," to the air of "Glory Alleluia," and was encored times without number.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Burt, the Troop Officer, who was responsible for the arrangements for concerts and sports.

Bombay was reached at 5 a.m. on December 15th, and after the disembarkation of those people who were for India was completed, the remainder were taken for a route march. The wearing of boots felt strange, and many feet were aching when the short route march was finished.

At 4 p.m. the boat restarted on her journey, and the troops who disembarked gave a rousing send-off. The band was on the deck playing the "Dorsetshire Anthem."

On December 19th the *Somersetshire* passed. On board were Section "A" reservists who were with the Battalion, homeward bound. The following wireless message was received by the draft, from the *Somersetshire* :—

"Queen's draft, *Dorsetshire*. Good luck. Hunter, Welman, Coombe, Newell and reservists."

The following message was sent to them :—

"Queen's, *Somersetshire*. Wishes reciprocated. Queen's draft, *Dorsetshire*."

On December 19th excitement reigned on board. About a mile away a native boat was seen waving a flag of some description, and it was evident that the occupants were in distress. The *Dorsetshire* was stopped, and a small boat pulled alongside, full of natives. It appeared that they were without water or bread. A

supply was given to them, and as the *Dorsetshire* again started the words "Good luck" were distinctly heard, spoken by one of the natives.

Colombo was reached at six o'clock on Sunday, December 18th, and owing to darkness nothing was seen. Colombo was left at 10 p.m. the same night. The run from Colombo to Singapore passed without incident, with the exception of a concert.

Singapore was reached at about 9 a.m. on December 24th. After the personnel due for this port had disembarked, the remainder were taken for a route march.

As at other ports, the troops were busy in the occupation of bargaining with the natives, and a great deal of money changed hands. At 4 p.m. the boat left Singapore.

On December 25th the second spell of bad weather was encountered, and this lasted for the remainder of the journey to Hong-Kong.

Under the conditions, Christmas Day was spent fairly well. A good dinner, consisting of roast turkey, baked potatoes, and cabbage, followed by Christmas pudding, was given to the troops. In the evening there was a great deal of fun. The band marched round the ship, followed by troops and ship's officers. "Lights Out" sounded at the usual time, and thus Christmas Day came to a close.

On December 27th the following wireless message, which had been delayed in transit, was received:—

"Queen's draft, *Dorsetshire*. Xmas Greetings. 1st Battalion."

On December 29th the islands round about Hong-Kong were sighted, and at about 5 p.m. the anchor was dropped just off Lymun. Efforts were made to get the draft disembarked the same evening, but owing to the late arrival this was put off until the following morning.

On December 30th the disembarkation of the draft commenced at 10.30 a.m. The Band and Drums met them and marched them from Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, to Hankow Barracks, Sham Shui Po Camp.

Everyone was glad that the tedious journey had ended, and that they could settle down to work.

SHIP'S SPORTS.

The draft took part in the boxing competitions, also the tug-of-war and relay racing. The following were the entries:—

Tug-of-War (Light-weight, 70 stone).

"A" Team.—L./Cpls. Cronk, Harvey, Meacock and Barr, Ptes. Cooper, Stannard, Botting and Gearing.

This team lost in the first pull to the Royal Artillery "B" Team.

"B" Team.—Major Boyd, Sergt. Goodman, Cpl. Iles, L./Cpls. Swain and Callaghan, Ptes. Welsh and Blaker and Boy J. King.

1st Round, *v.* Royal Artillery. Win for The Queen's.

2nd Round, *v.* Royal Fusiliers. Walk over.

3rd Round, lost to Royal Corps of Signals.

Relay Race.

Three teams of four each were entered. They were:—

"A" Team.—Ptes. Gallivan, Pope, Botting and Stannard.

"B" Team.—L./Cpl. Lynwood, Ptes. Berry, A. King and Ball.

"C" Team.—Cpl. Settle, L./Cpl. Swain, Pte. Smith and Boy J. King.

Results were as follows:—

1st Heat.—"A" Team beat Royal Fusiliers "A." "B" Team beat Cheshire Regiment. "C" Team beat Royal Artillery—India.

2nd Heat.—"A" Team lost to Royal Corps of Signals. "B" Team beat Royal Fusiliers "B." "C" Team lost to Royal Artillery—Hong-Kong.

3rd Heat.—"B" Team lost to Royal Corps of Signals.

The following were the entries for the Boxing Competition:—

Welter-weight.—Pte. Ball and Pte. Berry.

Light-weight.—L./Cpl. Lynwood, Pte. F. Smith and Pte. Button.

Boys' Middle-weight.—Boy Protheroe.

Boys' Welter-weight.—Boy Barry and Boy Pitt.

Results:—

Welter-weight.—1st Round:

Pte. Ball beat L./Cpl. Hindes, Royal Fusiliers, by a knock-out.

Pte. Berry won on points against Sig. Guthrie, Royal Corps of Signals.

Pte. Smith lost on points to Pte. Jenkins, Cheshire Regiment.

Boys' Welter-weight.—1st Round: Boy Barry won on points against Boy Pitt.

Welter-weight.—Semi-final: Pte. Berry won on points against Pte. Kilby, Northamptonshire Regiment.

Pte. Ball lost on points to Pte. Harding, Cheshire Regiment.

Light-weight.—Semi-final: L./Cpl. Linwood lost on points to Pte. Jenkins, Cheshire Regiment.

Welter-weight.—Final: Pte. Berry won on points against Pte. Harding, Cheshire Regiment.

Boys' Middle-weight.—Final: Boy Protheroe won on points against Boy Gardiner, Gloucestershire Regiment.

Boys' Welter-weight.—Final: Boy Barry won on points against Tptr. Adams, Royal Artillery.

At the conclusion prizes were awarded, and a vote of thanks passed for Mr. Burt for his untiring efforts in making the competition possible.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

After getting settled in Hong-Kong we entered the Hong-Kong Senior League, and started our opening match with the Club de Recrio, who were the previous year's winners. After a hard game we lost 3—1.

We won our next four matches, assisted greatly by Pte. Woodards scoring six goals in the four matches. Our next two matches were rather a disappointment, for we lost one and drew one.

South China were our next opponents, and the supporters were given a great treat by a win of 10—0. We must congratulate L./Cpl. Barclay on finding the net five times, also Sergt. Morris, Pte. Bunn, Pte. Larking (2) and Pte. Richardson.

Our next serious match was with The Chinese Athletic, who had not been beaten by any other team. The game was fast and furious all the time, and ended by us losing by the narrow margin of 1—0.

Besides the league, we entered for the Hong-Kong Senior Cup, but the Royal Air Force claimed both points, which put us out of the running as far as the cup was concerned.

Owing to the hard grounds we have had a number of casualties, which has made a great difference to the strength of the team, Sergt. Hooper, Pte. Canter and Pte. Larking being the unfortunate players.

In the Inter-Port Trials, Sergt. Hooper, L./Cpl. Barclay, Pte. Larking and Pte. Richardson were selected to play for the Rest.

SECOND ELEVEN.

The second eleven were entered for the United Services Shield, and managed to reach the semi-finals, but were unfortunate to lose to the 2nd Bn. Scots Guards by 3—2.

Ptes. Welsh and Beatty, who have arrived from home, have been a great asset to the first and second elevens.

CRICKET.

The Battalion cricket eleven have not managed to secure as many matches this year as we have been used to at home, but they have had a very pleasant season none the less.

The following have been selected to play for the Army in Hong-Kong on several occasions during the season: Capt. E. S. Bingham, Lieut. B. E. L. Burton and L./Cpl. Miles.

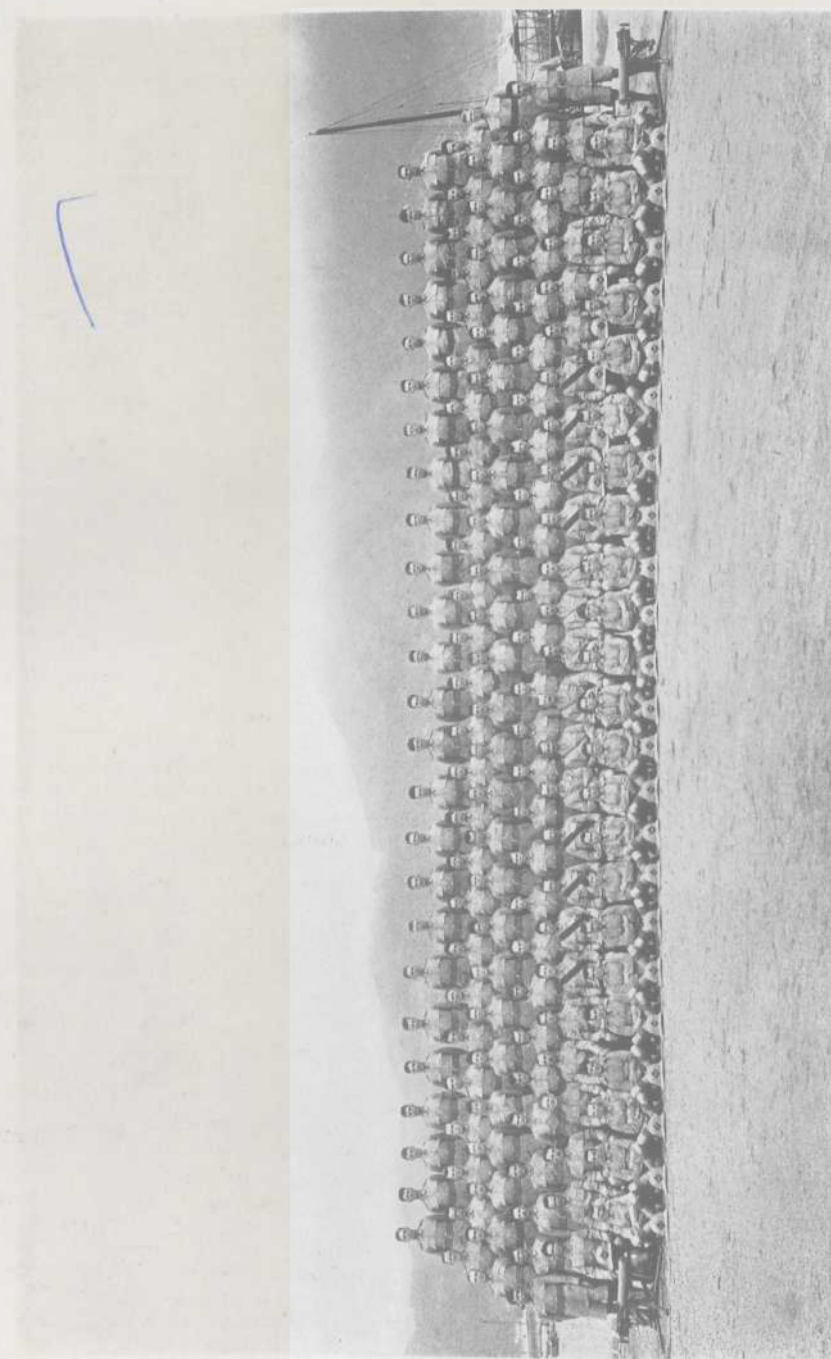
The following are the results of the matches, with the individual achievements of members of the side:—

- v. THE CIVIL SERVICE C.C., at Happy Valley. Won.
Batting: L./Sergt. Divett 61, Pte. Underdown 50.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 3 for 33, R.S.M. Fulbrook 2 for 21, Pte. Standen 2 for 15, Pte. Woodards 1 for 16.
- v. THE CIVIL SERVICE C.C., at Happy Valley. Won.
Batting: Pte. Clarke 34, Pte. Underdown 23.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 3 for 42, Pte. Merritt 3 for 21, Pte. Clarke 1 for 6, Pte. Underdown 1 for 4.
- v. KOWLOON C.C., at Kowloon. Won, 235 for 5 wickets against 153 for 8 wickets.
Batting: Lieut. Elliott 72 not out, Pte. Underdown 45, L./Cpl. Miles 31, Pte. Bolt 36 not out.
Bowling: Capt. Bingham 3 for 27, L./Cpl. Miles 3 for 34, Pte. Clarke 1 for 33, Capt. Haggard 1 for 19.
- v. FLEET AIR ARM, KAI TAK, at Kowloon. Lost, 143 for 5 wickets against 140.
Batting: Lieut. Foord 61.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 2 for 59, L./Cpl. Stretton 3 for 26.
- v. 2ND K.O.S.B., at Sookunpoo. Lost, 148 against 107.
Batting: Lieut. Elliott 30.
Bowling: Capt. Bingham 1 for 27, Pte. Clarke 3 for 23, Lieut. Burton 5 for 43.
- v. CLUB DE RECREIO, at King's Park. Won, 116 for 5 wickets against 107.
Batting: Pte. Clarke 42, Lieut. Foord 22 not out.
Bowling: Capt. Bingham 2 for 8, L./Cpl. Miles 3 for 40, L./Cpl. Stretton 4 for 23, Lieut. Burton 1 for 23.
- v. KOWLOON C.C., at Kowloon. Lost, 150 for 8 wickets against 132.
Batting: Capt. Bingham 30, Pte. Clarke 25, Capt. Haggard 21.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 6 for 66, L./Cpl. Stretton 2 for 27.
- v. HONG-KONG POLICE, at Happy Valley. Won, 120 for 4 wickets against 102.
Batting: Pte. Underdown 35 not out, Lieut. Elliott 25, Lieut. Foord 23.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 3 for 40, Capt. Haggard 4 for 37, Lieut. Burton 1 for 12, C.S.M. Hartridge 1 for 1.
- v. INDIAN RECREATION CLUB, at Sookunpoo. Draw. I.R.C. 170, The Queen's 141 for six wickets.
Batting: L./Cpl. Miles 46, Sergt. Caldicott 38.
- v. KOWLOON C.C., at Kowloon. Won 96 against 91.
Batting: Lieut. Elliott 21, Capt. Beeton 21.
Bowling: L./Cpl. Miles 2 for 24, Capt. Haggard 7 for 27.

HOCKEY NOTES.

The Regiment, during its stay in Hong-Kong, has had a most successful hockey season. At first, owing to the companies being so scattered, a really representative side never turned out, but on taking over Sham Shui Po, the Regiment played at full strength.

1ST BATTALION.



MACHINE GUN COMPANY, HONG-KONG, 1928.

All matches have been won, except for one bad day, when everything went wrong and we lost by 1—0, but since then we have drawn with that Naval side with five players away, four of whom played for the Army.

The hockey successes started with the defeat of the 5th/2nd Punjabis, a side up till then unbeaten. This was followed by the other successes, including the defeat of the Hong-Kong Club.

In the Sim Shield matches between the Navy, Army, Royal Air Force, and Hong-Kong Club, the Regiment had no fewer than six players in the Army side, which eventually won the shield. The players were Lieut. Dickinson, Lieut. Burton, 2/Lieut. Kealy, Cdr.-Sergt. Handscomb, Sergt. Dodds and Sergt. Hooper.

AN OFFICER'S DIARY OF THE GREAT WAR, 1914-18

(Continued from page 31, November Number, 1927.)

September 1st.—Up at 3 a.m. and valises were packed on the wagon at 3.45 a.m. We all sat by the mess fire until 5.45 a.m., and marched off at 6 a.m. through the Forest of Villers Cotterets. The trees here were lovely, and a very vivid green. After half an hour's halt at the side of the road in the wood, we heard at 8 a.m. that the enemy were at Attichy (10 miles to the north-west) and that the G.O.C. called on the 3rd Infantry Brigade to do a specially long march to-day to save Paris. The Battalion halted at Villers Cotterets railway station for one and a half hours, and were able to refill water-bottles quickly from the hose-pipe intended to feed the engines with water. General Monro, commanding the 2nd Division, had his headquarters at the station, and came over to see the Battalion while we were resting. At this time the 2nd Division was heavily engaged in the woods immediately north of the town. We left the station at 1 p.m. and continued the retirement. As we marched along, I suddenly noticed a man salute me from the side of the road, and recognised Bert, the groom at the Queen Hotel in Aldershot. He was apparently acting as chauffeur to one of the Staff cars. Heavy firing continued all the afternoon to our right rear, where the 2nd Division were being heavily pressed. We marched through La Ferté Milon and formed up in bivouac at about 9 p.m., facing the enemy. My platoon was on night duty, and we had to sleep with a very dead horse in the lines just beside us. There had been an ever-increasing number of these during the last few days, along the line of march. A spy was captured during the night by our outposts; I never heard what became of him, but he was dressed in French uniform and was certainly not a Frenchman. At intervals through the night there were loud explosions, caused by our R.E., who were engaged in blowing up bridges to delay the enemy's advance.

September 2nd.—After two and a half hours' sleep in some straw, we had "Réveillé" at 12.45 a.m. and marched off without food, as no fires were allowed owing to the proximity of the enemy. We did about 12 miles through Mareuil-sur-Ourcq and Varinfroy, on the road towards Meaux, and halted near Varinfroy from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in a field, where we got some sleep and where my platoon made a cup of tea for me, for which I was duly grateful. It had been a tiring march, as our artillery was passing us on the road continuously all the way and

covering us with dust. At 11 a.m. we marched off through May, Varrèdes and Cregy, where we had a very good night's rest in billets. I got a bed, and also a bath, by stages, in a saucepan. The rest of the rooms in my house were occupied by my platoon, as all the inhabitants had cleared out.

September 3rd.—After "Réveillé" at 2 a.m. I found that there were additional reasons, besides the Germans, why the inhabitants were wise to clear out. There were thirty-nine good reasons on my left arm alone, between the wrist and the shoulder, and the bed was simply alive with fleas. We marched through Crégny, Germigny and Changis to Sammeron, where we halted from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. "A" Company, under Capt. M. G. Heath, were left behind here to cover a bridge over the Marne while it was being prepared for demolition. At 3 p.m. we marched to Perreuse. We could see a German battery come into action to the north of us, and about 6,000 yards off, so we changed our original bivouac and moved to a field under cover and close to a large pond. "D" Company had two platoons on outpost to-night, but mine was in bivouac. It was rather cold and very damp all night, owing to the proximity of the pond.

September 4th.—"Réveillé" at 2.45 a.m., and after the Battalion had had "gunfire" we moved off at 4.30 a.m. "D" Company remained behind to collect in the outposts at 7 a.m., and we eventually marched off at 9 a.m. through Aulnoy to Marolles. We reached Marolles at 2.30 p.m., and at 5 p.m. very heavy shelling opened on the northern portion of the village. We could see the shells bursting over the village, though none actually came as far as our position. The 2nd Division began to retire through us at 5.15 p.m. We left the village at 6.30 p.m., and, after a five-mile march, bivouacked in an open field without straw. It was very cold, and I was unable to sleep until I put my Burberry right over my head, when I collected a little warmth. We afterwards heard that we were very nearly outflanked to-day; a German battery got across the Marne at La Ferté, covered by their cavalry, and closely followed by infantry. It was thanks to a stout show on the part of the Black Watch that they were prevented from getting round our flanks.

September 5th.—The 3rd Brigade were finding the rearguard to-day and our Battalion were detailed to do it. After "gun-fire" at 5 a.m. we marched off, with Thompson and myself in charge of the rear party. We had to collect the stragglers of the whole Brigade on the march, and had a cheery time of it. After the first hour's march I had to put a squad of men with fixed bayonets to keep them up. There was not a single straggler from the Battalion all day, but the other three battalions shared the honours fairly evenly.

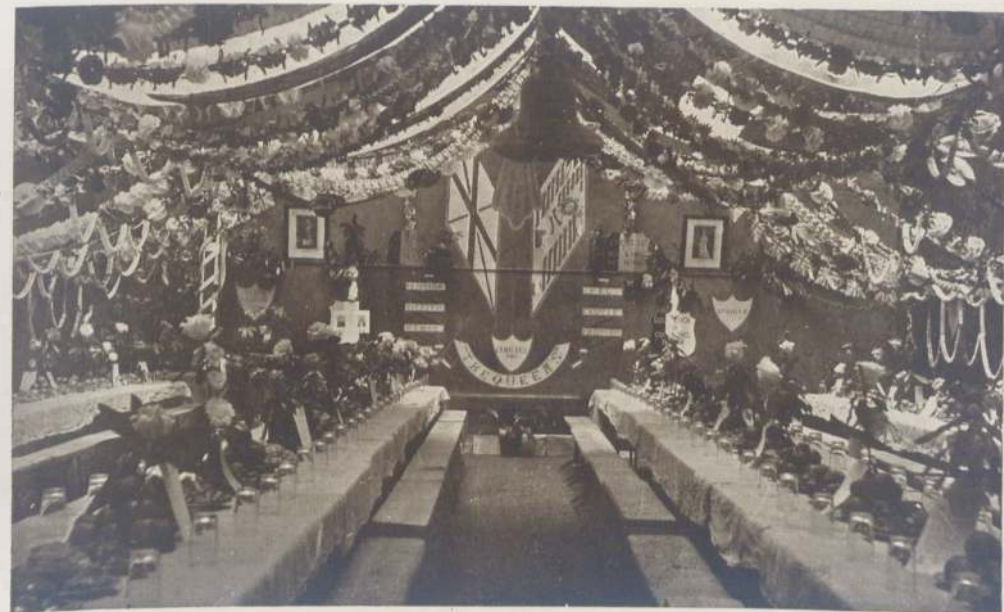
We marched through Mauperthuis to Rozoy, which was the most southerly point of the retreat. Soon after getting into bivouac here, our Machine Gunners fired a few rounds at a German aeroplane which came over us, but they did no damage. Phillips joined us in the evening with 90 men (first reinforcement). Cooper also rejoined us to-day, but his ankle was still weak. We had a good bivouac in a wood under cover from aeroplane observation, and the Quartermaster-Sergeant also arrived with a stock of boots, socks, etc., all of which were badly needed. During the evening Pte. Harris did good work with the heads of hair in my platoon.

September 6th.—To everyone's surprise and delight "Réveillé" was at 5.15 a.m. instead of 2 a.m. as had been given out over-night. Everyone felt much fitter for the extra rest. We began to advance once more to-day, and the Battalion were told off as advanced guard to the Brigade. Watson's Company led the way with "C" Company. "D" Company was ordered at 8 a.m. to put Les Hauts Grés Farm in a state of defence. Everyone was in very good heart at the idea of

ECHOES OF THE GREAT WAR.



Sergeants' Mess, 6th (Service) Battalion, Aldershot, 1915.



3rd Battalion Dining Hall, Chatham, Christmas, 1917. First Prize, Brigade Competition.

advancing once more. On arrival at the farm we heard firing going on in the wood 200 to 300 yards in front of us. Four Guards officers and six men were killed before the enemy were cleared out of this wood. "D" Company worked all day at loop-holing the walls, barricading the doors, cutting down apple trees to make abattis, etc. At 4.30 p.m. the order came to continue the advance and to attack Vaudoy. We captured this town, without a fight, before dusk, and took up an outpost position on the north of the town for the night. "D" Company were in bivouac.

September 7th.—"Réveillé" at 4 a.m. and stood to arms till daylight. One man of my platoon caused much amusement by coming out of his pile of straw just as we had finished standing to arms. He looked so like a young owl coming out of its egg that I let him down easy. At 6 a.m. "D" Company were sent up on to the ridge in front of our bivouac in relief of the Northhamptons and to cover the remainder of the Brigade which was to advance through the outpost line later. Creek and I found two murdered French civilians in a field, close to the outpost position. One of these men had his hands tied behind his back, and both had been shot through the head from above, as if by a man on horseback. We neither of us liked the look of the people who lived in the farm close by. There were three men here altogether who spoke broken French with a German accent. They all produced papers showing that the farm was theirs, but we sent for the Mayor of Vaudoy and handed them over to him, as he had not seen them before, and was certain that they were not the lawful owners of the farm.

"D" Company advanced in rear of the 3rd Brigade at 12 noon. We marched through Chevru to Coffery (south of Choisy) where we bivouacked for the night. There was no water in this area.

September 8th.—"Réveillé" at 4.45 a.m. and tried to get water to fill the water-bottles at distant farms. We marched off at 5.30 a.m. via Choisy, and heard, while on the march, that Clarke had got the French Legion of Honour for work with the cyclists. The advance continued through Jouy to Gd. Marche, where we took up a position facing north-east to cover the advance of the 4th Guards Brigade. Subsequently we continued our march through Hondevilliers, where we saw some of our wounded lying by the roadside, also several German shells lying about. The Battalion deployed and advanced over open ground to the north-west of Hondevilliers, but we arrived half an hour too late to take part in the battle with the 2nd Brigade. The latter captured 8 machine guns and 300 Germans. The Battalion then retired to bivouac at Ferme de l'Ile and slept on wet straw. Rawson and Huge Denton, who had been left at the base with 10 per cent. of our personnel, arrived to-night with 92 men (second reinforcement).

THE MARNE.

September 9th.—Up at 4 a.m. and marched off through Masseville and Saulcherry. Here the Gloucesters held a covering position and The Queen's crossed the bridge first, followed by the Welch and South Wales Borderers. The latter went through and occupied the high ground north of the bridge, and the whole brigade crossed the river unopposed. This crossing unopposed was a great surprise to everyone. We then took up a further position at Bonneil, and at 12 noon the Battalion was sent off to Les Aulnois Bontemps (near Domptin). We stayed there till 3.15 p.m., and then advanced to hold the main road to Paris at Le Thiolet. About 350 Germans were killed around this village to-day, and we finally spent the night there.

September 10th.—There was heavy rain in the early hours of the morning, and we did not march off till 8 a.m. We started off in a westerly direction, along

the road towards Paris, then through Lucy, Torcy and Courchamps. Passed Sir Douglas Haig's Headquarters just north of the latter place, and close by to where General Findlay had just been killed by a stray shell. The Northamptonshire and Sussex Regiments both had very heavy casualties in this vicinity to-day, and the town itself was littered with equipment, etc. After advancing north-west over the open for some distance, we were ordered to turn eastwards and came through Priez and Sommelans, where we spent a very cold night in bivouac. Some of us tried the experiment of digging a hole in the ground, and found it fairly successful, as one was able to get out of the cold wind.

September 11th.—"Réveillé" at 4 a.m. Marched off at 5.15 a.m. through Grisolles, Rocourt and Coincy to Villeneuve. Some of the prisoners captured by the 60th Rifles to-day had been told by their officers that the English Army had returned to England; they were very surprised at seeing their captors. We reached Villeneuve early in the afternoon, and stayed the night there in an orchard. It came on very wet during the afternoon.

September 12th.—"Réveillé" at 4.45 a.m. We marched through Fère, Loupeigne, Bruys and Bazoches. At the latter place we heard that the retreating columns of the enemy on our immediate front were only one and a half hours ahead of us on the road, and some French artillery opened fire on them, over our heads, from both flanks as we advanced. The leading battalions of the Brigade took an hour to deploy, and the Brigade Commander, in consequence, sent us forward instead. We deployed but encountered no opposition, as the enemy's rearguard had, meanwhile, slipped away. The advance was continued down a very slippery lane, and at a very fast pace, with "D" Company as advanced guard on the lane itself and "C" Company on the left. Watson left us this afternoon to become Brigade Major of the 2nd Infantry Brigade. We reached Vauxcéré at 8 p.m., where we were to have done outposts, but the 2nd Welch Regiment took on this duty instead. All our companies were in one farm, under cover, but with no straw.

September 13th.—Up at 5.45 a.m., but we did not march off till 2.30 p.m., so all got a good clean up and rest. Cigarettes in parcels from home were a huge delight to everyone, as we had recently been unable to get even the bad French cigarettes in the villages which we passed through. The Battalion marched through Longueval and Bourg, where we crossed the Aisne by a lock bridge which the Germans had attempted to blow up. Fortunately the explosion had not wrecked the whole bridge, and many of the troops were able to pass over it as a supplement to the road bridge, which latter was being shelled, at intervals, by the enemy.

We concentrated under cover, a few hundred yards north-west of the bridge, for two hours, and then billeted in the northern outskirts of Bourg. "D" Company occupied a very fine farm-house. Each officer had a bed and the men also had good quarters. The Germans had occupied this place for the past nine nights, and the town was sacked by them because one of their men had been killed by one of the inhabitants. The latter were all overjoyed to see us, as a lot of them had been rounded up and were about to be shot, when a German patrol came running in to report our proximity. We had a concert after dinner, as there was a piano in the drawing-room. Looking back on our revelries now, it reminds one rather of "the eve of Quatre Bras."

THE AISNE.

REF.: NORTH-WEST EUROPE, SHEET 4.

September 14th.—We marched off at 7.10 a.m. through Moulins to Paissy. Here The Queen's were ordered to act as escort to our artillery on the extreme

right of the British front, and accordingly we deployed north-east of Paissy and advanced across the Chemin des Dames and through a small wood about 150 yards north of the road. We were held up on the northern edge of this wood, and could see the enemy's trenches on the slopes facing us. The ground from our position sloped away into a valley which separated us from the enemy's main line of trenches. "D" Company were well concealed from view, and the Germans could not bring much aimed fire to bear on us. We caused quite a considerable number of casualties amongst them, even at a range of 700 to 900 yards. Bobby Creek himself was grazed on the forehead by a bullet and temporarily stunned, but only for a few minutes. At about 3 p.m. the Commanding Officer directed that a counter-attack should be made on our extreme right, to assist the French Zouaves who were there (more or less). Hunter, with two platoons of "D" Company, proceeded to this flank but found it impossible to carry out the attack, the enemy being by this time in considerable numbers, and the French having fallen back to the Chemin des Dames. Meanwhile, on our left, things were more serious, and it was on this flank that we had our chief casualties. At about 4 p.m. the Colonel gave the order to retire to the Chemin des Dames, where we could carry out our rôle of escort to the artillery equally well. "D" company fell back first, and were followed by the remaining companies, with Tim Longbourne bringing up the rear and supervising the carrying in of Heath and Mathew-Lannowe, both of whom had been wounded.

We lined the Chemin des Dames for four hours under enemy artillery fire. They were searching for our artillery, which was just in rear of us, and had the road which we were lining pretty accurately taped. Our own guns were only 30 yards behind us, and nearly blew our heads off each time they fired. The Zouaves retired early from to-day's battle, and did not put in another appearance before dark, so our left was unpleasantly in the air. Eventually we held the road all night, with "C" and "D" Companies in support. Our casualties to-day had been pretty heavy: Henriques killed, Pilleau and Pringle died of wounds, Heath Mathew-Lannowe, Macnamara, Kenny, Denton, Hayes, Bushell and Creek all wounded, the latter only slightly. Phillips was also evacuated to-day with a sprained ankle, and later developed dysentery. Our casualties in other ranks were 13 killed, 88 wounded and 39 missing. We also heard that Major Jenkinson, who was our Brigade Major, was killed to-day. Foy took over "A" Company, Hunter "B" Company and Longbourne "C" Company.

REF.: SOISSONS, SHEET 22.

September 15th.—At dawn we advanced again into a turnip field, for a few hundred yards only, and the enemy's artillery opened on us again at 6.15 a.m. The 2nd Division, on our left, were trying to get forward all the morning, but the opposition was too strong. William Hayes crawled in soon after daylight, having been lying in the wood all night. The Germans had found him there and taken his equipment, but left him alone otherwise, though they refused him any medical aid. The enemy were attempting to advance on our front all morning, but retired about 12 noon. They returned to the attack at 1.15 p.m. Meanwhile the French Zouaves, on our right, kept wandering aimlessly backwards and forwards. They did not hurry themselves when going in either direction, and, beyond attracting a good deal of enemy rifle fire away from us, did not seem to be serving any useful purpose. We lay out in a turnip field all day till 6.45 p.m., and were relieved by "A" and "B" Companies at that hour. We then retired into a hollow, in reserve, about 600 yards south of the Chemin des Dames. At 9.30 p.m. there was a false alarm, and we turned out for about 10 minutes only. Our casualties to-day were slight, being only one killed and one wounded.

September 16th.—The night was very wet and we were up again at 3.30 a.m., when we walked over to the cookers and had breakfast. "C" and "D" Companies took over the line at 8 a.m. and continued improving the trenches which "A" and "B" Companies had started during the night. Sergt. Monk took over charge of No. 15 Platoon (Bushell's). Three of his men were wounded at 3.30 p.m., and shortly after this my platoon got enfiladed by rifle and machine-gun fire from the direction of Cerny. The enemy's artillery was much quieter to-day on our front, with the exception of a bout of shrapnel fire from 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Our own artillery retaliated at the latter hour, and it was a comfort even to have our heads almost blown off by our own guns after having been shelled while our own guns were silent. Half my platoon were kept awake all night so as to continue improving the trenches. Wallis, the Quartermaster, brought the cookers and G.S. wagons along the Chemin des Dames during the night and issued rations and hot food—good work, but a bit risky.

September 17th.—"C" and "D" Companies retired to the hollow, in support, at 8 a.m., after being relieved by "A" and "B." We got shelled all the morning, and the enemy had evidently got wind of the position of our supports. At 11.30 a.m. there was a sudden alarm, with more intense artillery fire, and Drummer Green came running back with verbal orders from the Commanding Officer to reinforce the right flank at once. The support companies were turned out by Charles Wilson and reinforced the right flank at the double, under shell fire.

We found the French Zouaves doing a retrograde movement rather faster than usual. It was raining hard with a very cold wind, and it was difficult to see very far, as the rain was straight into our faces. We got several targets, however, after reaching the Zouaves' trenches, and the reinforcements effectually prevented any further advance on the part of the enemy. Longbourne and I shared a scratch in the ground—the Zouave trenches were barely four inches deep and consisted of stooks of corn piled round the scratch as a breastwork, but no good, of course, as cover from fire. At 2.30 p.m. Tim Longbourne was informed by a runner that Colonel Warren had been killed at Battalion Headquarters and that Charles Wilson had been mortally wounded by a shell just after bringing up the supports. Wilson was found some time after he was hit, lying in the field within a few yards of where he had left us to go to report to the Colonel. Bobby Creek now became O.C. and Longbourne also went to Battalion Headquarters to assist him, leaving me in command of the right companies. Soon after this Sergt. Smith was killed by a sniper while on the top of a hay-stack, on the look out. We stayed in our position until 7 p.m., when we returned to the hollow, in support once more. Charles Wilson died at 8 p.m., and Watson rejoined and assumed command this evening. Bobby Creek then rejoined "D" Company in support. At about 1 p.m. to-day Longbourne and I were standing behind a hut on the left flank to get shelter for lighting a cigarette, when a bullet came through the hut and passed right through a box of cigarettes which Tim was holding out to offer me: Tim was much annoyed, as two complete rows were spoilt by the bullet and rendered useless. The Zouaves told us, after the trouble was over, that they were short of rations and ammunition and had gone back to get some more. Some yarn!! Iremonger was wounded to-day, and Rawson, who had been feeling wretched all day, was obliged to go sick in the evening. We also lost six men killed and 48 wounded.

September 18th.—After "Réveillé" at 3 a.m., "D" Company replaced "B" Company in the trenches and we dug ourselves in deeper. Shelling started at 6 a.m. and continued incessantly till 3.30 p.m. In spite of this, L./Cpl. Paddock brought breakfast along the trenches from the mess at 10 a.m. Drew and several of his men were wounded by a shell at 1.30 p.m.



Photo]

[S. H. Brock, Doner

No. 3 GROUP, H.Q. WING.
Winners Inter-Company Hockey Competition, 1927-28.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| L./Cpl. Elkins. | Pte. Bailey. | Sergt. Cribbes. | Pte. Clements. | L./Cpl. Selley. | L./Cpl. Crunden. | Pte. Miller. |
| | Sergt. Dixon. | Lieut. W. H. Chitty. | Major M. W. H. Pain. | R.S.M. F. Waspe. | | |
| | | Pte. Murphy. | Sergt. Swanwick. | L./Cpl. Moule. | | |

The enemy's artillery reopened on us at 4.30 p.m. and kept it up till 7 p.m., when we took up night dispositions.

September 19th.—At 1 a.m. we repelled a half-hearted attack, and at 3 a.m. the Battalion was relieved by the Coldstream, in a heavy rain-storm. We retired to the hollow, and I was sent off at once to take the transport round by road to Vendresse. Colonel Warren and Charles Wilson were buried in Paissy cemetery during the early hours of the morning, but I was unable to attend the funeral.

Wallis and I walked to Vendresse with the transport, and found our quarters close under the ridge and full of mud. General Gough came round to see us during the morning, and at lunch time we moved the officers' quarters to a cave which provided ample accommodation for us all. We had now rejoined our own Brigade, which had been holding this portion of the front since September 14th. Watson sent me off at 4.15 p.m. to reconnoitre a way by which to reinforce the 2nd Battalion Welch Regiment, if necessary. I passed through the Sherwood Foresters, who were newly up, and not quite used to it yet. None of them could tell me anything of the whereabouts of the Welch Regiment, so eventually I went down into Chivy, which had a deserted appearance, and looked as if it did not contain either friend or foe. This proved to be the case, and I found the Welch Regiment about 400 yards beyond the village, with their Battalion Headquarters in a farmhouse. They had left Chivy because it had got too unhealthy and seemed to be a mark for the enemy's artillery. Had tea there with Colonel Morland, and then returned to the cave by another route, as the original way was being shelled. General Landon and his staff also established their Headquarters in our cave, and talked of turning us out, but never carried out their threat. Some of us found that our feet were the main trouble after constant standing or walking about in wet and mud.

September 20th.—We passed rather a disturbed night, as messages were coming in all the time, and the orderlies invariably tripped over somebody's legs and then fell on the rest of us. By to-day's mail we heard that Oldfield had been killed in East Africa. Our cave was shelled at 10 a.m., but was proof to shells of almost any calibre. At 2 p.m. we were turned out owing to an attack on the 18th Brigade front. We found that the West Yorkshire Regiment had been attacked by German columns, each under a flag of truce. When close to the trenches the columns had wheeled outwards and disclosed machine guns, which had swept the parapets when the 18th Brigade troops were coming out of their trenches to accept, as they thought, the surrender. The Sherwood Foresters had counter-attacked and recaptured the trenches before we arrived. We remained in support of the Durham Light Infantry until 10.15 p.m., and then returned to our cave. Rose-Troop and Pound joined us this evening with 197 men (third reinforcement).

September 21st.—We were turned out on a false alarm at 4.30 a.m., but did not move off till 6 a.m. "D" Company relieved Foy's Company and acted as reserve to the 18th Brigade, under General Congreve. This brigade had had a pretty bad time, and Tim Longbourne restored confidence somewhat, on the right, by putting up sticks in front of the trenches to show the 18th Brigade troops how far they could see by night. This had the effect of considerably reducing the volume of fire during the night. In spite of this we had to stand to arms several times during the following night, though we never actually had to turn out.

September 22nd.—Relieved by "A" Company at 6.30 a.m. "Alarmed" again at 1 p.m., to everyone's disgust, as we were just about to start lunch. We reinforced the 18th Infantry Brigade once more, but, as usual, found that there was "nothing doing." We waited there till 5 p.m. and got shelled by our own

artillery during tea, when one man was killed and nine were wounded. At 6 p.m. we took over the trenches from the East Yorkshires, and had an undisturbed night without "alarms." By this time the 3rd Brigade had completely taken over the line from the 18th Infantry Brigade, and the latter had gone back for a rest.

September 23rd. During the morning we dug ourselves well in. The French were attacking on the right of the Chemin des Dames to-day, and we could hear artillery and rifle fire going on in this direction all day. At 10.30 a.m. "D" Company took over the front trenches from "B" Company. The enemy's trenches were about 300 yards off ours here.

The day passed quietly except for odd sniping. Burton joined us this evening.

September 24th.—Relieved by "B" Company at 7 a.m. and retired to the same trenches we were in on the 22nd inst. I got my boots off for the first time for a week this morning. Spent most of the day in censoring letters.

We stood to arms for a few minutes at 7 p.m., owing to an attack by the French on our right.

September 25th.—Relieved "B" Company again at 6 a.m. "C" Company were shelled by our own artillery again this morning, and lost three killed and two wounded. The damage was done by some new 6-inch howitzers, which had not been many days in action. We were told that the Germans wore white arm-bands, as distinguishing marks, in the attack made on the French early this morning. They also attempted to make a treacherous use of the white flag, but the French were not having any of that.

September 26th.—At 4 a.m. the Germans commenced an attack on our front. They advanced in fours diagonally across our front, and seemed to have only a vague idea of their direction. Our two machine guns and the whole of "D" Company got right into them and they went down like corn, with the result that the attack never reached our trenches. "B" Company relieved us at 8 a.m. Our artillery again shelled us badly to-day. Altogether we had, by this time, lost 25 casualties from this source.

We collected, in one of the support trenches, a fuse of one of our own shells with the time fuze set, so the gunner officers were compelled to admit that the proof was conclusive. Thompson was hit by a sniper to-day while out on patrol, and had his arm broken.

Quiet night.

September 27th.—"D" Company relieved "B" Company at 7 a.m. At 1 p.m., Drummer Riggs, who had been sent up a tree by Bobby Creek, reported masses of the enemy just over the ridge. We got the artillery on to them and nothing further happened.

On the following day we heard from a captured prisoner that they had been engaged on an ordinary relief when the artillery opened on them.

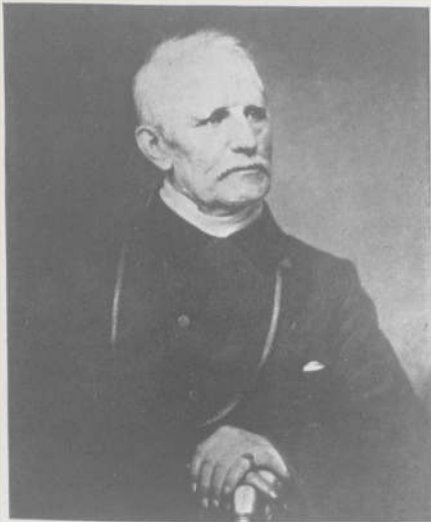
From 5.15 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. we were shelled ourselves. Three shells—shrapnel, fortunately—burst just above our heads, where Creek and I were crouching in the trench. During the night an enemy attack was repulsed on both our right and left.

At 10.15 p.m. we were relieved by the 1st Coldstream Guards.

On the completion of the relief the Battalion marched to Œuilly, where we were in reserve to the 1st Division.

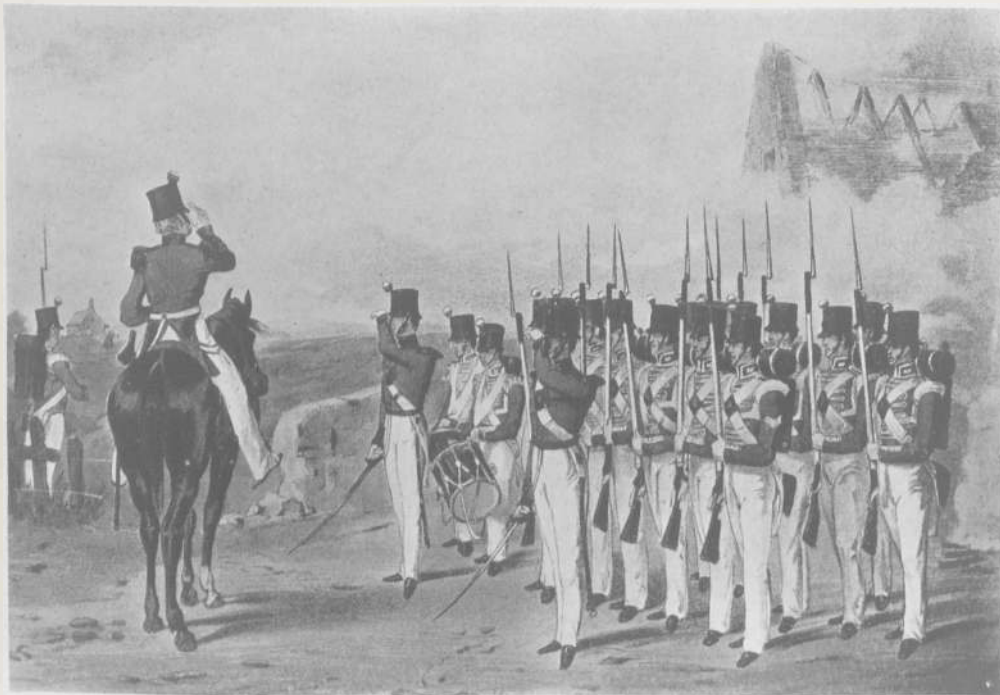
September 28th.—Reached Œuilly at 1 a.m., and I shared a fairly comfortable quarter with Rose-Troop, who had been posted to "D" Company. This was our first experience of "rest billets," and, though we were well within enemy artillery range, it seemed to us like a haven of rest. At 4.30 a.m. and again at 5.30 a.m.

MAJOR WHITE, R.H.R., "The Old Adjutant."



MAJOR JONATHON WHITE, a native of Nottingham, enlisted in 1820, and in 1823, at the age of 19, was promoted sergeant. As sergeant-major he served in the Afghan War, 1839, in the 2nd Queen's Royals, and took part in the Actions of Candahar, Kelat, Guznee, and Cabul. He was brought to the notice for "conspicuous and gallant conduct" at the Storming of Guznee and Kelat. Invalided from India, and pensioned in 1843, he assisted in forming the Robin Hood Rifles in 1853, and was made adjutant with the rank of captain. He retired on May 30th, 1873, with the rank of major, after twenty years' service as Adjutant of Robin Hood Rifles.

From a painting by S. Redgate, in the Nottingham Art Gallery.



THE QUEEN'S ROYALS, 1844.

Pictures from Regimental Museum.

we stood to arms. This seemed to us a trifle unnecessary, as we were so far behind the line, but it was an order from Brigade Headquarters. We got some of our things washed, and our valises turned up here, so we were able to get a change of underclothing. Had a foot inspection of my platoon during the morning; my own toes were so numb, even at this time, that I could not feel them if they were pinched hard. During the afternoon most of us slept.

September 29th.—General Lomax inspected us on parade at 11 a.m. He told us that, during the retreat, he especially noted The Queen's as being the best marchers in the 1st Division. He had thought to himself, at the time, that surely the Battalion would give a good account of themselves when the time came for fighting. The 1st Division had been the first to cross the River Aisne and the first to top the ridge, and The Queen's on their extreme right had held their own for five days against great odds. If the Commanding Officer had lived he would have had a distinction. Capt. C. F. Watson had been recommended for a Brevet and had also been granted the local rank of Major. He had been obliged to keep the 3rd Brigade up in the firing line for 15 days, though he had twice tried to get them back for a rest. The parade concluded with three cheers for General Lomax.

September 30th.—After standing to arms we had a P.T. parade for the whole Battalion. General Monro and Nobby Clarke came to tea.

(To be continued.)

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

THE Museum at the Depot is gradually increasing, and amongst the latest additions are:—

- (a) The eighteenth century Regimental Colours restored to the Regiment in 1924.
- (b) Case of Medals, presented by Major Hardy.
- (c) Painting from Nottingham Art Gallery of the late Major R. H. R. White, who enlisted in 1820.
- (d) Coin struck to commemorate the Glorious First of June, 1794. Presented by Lieut. T. P. Newman, M.C., D.C.M.
- (e) Peninsular Medal with five bars. Presented by Lieut.-Col. E. J. Woolley, M.C., commanding 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's).

All members of the Regiment, past and present, are asked to support the Museum and to put the O.C. Depot in touch with owners of any Regimental relics or items of interest.

2nd BATTALION

SINCE our arrival in England we have lost many old friends from the Battalion and have made many new ones. Lieut.-Col. J. Rainsford-Hannay, D.S.O., completed his period of command on January 25th, and was succeeded by Lieut.-Col. H. N. A. Hunter, D.S.O.

Before leaving the Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Rainsford-Hannay presented us with a very fine Colour Stand consisting of pike holders of mahogany, faced with silver plaques bearing the emblems of the Sphinx and the Naval Crown. The plate, bearing the presentation inscription in silver on mahogany, surmounted by the Cypher of Queen Catherine of Braganza, and King Charles II, and contains four silver bayonet protectors. The cross-piece is a Paschal Lamb in silver on a mahogany block through which the pike staffs pass. We are most grateful to Lieut.-Col. Rainsford-Hannay for his handsome gift, which is a fitting memento of his twenty-nine years' service in the Regiment and his four years in command of this Battalion.

Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Rainsford-Hannay always took a great interest in the welfare of all ranks of the Battalion, and we greatly regret their departure. We wish them every good fortune, and hope that we shall meet them frequently in the future.

The Battalion left Khartoum in two parties, the first taking the baggage and getting it on the boat. On the downward journey both parties were entertained by the "turnover draft" at Gebeit station, where they had been for several days under Lieut. Combe. The first train were fortunate in having the services of the "turnover" band, ably conducted by Pte. Bazley. The second train arrived at Gebeit at 12.30 a.m., but in spite of the late hour they turned out in force to see the last of the Battalion. They were sadly missed by the 2nd Battalion, and we feel sure the 1st Battalion will not find them wanting.

Our journey on the boat was not very eventful. The usual sports were held, and the Band did a great deal to make things enjoyable. The sergeants were also instrumental in providing some very good impromptu concerts, much to the amusement of some of the first-class passengers. The Padre also found them useful in his Sunday "community singing" concerts. Our Padre on board had come from Khartoum with us, and was quite accustomed to The Queen's and their "capers." On arrival at Southampton, having been up since 3 a.m., we eventually got off at about 11 a.m. Everyone at the port seemed anxious to get us off to Dover, but it appears a little misunderstanding existed between the military authorities and the Customs, the latter wanting us to show our kits, the former wanting us to get on the train. We did, however, get on the train, and arrived at Guildford at about 4.30 p.m., where we all tried to look pleasant and warm (it was a very cold day). We all wondered how many of the Guildford population would be there to meet us, but no one seemed to know, although several of the Battalion had relations to see them, the latter having travelled some miles knowing the train was going to stop there. On arrival at Dover the Drums of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment were there to meet us, and several of the Depot staff. Great preparations had been made to receive us in barracks, and it was not long ere we rested for the night. The following days were spent in getting up heavy baggage and getting all away on a well-earned leave.

A draft of eighty-seven left the Battalion on November 22nd, and another of forty-seven on December 9th. Capt. Prendergast and Lieut. R. C. Wilson are

also leaving us, and we wish them luck. On December 19th we had arranged a Christmas tree for all children of the Regiment. Families from Canterbury were brought in by bus and returned by the same conveyance. The entertainment consisted of tea at 4 p.m., which we held in the Gymnasium. A great show was made, and the tables looked well; 180 were catered for. Tea over, all were entertained by a conjurer for one hour on the stage. Having let him try to mystify us all so long, we were at once plunged into darkness, when all of a sudden a "fanfare" announced the arrival of Father Christmas, who appeared riding on a sleigh and towed by two reindeer. On his arrival at the other end of the "Gym" all lights were on and curtains were pulled on one side, and there, to the delight of all, a miniature Gamages was displayed, and the Christmas tree. Each child had to receive three toys—and being so many children it was found necessary to assist Father Christmas (Capt. Olliver), who acted his part well. Thanks are due to Mrs. Rainsford-Hannay in spending so much of her time in arranging the toys, which became quite a business towards the end. We finished this at about 6.45 p.m., when we said good-bye to our friends from Canterbury. Great anxiety was caused by the fact that the water in the radiator of the bus got frozen, and it was only after much difficulty the bus started. The day was one of the bitterest that had been experienced in England for a long time.

At 8 p.m., Pte. Criddle (our oldest soldier) entertained Dover to a dance in the Gymnasium. There was a large gathering, and everyone "went on his way rejoicing." The next item of interest was Christmas holidays, when all available had six days' leave. (Leave seems to form part of a soldier's military training in this country.)

THE JOURNEY HOME.

For reasons both of security and of railway accommodation, our departure from Khartoum took place in two parties.

The first party left Khartoum on October 5th and relieved half the "King's" on the *City of Marseilles* at Port Sudan. The *City of Marseilles* was the same ship on which the Battalion had gone to India in 1919.

The first party spent some days in Port Sudan, and enthusiastically re-established liaison with the Navy in the shape of H.M.S. *Dahlia*.

Meanwhile the first party of the "King's" travelled to Khartoum and spent a strenuous twenty-four hours in taking over from our second party, who then proceeded in the same train to Port Sudan.

Most of the prominent residents of Khartoum turned up at the siding to see one or other of the parties off.

The ship sailed within a few hours of the arrival of our second party. The voyage home was not very eventful. At first we had the ship to ourselves, except for a draft of our old friends the 58th Regiment. At each port, however, drafts came on board until we numbered a little over half the total.

Physical training, sports and lectures were held regularly, but the leanings of most were towards a quiet life, and things were not made too strenuous. We called first at the familiar Port Said, but only for a few hours, and few troubled to go ashore.

Malta, with its glorious harbour and fine old buildings, was much more interesting, and several hectic Cook's tours of Valetta were put in during the hours we spent there.

The complete absence of our Navy in the Mediterranean was severely commented on, the reasons alleged being that it was really rather rough, or that they were all at the Lido. The naval representatives on board maintained that the latter was the truer reason.

At Gibraltar we were proud to receive a visit from its Governor and our Colonel, Sir Charles Monro, who was accompanied by Major Basset, also of the Regiment.

From "Gib" onwards the weather was cold and unpleasant, though not really rough. We arrived at Southampton just as we had always expected that we would do, in a cold, penetrating drizzle. A small but gallant crowd were on the quay-side to meet us. Unfortunately, however, the disembarkation was at high pressure, and there was not much time to talk.

It was a severe shock to our Indianised sense of decorum to hear that the embarkation staff didn't very much mind if we did leave a rifle or so behind, as long as we got off in time. Our train was a bit crowded but a good goer, and we passed through all our own home area. As the time of our train's arrival was quite unknown it was unavoidable that no one should be on the platforms to meet us, but it was none the less a little disappointing.

We arrived at Dover at about seven, and were met by more old friends. We then marched to barracks, making our first acquaintance with Snargate Street and the Shaft steps *en route*.

Thanks to the excellent arrangements and the trouble taken both by the Depot and by our own advanced party, everything was ready for us, and all we had to do was to have dinner and go straight to bed. It was decided to pack everyone off to their homes at the first possible moment; a decision which meant a fierce pressure of work for a couple of days. Even the colour-sergeants managed to survive, however, and it was well worth the trouble.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

In Khartoum, life in the Mess is much the same week by week, but, when the occasion does arise for a change in the everyday happenings, everyone seizes the opportunity and sets out to enjoy himself thoroughly.

On the night of September 17th we had as our guests the members of the various messes in Khartoum and a number of civilian friends, numbering in all about 250.

We first of all witnessed the Torchlight Tattoo, and then adjourned to the Mess for refreshments. With such a large gathering the interior of the Mess was too small. The entertaining was therefore done on the lawns in front of the Mess, which border on the bank of the Blue Nile.

The night was a glorious one (in more senses of the word than one), and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

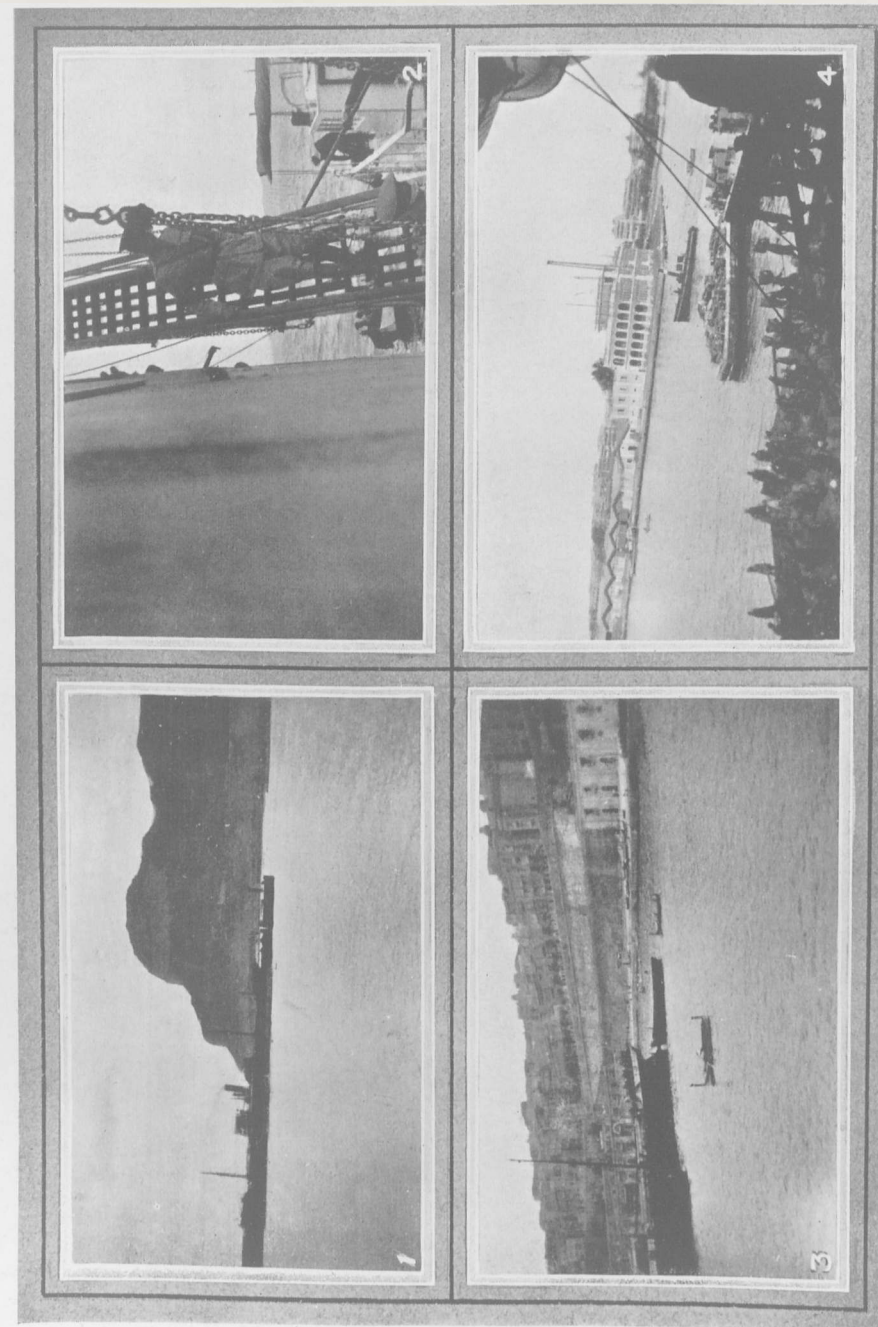
On Sunday, September 18th, we were the guests of the officers, and a very enjoyable time was spent. During the afternoon various games were indulged in—clock golf, deck and lawn tennis, etc.—until tea-time. Tea was served on the lawn in front of the Mess, and, in spite of the fact that the sky became overcast and a storm threatened, we thoroughly enjoyed the fare.

The members of the 58th Regiment (our neighbours in Colchester before we commenced our foreign tour and our neighbours here in Khartoum at the close of it) gave us a wonderful farewell on the night of September 29th, in the form of a dinner and social. They left no stone unturned to make the evening an enjoyable one, and expense seemed to have been a secondary consideration.

The dinner took place at the Royal Hotel, where the menu was excellent and the service good.

R.S.M. Holmes, of the 58th (who was with the 58th in Colchester) in his speech referred to the happy relations which had always existed between the two regiments. He regretted that it was the 58th who were the hosts that evening, as they had expected that they, having arrived in the Sudan before us, would have

2ND BATTALION—HOMEWARD BOUND.



1. Gibraltar.
3. Malta.

2. Gen. Monro leaving the "City of Marseilles" at Gibraltar.
4. Coaling at Port Said.

left before us. In conclusion, he wished us *bon voyage* and requested that, as his regiment would subsequently embark in the H.T. *City of Marseilles* (the boat which eight years ago took the Battalion to India and was now to bring the Battalion home) we should, on disembarking at Southampton, give her a good "shove off."

R.S.M. Waspe (who was also at Colchester with the 2nd Battalion) suitably responded.

Each speaker proposed the health of the other and the members of his mess, and the justice done to these toasts was perhaps responsible for the number of sore throats there were the next morning.

News having arrived of the composition of the draft required by the 1st Battalion, and there being no sergeants required, the "China or Dover?" query was cleared up with no regrets. The sequel was that a heap of sergeants' boxes were found outside the Pioneers' Shop the next morning. The "chit" within each told the same story: "Dover, please."

Our first attempt at entertainment at Dover was in the shape of a New Year's dance, which was held in the Mess. It had not been in progress long ere the cook came up from below to report that the ceiling of his kitchen had fallen in. (After this, those who had heard of this calamity kept well clear of this area on the floor above.) Arrangements were well made by our old friend the Drum-Major.

At our next function we bade farewell to Mr. Buckle on the eve of his departure for Canada. We held a dance, to which we had invited only a few of his many friends. The Mess was again full, officers of the Regiment were present, and many townspeople. During the evening, Mr. Buckle, who has completed thirty-three years in the Service, thirteen of which were with the Regiment as Bandmaster to the 1st Battalion, was presented with a silver hip flask. This was presented by Mrs. Fleckney, and bore the inscription: "To Jimmy Buckle on leaving the Regiment. 10th January, 1928." A speech by R.S.M. Waspe, wishing him every success in the land of the Maple leaf, was made, to which Mr. Buckle responded. He thanked them all for the hospitality shown to him and his wife since the 1st Battalion had left. He had only been connected with them for a few months, but that time had been spent very happily, and the dance that night was a good finish up. Although there were two Battalions, many people thought there was no connection between the 1st and 2nd Battalions, but in reality they were one. Although he belonged to the 1st Battalion, he felt quite at home in the 2nd, and was quite certain he had as many friends. He was confident that the 2nd Battalion would soon become as prominent as the 1st in sports and social life. He was lunching with Col. Mackenzie Rogan the other day, in London, and he said, "Once a Queen's man always a Queen's man." He was proud to be a Queen's man, and when he went away from them he would never forget that he was, and always would be, a Queen's man. (Col. Mackenzie Rogan had been the Bandmaster of The Queen's for fifteen years.)

This over, Mr. Buckle was chaired round the room by several enthusiastic sergeants, and the party broke up in the early hours of the morning by singing "Auld Lang Syne" round Mr. and Mrs. Buckle, who had taken up a position in the centre of the room.

Mr. Buckle sailed on the ss. *Montreal*, and has now taken over his duty as Bandmaster to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. The last report was that he was doing well, and we wish him the best of luck in the years to come. The Regiment feel they have lost one of their most valuable assets.

The weather has been such that all outdoor activities have been curtailed, and really all we have done is to attend sports events in or near Dover. The leap-year dance proved a great success, and again our thanks are due to the energy displayed by the Drum-Major and Sergt. Wells in organizing these functions. We hope they will both remain single.

A large number of other ranks have left the Battalion since we arrived in England, but the Mess are fortunate in not losing very many. Our losses are Sergt. Page to the reserve, and Clr.-Sergt. Fincham is discharged owing to ill-health. We regret the discharge of the latter, and wish him the best of luck in the future. C.S.M. Carter has had the misfortune to go deaf. He has not been with us much at Dover, and at the present time the doctors are dubious about him. We want him back with us, and the sooner the doctors can supply him with a "listening-in set," if his ear is unserviceable, the better.

We entertained a party of petty officers of the *Wrestler*. The *Wrestler* came to Dover as part of the escort to the King of Afghanistan, and stayed with us for the evening. The signallers were the means of sending them the invitation on their entering the harbour. We have received an invitation to pay them a visit on April 4th, when they are due to arrive here once again. We are looking forward to a happy time.

CORPORALS' MESS NOTES.

In the last number of the Journal nothing was said of the Corporals' Mess. It would have been mockery to speak of one, inadequate accommodation and lack of furniture being our chief disadvantage at Khartoum.

The greatest joy on arrival at Dover was the possession of a large and well-furnished Mess and a billiard table similar to the one we boasted of at Allahabad, though cosier on account of its fireplaces and their continual need consequent on the vast difference in temperature as experienced by us in India and the Sudan.

Owing to the Battalion being given a month's leave shortly after its arrival, followed by Christmas leave, very little time was left in which to arrange any entertainments for our new friends.

On January 23rd, however, a dance was held in the Garrison Gymnasium. In spite of the very short space of time afforded for the preparation of decorations and invitations, the whole show went off exceedingly well, and displayed creditable energy on the part of Cpls. Merritt, Hayward, Hill, Keates, Hockett and Bannister. Although we had members over from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, Lancashire Fusiliers and Lincoln Regiment, our lady guests were very much in the majority—a marked contrast to similar entertainments held abroad, when great difficulties used to be experienced to procure sufficient lady partners to satisfy only ourselves.

A wireless installation was a great novelty in the Mess, though members are tiring of it daily.

As our credit balance stands quite high, we hope to substitute the wireless very shortly by a really good gramophone, our old one having had a nasty shake up on the voyage home.

HOCKEY.

ARMY HOCKEY TOURNAMENT.

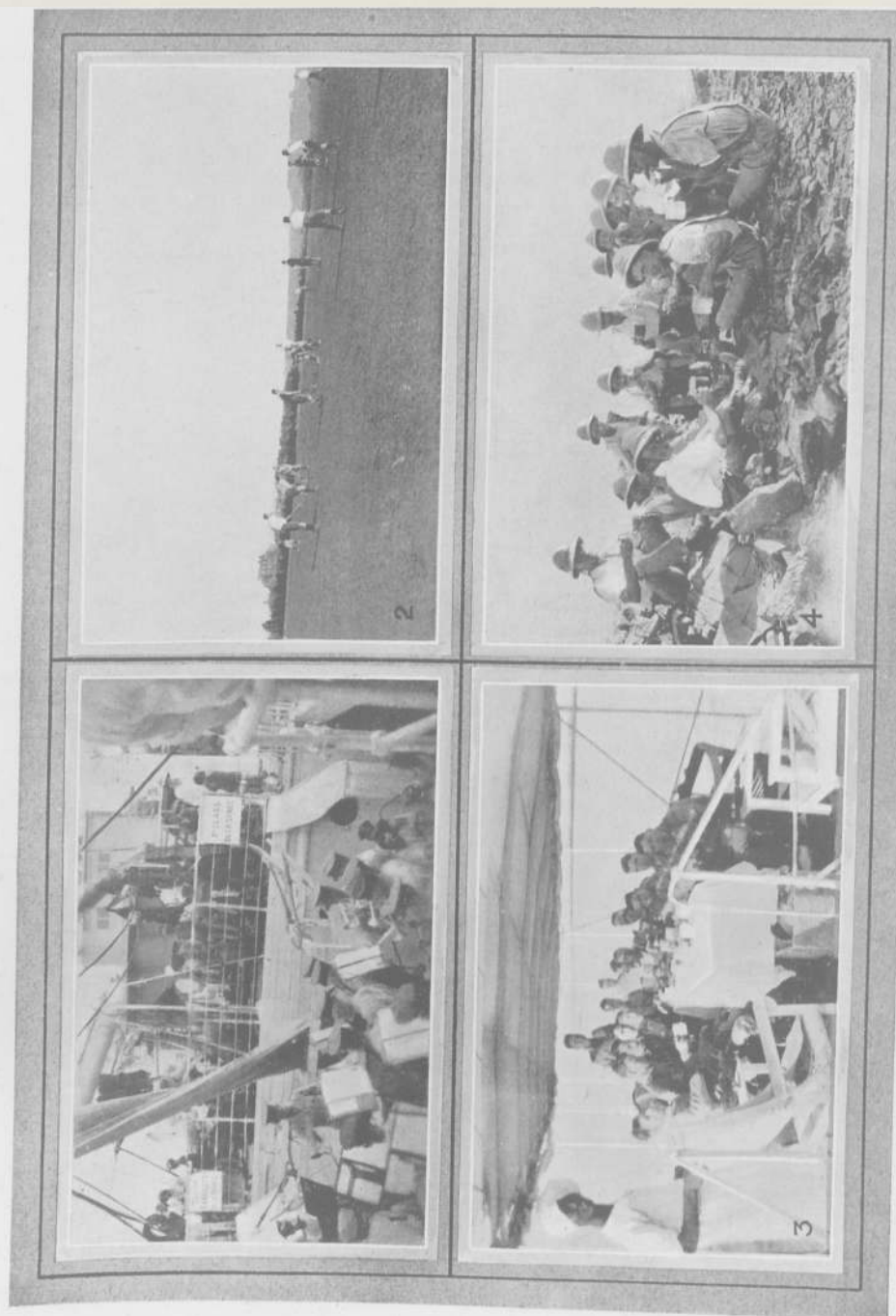
First Round.

The Battalion drew 3rd Bn. Royal Tank Corps, Lydd, in the first round. The first match and replay resulted in a draw, after extra time, and it was only in the third match that a decision was reached.

The match was played at Lydd on a very cold day, with a strong wind blowing. Capt. Olliver won the toss, and naturally chose with the wind.

Our team was a little sticky to start with, but in the last part of the second half the forwards began to play well together. Grimston played a good game at

2ND BATTALION.



1. On board H.T. "City of Marseilles."

3 The Corporals on a Nile trip.

2 Inter-Company Hockey.

"B" Coy. v. No. 3 Group, H.Q. Wing.

4. "B" Coy.—A picnic at Gebeit.

centre-half. The final score was 4 goals to 1 in our favour. Goals were scored by Wilson (2), Olliver and Wood. The team was:—

Goal, Pte. Clements; backs, Lieut. Dyke and Dmr. Wells; half-backs, Lieut. Grimston, Sergt. Mawditt and L./Cpl. Collins; forwards, Capt. Olliver, Lieut. Wilson, Lieut. Wood, Sergt. Dixon and L./Cpl. Burnett.

In the second round we drew a bye.

In the third round we met 2nd Training Brigade R.A., from Woolwich. The match was played on Guston ground, and we were again fortunate in winning the toss, which gave us the advantage of playing with the wind, which was very strong.

After about five minutes' play Wood scored off a pass from Olliver. The Gunners soon replied by scoring through their inside-right. Play was fairly even until just before half-time, when Sergt. Dixon, outside-left, dribbled the ball through the Gunners' defence and scored.

The forwards had been combining well, and were unfortunate in not scoring more often.

The Gunners' goalkeeper played very well, stopping two hard shots right in the corner, one from Olliver and the other from Wood.

In the second half the team played well, and there was good combination between the inside forwards, resulting in Wilson scoring from a pass from Olliver. Two more goals were added to our score; they were scored by Wood and Wilson, and were the result of good passing between the inside forwards.

The backs and half-backs played a good game and kept their forwards well fed with good passes. Grimston again played a first-class game at centre-half.

The final score was 5 goals to 1 in our favour. The same team represented the Battalion as in the first round.

Fourth Round.

We met the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in the fourth round. The match was played before a large crowd on Guston Ground on January 25th.

The ground was very muddy, which was a great disadvantage to our team, who are all used to playing on the fast grounds abroad. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire won the toss and started off playing with the wind. Play was in their favour for the first half, and they scored one goal through their centre-forward, after good passing between their forwards.

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire added another goal to their score about half-way through the second half.

The Queen's then began to press hard, and Olliver tapped the ball up on his stick for Grimston, who scored a fine goal off a half-volley.

The Queen's again pressed their opponents hard, and for the last ten minutes of the game looked like scoring at any moment, but the ball stuck in the mud.

The final score was: Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, 2 goals; The Queen's, 1 goal.

Lieut. Haggard played outside-left in Sergt. Dixon's place, otherwise the team was the same.

We should like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment on winning the Army Hockey Cup.

OTHER MATCHES.

The Queen's v. Dover Club. The Queen's, 9 goals; Dover Club nil.

The Queen's v. Westgate Club. The Queen's, 5 goals; Westgate Club, 7 goals.

Goals scored by Olliver 2, Wilson 2, Pickering 1.

The Queen's v. 3rd Bn. Royal Tank Corps. The Queen's, 2 goals; 3rd Bn. Royal Tank Corps, 2 goals. Goals scored by Wilson 1, Wood 1.

The Queen's v. Canterbury Hockey Club. The Queen's, 9 goals; Canterbury Hockey Club, nil. Goals scored by Olliver 6, Wilson 3.
 The Queen's v. The Depot, The Buffs. The Queen's, 5 goals; The Buffs, nil. Goals scored by Olliver 3, Pickering 2.
 The Queen's v. Westgate Hockey Club. The Queen's, 6 goals; Westgate Hockey Club, 2 goals. Goals scored by Olliver 2, Davis 2, Pickering 1, Burnett 1.
 The Queen's v. Depot, The Royal Marines. The Queen's, 6 goals; The Royal Marines, nil. Goals scored by Olliver 2, Davis 2, Pickering 1, Burnett 1.
 The Queen's v. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt. The Queen's, 1 goal; The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt., 3 goals. Goal scored by Davis.

The Inter-Company Hockey Competition is now in progress, and has reached the last stage. The finalists are No. 3 Group of "H.Q." Wing and "A" Coy.

FOOTBALL.

We started off the season very badly on arrival in England, due to losing by drafts and transfers to the Army Reserve. Great difficulty was experienced in building up a team, especially as we were pitted against teams who were well established and settled down to "form."

Our position in the League is not so bad as it may appear to be, as we had to take over the fixtures of the Lancashire Fusiliers, who had lost four games out of four played.

We lost our first five matches in the Folkestone and District League. In the Dover and Deal Hospital Cup we lost to the Royal Air Force from Manston. This game was well fought, and we should have won had our forwards found their shooting boots. The Royal Air Force scored their first goal from a break-away, and then packed their goal, and shots were going everywhere but the right spot.

We next met the Manchester Regiment in the Dover Charity Cup, at Crabble. This game ended in a victory for us, the first registered since our arrival from Khartoum, the result being 4-2.

This was the turning point for us, for since that game we have only lost one game, i.e., Dover United, in the Folkestone and District League. Our team did not show up well on a greasy and heavy ground, and the civilians won on account of better ball control.

We met the Royal Marines' Depot, Deal, in the semi-final of the Dover Charity Cup, and ran out winners by 1-0.

The results of the matches in the Folkestone and District League up to date are as follows:—

- v. Ramsgate Grenville, away. Lost, 2-6.
 - v. Ashford Railway Works, away. Lost, 1-3.
 - v. 13th/18th Hussars, away. Lost, 2-8.
 - v. Folkestone, away. Lost, 3-9.
 - v. Manchesters, home. Won 4-2.
 - v. Royal Marines, away. Lost, 1-3.
 - v. Lincolns, away. Won, 4-2.
 - v. Ramsgate Grenville, home. Won, 4-3.
 - v. Royal Air Force, home. Won, 5-1.
 - v. Margate Amateurs, home. Won, 6-5.
 - v. Dover United, home. Lost, 0-2.
 - v. South Staffords, home. Won, 2-0.
- The reserve team are doing well in the Cinque Ports League.

WEAPON TRAINING.

The Battalion fired their Annual Weapon Course for 1927-28 whilst in the Sudan. For this purpose each company in turn proceeded to Gebeit Camp, where the range conditions were excellent. As many men as possible were put through there, but a certain number of unfortunates had to fire at Khartoum, where conditions were just the reverse to those at Gebeit. The range at Khartoum seemed to attract every kind of unpleasantness, i.e., sand-storms, high winds and floods. In spite of this the Battalion average was good, and a great improvement was noticeable in the standard obtained in all three weapons. The averages were as follows:—

Rifle:

"A" Coy., 105.27; "C" Coy., 90.5; "D" Coy., 90.5; "B" Coy., 90; "H.Q." Wing, 89.4. Battalion average, 92.85.

Lewis Gun:

"D" Coy., 151.5; "A" Coy., 150.91; "H.Q." Wing, 130.5; "C" Coy., 128.9; "B" Coy., 127.4. Battalion average, 130.95.

Revolver:

"D" Coy., 114.1; "A" Coy., 108.47; "H.Q." Wing, 99.57; "C" Coy., 91.52; "B" Coy., 87.1. Battalion average, 100.06.

The best individual results were as follows:—

Best Combined Shot in each Company:

"A" Coy., L./Cpl. Williams. Score, 327.
 "B" Coy., Sergt. Selmes. Score, 282.
 "C" Coy., L./Cpl. Dean. Score, 300.
 "D" Coy., L./Sergt. Wells. Score, 324.
 "H.Q." Wing, L./Cpl. Moule. Score, 133 (rifle only).

Best Shot amongst W.Os. and Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants:

L./Sergt. Wells, "D" Coy. Score, 324.

Best Shot amongst Corporals, Lance-Corporals and Privates:

L./Cpl. Williams, "A" Coy. Score, 327.

A.R.A. COMPETITIONS.

The Battalion entered for the 18th Hussars Cup, the Duke of Connaught Cup, and the Lewis Gun Match, but was only able to complete the first-named competition owing to the unexpected early move from Khartoum. Up to date the results of this competition have not been published by the Army Rifle Association.

A.R.A. Spoons and Badges have been awarded as follows for the 18th Hussars Cup:—

Best Combined Shot in the Battalion:

L./Cpl. Williams, "A" Coy. Score, 327. Awarded A.R.A. Silver Spoon.

Best Combined Shot amongst Sergeants and Corporals:

L./Sergt. Wells, "D" Coy. Score, 324. Awarded A.R.A. Bronze Badge.

The Two Best Combined Shots amongst Lance-Corporals and Privates:

L./Cpl. Finden, "D" Coy. Score, 321. L./Cpl. Nye, "A" Coy. Score, 304. Awarded A.R.A. Bronze Badge.

Best Shot in Table "R":

Pte. Barber, "A" Coy. Score, 138. Awarded A.R.A. Silver Spoon.

The Three Next Best Shots in Table "R":

Dmr. Charlesworth, "H.Q." Wing. Score, 124. Pte. Taylor, "D" Coy. Score, 122. Pte. Franklin, "A" Coy. Score, 120. Awarded A.R.A. Bronze Badge.

WITH THE DRAFT FROM KHARTOUM TO HONG-KONG.

On Sunday, October 2nd, 1927, we left Burri Siding for the first stage of our journey to the Far East. The rest of the Battalion gave us a great send-off, and the G.O.C. Troops in the Sudan, together with his Staff, were there to see our departure.

We were supposed to proceed to Khartoum Central to collect our Medical Officer, who was to look after us until we arrived at Gebeit. Unfortunately the engine driver lost his way, and we went to Khartoum North instead. After a certain amount of delay a somewhat breathless Medical Officer arrived, and once more we were on our way. The faithful transport were there to see us off, having ridden from Burri on mules.

We experienced the usual discomforts of travelling across the desert in the hot weather, and arrived at Gebeit at 5 a.m. on October 4th.

Here we were met by Lieut. Clarke, of the 58th Regiment, who was Camp Adjutant, and Major Muirhead, of the same regiment, who has recently been appointed O.C. Troops at Gebeit. We detrained at once and pitched camp, while our cooks, under Pte. Crossland, got breakfast.

The first day was spent in settling in, etc., and we all looked forward to a happy ten days before we sailed. Most of the mornings were occupied by khud climbing and bathing. An old engine turntable had been turned into an excellent swimming bath. L./Cpl. Dennis and Pte. Kendall distinguished themselves at khud climbing, but the Medical Officer received much additional work owing to numerous cuts and grazes. Lieut. Newell and L./Cpl. Dennis were completely put out of action, and limped about until we arrived at Hong-Kong.

We were very pleased at the arrival of the first train-load of the Battalion shortly after our arrival. We gave them a great send-off, our band, ably conducted by Pte. Bazley, doing noble work. The second train arrived at midnight a few days after, but we were there in force to see them. Our band, much to its disgust, had received orders not to make its presence heard.

Shortly before our departure from Port Sudan, Gen. Huddleston flew down and inspected us. He expressed himself extremely pleased with everything he saw.

Lieut. Newell, with the assistance of several others, organized an extremely efficient and talented concert party. Pte. Bazley was conspicuous throughout, and afterwards his band played until midnight, while the rest, refreshed with beer and sandwiches, danced until midnight.

We eventually left Gebeit on the night of the 16th, reinforced by a large draft of the 58th Regiment, under Major Coldwell. An uncomfortable night was spent in third-class carriages, and we arrived at Port Sudan in the early morn of October 17th.

A delightful (?) day was spent basking in the sun at the Ginning Factory, and at 6.30 p.m. the elusive *Somersetshire* arrived. We got on board at once, and by 8 p.m. were away, exactly sixty hours after our scheduled time.

The *Somersetshire* is a specially-designed troopship, and had very little deck space, and consequently we were able to play practically no deck games. Physical training was carried out on the promenade deck with much vigour each morning, much to the ill-concealed annoyance of many first-class passengers, who were not in favour of being woken up at 7.30 a.m.

The usual ports were called at, and at Singapore we all went ashore for a route march. Lieut.-Col. Pickering, commanding the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, which is stationed there, who was returning from leave on the *Somersetshire*, had kindly wirelessed ahead, and it was a very pleasant surprise to find a band ready to play us through the streets of Singapore.

Between Singapore and Hong-Kong we experienced a certain amount of rough weather, but none of us minded. We were near the end of our journey, and all

2ND BATTALION.



LECTERN, BIBLE AND COMMUNION PLATE
presented to Khartoum Cathedral by all ranks of 2nd Battn. The Queen's Royal Regt.
and 2nd Battn. Northamptonshire Regt. (58th), 1926-27.
"A Token of Gratitude."

THE JOURNAL OF THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT

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anxious to renew our acquaintances with our friends of the 1st Battalion and eager for the sights of a strange land.

We arrived at Hong-Kong about midday on November 10th.

Lieut.-Col. Clarke and the Adjutant and a few other officers of the 1st Battalion came on board to welcome us. We were unfortunate in that we arrived at the time when the Battalion was preparing to move into Sham Shui Po Barracks, having been, up till then, split up into various detachments.

The 48th Regiment were in possession of these barracks, and were not due to move out until the following day. Consequently we received orders to remain on board for the night.

At about 3 p.m. on the day of our arrival we went for a short route march through Hong-Kong, guided by a sergeant of the 1st Battalion.

Hong-Kong is always a pleasant place in the cold weather months, and after a stay of a year in Khartoum it seemed a truly marvellous place to us. I think that all agreed that the aroma emanating from the Chinese homes ranks extremely high on the list of Oriental odours. However, there were no casualties from this cause, and all returned to the ship duly impressed by all that they had seen.

The next morning we set out for Sham Shui Po Barracks, again guided by a sergeant of the 1st Battalion. Although the voyage out had been pleasant enough, nobody was sorry to be on dry land once more. Some monkeys which had played a very prominent part in life on the troop decks were left as mementoes to members of the ship's crew.

We arrived at Sham Shui Po Barracks before the Battalion, and were received by the colour-sergeants, who were busy taking over their new homes. Our officers quickly found the Mess and the men found the Canteen without much difficulty, and all spent a very happy ten minutes.

Lieut.-Col. Clarke arrived soon after, and gave us an extremely interesting talk on the customs of the country and the reason for our presence in China. He did not then decide, however, whether we were to remain in green khaki drill or not, and this created a certain amount of despondency, as each man had at least eight complete suits of this drill owing to the generosity of friends who had gone home from Khartoum.

We were now part of the 1st Battalion, and found ourselves settling down very quickly to the new conditions.

On Armistice Day, Cpl. Boughton was chosen to place a wreath on the Hong-Kong Cenotaph for the 1st Battalion—a compliment to the draft and an honour which was very much appreciated.

The time came, all too soon, for the officers of the draft to leave, after as pleasant a ten days as it is possible to spend anywhere.

KHARTOUM (SUDAN).

22/11/1927.

DEAR COLONEL RAINSFORD-HANNAY,

The Clergy and Churchwardens of the Cathedral Church of all Saints, Khartoum, desire to express their gratitude to all ranks of the 2nd Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment, in association with the 2nd Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment, for their very beautiful gift of a Chalice, Cruets and Paten for use on festival occasions, and a Lectern Bible.

The gift is very warmly appreciated as a token of the goodwill and happy relations which existed between your Battalion and the Church in Khartoum. You have left behind you not only this beautiful gift, but a very happy memory.

B. J. HARPER,

For the Bishop and Clergy.

NIGEL G. DAVIDSON, }
H. C. SQUIRE, } *Churchwardens.*

"THE GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE"

THE British Channel Fleet, under the command of Lord Howe, left St. Helens on May 2nd, 1794, with a large convoy of merchant ships, and, on arriving off the Lizard, Howe sent off his convoys with the requisite guard of war ships, and immediately steered for Ushant, arriving there on the morning of May 5th, and from that date until the 18th he cruised about the bay. On the 19th he learned that the French Fleet had left Brest. He left on the 16th, and it is recorded as a singular fact that next day, on which there was a dense fog, the two fleets passed so close to each other that the French heard the British fog signals, ringing of bells, and beating of drums. The next morning the fleets were out of sight of each other.

As soon as Lord Howe heard that the French Fleet was at sea he set out in pursuit, and on the 21st he had the luck to recapture a large part of the Lisbon convoy, which had been taken by the French Fleet on the 19th. Part of the convoy effected their escape, but the Admiral captured ten ships, and, taking out their crews, burnt the ships. From the prisoners Lord Howe learned the position of the Frenchmen, and immediately put the Fleet on the way to intercept them. Two or three captured merchant ships which came to the Fleet on the 23rd gave further information as to their position, having only left them two or three days before. After a long search, at 9 a.m. on the 28th the fleets came in sight of each other, the French, with their topgallant sails set, bearing down towards the British Fleet.

The French Fleet consisted of twenty-six sail of the line, and five frigates, and was commanded by Admiral Villaret. The English Fleet was composed, after the departure of the detachment sent with the convoys, of twenty-six sail of the line, seven frigates, one hospital ship, two fire ships, one brig sloop, and two cutters. The *Queen Charlotte*, *Royal George*, *Defence*, *Majestic*, and *Russell* had detachments of The Queen's on board, the other ships carrying Marines and detachments of other regiments.

Queen Charlotte (100-gun ship).—Admiral Lord Howe, Captains Sir Roger Curtis and Sir Andrew Sanpe Douglass. Officers and men of The Queen's: Capt. John Isaacs, Lieut. John Neville, and Ensign James Tudor, five sergeants, seven corporals, two drummers, and 120 privates (ten more men were borne on the muster, but were absent).

Royal George (100-gun ship).—Vice-Admiral Sir Alex. Hood, K.B., Capt. Wm. Dornett. Officers and men of The Queen's: Capt. Lowe Parry Jones, Lieut. John Smith, five sergeants, five corporals, two drummers and nineteen privates (three more men on the muster, but were not present).

Defence (74-gun ship).—Capt. James Gambier, Port Marines. Officers and men of The Queen's: Capt. Robt. Donald, Ensigns Chas. Boycott and Thos. Edward Hunt, three sergeants, three corporals, one drummer and seventy-three privates (five more on the muster, but not present).

Majestic (74-gun ship).—Capt. Chas. Cotton. Officers and men of The Queen's: Capt. Chas. Ludwig Forch, Lieut. James Kingsbury, Ensign Henry Harrison, two sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, and seventy-one privates (one more on muster, but not present).

Russell (74-gun ship).—Capt. John Willet Payne. Officers and men of The Queen's: Capt. Arthur Gordon, Lieuts. John Lewis Eveleigh and Fredk. Peter Delnie (or Deline), two sergeants, five corporals, one drummer and seventy-two privates (three more on muster, but not present).



H.M.S. "QUEEN CHARLOTTE" DRIVING THROUGH THE LINE OF FRENCH SHIPS.

As soon as the two fleets came in sight, Lord Howe gave the signal to prepare for battle. At 11.10 a.m. he made signal that there would be time for the ships' companies to dine. At about half-past two, the *Russell*, which was about a mile to windward of the Fleet, fired a few shots at the sternmost ships of the enemy, who fired in return. At 6 p.m. the *Bellerophon* had an encounter with the *Revolutionnaire*, and after a very gallant struggle with the Frenchman (a much more heavily-armed ship) lasting about an hour and a half, having had her main cap disabled by a shot, was obliged to take in her mainsail, her mainmast being rendered unsafe, the ship made signal of inability and bore up. In the meantime the *Russell*, *Marlborough* and *Thunderer* had been ordered to engage the rear ships of the enemy, and later the *Leviathan* continued the attack on the *Revolutionnaire*. The *Audacious* now got on the lee quarter of the *Revolutionnaire* and soon became closely engaged, while the *Russell*, some distance to leeward, kept up her fire on the big French three-decker. Towards 10 p.m. the *Revolutionnaire* was so crippled that she drew away, the men on the *Audacious* declaring that at that moment she struck her colours. The loss on the French ship was terrible, according to their own account being nearly 400 men, the *Audacious*, although terribly cut up, only having three men killed and nineteen wounded. The *Audacious* and the *Revolutionnaire* were too crippled to take further part in the fighting, and both escaped to port, the former to Plymouth, the latter to Rochefort. It was a curious circumstance that the French ship was rescued and taken into port by the French ship *Audacieux*, after having been fought and nearly captured by an English ship of the same name.

Next morning, the 29th, the fight was renewed, and about 10 a.m., after some preliminary manœuvres, the *Invincible*, *Royal George*, *Valiant*, *Russell*, *Queen* and *Cesar* exchanged broadsides with the van of the French Fleet, seriously injuring the leading French ship, *Montagnard*. The signal to engage and cut through the enemy's line was made by the Admiral about 1.15 p.m. A quarter of an hour later the *Queen Charlotte* drove through the French line, the *Bellerophon* and *Leviathan* quickly following their gallant chief. The two French ships *Indomptable* and *Tyrannicide*, who had been terribly disabled by the *Royal George* and *Invincible*, were not far from the *Queen Charlotte* after she had cut through the French line, but leaving them to be brought to by the ships following, the Admiral, after signalling the ships to chase, pursued the *Terrible*, who was, however, successful in escaping her attack. The *Orion*, who had now engaged the *Indomptable*, was assisted by the *Barfleur*, but the plucky Frenchman, though terribly pressed, refused to haul down his flag.

By a clever manœuvre the French Admiral extricated his one disabled ship, and about 4 p.m. bore down upon the *Queen* and the *Royal George*, which, being perceived by Lord Howe, he wore round, and with other ships of his Fleet prepared to engage the Frenchman. This brought the two vans of the Fleet within random shot, but no general engagement came on, and about 5 p.m. all firing ceased. The casualties during the day on the ships with detachments from the Regiment were only slight. The *Royal George* lost her eighth lieutenant, George Heighman, and one midshipman, fifteen men killed and twenty-three wounded. The *Defence*, *Majestic* and *Queen Charlotte* had each one man killed, the latter her sixth lieutenant, Rawlinson. The *Defence* had three and the *Majestic* thirteen men wounded, the total loss in the British Fleet being sixty-seven killed and 128 wounded. The only casualty in The Queen's detachment was one private killed on board the *Royal George*.

The French papers claimed a victory, asserting the British ships "set sail and ran away," the Convention assuring the people that the battle, though not decisive, had been "eminently glorious."

On the 30th the weather, which had thickened, cleared a little, and the French Fleet was seen in the north-west on the starboard tack.

The English Admiral, after forming his Fleet in two columns, bore up towards the enemy, and at 10.30 he made signals to the ships to know if they were in a condition to renew the action. The whole replied they were, with the exception of the *César*.

The fog again settled and nothing could be done, but in the morning, at 9 a.m. (May 31st) the weather was again clear, and the French Fleet were seen to the northward. Thirty-two ships were counted, and, to the surprise of all, the whole appeared in perfect state.

The British Fleet stood over to the westward, and at daybreak on the morning of the terrible, but glorious 1st of June, they were in latitude $47^{\circ} 48'$ and longitude $18^{\circ} 30'$ west, the French Fleet being seen about six miles off on the starboard or lee bow of the British and steering in line of battle on the larboard tack.

A general account of the fight will now be given, and afterwards a particular account of the fight on the ships on which The Queen's detachment served.

The line of battle of the British ships, which were formed in line abreast before the commencement of the action, was as follows:—

César (vaniship), *Bellerophon*, *Leviathan*, *Russell*, *Royal Sovereign*, *Marlborough*, *Defence*, *Impregnable*, *Tremendous*, *Barfleur*, *Invincible*, *Culloden*, *Gibraltar*, *Queen Charlotte*, *Brunswick*, *Valiant*, *Orion*, *Queen*, *Ramillies*, *Alfred*, *Montague*, *Royal George*, *Majestic*, *Glory*, *Thunderer*. The frigates and smaller vessels in the rear of the line.

The French Fleet were in close head and stern line, bearing about east and west, in the following order: *Trajan* (van or west end of the line), *Ecole*, *America*, *Temeraire*, *Terrible*, *Impetueux*, *Mucius*, *Tourville*, *Gaspard*, *Convention*, *Trente-un-Mai*, *Tyrannicide*, *Juste*, *Montagne*, *Jacobin*, *Achille*, *Vengeur*, *Patriote*, *Northumberland*, *Entreprenant*, *Jennappes*, *Neptune*, *Pelletier*, *Republicaine*, *Sans Pareil*, and *Scipion*. Both fleets carried single reefed topsails. The relative strength of the two fleets was: English twenty-six, French twenty-five line of battle ships.

The fleets were in a position to engage between 7 and 8 a.m., the weather being on the previous day's sailing been obtained by the English. Between 9.15 and 9.30 a.m. the French van opened its fire on the English van. In less than an hour after, close action commenced in the centre. Lord Howe, in the *Queen Charlotte*, having engaged the French Admiral on the *Montagne*, after a smart engagement the French Admiral's ship crowded off, terribly shattered. Those of the French ships that were able to carry sail, the action having now become general, followed him, leaving seven of their ships in a perfectly hopeless condition to be taken possession of by the English Fleet. The French Admiral, after getting away from his terrible adversary and being joined by several ships, wore round on the starboard tack, with the intention of taking the *Queen*, who was lying in a crippled condition on the starboard bow of the *Montagne*.

The perilous position of the *Queen* was now observed by Lord Howe, who with difficulty wore round, and with the *Barfleur*, *Thunderer* and a few other ships, succeeded in saving the *Queen*. The French Admiral now turned his attention to securing some of his disabled ships which were being towed towards him, and which ought to have been secured, being wholly dismasted, by the British ships who had taken little part in the action.

He was successful, and the *Republicaine*, *Mucius*, *Scipion* and *Jennappes* were saved from capture by the British, the *Terrible* also having escaped by fighting her way through the British Fleet.

The fight was practically over by half-past eleven, but it was not until a quarter-past one that the general firing ceased. The disabled French ships not carried off by Villaret were not taken possession of till about half-past two, the *Vengeur* not till a little after 6 p.m.

The ships captured by the British and carried into port were the *Sans Pareil* and *Juste*, each eighty guns; *America*, *Impetueux*, *Northumberland*, and *Achille*, each seventy-four guns. The *Vengeur* was also taken possession of, but in so shattered a state that she sank soon after she was captured, her captain and 200 of her crew, mostly wounded, going down in her. The total loss of the English in the fight was 290 killed and 858 wounded. Capt. Montague, of the *Montagne*, was killed; Capt. John Harvey, of the *Brunswick*, mortally wounded; Admiral Bowyer, Admiral Pasley and Capt. Hutt wounded. The French are reported to have sustained a total loss of 3,000 in killed and wounded, a full half of which was in the six captured ships.

We will now relate the part taken by the ships on which The Queen's Regiment took part.

At about 9.30 a.m. the *Queen Charlotte*, having hauled down the signal to engage, came into action with the *Montagne*, having steered a slanting course on the French line. As she neared, the *Vengeur* opened fire upon her, but she held back her fire till the decisive moment, when she hoped to close her selected adversary, the French Admiral's ship. The *Queen Charlotte*, desiring to be first through the enemy's line, set topgallant sails and let fall her foresail, this carrying her past the *Vengeur* and abreast the next ship, *Achille*, who also opened her broadside upon the Admiral's ship. Upon this ship the *Queen Charlotte* returned the fire, reserving, however, her principal broadside for the *Montagne*. As the *Queen Charlotte* passed under the stern of the French ship she crashed into her a terrific broadside. The French ship *Jacobin*, which had come up under the *Montagne's* lee, got also a broadside from the other quarter as the *Queen Charlotte* came round on the starboard side of her big opponent, the *Montagne*. Lord Howe, by the intervention of the *Jacobin*, was rather bothered in getting round as he intended to the lee side of the *Montagne*; he, however, continued to battle away at her with his starboard guns, and a little after 10 a.m. the French Admiral's ship having lost over 300 men and with her stern frame and starboard quarter dreadfully shattered, drew out of the fight, in order to get free from the *Queen Charlotte's* terrible fire. During this time the *Montagne*, for some unexplained reason, did not fire a single shot at her adversary.

The Admiral's ship now lay between the *Juste* and the *Jacobin*, and having lost her foretop mast was a little crippled in her movements. The *Juste*, therefore, wearing round, passed under her stern, and gave her a raking broadside, one of the shots passing through the wing-transom. At this moment the *Republicaine* advanced to bear on the *Queen Charlotte*, and, just as the vessels were about to exchange broadsides, the French vessel's main and mizzen masts went by the board by shots from the *Gibraltar*. In the confusion caused by this loss, she passed the *Queen Charlotte* without firing a shot. The *Montagne* and the *Jacobin* now bore ahead, and Lord Howe sent up signals for a general chase. As before stated, the French Admiral then made an attempt to capture the *Queen*, which had been disabled in the thick of the fight, which manœuvre the *Queen Charlotte*, with other ships of the Fleet, were able to prevent.

During the close action of the *Queen Charlotte*, Lieut. Neville, of The Queen's, was killed, and one sergeant, one corporal and nine privates were wounded. The total loss on the *Queen Charlotte* was the seventh lieutenant and eleven seamen killed, Capt. Douglas, one midshipman and twenty-two seamen wounded, besides the loss in The Queen's detachment. The whole of the casualties, with a very slight exception, were incurred when the *Queen Charlotte* bore down on the French line and engaged the *Montagne*.

A picture was painted of the *Queen Charlotte* driving through the line of French ships, illustrating the death of Lieut. Neville.

The picture is by Mr. Brown, of Cavendish Square. The officers supporting the dying officer are Capt. Isaacs and Ensign Tudor. An excellent engraving was made of the picture, a copy of which is in possession of the Regiment, presented by Major Mackie. The picture was, by permission of the Lords of the Admiralty, dedicated to them by the painter and engraver.

The *Russell* engaged with the *Temeraire* about 9 a.m. About 11 a.m. the *Temeraire*, seeing that the other French ships in her van were making sail to leeward, went through the line, closely followed by the *Russell*. The latter, having lost her foretopmast, was not able, when the Frenchmen hauled a little to starboard, to follow, and found herself to leeward of the *America*, *Ecole* and *Trajan*. These three vessels poured each a broadside into the *Russell*, then hauling to the wind and getting clear. The *Russell* was not slow in returning their fire, and then passed on to the assistance of the *Leviathan*, engaged with the *America*. This latter vessel had, however, been quite disabled by her opponent, so the two ships went to take up a position in the new line, forming astern of the Admiral's ship. On the signal being made at 2.30 p.m. to stand by the prizes, the *Russell* again fell on the *America*, who hauled down her colours and became the prize of the *Russell*. The *Royal Sovereign*, when the signal went up to secure prizes, not knowing that the *America* had been taken possession of by the *Russell*, fired several shots against the Frenchman, and, on taking possession of her, Admiral Graves sent the *Russell* people back to their ship. The *Russell* afterwards took possession of the French ship *Impetueux*, Capt. Payne having had thus the honour of first boarding two of the French vessels. The damage to the *Russell*, beyond the loss of her foretopmast, was immaterial. Her loss in men was eight seamen and marines killed, and twenty-six wounded. The officers and men of The Queen's on board escaped any casualties.

The *Defence*, at the commencement of the action, was rather in advance of her own line, and had thus the honour of being the first to cut through the French line, passing between the *Mucius* and the *Tourville*, and was soon in the thick of the fight. It was not long before, in consequence of the fire she had to sustain, that both her main and mizzen masts came down. The *Mucius*, however, had had enough of the *Defence* guns. The *Tourville* also made haste to escape from her. Several French ships now bore down upon her, amongst others the *Republicaine*, and the foremast of the *Defence* being now shot away, she was compelled to signal for assistance. The *Phaeton* arrived at about 1 p.m., and took her in tow, bringing her out of action, with the loss of her master, boatswain, eleven seamen killed, one master's mate, eight marines and twenty-five seamen wounded. Of The Queen's, Ensign Boycott was wounded, four privates (Collier, North, Roberts and Hamilton) killed and one wounded.

The *Royal George* and the *Glory* about 9.38 bore down on the *Sans Pareil* and the *Republicaine*, passing through the French line between those ships, engaging both. The *Glory*, being a slower sailer, was longer getting into action. After she had passed through the enemy's lines, and ranged ahead, she found herself opposed to the *Sans Pareil*, who had just lost her fore and mizzen masts by the fire of the *Royal George*. The latter had lost her foremast and main and mizzen topmasts, her wheel being also shot useless and tiller ropes shot away; she was thus rather in a helpless condition. The loss on the *Royal George* was one midshipman and forty-five seamen and marines wounded. The Queen's detachment only lost one man killed (John Hunt); they also, as already noted, lost one man killed (William Pearson) in the action of the 29th.

The *Majestic* does not seem to have taken a very prominent or active part in the action, but during the day she fell in with the disabled ship *Sans Pareil*, who had been so nobly fought by her officers and crew, sustaining a loss as stated of 260 killed and 120 badly wounded.

KANDAHAR, 1880.



THE CANTONMENTS.

The Conventional Deputy, Jean Bon. St. Andre, who was Second in command of the French Fleet, sent an official report of the action to the National Convention, on which the light of accurate history passes rather a harsh opinion. He blames several of the Captains of the French Fleet for not obeying signals, and asserts that but for their gross neglect, instead of the French losing any of their dismasted ships, they "would have captured all those of the British." He also asserted that he left the enemy in a worse condition than himself. A strong assertion, for the question naturally suggests itself—Why in that case did he not himself lead the way in the *Montagne* by capturing the disabled British ships? An answer may be found to that, in the relation of his conduct when the *Montagne* was sustaining the determined attack of the *Queen Charlotte*. The terrible loss of officers and men on the *Montagne* (100 killed and 200 wounded) did not number in its sad total the Conventional Deputy, who was so horrified at the slaughter that he prudently went down below.

In the distribution of medals to the flag officers, the following ships were those so honoured, the ships in which The Queen's served being put in small capitals:—

QUEEN CHARLOTTE, *Bellerophon*, *Leviathan*, RUSSELL, *Royal Sovereign*, *Marlborough*, DEFENCE, *Barfleur*, *Invincible*, *Valiant*, *Orion*, *Queen*, *Ramillies*, ROYAL GEORGE, *Glory* and *Audacious*.

The day after the fight Lord Howe sent off his despatches by Sir Roger Curtis; his letter is dated June 2nd, off Ushant. In it, after shortly describing the action and sending a list of the captured ships, he writes of the "determined bravery of several ranks of officers and the ships' companies," which he justly remarks has already been "sufficiently denoted by the effect of their spirited exertions."

The disabled state of the Fleet, and of the prizes, necessitated such attention, that it was not till the evening of the 3rd that the triumphant Fleet sailed for home. Steering north-east, Lord Howe, with the major part of the vessels and the whole of his prizes, anchored at Spithead at 11 a.m. on June 13th; nine of the ships arrived at Cawsand Bay, Plymouth, on June 12th.

The enthusiasm in England at the great but sanguinary victory was unbounded. The rewards for this first decisive meeting between the British and Republican Fleets were not stinted. Lord Howe (who the King desired to invest with the Riband of the Garter, but was restrained by his Minister from political prejudice) was honoured by a visit of the King and Royal Family on board his ship. The King held a naval levee on board the *Queen Charlotte* on June 26th, presenting Lord Howe with a diamond hilted sword, valued at 3,000 guineas. The Royal Family dined on board the ship. The two Admirals next in command, Graves and Bridport, were made peers, Rear-Admirals Bowler, Gardner, Pasley and Curtis were created baronets, Sir George Bowyer and Sir Thomas Pasley receiving £1,000 a year pension each for their wounds. Lieut. Grey, of The Queen's, was appointed senior lieutenant of the guard attending on the King, and was immediately after ordered to embark with a detachment to serve as marines on board the *Venerable*, and a unanimous vote of thanks was passed by both Houses of Parliament to Lord Howe and the officers, seaman marines, and soldiers serving under him.

The detachments of The Queen's remained on the Fleet until November, taking part in the operations under Lord Hood during the remainder of the year, cruising about Ushant and the Channel, the Admiral hoping the Brest Fleet would again try conclusions with the English Fleet. Hood sailed from England on September 7th with thirty-four ships of the line. On the 9th he was off Ushant when he detached the *Leviathan*, *Russell* and two frigates to look into the Brest road. The wind changing, he recalled them, and the Fleet then bore down Channel. Bad weather coming on, and the ships having sustained some damage, he returned on the 21st to Torbay. He again sailed in November, but was not fated to get at his adversary, as the French Fleet did not quit Brest until nearly the end of the year.

4th BATTALION

Headquarters: Old Barracks, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

Honorary Colonel:

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. B. L. Evans, T.D.

WE have not a great deal to record, and, at the moment, nowhere to record from. Our barracks—a relic of the Napoleonic wars—have been in the hands of the housebreakers and builders for several months, after being for 100 years and more in the hands of the dry-rot bug or bacillus. The War Office set out to repair and renovate the Orderly Room, Company Offices and Officers' Mess, but so great have been the ravages of this dry-rot, that the greater part of the woodwork throughout the building had to be cut out and replaced, and the original estimate has been exceeded by at least 150 per cent. The renovation has not been without its humorous side—though it is doubtful whether our Permanent Staff has been able to appreciate the humour. There have been incidents which have had a distinct Heath Robinson touch about them, such as the exposure of the bath of one of the Permanent Staff through the entire disappearance of the room in which it once reposed, and the fact that the fireplace of another of our Permanent Staff was found to be borne by a beam which was in such an advanced state of decomposition that it resembled the portion of earth in any dank wood. This is no exaggeration. It has been said we were fortunate that the building had not fallen down. We wonder! The remodelled Headquarters, however, will be a great improvement; we shall have separate Company Offices and considerably more elbow room than we have had in the past.

The generous assistance of the Surrey Territorial Army Association has enabled us to furnish what has for years been euphemistically called the Men's Canteen at the Barracks. It has, however, never "canted," but we hope it will shortly. The Institute and Club is over half a mile from the Barracks, and it has been found that after parades men have been disinclined to walk this distance, and there has been nothing for them to do in the nine months wet and three months rainy weather which make up the English climate, the barrack precincts having been most uninviting, and, we believe, a deterrent to recruiting. Now we are a little more hopeful. Numbers, though still far from satisfactory, have improved, and we are now over 300 other ranks for the first time for over two years.

We have purchased some equipment for fencing and bayonet fighting, and present signs point to both becoming popular.

A Billiard Tournament is being fought out—the first we have ever held. They are apt to drag on unduly, but we hope to finish some day. A certain amount of hidden talent (or is it vice?) has been discovered. It is a sporting event, however, as may be judged by the remark of a sergeant to an officer he had just beaten by 100 to 9: "What a pity you are out of practice, sir!"

At Easter we were all busy. As many of our specialists who could get away for four days proceeded to Shorncliffe, where they were the guests of the South Staffords. The training was sound, and all ranks enjoyed and profited by it. Work commenced each day at 8.45 a.m. and continued, with the usual breaks, until 4 p.m. The representatives of one battalion, we understand, were for going on

until 7 p.m. on Easter Sunday, and this at a time when another section of the population were voting for a six-hour working day! It is gratifying to learn that owing to sound preliminary training of Signallers not much flag drill had to be performed, and more attention could consequently be given to the more technical side of the work. The Machine Gunners were exercised in taking guns into action from limbers, first as drill and later in tactical exercises. Our specialists speak in glowing terms of the knowledge and patience of the instructors, as well as of the camp and the hospitality of their hosts.

A musketry camp was "on tap" for the four days at Marden Park, and we made a good start with the new musketry course, completing about a third of those who have to fire. The course is a good one and not as difficult as it appeared.

The Annual Prize Distribution was held at the Drill Hall in the Barracks on April 11th. The prizes were presented by Major-General A. G. Wauchope, C.B., C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., who was supported by Col. Lord Roundway, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and, as the papers would say, a large and distinguished company. We were pleased to see so many representatives from the Regiment, Lieut.-Col. H. N. A. Hunter, D.S.O., and Capt. R. H. Philpot, M.C., of the 2nd Battalion, Capt. A. C. W. Upton and R. H. Dorman-Smith, of the 5th Battalion, and Lieuts. G. V. Palmer and H. E. Wilson, of the Depot, honouring us with their presence, and seeing that all these officers travelled anything from eighty to 150 miles or more to attend, we doubly appreciate their action, if that were possible. We only regret that owing to our small numbers we were not able to look after them as we should have wished.

The Commanding Officer, in his remarks (for the length of which he humbly apologizes) mentioned that the Colours had just been received back with the Battle Honours embroidered upon them—the latter a gift from the wives of past Honorary Colonels and Commanding Officers, and took the opportunity of publicly thanking them for their gift. He also announced that Dr. J. M. Newnham, O.B.E., LL.D., D.L., Deputy-Lieutenant of Surrey, had consented to become the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, in place of Lord Ashcombe—who, it will be remembered, resigned towards the end of last year—subject to the approval of the War Office.

The evening (after this) was a very enjoyable one, and terminated with a dance, and the stone floor of the Drill Hall did not deter the large company from venturing.

The decorations were very kindly loaned to us by H.M.S. *Excellent*, to whom we tender our most grateful thanks.

We again sent a team to compete in the Divisional Cross-Country Run. Although the scores are not known to us, we believe we took third place—there were more than three teams, six in fact. We were without Mr. P. H. Clark, our South London Harrier expert, who last year dead-heated for first place. The run took place on Saturday, April 14th, at Tonbridge, and the teams were started by the Divisional Commander.

"D" COMPANY NOTES.

We look forward with every confidence to the future!

Forcibly so, as things have been none too easy since last camp, and the present has, hence, presented a not too rosy appearance.

We have lost some whom we could ill-afford to do without, and here particular mention must be made of Cpl. Pretious and his brother—Pte. Pretious. The former had rendered yeoman work to the Company, and the latter promised

remarkably well. Business requirements, however, had the first call, and so "D" Company is the loser.

The attendance at parades of non-commissioned officers in general has not been good, and we—well, it is not wise to threaten, but we look for an early improvement.

Congratulations to Cpl. Yeates and L./Cpl. Marsh on their promotion. There is plenty of scope in the Company for the keen worker, and we want those who "feel the call" to take the above to heart.

Our good wishes follow Lieut. Theweneti, who has left for Calcutta.

Prize Distribution is upon us, but "D" Company again does not scintillate. It is all very well, when being taunted with our lack of success, to reply, "We are not pot-hunters," but the writer *knows* that the lowly position occupied in competitions is due to the general slackness of some members of the Company who should set an example.

Anent which it would behove some of us to act on the recommendation of a well-known character of Dickens, *i.e.*, "When seen, to be made a note of." *Verb. sap.*

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The Annual Children's Party was held at the Barracks during January, and was again a huge success. It seemed hardly possible that the members could have so many children, but we now understand what they (the members) do in their spare time, and why their visits to the Mess are so few.

One could not but admire the impartiality of the organizers in treating all the children alike, which led to the writer's son, aged four months, receiving one apple, one orange and a bag of sweets, which his mother duly confiscated.

Two interesting events have occurred during the half-year. The first is the arrival into the world of E. A. R. Organ, son of C.S.M. Organ. It has been said that the youngster is like his father, but he may grow out of that. We congratulate the happy parents, and wish young Organ all the best.

Secondly, Sergt. Friend has received a life sentence and joined the noble army of benedicts. As, however, his jailer is Miss Dolly Light, daughter of the famous "Kid" Light, Billy prefers captivity to freedom. Our best wishes are conveyed to the happy pair, and we hope that they have taken due note of the paragraph above.

The less said about our Badminton match with the officers, the better. One of our players was obsessed with the idea that his racquet was a shovel, and for future matches the umpire will be provided with a fencing mask. Still, it was a very enjoyable evening, and we hope that we shall have an opportunity of getting our revenge in some other sphere of sport.

FOOTBALL, 1927-28.

The Battalion have had a fairly successful season in the Surrey Junior League. Several new players of promise have joined the club.

In the Territorial Army Cup we once again reached the divisional final, but after a hard game were beaten by the odd goal by our old opponents, the 4th Royal Sussex Regiment. Every effort will be made to regain the cup this year.

OFFICIALS, 1927-28.

Captain, Sergt. Friend. Vice-Captain, R.S.M. Hart. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, C.Q.M.S. White

KANDAHAR, 1879-80

BY MAJOR-GEN. SIR E. F. O. HAMILTON, K.C.B.

IN the last issue of the Journal I brought my narrative up to July 28th, 1880, on which date we received the first news of what I described in my diary as a "terrible disaster" to our Brigade, under Brig.-General Burrows, which had been dispatched to the Helmund to assist the Wali.

On the night of July 27th, as the weather was very warm, General Primrose, Major Burnett, A.A.G., and myself were sleeping on the flat roof of our house. At about 2 a.m. I was aroused by the sound of voices, and soon realized that something very serious had happened. The first accounts were very alarming, and it really seemed that there was little chance of anyone on foot escaping, and this must account for a telegram sent to India by the Q.M.G. that the Brigade had been "annihilated." The Q.M.G. dispatched this on his own responsibility, and there was some trouble about it later on. I was informed that the news had been brought into Kandahar by a veterinary officer by name Burrows, who had ridden in with a small body of cavalry from Maiwand.

Orders were at once issued for the evacuation of cantonments and for a concentration in the Citadel at the northern end of Kandahar. The telegraph line to India remained open till noon on the 28th, and then all communication by this means ceased.

And now I cannot do better than quote from the *Kandahar News* of August 9th its account of the Battle of Maiwand:—

"On the 26th July, the British force was encamped at Kushki-i-Nakood. Intelligence was received late in the afternoon that about 200 Ghazis had entered Maiwand, about 11 miles off, and that Goormawak had been occupied in force. The same day a spy had brought in word that the Pass of Malmoond, by which it was supposed Ayoub's army would advance, was not occupied by the enemy. To clear Maiwand of the Ghazis and anticipate Ayoub's arrival there, the British camp was struck and the troops marched off between 6 and 7 a.m. on 27th July in that direction. About 9 a.m. the enemy was reported between Goormow and Maiwand, about five miles off, and this was soon confirmed by the presence of large bodies of men on the plain at the foot of the Maiwand Hills.

"A reconnaissance was made, but owing to haze and mirage it was impossible to ascertain the composition or strength of the opposing force.

"The British force then advanced, guns and cavalry leading the way across a passable nullah, infantry following and the baggage in rear.

"The first move on our part was made by 2 guns R.H.A., under Lieut. MacLaine, and a troop of cavalry pushing rapidly forward and coming into action well in front of our extreme left. The remainder of the force formed line about a mile in advance of the nullah, the 66th Regiment on the right, 5 companies Jacob's Rifles in the centre, 1st Bombay Grenadiers next, and two more companies Jacob's Rifles on the left, 8 guns in the centre, 2 on the left, and 2 with the baggage guard. The guns were subsequently manœuvred to check the advance of the enemy at the threatened points. The fire of the two advanced guns was not replied to for about half an hour, thus giving the impression that the enemy's guns had not come up, but about 11.30 a.m. upwards of 30 guns opened fire, battery after battery coming into action at five points, and, concentrating their fire on the British line, kept up a heavy cannonade for over 3 hours.

"The enemy's first movement was an advance of thousands of Ghazis on the British right and an attempt to occupy the village in our rear. This was checked

KANDAHAR, 1880.

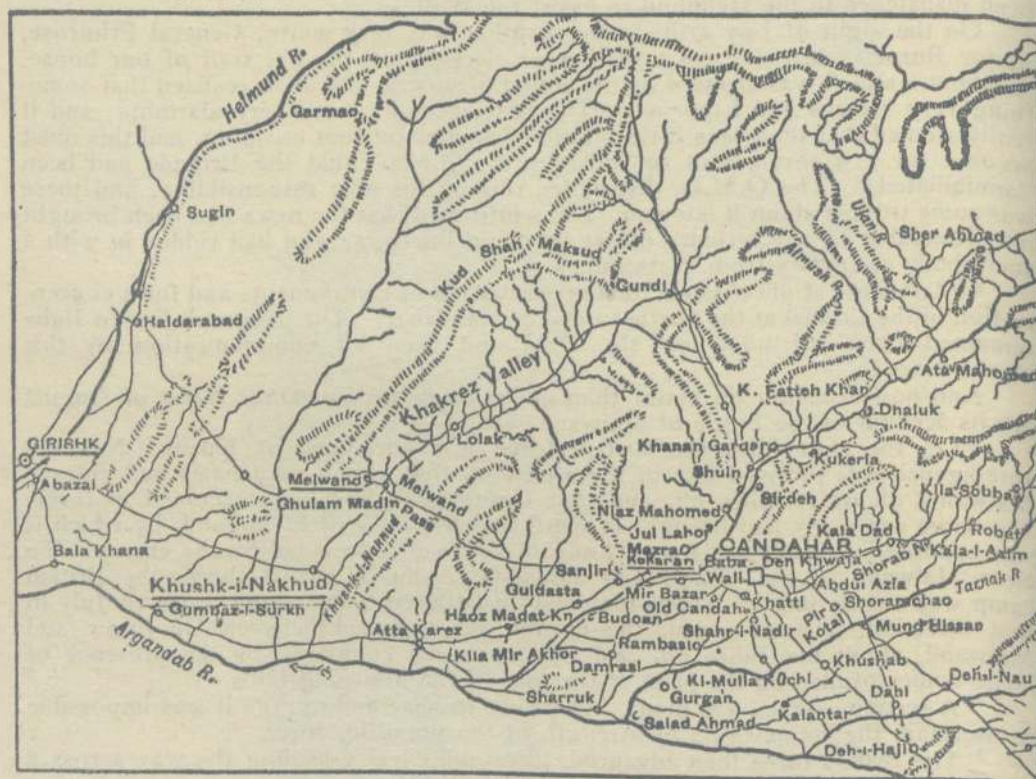


THE CITADEL, FACING TOPKHANA SQUARE.

by the fire of the 66th Regiment. They then advanced their right, composed of regular infantry, and overlapped our left with their cavalry.

"The Afghan Regulars were driven back by volleys from the Grenadiers and their cavalry held in check by ours. About 2 p.m., the Smooth Bore Battery, having expended its ammunition, retired to replenish and shortly afterwards came into action on our left. Between 2 and 3 p.m. the enemy's fire weakened.

CANDAHAR AND GIRISHK.



From "The Times" of Wednesday, September 8th, 1880. Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor.

"Shortly after 3 p.m. swarms of Ghazis, with innumerable banners of all colours, rushed down on our centre, and notwithstanding the steady fire of our infantry and the murderous discharges of grape from the 9-pr. guns, which mowed them down by hundreds, they were not to be denied and two of our guns were rushed and taken.

"At this moment our infantry (Jacob's Rifles) broke from the left and centre, and, retiring along the rear, rolled up the remainder like a wave to the right. The Grenadiers endeavoured to form square, but could only manage to get into a 'V' shape. The 66th were so mobbed by the Rifles and some of the Grenadiers that they became an inextricable mass on the right.

"All efforts to restore order were unavailing, and the only hope lay in a cavalry charge across the front to enable the infantry to reform, but owing to the terrible artillery fire to which the cavalry had been exposed and from which it had suffered very severely, it was impossible to form them up for a charge. The rout now became general, and harrowing are the accounts of the retreat to Kandahar, a distance of some 40 miles from the battlefield, and without water for the first 25 miles.

"The enemy did not follow far, but the villagers were up and cut down or shot all who left the line of retreat in search of water. The enemy later acknowledged to a loss of 3,000 killed and 1,500 wounded."

The evacuation of cantonments was carried out and completed on July 28th, and everyone was located in the Citadel, which is completely shut off from the rest of the town. Later on it was realized that the evacuation of cantonments had been unnecessarily hasty, and had it been more deliberate it would have been possible to have spared some transport to save the contents of the only store in the place, which had been opened by an enterprising Parsee firm from India. As it was, the cantonments were looted after evacuation, and all the European stores were lost. The total casualties amounted to: Killed, 20 officers 950 men, and 201 horses; wounded, 8 officers, 160 men, and 68 horses.

When the troops gave way, the dhooly-bearers, who should have carried the wounded, naturally bolted, and this accounts for the numbers killed being out of all proportion to the wounded. General Burrows had two horses shot under him, and his Brigade Major was killed at his side and his D.A.Q.M.G. wounded. The greater part of the camp equipment, baggage, reserve ammunition, Rs60,000 of treasure, and 2,000 transport animals fell into the hands of the enemy.

A small force of the three arms was sent out at daybreak on July 28th, under Brig.-General Brooke, along the Kokeran Road to keep it open and the villagers in check, and thus assist those retreating from Maiwand. All day long officers and men kept dribbling into Kandahar, and it was a pitiable sight to see some of the wounded. Major Iredell, of Jacob's Rifles, was riding on a pony with his leg, shattered by a shell below the knee, fastened to the stirrup leather.

General Primrose decided to hold the City of Kandahar and not confine our defence to the Citadel only, though the troops now available were insufficient to repel any determined assault. The perimeter to be guarded extended for over 6,000 yards, and we only had about 2,000 infantry to hold it. The troops were told off as follows:—

Eadgah Front.—1,178 yards, 400 men.

Herat Front.—1,987 yards, 500 men.

Shikapore Front.—1,800 yards, 400 men.

Cabul Front.—1,700 yards, 500 men.

Charsoo Front.—1st Reserve, 200 men.

Topkhana Square.—2nd Reserve, 100 men.

"The 29th was a very hot and busy day," to quote from my diary. "The troops were on the ramparts all day. It was decided to turn all Pathans out of the city, and about 5,000, mostly women and children, left during the day, also about 1,000 animals. A 9-pr. gun was mounted over the Eadgah Gate and a 40-pr. on one of the bastions in the Citadel. Picket Hill was covered with people most of the day, and a cavalry patrol that went out in the morning was fired on. No news of Ayoub. Some of the enemy's cavalry appeared in the evening, but dispersed on our cavalry turning out."

July 30th.—"A quiet day. Troops were told off to certain positions on the city walls and a Brigadier-General to be on duty daily. Some enclosures in front of

the Herat Gate were demolished. A 40-pr. gun was mounted on the south-west corner bastion. Plenty of wells containing excellent water were found in the city. The place is getting more settled. Rode with the General in the evening to the Herat Gate. Saw Surg.-Major Preston. He is getting on very well."

July 31st.—"Some cavalry appeared north-east of Citadel, behind the village of Kairabad. Three companies of 28th Bombay Infantry, with some Poona Horse, attacked the Ziarat near the village and turned the enemy out, killing about 50. Our casualties 1 man killed and 2 wounded of 28th N.I. Working parties busy all day knocking down walls and enclosures outside the gates."

August 1st.—"Rode with the General to Cabul Gate, where the Royal Fusiliers are doing good work. Went to see Colonel Anderson and Lynch (66th Regiment). A recruit of 30th N.I. (Jacob's Rifles) got back to Kandahar to-day. He reports the enemy in great force beyond Picket Hill. A messenger was dispatched to Chaman with letters and telegrams. [*Note.*—This man never turned up at Chaman, and we afterwards heard he went straight to Ayoub's camp.]"

August 2nd.—"A fatigue party was sent out to destroy the wall of the garden near the south-west bastion. The covering party was composed of men of the Royal Fusiliers and 28th N.I. A constant fire was kept up on them from the village opposite the Shikapore Gate and other enclosures. As cover was good, little damage was done."

August 3rd.—"Working party employed demolishing the Camel Lines. Fire kept from our old house and from Cantonments. Native officer of 3rd Cavalry wounded. No reliable news to-day. Our wounded officers are getting on well. Rode with the General round walls and visited gates and bastions."

August 4th.—"Working parties in front of Durani Gate. Boteler (R.E.) is making a wire entanglement all along the faces, and abattis placed in front of each gate. Very quiet all day. We expect an attack to-morrow."

August 6th.—"No attack took place yesterday, but there was an alarm last night. At 3 a.m. the General went round the ramparts and visited the supports on the Charsoo and Topkhana square. A sepoy of the 1st Grenadiers was hoisted over the south-west bastion. He reports Ayoub's arrival here to-day, and says there are British officers and men prisoners in the camp. Saw some tents pitched to the right of Picquet Hill. Working parties in front of Shikapore Gate. De Trafford, of the Royal Fusiliers, wounded in the leg. We shelled a village 900 yards from Shikapore Gate."

And here I may mention the general measures taken for the defence of the city.

Strong guards at the gates and a few sentries along the walls during the day, with reinforcements ready to turn out at a moment's notice, sleeping on the walls at night. The gateways were blocked with sandbags and the sentries doubled.

Fire balls, live shells, blue lights and torches were kept ready at each gate in case of a night attack, which was considered not improbable, as the enemy was known to have constructed a considerable number of long scaling ladders. Every day the defences within were strengthened and obstacles and outside cover removed. Water channels through the walls were stopped up, a large charge of powder being so placed that the removal of a certain sandbag from the outside would cause an explosion, blowing out the intruder and warning the garrison.

August 7th.—"At 1 p.m. to-day we opened fire on Ayoub's camp with the 40-pr. Armstrong gun. The first two shells plumped right down amongst the tents and burst beautifully. Range about 3,000 yards. We roused them up with a vengeance and they came swarming out of their tents like ants. We saw them take away 10 guns.

"Adam (Q.M.G.) received a letter from Colonel Tanner from Khelat-i-Ghilzai. They have heard reports there of our being shut up, but they don't believe them."

August 8th.—"This morning we were roused by a shell from Picquet Hill, the first the enemy has fired. One burst just outside the north-east bastion when I was there. About five fell into the Citadel during the morning, but no damage was done. The gun on Picquet Hill is a 12-pr. breech-loading rifled gun. The range is about 2,300 yards to the nearest point of the Citadel. Our 40-pr. made good practice, but can't get at the gun. A shell burst this evening in the 3rd Cavalry Lines and killed two horses."

August 9th.—"More shells from Picquet Hill, but no damage to anyone. It is wonderful how the men escape, as all the shells fell inside. The Citadel is divided off into so many squares that the fragments cannot fly far. We shelled Deh Kojah in the middle of the day. Two mortars, one 40-pr. and two 9-prs. were blazing into it for about an hour, but with little effect. Several people left it in the evening. Adam dispatched a messenger to Chaman. I doubt if he will get there."

August 10th.—"Rode with the General to south-east bastion, outside which a party was demolishing walls. During the night a gun has been placed in the village near the Shikapore Gate, and three shells were fired from it. One burst unpleasantly close to our heads as we were standing in the bastion."

Note.—Some years after this I was inspecting signallers at Roorkee, in India, where I met again Colonel Hornsby, who had commanded the heavy battery in Kandahar. The mortars were firing shells, or bombs, into the village above mentioned on the day that the General and I were on the ramparts. Hornsby asked me if I remembered the premature burst of one of his bombs over us on that day. Till then I had never known that it was one of our own shells that had burst "unpleasantly close."

August 11th.—"A messenger arrived from General Phayre with a letter dated 2nd August. It informed us that two strong brigades were being formed in the Pisheen Valley for our relief. There was another letter, however, for Colonel St. John (Political Officer) brought by the same messenger and dated 7th August in which it was stated that General Roberts was to leave Kabul that day with a strong Division, so we may expect him at the end of the month."

August 12th.—"The working party outside south-west bastion was fired at as usual. Colonel Hill's (R.E.) orderly was shot as he was standing behind him, also a man of the Royal Fusiliers. Several shells came from Picquet Hill. One fell just over the wall of our square and burst next door, doing no damage to anyone."

SORTIE OF AUGUST 16TH.

The following is part of a letter written by me from Kandahar on August 21st, 1880:—

"On the evening of 15th August it was decided to make a sortie on the following morning and attack the village of Deh Khojah, which is situated about 1,000 yards from the E. face of the City and opposite the Kabul and Durani Gates. The attack was to take place early. The cavalry was ordered to issue by the Fadgah Gate at 4.30 a.m. and make their way round to the rear of the village and await the infantry attack, which was ordered to take place at 5 a.m. Brigadier-General Brooke had command of the Force, consisting of 300 men Royal Fusiliers under Lieut.-Colonel Daubeny, 250 men of the 19th N.I. under Lieut.-Colonel Heathcote, 250 men of 28th N.I. under Colonel Nimmo.

"The cavalry (300 sabres) were commanded by Colonel Nuttall. The artillery on the E. face had orders to open fire before the infantry advanced. At 4.45 a.m. the first gun was fired from the bastion over the Kabul Gate, and for about 20 minutes three 9-prs., two mortars and the 40-pr. on the S.E. Bastion, kept up an incessant fire on the place. As most of us expected, there was very little result from the artillery fire. No notice was taken of it in the village. The infantry then advanced from the Kabul gate, the Royal Fusiliers and some of the 19th N.I. leading in extended order, the 28th N.I. in Reserve. Directly our men appeared a heavy fire was opened on them from the village. Very little cover remained between the City and Deh Khojah, as we ourselves had destroyed most of it. Very few men appeared to be hit on the way out, although we could see the ground in all directions being struck by bullets.

"The Royal Fusiliers soon disappeared into the village, and the Reserve of the 28th N.I. shortly afterwards was pushed forward about half-way.

"It was soon evident that the village was held in much greater force than was at first supposed, and from the surrounding villages large bodies of armed men were seen making their way to the village. Just at this time our cavalry did good service, although the ground they had to work over was as bad as could be. It was a hazy morning and the smoke from the guns was hanging about. A large body of Ghazis came up from the south, evidently intending to get into Deh Khojah and attack our men from the rear. They did not see our cavalry and one company of the 19th N.I. till they got within 200 yards of them. The sepoys fired two volleys into them and the cavalry charged, doing great execution. We were very anxious to know how things were going in the village when General Brooke's Brigade-Major rode in to say that the General found the place very strongly held and that he must either have more troops or retire. General Primrose then sent him orders to retire.

"In the meantime, as we afterwards learnt, General Brooke sent a note to General Nuttall asking him to cover the retreat of the infantry through the Kabul Gate, but before the infantry were out of the village the cavalry were seen returning towards the City.

"They suffered severely whilst coming in, several sowars being hit when close up to the gate. Unfortunately the retirement of the cavalry enabled men from other villages to get into Deh Khojah, and our fellows inside got surrounded. All this time wounded men were being carried into the Citadel.

"Colonel Shewell, Commissariat Department, was one of the first. He had gone out with a Dhooly about 150 yards from the gate, when he was shot through the leg. He is going on all right. I began to think we had seen the last of our men in the village and that they could not get out. Suddenly we saw a rush from the south end of the village, and recognized some of the Fusiliers and Sepoys running out. They were closely pursued by men carrying a standard. I was just then standing by the 9-pr. which was laid on the place out of which our men were running. I warned the sergeant not to fire till our men were out of the way, but when the standard appeared I told him to let drive. The gun had too much elevation and the shell just passed over a lot of Afghans. However, they did not come much farther, as we had kept up a hot fire from the ramparts. The greater part of the Fusiliers, under Colonel Daubeney, went right through the village and out the north end of it. We suffered very severely, especially in officers. General Brooke was shot dead whilst leaving the village and when helping along Captain Cruickshank, R.E., who was badly wounded and who had since died of his wounds. Trench and Stayner, of the 19th N.I., both killed close to the village, Marsh of the Royal Fusiliers shot whilst helping young Wood, of his regiment, who was severely wounded and who died as he was being carried in. Colonel

KANDAHAR, 1880.



THE SIGNAL TOWER.

Newport, 28th N.I., shot whilst with the reserve. Major Vandeleur, Royal Fusiliers, and the Rev. Gordon severely wounded, both since dead. Colonel Nimmo (28th N.I.), Colonel Malcolmson (Scinde Horse), Lieut. Wood (Transport Department) and Captain Conolly (Royal Fusiliers), all wounded.

"We were looking on from the Kabul Gate the whole time. I only had to go out once, with an order to Colonel Heathcote, who was commanding the Reserve about 300 yards from the gate, and order him to retire. I went out on foot as it was so close. The general feeling here is that the attack on the village was useless, and although a good number of the enemy were killed, still the loss to us of 8 officers killed and 6 wounded is considerable. Poor Stayner, of the 19th N.I., was attached to my regiment for a year when we were at Poona. It is hard to realize so many friends gone in a month—28 officers in all.

"The 17th and 18th August passed very quietly, no firing from Picquet Hill. A letter was received from Ayoub Khan, in which he says Lieut. MacLaine, of the Horse Artillery, is a prisoner and is well treated. We are going to try and make an exchange, as we have a prisoner here who is rather a swell."

August 21st.—"Yesterday morning the gun at Picquet Hill began firing again. There were also some shots from the village near to the Shikapore Gate. At dinner last night I saw something that looked like a fire balloon rise up from the hills towards the south, and we thought it might be a signal from General Phayre. There has been no news of him since the 11th. All our wounded are doing well."

August 22nd.—"We saw another light last night, but it appeared much nearer and I think must be sent up from some of the villages. The General visited the wounded in hospital this morning—all doing well, with very few exceptions."

August 25th.—"Yesterday a movement was observed in Ayoub's camp, and bodies of men were seen going along the road towards Kokeran. It was so hazy that it was hard to see what was going on, but it looked like a break up of the camp. About noon a man was taken into the City over the south-west bastion. He was a spy that Colonel St. John had dispatched from Kushki Nakhud to obtain information of Ayoub's movements before the Battle of Maiwand. He said he was taken prisoner and was unable to make his escape till yesterday, when, in the confusion arising during the movement of Ayoub's camp, he managed to slip away. He said Ayoub received information the night before of General Roberts' arrival at Kelat-i-Ghilzai, and that was the reason for the move of camp. Colonel St. John sent a man out in the afternoon, and he reported the camp empty and that Ayoub had moved to Babawallee, in the Urgandah Valley. The village of Deh Khojah is also empty. We don't know Ayoub's intention, but he may try and slip past General Roberts, who comes down the valley of the Tarnac."

August 26th.—"Yesterday, Adam (Q.M.G.), with a party of the Poona Horse, went out to reconnoitre. They found cantonments deserted. They rode round Picquet Hill and found the gun had been removed, but a strong picquet of cavalry and infantry at Babawallee Pass. Our garden was visited and everything there was in great disorder. Pictures on the wall had been torn down and all the windows smashed. In the afternoon I accompanied a party to Deh Khojah to bury the dead that had been lying there since the sortie and also to search the village to forage. It is 10 days since the fight, and the bodies, of course, could scarcely be recognized. We found General Brooke, Captain Cruickshank and a colour-sergeant of the Royal Fusiliers lying close together outside the village. All the bodies were collected, the Europeans buried in one grave and the natives in another. Many of the sepoy had been decapitated and their heads lying about.

I rode through the village, which is a very large one with narrow lanes running in all directions. I did not see many houses loop-holed, but it was easy to understand how helpless troops might be in such a place. The entrances to the houses were very small. We found any amount of Bhoosa and a house full of melons. I had two orderlies with me and made them take in four large ones, and I ate half a one myself on the spot and found it delicious. Most of the rooms have tykanas, or rooms underground, which accounts for the people not minding our fire. The commissariat are at work to-day getting in the Bhoosa, and the cavalry regiments have sent all their ponies out for the same purpose. Ayoub is encamped in the Urgandah Valley, and we can see his picquets on the hills in front of the Babawallee Pass. Report says he is anxious to retreat to Girishk, but the Kabulee regiments won't let him. Major Vandeleur—7th Fusiliers—died yesterday. He was badly wounded in the sortie and it was found necessary to amputate his arm. He died after the operation."

September 1st, about 7 a.m.—"General Roberts arrived two days ago, long before he was expected. There was a reconnaissance yesterday and Ayoub is to be attacked to-day. We take part in the attack, and I hope we shall do well and that I may be able to report a victory to-morrow."

September 2nd.—"We had a glorious day yesterday. Ayoub was quite smashed up, at least he has bolted, leaving all his guns and camp in our hands. As I anticipated, the Bengal troops took all the fighting. General Roberts certainly brought down a splendid force. The first news we got of his approach was on 27th August. I had ridden out to Deh Khojah that morning, and on my return was told at the Kabul Gate that General Roberts' advanced guard was in sight. I did not believe it, for General Roberts was not expected for another week. I went at once to the signal tower, and from there saw the heliograph flashing from Robat direction. We were soon informed that General Gough, Commanding Cavalry, and Colonel Chapman, Chief of the Staff, were at Robat, 17 miles from here, and that General Roberts was in communication with them 18 miles farther back. Colonel St. John (Political Officer) and Major Adam at once rode out to communicate with General Gough. We were surprised when we heard the strength of General Roberts' force, which consisted of 3 European and 10 Native Infantry Regiments, 3 Native Cavalry Regiments, and 3 Batteries of Mountain Guns. The whole Division marched in here on 31st August, coming south of the City. The General and I rode out to meet General Roberts. After a short halt the advanced brigade pushed on and took possession of the ground in front of, and beyond, Picquet Hill without opposition. The two other brigades then advanced and camped near our old cantonments. General Roberts fixed his Headquarters in the Engineer's garden. In the evening a reconnaissance was ordered towards Pir Paimal, a large hill north-west of Picquet Hill. The ground between Picquet Hill and Pir Paimal is very much enclosed, there being several large walled gardens on it and a village on rising ground close to the latter hill. The reconnoitring regiments were soon engaged with the enemy near the gardens, and numbers of Afghans began to stream through the Babawallee Pass towards the firing. The cavalry retired first, and, as the enemy were in considerable strength, a regiment of Goorkhas and the 60th Rifles were ordered to support the 15th Sikhs, who were rather closely pressed. Major Burnett and I had gone out in the afternoon to watch operations and had posted ourselves on Karez Hill, to the left of Picquet Hill, with a company of 60th Rifles. The Afghans had by this time opened fire with four guns from the Babawallee Pass, and shells were flying about, some over the hill and some in front of it, but no one was hurt. They had another gun on Pir Paimal. The firing ceased as it got dark, and the reconnoitring troops returned to camp."

THE BATTLE OF KANDAHAR.

The following account is taken from the *Kandahar News* :—

"At 6 a.m. on the 1st September the Generals Commanding and principal Staff Officers of the Kabul and Kandahar Forces were assembled at General Roberts' Headquarters at the Sapper Garden, and the proposed plan of attack was explained to them as follows :—

"A strong body of infantry of the Kandahar Force to hold the right of Picquet Hill while two 40-prs. engaged the guns on the Babawallee Pass so as to keep in check the enemy in the pass and on the hills. The cavalry of the Kandahar Force to watch the Murcha Pass and support the infantry. E/B.R.H.A. and six companies of infantry to occupy the village of Gundegan and the adjoining hills while General Gough with the cavalry of the Kabul Force worked down past them to the Argandab River to cut off the enemy's retreat. The three brigades of the Kabul Force to be massed in rear of Picquet Hill and to deliver the real attack by clearing the gardens and storming the village of Gundi Mulla Sahibdad in front. Then turn the corner of Pir Paimal and take the Babawallee Kotal in rear, and the enemy's position at Muzra in flank. The programme was carried out exactly. The troops of the Kandahar Force under General Burrows took up their positions about 8.30 a.m., the 40-prs. at the north end of Picquet Hill, four companies 2/7th Royal Fusiliers and 19th Native Infantry behind the walls of the Cavalry Lines, the 4th Bombay Rifles in the Ghooka village, two companies 1st Grenadiers, four companies 66th Regiment and two companies 28th N.I. under Brig.-General Daubeny continuing the line to the left along Picquet Hill, Karez Hill to Chilzina.

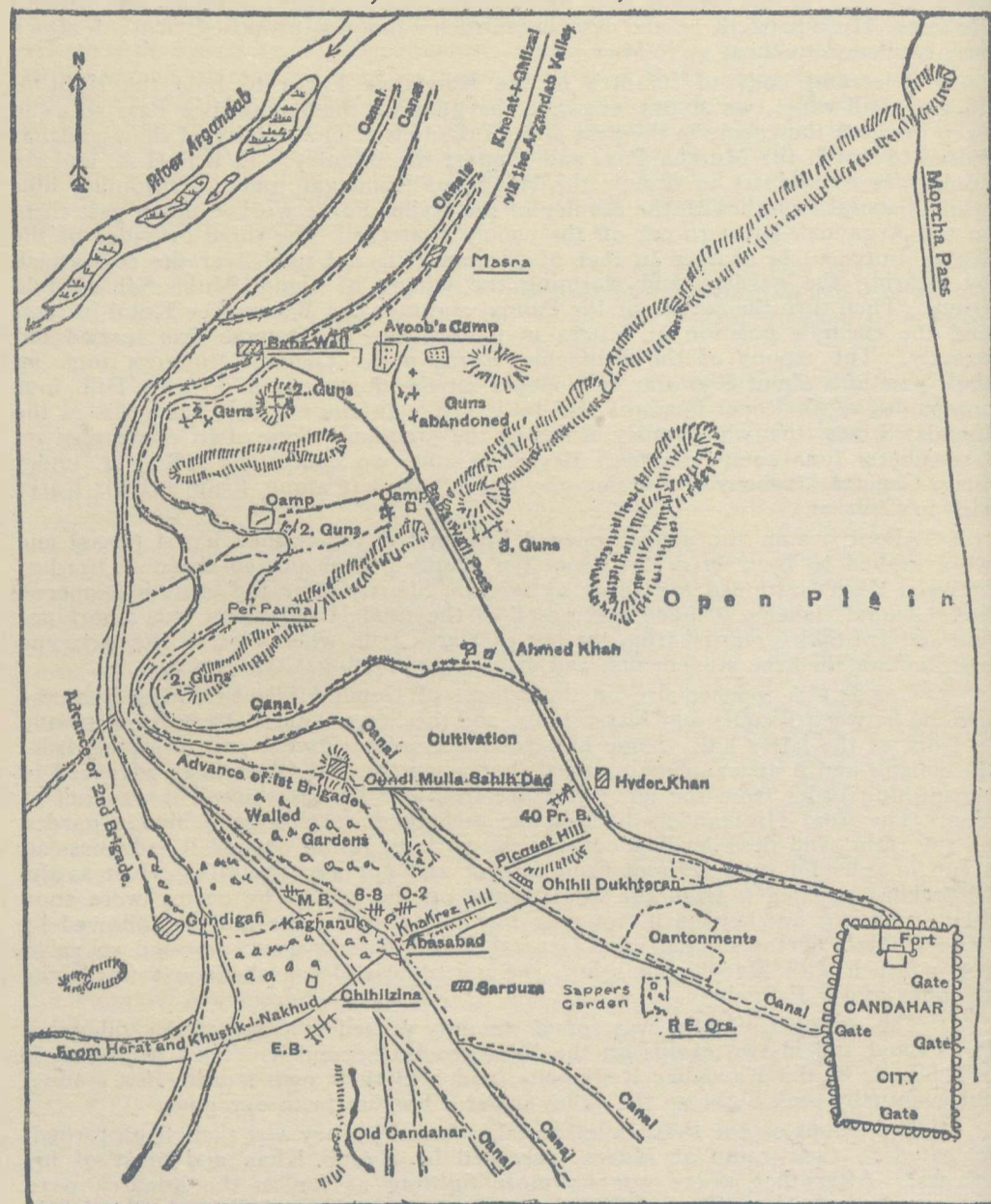
"About 9 a.m. the 40-prs. opened fire on the Babawallee Kotal (Pass) and were replied to by a brisk fire from the enemy's guns posted there. The duel between them continued for about 2½ hours. Shortly after the guns had opened fire, General Baker's Brigade, composed of the 72nd Highlanders, 5th Goorkhas, 2nd and 3rd Sikhs, started from the left of Karez Hill, whence Sir F. Roberts and his Staff watched the movements, and disappeared amongst the gardens.

"C/2 R.F.A. opened fire on the village of Gundi Mulla Sahibdad from the ground between Picquet and Karez Hills, and the Screw Gun Battery from ground in front of the latter hill. Some horsemen and infantry were seen creeping from the village and it appeared unoccupied, but when the 2nd Goorkhas advanced in skirmishing order from the left a hot fire from the houses showed it was full of men. The 92nd Highlanders had, in the meantime, formed up behind a garden on the right, and their leading companies, working round beyond it, advanced at a run in splendid style without firing a shot and got into the village just as the Goorkhas reached it from the low ground on the left. The enemy were soon seen streaming out beyond it, towards Pir Paimal, but were quickly followed by General MacPherson's men, and, General Baker having worked round so as to get in touch with MacPherson's left, the united brigades pushed on towards the shoulder of Pir Paimal.

"The enemy's infantry was found strongly posted in front of the village of Pir Paimal and in two camps on the level ground beyond it. They belonged, it is believed, to the Kandahar Regiments, and held their own steadily for a time, but eventually took flight up the valley under a hot fire from our guns.

"The troops on the Babawallee Kotal, as soon as they saw their flank turned, retreated to their camp at Muzra, preceded by Ayoub Khan and most of his officers. After that, there was no more fighting as far as the infantry were concerned, and when General Roberts arrived with the 3rd Brigade the battle was over.

SKETCH MAP TO ILLUSTRATE THE ACTION AT BABA WALI, SEPTEMBER 1, 1880.



Reproduced from "The Times" of October 15th, 1880, by kind permission of the Editor.

"About 11 a.m. the cavalry of the Kabul Force, under General Gough proceeded to Kokeran, and, crossing the Argandab River, pursued straggling parties of the enemy, accounting for about 300 of them, and returning to camp at nightfall via the Babawallee Pass. Their casualties were 2 officers and 12 men wounded.

"At 2.30 p.m. the cavalry of the Kandahar Force, under General Nuttall, which was watching the Murcha Pass and the hills in front of Babawallee, pushed through the Babawallee Pass, which was deserted, and pursued the enemy for 15 miles up the Argandab River on its left bank, cutting up over 100 between the villages and the hills. Had it not been for the numerous orchards and gardens the enemy's losses would have been much heavier.

"The enemy's loss was estimated at about 500 killed and the same number wounded, not including those cut up by the cavalry. Thirty-one of Ayoub's guns were captured, and the whole of his camp equipment and a large quantity of ammunition.

"Our total casualties were as follows: Killed, 3 officers and 43 men; wounded, 11 officers and 189 men.

"The body of Lieut. MacLaine, Royal Horse Artillery, who was taken prisoner at Maiwand, was found with his throat cut lying on the road in front of his tent and scarcely cold, having been murdered by his guard."

Here ends the description of the battle as given in the *Kandahar News*, and I now return to my home letter for personal news and views of what took place:—

"On our way out from the Citadel to Cantonments the enemy's guns on Babawallee Pass opened fire and made a couple of good shots at us, the first just passing over our escort and the next about 80 yards short. No one was touched. General Primrose's Headquarters were at first on the roof of the Engineer's house, General Roberts' being on Karez Hill. We had a bad view of the commencement of the action, as Picquet Hill was between us and Babawallee Pass and the advance on Pir Paimal was hidden by Karez Hill. The enemy kept up a pretty constant fire on the Heavy Battery, for we saw shells falling all about the guns, but I believe there were no casualties. [Note.—No shrapnel was fired by the enemy.] There was sharp fighting between Karez Hill and Pir Paimal in the enclosed ground. When the village on our side of Pir Paimal was taken and set on fire, General Roberts went on, and we then moved to Karez Hill, where we had a better view. The enemy seemed to have begun to bolt about this time, for the guns on Babawallee Pass had nearly ceased firing altogether. About 1 p.m. we saw our Sepoys running along the top of the Pass, and afterwards General Ross heliographed from Babawallee: 'Enemy flying in all directions, some guns taken, amongst them our own: our troops entering enemy's camp.'

"This was great news, and I was sent to order our cavalry to cross the Babawallee Pass and try to cut off some of the stragglers. Poor MacLaine, who had been a prisoner since the fight at Maiwand, was found by our men with his throat cut. The brutes had just killed him before abandoning camp. The officers killed by the fight are few. I don't know what has become of Ayoub Khan. I hear there is a post to be sent off to-morrow, so I will get this away. The enemy's guns (31 in number) were all brought into the Fort to-day.

"They are, most of them, brass, but there are six breech-loading rifled ones. I attended the funeral of the officers and men killed in action yesterday. They were all buried in the cemetery outside the walls."

Nothing of any interest occurred during the remainder of our time in Kandahar. General Roberts' troops were moved by brigades back to India as soon as supplies could be collected for them at the different points between Kandahar and Quetta. General Phayre's Division arrived too late to take part in

the action of September 1st. The greater part of this division remained to garrison Kandahar when General Roberts' troops left.

On October 6th, 1880, in compliance with orders received from India, General Primrose and I left Kandahar on our way down, arriving in Bombay on October 30th. There I received orders to proceed to England, and left Bombay in the troopship *Jumna*, arriving at Portsmouth on December 9th, having been over seven years away on foreign service.

5th BATTALION

Headquarters: The Drill Hall, Guildford.

Honorary Colonel: Col. W. J. Perkins, C.M.G., T.D.

Commanding Officer: Bt. Col. H. H. M. Harris, T.D.

SINCE the last number of the Journal, little of note has happened to the Battalion.

The companies have been carrying on with their training, and most of them have concentrated on shooting in various miniature range competitions.

In the *Surrey Advertiser* Competition, "D" Company were fifth, but they had the satisfaction of beating both the Regular Depots competing, and were the first Territorial Army company. "C" Company were also above any other Territorial company. "D" Company have now won the Inter-Company Brigade Competition for six successive years. Our "C" Company was second, "B" fourth, and "A" fifth. A very satisfactory result.

Lieut.-Col. Harris has completed four years in command of the Battalion, and has been granted an extension of another year and promoted Brevet Colonel—a well-earned honour on which all ranks of the Battalion join in congratulating him.

Lieut. J. C. Courtney, on obtaining a Regular Army commission, has left us, and his place at Camberley has been taken by 2/Lieut. E. A. S. Butterworth.

Two more officers are now awaiting gazette, which will give us twenty-three officers, the highest of any unit in the Division.

We still want more men, but, now that the summer training season has started, expect to get them.

Cpts. R. H. Dorman-Smith and G. Ponsonby have qualified for promotion, coming out third and fifth respectively in a list of six Regular and twenty-nine other Territorial Army officers.

The companies have been left to record their own doings.

We like "C" Company Commander's new motto, which we believe means "Sufficiently cautious to be adequately chased."

"B" COMPANY—FARNHAM DETACHMENT.

A Shooting Competition was held on February 21st and 23rd. Good results were obtained, the winners being:—

Best Shot, Recruits.—Pte. E. Farrell.

Best Shot, Trained Men and Lance-Corporals.—L./Cpl. S. Bendall and Pte. J. H. Payne.

Best Shot, Corporals and Sergeants.—Sergt. F. Freemantle.

KANDAHAR, 1880.



HEADQUARTER HOUSE AND GARDEN.

A fancy dress dance was held in the Drill Hall on January 2nd. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Dorman-Smith, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by the members and company.

Two more dances were held on March 31st and April 7th.

Owing to the footballers in the Detachment having signed on for other clubs, it was found impossible to arrange a team for this season.

"C" COMPANY.

We are glad to be able to reassure the readers of this high-class journal that the Company is still obviously the best in the Battalion, if not the Brigade.

If we do not appear so good at sports, it is because our military ardour burns with such a pure bright flame.

We are apt to find the strain of being a model Company rather arduous work, but, after all, "Who dies? if England lives . . ." The strength of the Company has increased by 16 during the past year. Strength, April 1st, 1927—106; strength, April 1st, 1928—122.

The number of recruits raised during the year was 45, which is a slight improvement on previous years, but we still have plenty of room for the right type to come along.

The following details of a few of our numerous successes will no doubt cause much heart-searching and envy among our gallant, though inefficient, contemporaries.

SHOOTING.

The Company obtained the highest average for the annual range courses.

Once again the Company can congratulate itself on winning the Inter-Company Miniature Range Shoot.

Cup winners at the Company Rifle Meeting held at Westcott on October 30th, 1927:—

General Efficiency Cup. L./Cpl. E. Bryant.

Grand Aggregate Cup. Trained Men: L./Sergt. R. R. Buckler.

Application Cup.—Trained Men: Pte. C. Hazell. Recruits: Pte. J. Fairs and Pte. W. Grinstead.

Rapid Fire Cup.—Trained Men: L./Sergt. R. R. Buckler. Recruits: Boy E. Wright.

Snapshooting Cup.—Trained Men: L./Sergt. R. R. Buckler, Pte. C. Hazell, and L./Cpl. R. W. Miles.

Lewis Gun Cup.—Pte. J. T. Elstone.

Class "A."—L./Sergt. R. R. Buckler, score 52; Pte. C. Hazell, 49; L./Cpl. R. W. Miles, 46; Cpl. F. H. J. Pullan, 43; Sergt. W. Tubbs, 43; L./Sergt. C. H. Brown, 40.

Class "B."—Pte. A. Fairs, score 35; Pte. J. Hooper, 30; Pte. J. Robins, 29; Pte. R. M. Turner, 24; Pte. G. Poulter, 24; Pte. J. Ritchie, 23.

Boys.—Boy C. M. Cottrell, score 21; Boy E. Wright, 20.

Prize winners at the Christmas Prize Shoot, held at Guildford on the Miniature Range:—

Class "A."—Sergt. H. V. Lindsay, score 37; Sergt. J. Ellsey, 37; Pte. R. Searle, 35; L./Sergt. R. R. Buckler, 35; L./Cpl. R. W. Miles, 35; R.Q.M.S. Blake, 35; Cpl. F. H. J. Pullan, 34; L./Sergt. C. H. Brown, 33.

Class "B."—Pte. F. Daborn, score 33; Pte. A. Fairs, 29; Pte. Pritchard, 28; Pte. C. Cooper, 28; Pte. J. Ritchie, 27; Pte. W. Young, 27; Pte. C. Ralf, 25.

Boys.—Boy F. Hedditch, score 20; Boy C. M. Cottrell, 18.

Honorary Members.—Mr. Searle, score 34; Mr. Hughes, 29.

SPORT.

Our Badminton Club, which commenced in January, is steadily improving, and we hope to entertain teams from other companies next season.

We trust that these details will spur our comrades in arms to fresh, though unavailing, efforts to pluck some of the numerous laurels from off our heads, which are somewhat bowed with the weight of so much well-merited success.

Finally, what we cannot do by merit, we accomplish by craft. Hence our motto:—

"Nisi Caste, Saltem Caute."

"D" COMPANY.

Cup winners at the Company Rifle Meeting held at Westcott on October 2nd, 1927:—

Company Challenge Cup.—Sergt. E. Keen.

Recruits' Challenge Cup.—Pte. G. Tarrant.

Rapid Firing Cup.—C.Q.M.S. J. Cox.

Lewis Gun Cup.—Cpl. L. Wigman.

A number of other prizes were awarded, and keen competition was shown in the various events.

Winners at the Christmas Prize Shoot held at Woking on December 19th and 22nd, 1927:—

1st Prize, Pte. H. Kite; 2nd prize, L./Cpl. A. Moorey.

Owing to the kindness of the local tradesmen, it was possible to award a prize to every competitor.

The prizes were distributed by the detachment Commander (2/Lieut. G. J. P. Saunders).

AWARDS OF SKILL-AT-ARMS BADGES.

Best Rifle Shot of Battalion—W.Os. Class 2 and Sergeants.—Sergt. E. Keen, score 111 (also Company Shot).

Best Lewis Gun Shot of Battalion—W.Os. Class 2 and Sergeants.—Sergt. E. Lawrence, score 63.

Company Lewis Gun Shot.—Cpl. L. Wigman, score 69.

C.S.M. G. E. Smith was awarded the T.A.R.A. Bronze Medal for third highest score in the Inter-Battalion Rifle Competition, fired at Lydden Spout, Dover, on August 4th, 1927.

At the Battalion Rifle Meeting, held at Camberley on September 11th, 1927, the following events were won by "D" Company:—

High Sheriff's Challenge Shield.

Lewis Gun Competition.

The Hartmann Shield.

Inter-Company Brigade Competition.

The Brigade Commander congratulated us on winning the latter event for the sixth year in succession, and also for making the highest score since the competition commenced.

WITH THE 2nd BATTALION, 1877-1890

(Continued from page 69, November Number, 1927.)

ON the outbreak of war with Afghanistan several of the regiments proceeding to the front passed through Bareilly, halting at the rest camp for a day. First the 85th, followed by the 92nd, then the 1/25th and later the 2/14th. The Sergeants' Mess entertained the sergeants of these regiments to breakfast or tiffin, and among our guests was Hector MacDonald then Canteen-Sergeant of the 92nd.

The first three regiments were old, well-seasoned Indian battalions that had been very slightly affected by the short-service system. They consisted mainly of old soldiers, and, as the beard was then commonly worn in India, they presented a very staid, mature appearance, the 92nd particularly so.

One of the results of the Afghan War was the universal adoption of khaki by British regiments. Previous to this its use had been confined to native regiments. There was no standard shade of khaki, and the colour varied from bright orange in one regiment to deep purple in another.

In our case two suits of white clothing per man were withdrawn from the kit and dyed under regimental arrangements. The dyeing was carried out by a native contractor, and with a view of uniformity a dyeing establishment was opened in the Regiment. The result was unfortunate. Native dyes were neither fast nor uniform, and the piebald appearance of the Battalion in khaki was distasteful to everyone. The difficulty was overcome by the men themselves. The dry earth supplied for sanitary purposes was mixed with water to the consistency of cream and rubbed well into the garments, which were then dried in the sun and afterwards beaten and brushed to remove as much of the earth as possible; when pressed under kit boxes and bed boards they presented a respectable appearance. The only drawback was that the mud remaining in the garments necessitated a bath two or three times a day, and constant changes of underclothing.

The cork helmets issued in Malta were found unsuitable for India, being too thin and giving little or no protection to the temples and back of the neck. They were condemned and the Indian pattern substituted. The latter consisted of a wicker framework covered with quilted cotton: an exterior cover of white drill, removable for washing, was also provided. When khaki was worn, a dyed cover was substituted for the white one. These helmets were light and gave good protection, but they were intensely ugly. The chief objection was that they formed a convenient nesting-place for that verminous insect sometimes called a "Norfolk Howard" but generally known as "bug."

The barracks in Bareilly, in common with most others in India, were infested with these pests. Bed planks, shelves and racks swarmed with them. The authorities recognized their presence, as "bug boilers" were provided in the lines, and an allowance of fuel sanctioned, so that the bed planks could be boiled at least once a quarter. This, with the liberal use of paraffin on the woodwork in the rooms tended to reduce in numbers if not in voracity the "tribes on our frontier."

Lieut. Elverson proceeded to Afghanistan for service with the Commissariat Department, afterwards accompanying the force under Lord Roberts on the famous march from Kabul to Kandahar. 2/Lieut. Pink joined the same department

for duty on the Kabul—Khyber line, and Capt. Hood took up an appointment as Brigade Major, Kurram Valley Field Force.

In March, 1879, "B" and "C" Companies returned to Headquarters, being relieved by "E" and "F" Companies, under Capt. (local Major) R. H. Ross and Capt. H. W. Trench. Major Ross had long Indian experience dating from the Mutiny in 1857. He was a typical "Qui-hai," and rather inclined to corpulence. He was known to the men as "Bhisti-Bags." His handwriting was peculiar, almost copper-plate; his signature, "R. H. Ross," was a picture.

Cpts. Ilderton and Woodward went home to the Depot, and Cpts. W. Clarke and C. F. Lawson joined the Battalion from England. The former was posted to "D" and the latter to "B" Company. Clr.-Sergt. Bartlett went to England for duty with the Volunteers, and Johnny Holden became Colour-Sergeant of "C" Company.

Capt. Lawson was an ex-instructor of musketry, and very keen on rifle shooting. One of his first enquiries was "How does 'B' Company stand in regard to the other companies?" When told it was second, he remarked: "That won't do at all; in future it must be first." He was a good shot himself, and believed in the back position. He was always present on the range when the company club practised, and paid for the ammunition expended by those men who shot on the back. He had his reward, for in 1879 "B" Company was the best shooting company, and a young sergeant of "B" Company was Battalion Shot.

The improvement in shooting, due to company clubs and the awakened interest in musketry, became apparent in the position of the Battalion in the musketry records of India and of the Army.

The "paper sight" was taken into general use. It should be explained that the "paper sight" originated with two sergeants in the Battalion, and was eventually approved by the Hythe authorities. It was a small strip of black paper the size of the bar on the back sight, with a white line down the centre. Attached to the bar by means of beeswax, soap or other sticky substance, it could easily be moved laterally so forming an effective wind gauge.

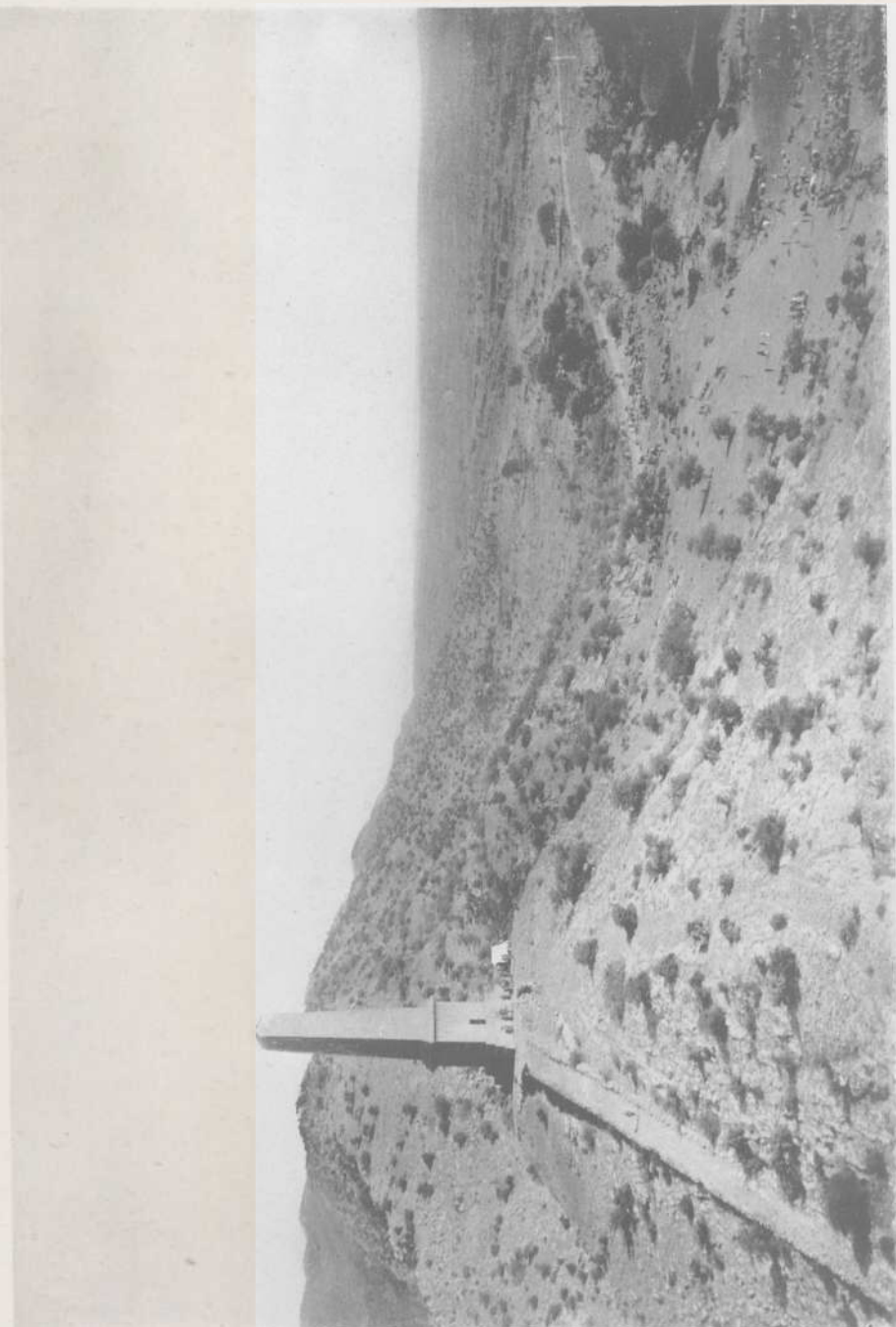
In January, 1880, a team was sent to Agra to represent the Battalion at a Divisional Rifle Meeting. Lieut. H. W. Dent, who had succeeded Lieut. King-Harman as Instructor of Musketry on the latter's promotion, went in charge.

During practice on the range of the 4/60th before the rifle meeting opened, the "paper sight" was brought to the notice of the Committee, who, after much deliberation, decided it was admissible.

Our team did exceptionally well. The four sergeants, Bill Johnstone, Jack Knowles, Hugh Martin and Jack Grubb, took all four prizes in the N.C.Os.' match, and four out of the five prizes in a running and snapshooting competition. The team won a rapid volley contest, but only came second for the Inter-Regimental Cup, being beaten by four points by the 73rd Regiment. Their team averaged seventeen years' service, ours just over four. A number of other individual prizes fell to our lot, and, on its return to Bareilly, the C.O. was pleased to congratulate the team on its success.

Capt. Clarke was for a time employed in purchasing ponies in the Bareilly district for transport purposes. It was while so engaged that he bought for himself a small grey country-bred mare, afterwards to become famous on racecourses in Upper India as "Miss Puff." Her original price was said to be Rs.15. "Miss Puff" was not the only racing pony to be owned in the Battalion, as Lieut. G. W. H. Pain was afterwards the owner of the noted "North Star."

During the trooping season of 1879-80, the 30th Regiment arrived from England *en route* to Ranikhet and Shahjehanpur. Five companies were to complete the journey by march route. We had pitched their camp in a mango tope about a mile from our lines, before their arrival. This regiment, unfortu-



THE NICHOLSON MONUMENT AT JANI-KA-SANG, PUNJAB, INDIA.

nately for itself, had no one with Indian experience. It received its camel transport the day before the five companies were to march. No one knew how to pitch or strike an E.P. tent and pack it for camel transport, and no one had the faintest idea of loading tents and sultahs on camels. The scene in camp when the 30th started operations in the morning can be better imagined than described. The five companies eventually reached their destination, but late that evening camels with tent poles attached were careering wildly over the maidan. We all have to learn some-time, but the experience of the 30th on this occasion was a rough one.

A branch of what is now known as the Royal Army Temperance Association was started in the Battalion on July 2nd, 1879. Its inception was mainly due to the activity of Cpl. Meredith, of "A" Company. Although it began in a small way it soon became a power in the Battalion, and, before leaving India, was a most flourishing institution.

Early in 1880 "E" and "F" Companies were relieved at Moradabad by "G" and "H" Companies, under Capt. (local Major) H. Flood and R. Bleazby. 2/Lieuts. Bunbury, Pickard-Cambridge, Crawley and Thuillier left to join the Indian Staff Corps.

Clr.-Sergt. J. Warwick proceeded to the Depot, and Sergt. Hugh Martin became Colour-Sergeant of "F" Company. Warwick was a fine specimen of a soldier. Six feet in height and built in proportion, handsome and smart in the highest degree—a magnificent "drill" with a sonorous, ringing voice—he was without doubt the finest soldier in the Battalion. Of gipsy extraction, when he enlisted he was unable to read or write, and as a young soldier he did not bear the best of military characters. He was, however, exceptionally clean and smart. He made the acquaintance of a maid employed by the C.O., who afterwards became Mrs. Warwick. She supplemented the school instruction, and was the means of starting him on the ladder of promotion. A genial, trustworthy comrade, we were all sorry to part from Jim Warwick. He eventually became Sergeant-Major at the Depot, where he died much regretted by all ranks.

Among other changes in the regimental staff, Sergt. Grubb, of "B" Company, became Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry, and Bdmstr. Kearns left for England on leave.

In July, 1880, Lieut. W. G. Collis had to vacate the appointment of Adjutant on promotion to Captain, and was succeeded by Lieut. G. W. H. Pain, known as "Burra" to distinguish him from a younger brother, 2/Lieut. W. H. Pain, the latter being designated "Chota."

In a previous chapter it has been said that the 2nd Battalion was an Adjutant's and Sergeant-Major's battalion. Capt. Collis had been Adjutant for nine years, and as such had justly earned the respect of all ranks. Non-commissioned officers felt that in him they had a real friend. A word of quiet admonition from the Adjutant had far more effect than any official reprimand. The writer alone knows how much he is indebted to the late Lieut.-Col. Collis for kindly advice in the early days of his service.

The record of the 2nd Battalion from 1871 to 1880 is a tribute to his efficiency.

The Battalion also lost a good old soldier in Sergt. Jack Hodgkins, who had been Canteen Sergeant from the time the Battalion left Aldershot. He was succeeded by Sergt. Josh Martin. Hodgkins had originally served in the 1st Battalion, and was for a time servant to (later) Major-General Phillipps. He was for a number of years Officers' Mess Sergeant. Genial and good-natured at most times, he was inclined to be stubborn and quarrelsome if thwarted when he had indulged slightly above the normal. Generally abstemious, he had occasional outbursts.

Two sergeants were to be confirmed on one Sunday afternoon by the Bishop

of Calcutta. Leaving the Sergeants' Mess at 11 p.m. the night previous, Hodgkins, who had been indulging, insisted that they should accompany him to his quarters to have a quiet drink, as he said, in preparation for the next day's ceremony. One drink led to another, and Hodgkins' supply of soda water ran out. He had, however, a bottle of Eno's Fruit Salt, and this, with water, he substituted for soda-water. The two victims eventually slept on the floor until morning, and their condition for the Confirmation Service in the afternoon was far from what it should have been. Hodgkins used to tell this story with a twinkle in his eye, adding: "There was plenty of soda-water in the bathroom, but I thought the fruit salt would cleanse them from original sin."

The 34th Regiment passed through Bareilly *en route* from Chaubattia to Benares and Dum-Dum. This regiment had a shooting reputation, and it was the boast of its sergeants' mess that its sergeants' team had never been beaten in India. When approaching a military station it was their custom to send on their team the day before to arrange, if possible, a match with the regiment stationed there. We accepted the challenge, and the match was fired the day the 34th arrived, in the presence of a large attendance from both regiments. It was an easy victory for us, but the match was really won in the Sergeants' Mess the night before, when we entertained our visitors royally, at the same time being careful that our own team kept steady. Five years later, at Agra, the 34th served us likewise.

We also had the pleasure of entertaining the sergeants of the 40th Regiment when marching through Chaubattia in relief of the 34th.

As regiments on the march usually halted for a day at a military station, we were able to pick up useful hints regarding arrangements on the line of march, and these stood us in good stead when we had to take to the road.

Much has been written regarding the mysterious manner in which, among native races, the news of important events rapidly became known at long distances from the scene of the occurrences, without any apparent means of communication. It is a certain fact that the news of the disaster at Maiwand was current in the bazaars in India before official intimation reached Army Headquarters or before publication in the Press.

Reinforcements were required at the front, and one Thursday morning, while the majority of the sergeants were on the rifle range, a message arrived recalling them to barracks at once. The Battalion had been ordered to proceed to Afghanistan as soon as possible. Medical inspection proceeded forthwith. "Kabul" tents, somewhat similar to the 160-lb. tents now in use, and the necessary stores, arrived from Allahabad, and the Battalion became busy practising pitching and striking camp, packing and loading transport, etc., together with the arranging of the many details consequent on a sudden order to proceed on active service. Troop trains were in readiness at the railway station, and heavy stores were all entrained when the order came to "Stand fast." Cholera had broken out among our detachment and a company of the 30th Regiment at Moradabad. Clr.-Sergt. Waugh, of "G" Company, was the first to be taken, and in a short time we lost six men, one woman and a child. The 30th also had a number of casualties.

It was a stroke of ill-luck; the 63rd Regiment, from Sialkote, was ordered to the front in our stead.

Mention of the cholera epidemic at Moradabad would be incomplete without reference to the good work of the Roman Catholic Chaplain—the Rev. Father Doogan. He accompanied the troops into cholera camps, and was indefatigable in cheering the depressed and in attention to the sick. Father Doogan had for a time been with the Battalion at Bareilly, and in 1896 and 1897 was with the 1st Battalion at Dagshai.

Clr.-Sergt. Waugh was a loss to the Battalion. Educated at Jersey, the son of a retired Colonel, he had failed in the Army Entrance Examination and enlisted with a view to obtaining a commission through the ranks. Unfortunately, youth and high spirits led him into scrapes that resulted in a court-martial and marred his chance of a commission. A good shot, a fair athlete, and an accomplished pianist who could sing a good song, George Wallace Waugh was a jolly good comrade.

In the reliefs of 1880-81 the Battalion was noted for a move to Peshawar. At the end of November, Headquarters and six companies left by rail for Meerut, the first halting place. The two companies from Moradabad were picked up *en route* and four companies with the heavy baggage proceeded in two trains a day in advance of the Headquarters and remaining four companies.

At that time a battalion in India was always in possession of three-fifths of its full complement of tentage on the E.P. tent scale, consequently the heavy baggage and stores necessitated a full train apart from the two trains carrying the troops and families.

Travelling by night and resting by day, our halting places were Meerut, Umbala, Mian Mir and Rawal Pindi. The Scinde, Punjab and Delhi Railway, afterwards to become the N.W. Railway, was only open for general traffic as far as Jhelum, but a construction line was carried on as far as Rawal Pindi.

The first half-battalion arrived safely, but the second train, conveying baggage and stores, met with an accident about a mile from Rawal Pindi, owing to a subsidence at a bridge, and several wagons were overturned into a nullah. Headquarters and the remaining four companies were delayed just beyond Jhelum, and spent the rest of the day in the train, without food or water. However, the line was cleared, and we arrived at Rawal Pindi about fourteen hours behind time.

We found the left half-battalion bivouacking on the Brigade parade ground, an open space on the Peshawar Road close to where the officers' quarters of the left lines, West Ridge, now stand.

Owing to the breakdown of the baggage train, tents were not available, and what few were obtained from the arsenal were required for the families. During the next two days camp equipment was obtained, camel transport supplied, and we started on the first stage of our march.

The road was in a bad condition, owing to heavy traffic consequent on the movement of troops and stores to and from the front.

A camp colour party, with the married families, went ahead the day before the Battalion. The families travelled in bullock hackeries, covered with tilts of palm matting stretched over bamboo frames.

Marching in the Punjab during the cold weather is very pleasant. We did not start very early, as it was cold in the early morning. With a long halt for coffee or tea and biscuits half way, we usually reached camp about 10 a.m. After pitching camp, the remainder of the day was spent in cleaning up and preparing for the next day's march.

Our camps were Jani-Ka-Sang, said to be a perversion of "John Nicholson," to whom a monument has been erected in a gorge just beyond the camping ground. Hassan Abdul, mentioned by Moore in his poem "Lalla Rookh," Hutti, Khairabad, Akora, Nowshera and Taroo. Khairabad camping ground is now the site of the railway station on the right bank of the Indus, which we crossed by the bridge of boats opposite Fort Attock.

At Nowshera we were met by the band of the 2nd/14th Regiment, which played us to the camping ground two miles beyond the barracks. The 2nd/14th was then commanded by Col. D. Warren, the father of the late Lieut.-Col. D. Warren. He insisted that the sergeants should entertain the sergeants of The Queen's, in return for the hospitality shown to his regiment at Bareilly when on

its way to Afghanistan. Owing to the distance of the camping ground from the barracks, it was thought inadvisable to accept the invitation, and this reciprocal entertainment had to be postponed to a later day.

It was on the morning of December 10th, 1880, that we were met at Peshawar Fort, close to the city, by the band and pipers of the 1st/25th and convoyed to the Right Lines and new block barracks.

Peshawar was to be our station for the next two years.

(To be continued.)

CRANLEIGH SCHOOL OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

WE have been successful in gaining 36 Certificates "A" during the last training year, and hope to keep up this record during the current year.

This term the weather has been kind, but, as usual, the ground has been unfit for much parade work. Consequently we have done a good deal of sand table instructions.

Several lectures have been given to the whole Battalion, notably a very interesting talk by Lieut. G. V. Palmer, of the parent Regiment, on "The History of The Queen's Royal Regiment." The Commanding Officer also lectured on "Imperial Defence."

The War Office has ordained that we shall make the long journey to Strensall this year for our Annual Training. We will certainly be breaking fresh ground, and we hope to take a full complement of cadets and officers.

Our prospects for Bisley this year do not seem very bright. A three-day shooting camp has just been concluded at Bisley, but at present there does not seem a great deal of talent available.

ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GUILDFORD, OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

THE chief item of news in connection with the Guildford Contingent is its continued success in miniature shooting. At Bisley, last summer, the "Frankfort," "Lee" and "Rucker" trophies were won; and other successes were the "Boys of Surrey" and "Elles" shields, and the *Surrey Advertiser* and "Harvey-Hadden" cups. In the last mentioned, all fifteen competitors scored "possibles," but the conditions were easier than those usually imposed. These successes are very largely due to the keenness of the instructor, the old "Queen's" man, Sergt.-Major Stent.

The Contingent was inspected on July 21st by Lieut.-Col. G. R. Graham, D.S.O., of the Woolwich Garrison.

A party of 70 attended Tidworth Park camp, which was greatly enjoyed; this year Tidworth Pennings is the venue.

The Contingent was represented at the Earl Haig memorial service held at the Cathedral Church, Guildford, on February 4th, 1928.

22nd LONDON REGIMENT

Headquarters: 2, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, London, S.E.16.

Honorary Colonel: Col. E. J. Previt , T.D.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. E. J. Woolley, M.C.

NO event of outstanding importance has occurred since the last number of the Journal appeared. There has been the usual round of such functions as prize-givings, dances, dinners and boxing meetings, but on the training side of the picture there has been very little doing, as is inevitable during the winter months. There was, however, one exception to this; we had one extremely energetic week-end at Brighton, in the shape of an officers' Tactical Exercise. The exercise commenced on the Saturday evening about five o'clock, and continued until late on the Sunday afternoon practically without cessation—for some of us, anyhow. We also had two other exercises—Brigade ones—which were quite appreciated by those who took part in them.

We are all very thankful, however, that the winter is over, and that Easter, which provides us with our first opportunity of the year of getting out of London, and doing some real work, is close upon us. Indeed, as we write these notes we are packing up to go to Stoughton Barracks, Guildford, for the four days of the Easter holidays. Our kind friends at the Depot have again put their barracks at our disposal, and we are expecting that we shall be as comfortable this year as we always have been in the past. We always look forward to the year when it falls to our turn to go to the Depot.

The Annual Prize-giving opened up the winter programme of frivolities. It took place on Wednesday, December 7th, in the Bermondsey Town Hall, and was, as usual, followed by the Regimental Ball. This year we got down to the enjoyable side of this event much earlier than we usually do, owing to the laudable brevity of our two speech-makers. The Divisional Commander, Major-General L. C. L. Oldfield, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., gave away the prizes, and among those present were Col. E. J. Previt , T.D. (Honorary Colonel), officers from other Battalions of The Queen's Royal Regiment, and Commanding Officers of many other units in the Division. The dance which followed immediately after the prize-giving went with a swing and seemed to be much enjoyed by all. For the first time the music was provided by our own Dance Band; there was a little anxiety beforehand as to whether it was sufficiently experienced for such a big undertaking, but, in the event, it proved itself extremely successful.

The Children's Party took place in the Drill Hall on January 14th. This party has now become a very large one, about 200 children attending, as it is open to children of serving members of the Regiment, and of Old Comrades, as well as to children of men who lost their lives in the war. The afternoon was highly successful and most amusing for all, whether children or grown-ups. Proceedings opened with tea in large quantities, then games, followed by an excellent conjuring exhibition and a show by marionettes, and lastly the giving away of Father Christmas's presents. Capt. Paterson, M.C., organized and ran the whole party with great success, and was aided by numerous assistants, all of whom appeared to be enjoying themselves as much as the children. Perhaps the two halves of the donkey found their share of the entertainment a little arduous, but they must have been consoled by the evident joy of the children.

After this event we turned our attention to the matter of dinners, which took place in one form or another at least once a week for quite a spell.

The Officers' Dinner took place at the Royal Adelaide Galleries on January 19th. All serving officers were present, and a very large number of past officers. There were also a few guests.

The Sergeants' Mess Dinner was held at the Cannon Street Hotel on Saturday, February 11th; it is a striking testimony to the spirit prevailing in the Sergeants' Mess that only four members out of a membership of thirty-five warrant officers and sergeants were not present. In addition to this excellent attendance of members, the sergeants were very generous in their invitations to guests, with the result that for the first time in the history of the dinner they could not be accommodated in one room, and had to overflow into a second. This, however, did not mar anyone's enjoyment, and the evening was one of the most successful that we have had.

This year there have been no company dinners; formerly each company has held a separate dinner, but it was decided to try an experiment and to have one All Ranks' Regimental Dinner.

This was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday, March 3rd, and proved far more successful than had been generally expected. Over 200 members were present, which was a very satisfactory number, seeing that the dinner was experimental. Selections were played by the Regimental String Band during the dinner, and afterwards an excellent entertainment was given by the Zig-Zag Concert Party. All those present expressed themselves as delighted with the gathering, which augurs well for the success of this dinner as a future annual event.

In the world of sport there has also been much activity.

At the Brigade Boxing Meeting we were winners in two classes, L./Cpl. Welch proving successful in the Middle-weight and Pte. Maskins in the Light Heavies. Pte. Maskin's performance was particularly notable, seeing that he is in fact a welter-weight. Pte. Rotherham secured the best loser's prize for the evening.

The competition for the Inter-Company Challenge Cup took place at the Drill Hall, and was very keenly contested. "A" Company won the cup, with "D" Company, last year's Champion Company, only one point behind. It will be remembered that the Inter-Company Boxing Championship was instituted and took place for the first time last year. This year the scope of the competition was considerably increased by including a class for novices. Apart from adding to the interest of this competition, it is hoped that the inclusion of a Novices' Class will help to increase the numbers of men who take part in boxing, and thus to improve the standard generally.

The Battalion Inter-Company Bayonet Fighting Challenge Cup Competition took place on March 30th, and was won by "A" Company, with "D" Company again a close second.

On Sunday, April 1st, we tried the experiment of giving an Evening Band Concert. We were very doubtful as to whether this innovation would appeal to the local populace, but the attendance proved most satisfactory. The Band were at full strength and gave an excellent performance. Variety was introduced into the programme by a trio of most versatile entertainers, who greatly amused the gathering. Judging by the appreciation expressed over this first concert, we think that it is quite possible that it may become a monthly institution.

Capt. B. H. Hughes-Reckitt has returned to the active list, and is once more commanding "B" Company.

It is very satisfactory to be able to say that we think our numbers are once more on the increase. During the past few months recruits have been coming in at a very pleasing pace, and, what is more important, they are all men of good standard. We are once more above the 400 mark, and hope to remain there.

AUGUST, 1914, IN WEST AFRICA

AT the outbreak of the Great War, Germany owned two large colonies in West Africa—the Kameruns and Togoland.

Operations were conducted by the Allies in both these areas, but little is known about them except by those who took part in them, and they are, perhaps, looked upon as having been in the nature of pleasant picnics. This was far from being the case. The fighting was often severe, the climate was deadly, the country very difficult, and the conditions hard.

A few words on the organization of our forces and the initial difficulties which were met with may be of interest to those who have not had previous experience of countries of this nature.

Togoland is bounded on the west by the Gold Coast Colony, and on the north and east by the French Senegal territories. It was captured early in September, 1914, by a very brilliant piece of work carried out by the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force, assisted by a French column.

The Kameruns, which is a much larger colony and had a much bigger garrison, is bounded on the north by Nigeria, on the east by the French Lake Tchad territories, and on the south by the French and Belgian Congo territories and the small Spanish colony of Muni.

The Germans were surrounded by hostile forces except the Spanish in Muni, and, on the face of it, it would appear that strategically they were in a very difficult position. Actually it was exactly the reverse. They, the Germans, were on interior lines, and concerted action by the Allies was extremely difficult, and, in fact, almost impossible owing to the immense distances and the almost total absence of roads and communications.

Each of the Allies was busily engaged in guarding his own frontier, policing and keeping quiet the vast native populations of his own territories, and finally sending such troops as he could spare to invade the enemy's country.

This part of the Great War is unique in that it was carried through by all the nations engaged in it by means of native units only. The only other units used from first to last were: (1) A few Marines employed in coast ports; (2) two naval guns with crews from the cruisers; (3) a mobile wireless section which arrived at the end of 1915; (4) a few motor cars and an armoured car which arrived at the same time; (5) a howitzer which arrived at the same time and had a European team; (6) half battalion West India Regiment.

The Navy assisted by shelling coast towns, patrolling the creeks with launches, and supervising the marine transport arrangements.

At the outbreak of the war, the British troops available in West Africa were, with the exception of some at Sierra Leone, all units of the West African Frontier Force. It consisted of natives with a few British non-commissioned officers, and was officered by Regular officers lent for a short period by the War Office. It had no departmental units of any sort. This force was under the Colonial Office and was commanded by an Inspector-General, who spent six months each year administering it from London, and six months in West Africa on inspection duty.

The units were as follows:—

In Nigeria.

- 4 Battalions Infantry (8 Companies each).
- 1 Battalion Mounted Infantry (4 Companies).
- 2 Batteries (4 mountain guns each).

F

On the Gold Coast.

1 Battalion Infantry (10 Companies and a Pioneer Company).

1 Battery as above.

Sierra Leone.

1 Battalion Infantry (8 Companies).

Gambia.

1 Company.

In addition to this there were at Sierra Leone, under the War Office:—

2 Companies R.G.A. (1 British and 1 Native).

1 Company R.E.

1 Battalion West India Regiment.

1 Battalion West African Regiment.

Departmental units as required.

This appears at first sight to be a considerable force, but it must be remembered that these troops were, with the exception of those at Sierra Leone, kept solely for the purpose of dealing with interior trouble in their own colonies and were not intended for operations elsewhere; in fact, they had been reduced in strength early in 1914.

Where trouble was looked for was among the Moslem states to the north, and very disturbing rumours were flying about as to the activities of the fanatical Senussi sect whose headquarters were in the Sahara; European warfare was not seriously provided for.

The War Office troops at Sierra Leone were intended for the defence of Freetown, which is a defended harbour and coaling station. It became of great importance during the war, as it was a convenient place for making up convoys and a safe anchorage for the fleet. It was the only defended port, in fact the only port for vessels drawing over 20 feet, which Great Britain possessed between Gibraltar and Cape Town.

The Navy was represented by the *Dwarf*, an obsolete river gun-boat, but was soon reinforced by two cruisers—*Cumberland*, Captain Fuller (now Vice-Admiral Sir Cyril), and *Challenger*, Captain Beaty-Pownall (now Rear-Admiral). The French Navy was represented by an obsolete cruiser and a gun-boat which was so old that she was rigged for, and still used, sails.

The Artillery and Mounted Infantry were always at their war establishments, except for transport.

The peace establishment of an infantry company was 5 Europeans, 136 rank and file, and 7 machine-gun carriers.

The war establishment was 7 Europeans, 150 rank and file, 7 machine-gun carriers, and 8 stretcher-bearers.

The establishments were made up as follows:—

European.—1 Captain, 2 Subalterns, 2 N.C.Os. (increased for war by 2 Subalterns).

Native.—1 Company Sergeant-Major, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 2 Buglers, 125 other ranks, and 7 machine-gun carriers (increased for war by 14 other ranks and 8 stretcher-bearers).

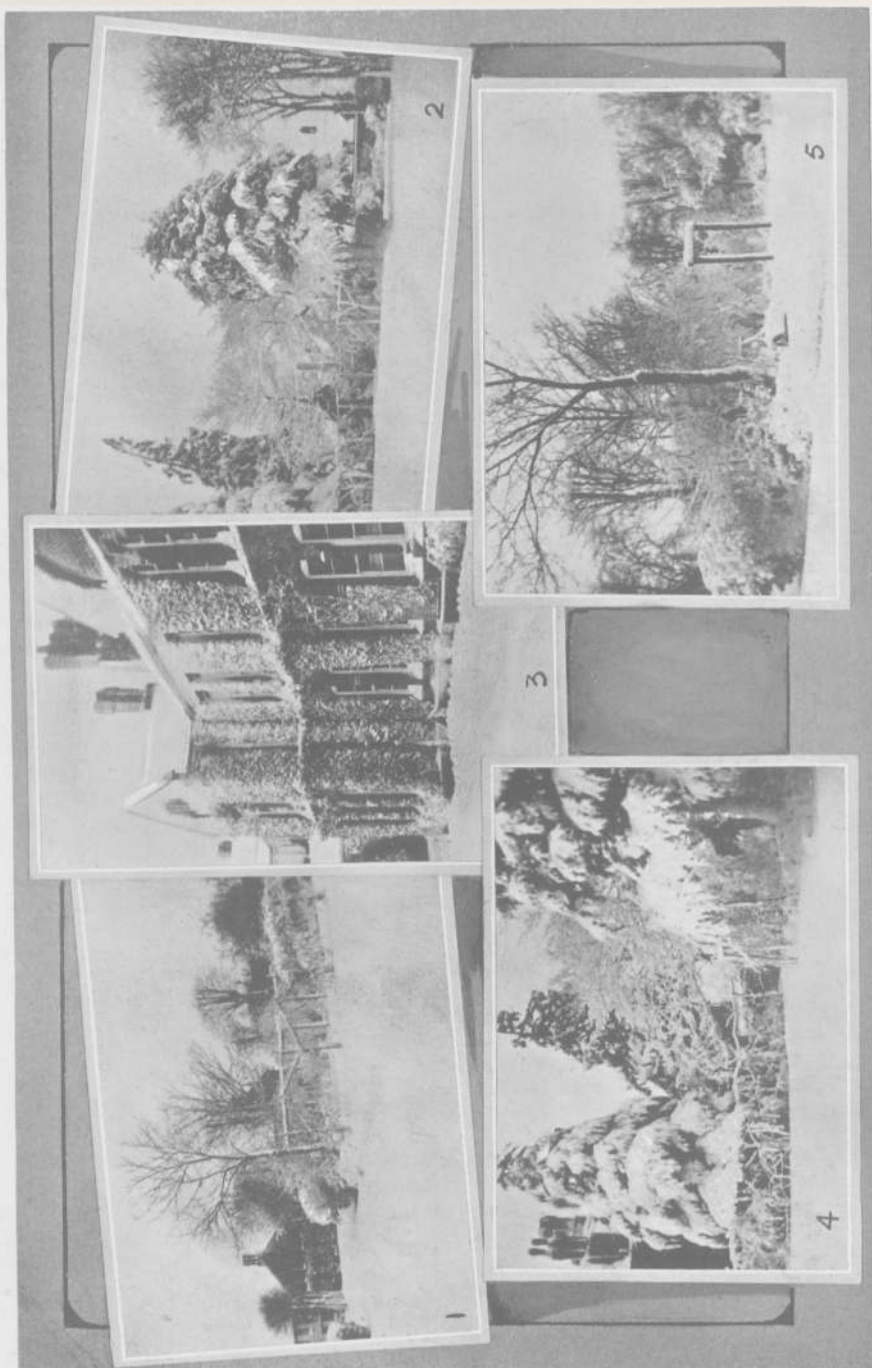
Every company had its own maxim machine gun. They were of various marks and ages, but had one universal characteristic that they were all worn out.

The Artillery were armed with Vickers mountain guns and carried Lee-Metford carbines. The guns were old but serviceable. The carbines were also old and their condition was not good.

The Mounted Infantry were armed with lances and the Short Lee Enfield.

The Infantry carried the Long Lee Enfield Mark I rifle, many of them being badly corroded and cord worn. The equipment (except Artillery and Mounted Infantry, who wore bandolier equipment) was of the ordinary pouch variety,

THE DEPOT.



THE GRIP OF WINTER.

having two pouches, each containing 50 rounds. There were no packs or entrenching implements, but each man carried a bush knife on his right side, under the water-bottle. These were intended for cutting down thick bush. This is a most useful implement, as the native thoroughly understands how to use it. He can cut down quite large trees, dig holes, hoe paths, cut grass, or even, when required, use it as a weapon of offence.

There were two great difficulties which had to be faced when mobilization was ordered. The first was where the men were to come from who were required to bring us up to war establishment. The second was the immense task of concentrating the battalions, which were scattered in detachments at great distances from Battalion Headquarters.

Taking the question of men first.

There was an immediate requirement of 14 men per company (112 per battalion) required above the peace establishment. In addition to these, there were men required to fill the places of recruits, sick and unfit, men absent on long escorts, etc. There was required also a reserve to provide immediate reinforcements and to replace the ordinary wastage of troops on service.

The native soldier enlisted for a period of six years, the whole of which was spent with the Colours. He did not go to the Reserve at the end of his Colour service unless he applied to be enlisted into it.

In 1906 or 1907, orders were given to raise a Reserve, but the conditions of service were drawn up obviously by someone who had no knowledge of native life and customs among the northern tribes who provided the majority of the soldiers. The conditions were quite unpracticable and unworkable.

In addition, while we were ordered to form a Reserve, the time-expired soldier was being encouraged to re-enlist. If he enlisted within six months of his discharge, he was paid a bounty, he was allowed to keep any good conduct badges and pay he may have earned, and to count time for further pay and badges for the Good Conduct Medal, as if he had served continuously.

The result might have been expected. Any man who wished to keep on soldiering at all re-enlisted within six months, and, it may be added, was encouraged to do so by the Company Commander, who most naturally preferred a trained soldier instead of a recruit who would have to be trained by him in addition to his other work.

The remainder, with very few exceptions, refused to join the Reserve or have anything to do with it. They always said that if they wanted to soldier again they would re-enlist. Of the few that did join, some went into Government employ and could be got hold of for their annual training, the rest merely joined to please the Company Commander. He, for some unknown reason, wanted to write their names down on a list. "Well! If it pleased him, let him do it." That was the sort of idea which worked at the back of the time-expired man's mind.

The consequences of this were that when the small list of Reservists were called up, it was found that practically all of them were in Government employ as policemen, warders, or political agents and messengers, and naturally could not be spared from their employ. The Reserve, then, as might have been expected, proved a broken reed.

The situation was saved, however, by the keenness of the old soldiers. They might not be prepared to join any reserve, but they were all from fighting tribes, and they were not going to miss a good fight which could be had for the asking.

As soon as these were told that there was a big war on with the Germans, they poured into every garrison in such numbers that we had many more men than we required for the moment, and were compelled to refuse to take back any ex-non-commissioned officers in their ranks unless they had joined the Reserve.

An incident which the writer witnessed himself may be of interest as an illustration of their keenness.

An old company sergeant-major who had left, time-expired, about one month before the war broke out, was one of the first to arrive. On rejoining, he was told that he could not be taken back in his rank, as he had not joined the Reserve. (He had been over fourteen years a company sergeant-major.) He was told that he could either go away or join as a private. He thought for a moment, and then said: "This is going to be a bigger fight than any I have seen. I have been a fighting man all my life and I cannot miss this. I will join as a private, and I think that I know enough to get my stripes again." It is satisfactory to know that, although he was posted to a company whose captain knew nothing about him, he had risen to sergeant within three months of rejoining, and finished the war as a company sergeant-major with the Distinguished Conduct Medal and two or three mentions in despatches.

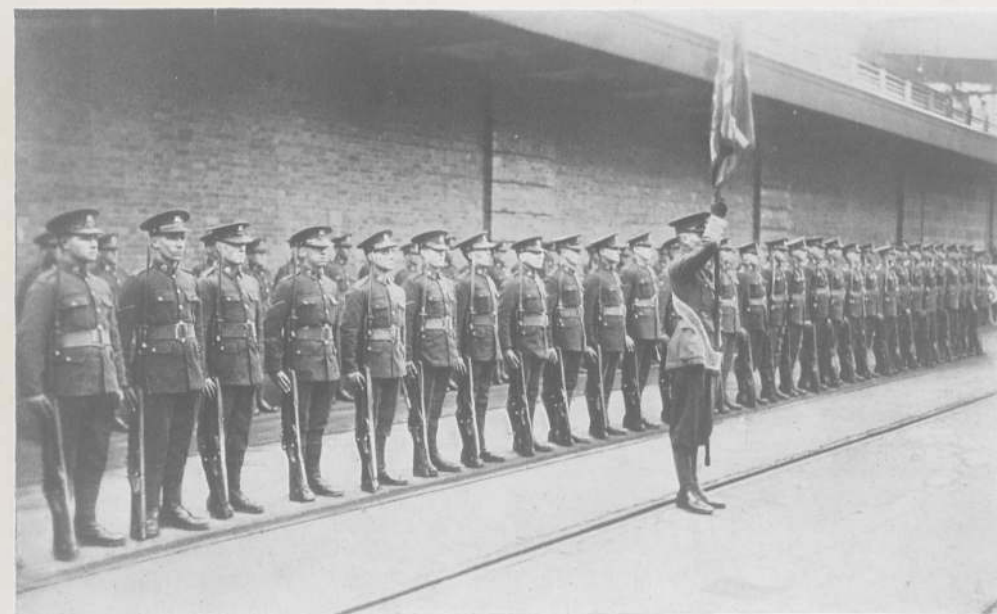
There was no difficulty in finding the necessary Europeans. The various civil departments could be drawn on for these, and also for the requisite departmental officers. These officers were, in the majority of cases, quite inexperienced in military matters, but what was lost in this way was more than made up for by their great experience in handling natives. They were all accustomed to working with the native and they could all speak the language. The writer has had considerable experience with the trained expert who did not know the native, and also with the untrained man who knew the native. His opinion is that the best combination is to have the trained expert as head of the department, and for the subordinate positions which are actually in touch with the native to be filled by those men who know and understand him. Take, for example, the care of porter transport. This appears to be very simple to begin with, but it is full of most complicated details. To begin with, the tribes which can be relied on to carry loads day after day are few. When they are collected, the load which each man can carry is strictly limited. There are the questions of halts, food, and water and camps. Remember it is men who are being used, not animals. You cannot take a sick carrier and shoot him like you would a sick horse. You must have hospitals for them. A really good carrier can carry a load of between 50 and 60 lb. and will go on doing it for days. He will keep up with infantry on the line of march with this load. But your ammunition and your ration boxes are considerably heavier than this, which will mean overloaded carriers, and overloaded carriers mean a breakdown and sickness. It may be said that one could double-man one's loads. This does not work. It is true that two men will easily carry two 45-lb. loads and keep up with infantry, but two men cannot carry a 90-lb. load. They might get it along, given time, but there would be tailing out, and there would be two worn-out carriers who would inevitably go sick in a very short time. The above is only one instance of the many where experience is urgently required. The same may be said of all departments.

The second difficulty was the task of concentrating battalions. The headquarters of battalions were at the following stations in Nigeria:—

- 1st Kaduna (on the Lagos—Kano Railway).
- 2nd Lokoja (at the junction of the Rivers Niger and Benue).
- 3rd Calabar (on the sea coast).
- 4th Lagos (on the sea coast).
- 5th (M.I.) Kano (railhead, Lagos—Kano Railway).

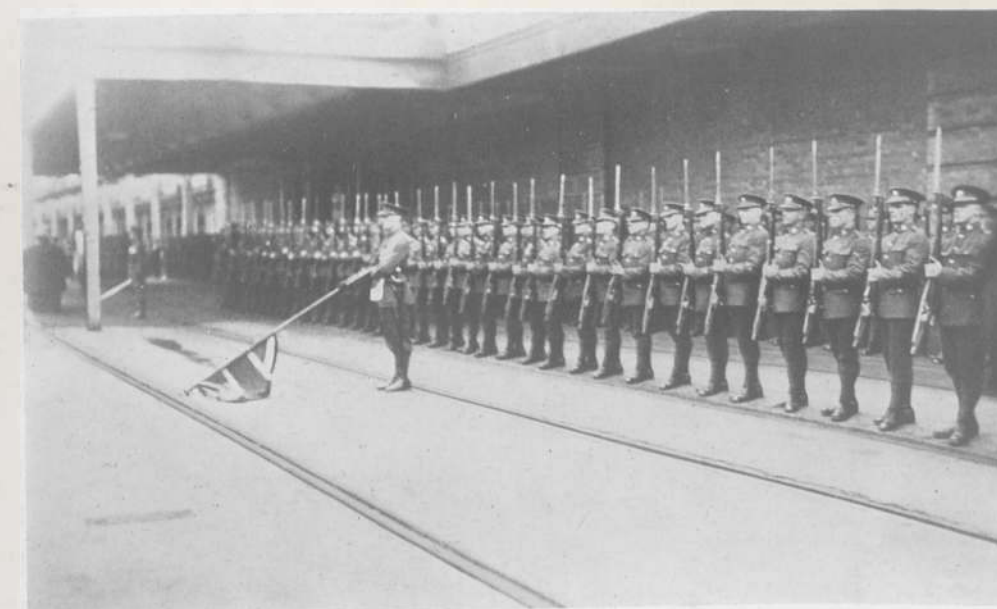
Each battalion had a number of detachments, and the distances to be covered to reach them was very great. After the war, it took the writer over three months to get round his battalion on a tour of inspection. As an example of this distribution, let us consider the detachments found by the 2nd Battalion at Lokoja in August, 1914, when war was declared. They were as follows:—

2ND BATTALION.



[Photo]

[S. H. Brock, Dover.



[Photo]

[S. H. Brock, Dover.

Guard of Honour at Dover Pier to receive the Amir of Afghanistan, 1928.

One company at Yola, on the German border. It took 10 days by steamer when the river was high, and 21 days by barge when it was low, to get there.

One company at Ankpa. This took one day by river and four days by road to get there.

One company at Zungeru. This took two days by river and two days by train.

One Company in the Bouchi Hills. Two to three days by river and six days by road.

One Company at Nafada. This took in high water 11 days by steamer, in low water 21 days by barge.

One company at Maifoni, near Lake Tchad. This took three days by river, three days by train, and 21 days by road.

Thus six out of the eight companies were away from Battalion Headquarters, and all at a considerable distance. They were not even all in telegraphic touch.

The other battalions were in much the same condition, but the distances were not quite so far.

The result was that when the war started, battalions became so entangled that in most cases they did not become disentangled until the end of the campaign. This was certainly the case with the 1st and 2nd (Northern Battalions), but was not so much with the 3rd and 4th (Southern) ones.

The battalions immediately concerned, that is to say which found the garrisons nearest to the German border, were the 2nd and 3rd.

The Mounted Infantry and the 1st Battalion were on the northern border, towards the Sahara, and the 4th were mainly in the Yoruba country bordering on French Dahomey.

By a series of most unfortunate circumstances, a great deal of confusion was caused at a time when it was most necessary to have clearness. In the first instance the old defence scheme had been condemned, and immediately before war was declared all detachments were ordered to discontinue its use. The new scheme was never issued to detachments or to Battalion Headquarters, with the result that when the telegram was received which should have resulted in the first movements taking place on the declaration of war, there were no instructions to carry out, and no one had any orders.

Whether these orders were used and issued in time by telegram, the writer is unable to say, but, judging by the movements of troops and the unnecessary crossings which took place, it is impossible to believe that they were used.

The second mistake was that the civil administration selected this time to change their code. The new codes had not reached the Provincial Headquarters, and the result was that long and important code telegrams were being sent to out-stations who were quite unable to decode them, while they (the civilians in out-stations) were sending in most important news in a code which was obsolete. This, however, does not affect the situation from the average soldier's point of view.

Another matter which was causing considerable uneasiness at this time was what Turkey was going to do.

It must be remembered that to the north, both in our own territories and in that of the French, there was an immense Moslem population who looked to Stambul as the headquarters of their faith. A nation governed by a direct descendant of the Prophet. Very luckily for the Allies in this part of the world, we had a chief who was looked upon as being very high up among the religious chiefs in the Moslem world. This was the Sultan of Sokoto (Sarki-a-musalmi). This chief was thoroughly loyal to us, and he gave it as his opinion that the declaration of war by the Sultan of Turkey was not a religious question at all, but merely a political one. Under these circumstances he considered that it was no business of the local Moslems to interfere. At the same time the local Moslem

soldiers requested that they should not be employed in a theatre where they would have to fight against the Turks.

In the meantime, two forces had moved with a view to entering German territory.

Headquarters and one company, 2nd Battalion, had moved with two guns from Lokoja to Yola. They joined the 2nd Battalion company already there, and were reinforced by the company from Nafada. Before the concentration was complete, the Mounted Infantry arrived from Kano.

The whole force moved forward to attack Garua. Garua was the German administrative centre and main garrison town for the northern part of the Kameruns. It was fortified, but the fortifications were reported to be for native warfare only.

The Mounted Infantry came in touch with the Germans very shortly after crossing the border, and were very severely handled, losing several Europeans killed and wounded. The force pushed on and attacked Garua.

The fortifications were found to be much more extensive than was believed, and the attack was repulsed with heavy loss, including among the killed the Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, and Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion. The column was compelled to return to Yola.

At the same time, a force of the 3rd Battalion had an engagement with the enemy on the Southern Nigeria frontier, and, after a successful engagement, were ambushed at N'sanakang and had to retire with heavy loss, including a gun.

While these actions were taking place, the officer commanding the detachment at Maifoni, near Lake Tchad, heard that war had been declared, but as his telegraph line then broke down he received no further orders.

He was uncertain what to do, but he appears to have thought that he had better do something, so he invaded German territory on his own account and proceeded to attack the nearest German post, which was Mora.

He found that it was unoccupied, and took possession of it, but, in the meantime, his telegraph had been repaired, and he was ordered to leave it and return immediately to his station. He was reprimanded for taking action without authority.

This was most unfortunate, as the enemy reoccupied Mora and were a serious menace to the subsequent operations against Garua. Mora did not surrender again until the end of the Kamerun campaign, and a large Allied force had to be concerned.

While all these operations were being carried out, Lokoja, which was a very important strategic position at the junction of the Niger and Benue Rivers, was left with only one company to guard it. There was a possibility that the enemy might make an advance on this place, which was the great trading centre. It was decided to reinforce this company with four more companies and two guns, which could be formed into an offensive force when required. One of these companies belonged to the 2nd Battalion, and the other three to the 1st Battalion.

When the news of the defeat at Garua was received, two of the 1st Battalion companies were sent up to reinforce that column, and another 1st Battalion company was brought to Lokoja.

These four companies were formed into a composite battalion (two 1st Battalion and two 2nd Battalion companies) which was afterwards sent to take part in the operations in the Southern Kameruns, but this did not take place until October, and, as this article is intended to cover the month of August only, their further movements will not be followed.

Although the campaign started in so unfortunate a manner, the further operations moved forward slowly but successfully, and the final result was the complete

surrender of this great country in February, 1916, when the last troops of the enemy were driven into Muni and were interned by the Spaniards.

A great measure of praise is due to the native soldier, who fought as his best friends had never expected him to fight. The early defeats did not dishearten him, and he came back again and again, and met every call which was made on him. It was not his war. It made, as far as he could see, no difference to him whether he was in the hands of the Germans or the British, yet, when called on by his officers, he fought and made a great reputation not only in the Kameruns, but in other theatres.

We never had conscription, yet we always could get as many recruits as we could deal with. We never had a deserter, yet the enemy would have gladly taken them.

It is impossible to express in words the great admiration and deep affection which every European who fought with them feels for the rank and file of the West African Frontier Force.

MAI KHAKI.

FARNHAM CADET CORPS

EVEN greater success than in previous years attended the Children's Party organized by the Corps in conjunction with the Farnham Fire Brigade on February 29th, at the new Headquarters in Mead Lane. It is interesting to note that a building which was formerly an old malt-kiln attached to the Farnham United Breweries has, in the short time the Corps have been in possession, been converted into a really efficient drill hall. It now has a miniature rifle range and an armoury.

Some 450 children sat down to the excellent tea provided, and did full justice to it. After tea, various amusing competitions were held, and there was keen competition in the different events. Community singing caused great amusement, and all present joined in most heartily. Q.M.S. Simpson gave a fine display with illuminated Indian clubs, and a humorous interlude by Dr. D. Tubb and Staff-Sergt. Martin (Royal Ulster Rifles) was greeted with much applause. After the party, dancing was started and kept up until midnight, the music being provided by the newly-organized Corps orchestra, under the direction of Lieut. Riches.

Early in the evening a telegram, couched in the following terms, was sent to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Cadet Forces: "Four hundred and fifty guests of the Farnham Cadet Corps (Queen's Royal Regiment) send loyal greetings."

The committee responsible for the organization was composed of Capt. H. R. Robins (Chairman), Mr. J. H. Chitty (Chief Officer, Farnham Fire Brigade), Mr. S. S. Dawes (Treasurer), Lieut. N. R. Riches (Secretary), R.S.M. S. J. Hall, Q.M.S. P. Simpson, Fireman J. Edwards, Mrs. H. R. Robins, Mrs. S. J. Hall, Miss Chitty, and Mrs. F. Elderfield. A large number of ladies gave their services in helping with the tea and other arrangements, and the Corps owes them a debt of gratitude for their kindness.

24th LONDON REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S)

Headquarters: 71, New Street, Kennington Park Road, S.E.11.

Honorary Colonel: Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. H. J. Sanders, D.S.O., M.C.

ALTHOUGH the winter months are theoretically the quiet months of our year, there have been some events of more than usual importance to record. In particular we have reluctantly had to say good-bye to Col. C. E. Thompson, whose period of command ended in February. "Good-bye" is, perhaps, an ill-chosen word, for we hope to have many opportunities of seeing him again in the future. It is unnecessary to mention here the gratitude this Battalion owes him for the genuine hard work he has done on its behalf, but one is surely justified in touching on his somewhat amazing prowess in the field of sport. He played cricket and football for the Battalion team, and was a most successful bat, and a very steady full-back. In addition to these feats of which, we think, most field-officers would be justifiably proud, there is no subaltern that he has not almost wearied off his legs in singles at tennis, and there is certainly not one that he has not out-driven, out-niblicked and out-putted at golf. He almost succeeded in raising a battalion polo team on the sheer strength of his enthusiasm, and his tent-pegging was a delight to see. Add to this that not only can no officer here, nor, we believe, even in the 1st Battalion, emulate his simian activities up a tent pole after a guest night, and everyone will, we think, agree that the brevet he received just before he ceased to command us, was very well deserved.

Lieut.-Col. H. J. Sanders has taken over command. He is the only officer now in the Regiment who also served with it during the war. We wish him all the success we confidently expect him to enjoy.

On Armistice Day we sent the usual Colour Party and Detachment to the ceremony at the Royal Exchange, and on the following Sunday our own annual memorial service at St. Mary's, Kennington, took place. There were very few absentees, and the Old Comrades' contingent was as strong as ever.

The annual prize distribution, held on February 1st, 1928, was the most successful show of its kind which has been held at these headquarters, at all events, since the war. We enjoyed the signal honour of having our prizes presented by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Not only did his presence ensure the success of the evening, but, if there is anyone who is so perfect a master of the art of presenting prizes, we have yet to hear him. His speech was excellent, and when he had a little talk with each recipient of a prize and asked the men all about their work and their homes and took an animated part in the dance that followed the ceremony, we realized more than ever how very fortunate we were to have been so privileged.

It is reported that the only absentee on this occasion was Capt. D. G. Adams, who had been given special leave to attend to the important business of a honeymoon in the South of France.

We have been so fortunate in having such distinguished soldiers to present our prizes recently that we are faced with the prospect of something of an anti-climax next year unless, as someone suggested, we can obtain the services of the Pope or Field-Marshal Von Hindenburg.

On February 1st the guests included Lieut.-General Sir Reginald Stephens, Lieut.-General Sir Hugh Jeudwine, Col. T. Rose-Price, Lieut.-Col. H. N. A. Hunter and officers from the 2nd Battalion, Depot, 4th and 5th Battalions and 22nd London Regiment. Our Honorary Colonel and three past Commanding Officers were also present.

A list of the prize-winners appears at the end of these notes.

There have been other changes during these months, in addition to that already mentioned. We have lost 2/Lieuts. C. W. Leijel and J. S. Ilsley. The latter has already gone to Singapore, and the former is about to sail for an unknown destination. We shall long remember these two: Leijel as a most efficient Machine Gun Officer, and Ilsley as one of the few people who, when asked on a tactical exercise by an infuriated General if he had done a certain thing, laughed at him and said, "Of course not." In their places we have 2/Lieuts. K. A. Clarke, from the Charterhouse O.T.C., K. C. Hooper, from the Haileybury O.T.C., and J. H. N. Morgan, from the Eton O.T.C.

The strength of the Battalion has not changed much since camp—17 officers and 267 other ranks are the numbers as at March 31st, 1928. We cannot comment much upon this, except to say that we are beginning to realize more than ever that the Territorial soldier, individually, is the best recruiting agent, and that to obtain recruits of the right type all that is necessary is to offer such a sound and interesting show, both as regards training and the social aspect, that those who are in it will not be happy until their friends join too.

Our training has resolved itself almost entirely into a concentration on the instruction of the Section Leader, and a thorough preparation in view of the forthcoming annual weapon training courses. Several officers and N.C.Os. have attended courses at the London District School of Instruction with great advantage. There have also been, during the winter, a series of excellent week-end tactical exercises for officers, embracing the co-operation of all arms.

At the time of writing we have yet to go away for Easter training. We are visiting the 1st Royal Warwicks, at Woking, and have great hopes of a successful week-end if the weather is good. Pay, which was cut off last year, is to be issued on this occasion, so we hope for a good muster in spite of the fact that we are not visiting the Depot.

The revived keenness in bayonet fighting reported last May has been well maintained, and, although few of the competitions in which we are competing have yet been completed, we have every hope that last year's prophecy of a bumper year in 1928 will be fulfilled. We were unfortunate in meeting the Artists Rifles in the first round of the Metropolitan School of Arms Championship, but their winning margin of 16 fights to 5 against us was the same as against the London Rifle Brigade, whom they met in the final. We are hoping for ample consolation in the Brigade championships after Easter.

PRIZE WINNERS, 1927

Inter-Company Challenge Shield for General Efficiency.—Won by "D" or Capt. P. Adams' Company. Miniature: Cpl. G. Nelson.

Col. Rumsey's Challenge Cup (Awarded to the Company with the Highest Percentage of Officers, W.Os., N.C.Os. and Men attending Camp).—Won by

"C" or Capt. E. Teesdale's Company: 100 per cent. Miniature: C.S.M. G. A. Copps, M.M.

Sir Joseph Renals' Challenge Cup (Awarded to the Company with the best Average in the Standard Test—Rifle).—Won by "H.Q." Wing or Lieut. R. H. Senior's Company: Average, 64.54. Miniature: L./Sergt. W. H. Smith.

Col. William Parker Challenge Cup (Awarded to the Company with the best Average in the Standard Test—Light Automatic).—Won by "B" or Capt. J. H. S. Duncan's Company: Average 52.61. Miniature: Sergt. H. J. Bostick.

Quartermaster's Bowl (Awarded for Cleanliness in Camp).—Won by "C" or Capt. E. Teesdale's Company. Miniature: C.Q.M.S. N. H. Walters, D.C.M.

Savile Cup (Awarded to the best Company Shooting Team of Sergeants).—Won by "B" Company. C.S.M. J. E. Long, M.M.

Inter-Company Bayonet Fencing Cup.—Won by "C" or Capt. E. Teesdale's Company. Miniature: Sergt. C. H. J. Stammer.

INDIVIDUAL CHALLENGE CUPS AND PRIZES.

John Shaw Challenge Cup (Awarded to the W.O. or Sergeant with the Highest Score in the Standard Test—Rifle).—Won by C.Q.M.S. H. C. Fluke, "H.Q." Wing. Score, 102. (H.P.S., 115.)

Andrew Cup (Awarded to the Corporal or Man with the Highest Score in the Standard Test—Rifle).—Won by Pte. G. Harvey, "H.Q." Wing. Score, 97. (H.P.S., 115.)

Andrew Challenge Cup and £5 (Awarded to the W.O., N.C.O. or Man of "B" Company with the Highest Score in the Standard Test—Light Automatic).—Won by L./Cpl. W. Clayton. Score, 70. (H.P.S., 75.)

Sir Joseph Renals' Cup (Awarded for Individual General Efficiency).—Sergt. E. W. Shears.

24th London Regimental Recruiting Cup (Awarded to the W.O., N.C.O. or Man who introduces the largest number of Recruits during the year).—Won by L./Cpl. H. J. Eastgate, "A" Company.

Best Shot, Recruits (Rifle) (Awarded to the Recruit with the Highest Score in the Standard Test).—Won by Pte. A. A. Jarvis, "A" Company. Score, 101. (H.P.S., 115.)

Best Shot (Light Automatic) (Awarded to the N.C.O. or Man with the Highest Score in the Standard Test).—Won by Pte. J. W. Humphries, "C" Company. Score, 72. (H.P.S., 75.)

INDIVIDUAL EFFICIENCY PRIZES.

Sergeant.—Sergt. P. G. W. Barber, "C" Company.

Corporal.—Cpl. W. P. Reeves, "B" Company.

Lance-Corporal.—L./Cpl. W. J. Boom, "D" Company.

Private.—Pte. G. A. Nash, "A" Company.

Recruit.—Pte. A. R. Stammer, "C" Company.

Signal Section.—Cpl. T. Barnett, "H.Q." Wing.

Machine Gun Platoon.—Pte. W. G. Renshaw, "H.Q." Wing.

Transport Section.—Pte. E. C. England, "H.Q." Wing.

Col. George Millner Cup.—Sergt. D. Norfolk, "H.Q." Wing.

SPORTS.

CRICKET SEASON, 1927.

Commanding Officer's Prize for Best Batting Average.—Sergt. C. H. J. Stammer.

Adjutant's Prize for Best Bowling Average.—Sergt. (O.R.S.) H. L. Fluke.

INTER-COMPANY BOXING SHIELD.

Won by "H.Q." Wing or Lieut. R. H. Senior's Company.

BATTALION BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Fly-weight.—Pte. B. J. Shephard, "B" Company.

Bantam-weight.—Pte. P. Williams, "H.Q." Wing.

Feather-weight.—Pte. W. E. Munday, "H.Q." Wing.

Light-weight.—Pte. E. Lynham, "B" Company.

Welter-weight.—Sergt. P. G. W. Barber, "C" Company.

Middle-weight.—Cpl. W. J. Groves, "A" Company.

Best Loser.—Pte. T. Wardle, "A" Company.

Special Six-Round Contest.—Pte. F. H. Meachem, "H.Q." Wing.

THE QUEEN'S AT LUTON.

The *esprit de corps* for which The Queen's are noted is maintained, to no less degree than elsewhere, at Luton. On March 10th there was held the Annual Reunion Dinner of the local branch of the 24th London Regiment (The Queen's) Old Comrades Association. On mobilization in 1914, while the Battalion was in training at St. Alban's, a number of Luton boys joined the Regiment, and of those who did not become casualties in the early days many served with distinction. There are now resident in Luton 38 former members of the Regiment, not one of whom was absent on this occasion, thus beating last year's record, when *one* was absent through illness.

The chair was occupied by Mr. (late Cpl.) Booth, who is largely responsible for the success of the Luton branch, and who, after the loyal toast, proposed "The Regiment." This was responded to by the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O., who had led them in France and who was welcomed with the greatest enthusiasm and musical honours. Sergeant Lovell, M.M., who proposed the "Silent Toast," paid graceful tribute to absent comrades. Guests included several members of the London Old Comrades Association, including R.S.M. Rowley, M.C., R.Q.M.S. Kennedy and C.S.M. Nye, M.M.

Impromptu speeches, interspersed by a musical programme, followed, and the departure of the London guests in time to catch the last train home brought to a close a reunion which brought back to the minds of all present the wonderful comradeship which was engendered by and between all ranks in the Great War.

THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

Reflecting upon the "doings" of the Mess since our last publication we feel that once again we are able to say it has been a very successful season from all points of view, but particularly, of course, on the social side.

Many dances have been held and enjoyed by all present, numerous officers and their ladies honouring us with their company. Social evenings have been arranged in the Mess, and these have maintained their very high standard.

There is no doubt that mention of the following is recorded elsewhere, but easily the outstanding event in our calendar was the visit of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., to present our annual prizes, and, whilst it cannot be denied that we were just a wee bit disappointed at not being honoured with a visit to the Mess, it was a highly successful evening for all those who were privileged to be present, and is one which will live long in our memory. A consolation, especially to the ladies present, was the visit of our Honorary Colonel, and two past Colonels of the Regiment during the evening.

The next important event was our Annual Mess Dinner, which was again held at the Shaftesbury Hotel, on February 18th, 1928. Eighty-four members and guests were present, which is a record for post-war dinners, and a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all. Many distinguished guests honoured us with their company, which included our Honorary Colonel, Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O., who proposed the toast of "The Regiment," and our Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. C. E. Thompson, D.S.O., M.C., who proposed "The Sergeants' Mess." It so happened that the Commanding Officer's tenure of command expired at midnight that night, and the opportunity was taken to express our appreciation of his services to the Regiment, and our regret at losing one who, by his sportsmanlike qualities and unfailing courtesy, had endeared himself to all ranks of the Battalion. His health was drunk with enthusiasm, musical honours also being accorded. During the evening a silver cigarette case was presented to C.S.M. J. H. Cannon, by the Commanding Officer, on behalf of all ranks, as a small token of their appreciation of his sterling good work, continuously and voluntarily rendered for many years, particularly on the social side.

During the season we have arranged a Billiards Tournament, which proved highly successful; also matches were arranged with local clubs, affording satisfactory results both in the skill of the game and on the social side.

The Shooting Club has not been the success that we had hoped for, although eight spoons have been won to date, but we are looking forward to a revival now that brighter days, we hope, and Purfleet are approaching.

We should like to take this opportunity to welcome Lieut.-Col. H. J. Sanders, D.S.O., M.C., on being appointed to command the Battalion. To many of us he is very well known, but from all of us we can assure him that, as always, the Mess will do all possible to make his Command one long success.

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION.

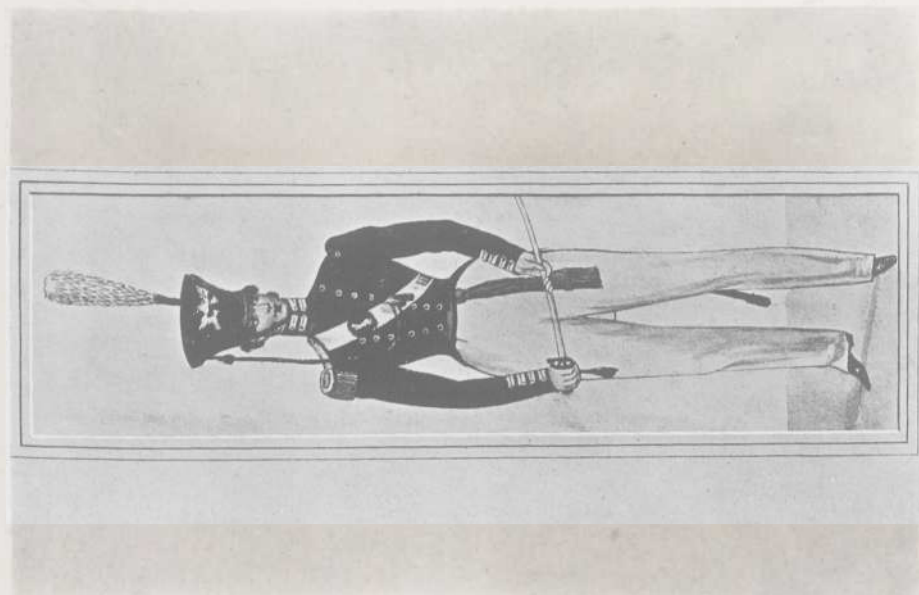
The Old Comrades of the Battalion have had a very successful season. The Annual Reunion and Dinner was held at the London Tavern, on Saturday, November 26th, 1927, and was a great success. Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O. (President), being in the chair, Lieut.-Col. C. E. Thompson, D.S.O., M.C., being the guest of honour, supported by many serving officers and retired officers.

Another excellent night was held in the Drill Hall, at Headquarters, on December 31st, 1927, Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O., and Lieut.-Col. G. E. Millner, D.S.O., M.C., being present, together with many old friends from the Battalion and Old Comrades Association. "Auld Lang Syne," at midnight, was typical of the good feeling between the Regiment and the Old Comrades Association.

At the Annual General Meeting ex-R.S.M. F. F. Rowley, M.C., was elected Hon. Secretary, vice W. Wimsett, who, owing to pressure of work, has had to resign.



OFFICER, 1799.



OFFICER, 1830.

OLD MILITARY CUSTOMS

(Continued from page 77, November Number, 1927.)

1. Ceremonial Drill.

Not merely a test of discipline and steadiness.

The advance in "review order" is the last of eighteen complicated manœuvres that used to be performed by a battalion when it was tested as to its preparedness for war. These eighteen manœuvres were introduced in 1781 and were invented by David Dundas in the first drill book issued for the whole Army. Everybody had his own drill book before this, and did what was right according to his own views.

These eighteen manœuvres became famous because officers considered that they were the beginning and end of their duties. Sir John Moore said to Dundas, "Your drill book would have done a great deal of good if it had not been for those damned eighteen manœuvres."

"Blockheads don't understand," replied Dundas. "That is the danger of making a drill book."

2. Feu de Joie.

The sovereign is the head of the Army, and it is natural that joy should be shown on the occasion of his birthday.

Noise has long been an expression of joy and a means of paying honour from time immemorial. (Clapping, etc., of to-day.)

The "feu de joie," where each man fires his rifle in turn, is a more personal and striking method of expressing joy than if the firing were by volley—also it prolongs the noise. It originated in 1629, and was invented by the Prince of Orange. An equal number of pikemen and musketeers were drawn up in two lines facing each other. Each pike had a whisp of straw fastened to its point. Every musket was loaded, but with powder only. The straw was set alight, and then each musketeer in turn discharged his piece at the straw and tried to blow it out. The pikes were 18 feet long, so it followed that the muskets would be pointed upwards. The chronicler said: "The volley met with a stop at first, as was perhaps natural at a first attempt, but eventually it ran well."

Funeral Exercises.

A remarkable and beautiful symbolism.

Stephen Graham writes: "When a soldier dies, the Union Jack is laid on his body in token that he died in the service of the State and that the State takes the responsibility of what it ordered him to do as a soldier. The reversed arms are an acknowledgment of the shame of killing. Death puts the rifle to shame and the reversal of the barrel is a fitting sign of reverence. The three volleys fired into the air are fired at imaginary devils which might get into men's hearts at such a moment as the burial of a comrade in arms. An old superstition has it that the doors of men's hearts stand ajar at such times, and devils may easily get in. The 'Last post' is the Nunc Dimittis of the dead soldier. It is the last bugle call. . . . But it gives promise of réveillée . . . of the great réveillée which ultimately the Archangel Gabriel will blow."

The next time you hear the call, take notice of the last high ascending note of the call. It is one of hope and expectancy.

The reversed arms were first used at the funeral of Marlborough in 1722—perhaps earlier—but it was not a regular custom at that time.

The three volleys may mean as Graham says; it is also likely they are fired in the name of Trinity. They were fired at the funeral of Sir Philip Sidney.* At any rate, the practice is of German origin, and came from the German Landsknechte.

Trooping the Colour.

This is another of our most important ceremonial parades—it was originally an old guard mounting ceremony, in which the King's Colour is the symbol of the sovereign, and the Regimental Colour the emblem of the soul of the regiment. For this reason it is right that they should be marched round from time to time, so that every man may pay them all due honour.

Colours are usually never touched or carried except by an officer, but this ceremony starts with the emblem in the charge of a sergeant with two sentries. Each guard is formed into line without its officer. The sergeants commanding the guard then assemble together with the officers on the saluting base, this to remind us of the days when they were so collected in order to draw lots for their guard, and to receive the "parole" orders, etc. The drums beat the assembly, meaning that it is time for officers and non-commissioned officers to take up their places. They move by the stately slow march to take over their commands.

The first honour is next paid to the Colour by the band and drums. This is only a preliminary to the reception of the Colour into the ranks of the battalion.

In the old days the Grenadier Company always formed the escort and invariably took the right of the parade; nowadays the right guard still performs this duty, the right having been the post of honour from the time of the Roman legionaries, since they carried the shield on the left arm.

At "The Drummers' Call," the captain of the escort hands over his command to his lieutenant.

The band and drums then play "The British Grenadiers" and the escort moves across the front of the parade to the Colour. The sergeant-major, representing the men, takes it from the sergeant in whose charge it is, and hands it to an officer.

The Colour is next received by the escort with full honours. Arms are presented and the band plays the salute: if it is the King's Colour, this is "God Save the King"; if the Regimental Colour, the regimental slow march is played. The sergeant-major salutes with his sword—the only occasion on which he does so.

The escort stands with its arms at the "Present," while the sergeants on each flank face outwards and port their arms as if to repel any attack or intruder.

The escort with the Colour moves back in slow time to the right of the line and files through the ranks of the battalion. Arms are presented, and every man can see the Colour and show it honour.

The Colours.

Colours may be traced to earliest times. Flags were used as rallying points before the days of Alexander.

Later in the Middle Ages each banner carried the coat of arms or sign of its owner, and so was easy to distinguish (read the camp scene in the "White Company," Bordeaux.)

Company Colours existed even before the days of the model army.

In 1642, a battalion had 10 companies (Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major and seven Captains) so there were 10 Colours. Note the order as laid down in 1672.

* Leicester's expedition to Holland to aid the Dutch against Philip of Spain, 1586.

2ND BATTALION.



1. Sergeants' Deck—H.T. "City of Marseilles."

2. The Gebeit "Band."

3 and 4. Breakfast at Gebeit.

The ten Company Colours were reduced, first to three, then to two.

One, two and three are still seen in the King's Colour of the Grenadier Guards.
1st Battalion (King's Company) with union.

2nd Battalion (Lieutenant-Colonel's Company) plain crimson—with later additions.

3rd Battalion (Major's Company).

The old company Badges are still borne in rotation on the Regimental Colours.

At the time of Waterloo the Colours were carried on half pikes nearly ten feet long. Staffs on which the Colours are fixed are still called "Colour Pikes." They used to end in the conventional spearhead instead of the modern lion and crown.

Colours were carried into action, and were often cut up by enemy fire. They came to be regarded as bringers of luck and mementoes of hard fights. Old soldiers and recruits looked upon them with affection and awe. They became the symbol of the soul of the regiment. "They fly not only for the living, but for all who have died in the regiment for the King."

FRIMLEY AND CAMBERLEY CADET CORPS

Patron: R. H. Caird, Esq., Frimley Hall.

Chairman of Committee: Brig.-Gen. R. G. Jelf, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Officer Commanding: Capt. Kent.

Adjutant: Capt. Hoare.

SINCE our last contribution to the Journal, the Corps has passed through the usual stages of the late autumn period of comparative inactivity, but by the end of October our winter programme was again in full swing, and the Maple Leaf Hut has, from that time onwards, been the scene of the usual activities associated with our normal routine, every evening being fully occupied.

ANNUAL PRIZE GIVING.

The Annual Distribution of Prizes took place at the Maple Leaf Hut on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7.30 p.m.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Jelf. Among a reasonably large attendance of relatives and friends, we were delighted to see General Sir Hugh Jeudwine, Col. H. M. Harris and Major Morell. The former, in a most encouraging speech, paid a high tribute to the Corps, as the result of his visit to Hythe to see the camp, in his capacity as Director General of the Territorial Army. The chief event of the year was the winning, by Cadet Vowles, of the MacInnes Musketry Cup with the phenomenal score of 92 points out of a possible 100.

The Reynolds Cup and the Silver Medal for Physical Training was deservedly won by Sergt. L. Catchpole, with a score of 160.

The Old Boys Cup for the best all-round cadet was also won by Cadet Vowles, a very creditable performance on his part.

The intermediate Company Challenge Shield was won by Cadet J. Armstrong, and the Junior Company Shield by R. Stanley.

A very happy evening concluded with a concert, kindly arranged by Mr. Goodman and Lieut. Barron.

ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE, NOVEMBER 13TH.

The Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps paraded in strength for the Armistice Day Service on November 13th.

The Corps, headed by the Bugle Band, whose turn-out and appearance was much admired, formed part of a large procession to St. Paul's, Yorktown. The Corps were under the command of Capt. Brownlie.

BAZAAR.

A most successful Bazaar was held on Wednesday, December 14th, in aid of the New Building Fund. Lady Watson Smyth kindly performed the opening ceremony, and, thanks to the untiring work of the stallholders and many others, the most gratifying result of a net profit of £159 11s. 9d. was achieved.

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

On Wednesday, December 21st, a most enjoyable Christmas Party (with Father Christmas complete) was kindly provided by Mr. and Mrs. Goodman, for the Junior Cadets and their sisters, all of whom, in addition to an excellent tea, received a Christmas present from their generous hosts.

CAMP STAFF DANCE.

The usual Camp Staff Social, which took place on December 27th, was a most unqualified success, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, in spite of the dangerous drive, up and back, on the very slippery road.

JUMBLE SALE.

A Jumble Sale, kindly and most ably managed by Mrs. Markham, Mrs. Smallbone and Mrs. Matthews, resulted in £25 being set aside towards the Camp Fund—a most creditable performance.

LADY WEST MEMORIAL SHIELD.

Capt. Upton, The Queen's Royal Regiment, most kindly came and judged the physical training competition for the above shield on March 14th, and the Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps only missed the honour of winning it by the narrow margin of *one point!*

H.M. THE KING'S SHIELD MUSKETRY COMPETITION.

The Corps took twentieth place in this competition, open to all Cadet units of this Empire, and were fourth in order of merit of those corps that fired over open sights.

The Corps earned the great distinction of registering among their numbers, for the first time, an Empire Marksman in the person of Cadet J. Vowles.

This gratifying result was almost entirely due to the untiring efforts of Capt. Hoare and of Staff-Sergts. Perry and Mapp, of the Small Arms School, Hythe.

We cannot conclude our present contribution without paying our tribute to the kindness and generosity of our new Patron, Mr. R. H. Caird, of Frimley Hall, who has not only assured us of his whole-hearted support, but has most kindly presented us with a full-sized billiard table, a most valuable asset, and for which we hope, before long, to provide a suitable room.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

THE Assistant District Commissioner was not only bored, but annoyed. The locations to the north of him were maintaining a series of sporadic outbursts of plague with such persistence as almost to argue deliberate intention. On the east they were three months in arrear with their Hut Tax, and as an additional blow he had just received orders to complete a section of road which lay, for the most part, along a line of particularly unpleasant and rocky hills. In order to put the finishing touch to an already tragic situation he had run out of blasting powder, and had only two bulbs left for his sparklet syphon.

The task of surveying a line for a road with rather primitive instruments is distinctly trying, in fact one District Commissioner was always reported to do it solely by eye. His simple method consisted of cutting a road up a hill, then sending an ox-cart up it. If the oxen died of heart failure before reaching halfway, the grade was considered too steep. Another road was then cut up the same hill, with a slightly more gentle grade. At about the fourth attempt a grade of something approaching one in ten was reached, and everything in the garden was lovely. This practice has since been discouraged by a paternal but bankrupt Government, as being likely to unsettle the native population, and, more important still, expensive in oxen. There was another, whose practice it was, on reaching a hill, to climb to the top, and, looking down in the manner of "stout Cortez," to see how many times he could take the road round the hill before he was compelled by the laws of geometry to abandon it. He, fortunately, was not a student of Einstein, or else in all probability he and his road would still be winding in pseudo-spherical lines round a battered hill.

Having found the line, the task of cutting the road went on until impeded by the presence of a large number of heavy boulders firmly imbedded in the hill-side. Blasting operations—the powder having fortunately arrived—began forthwith, enlivened by the habit of the Assistant District Commissioner's personal servant of lighting cigarettes in close proximity to a ten-pound bag of best black powder. The Assistant District Commissioner knew that only the good die young, but he was never, while blasting, sufficiently sure that he was really wicked enough to be spared. This time the fates which look after careless Africans were particularly kind. In spite of desperate attempts at race-suicide by all the workers, the blasting went off without a hitch, save that the local Chief was smitten on the forehead by a flying splinter and sat down and cursed bitterly for fifty minutes without repeating himself.

As a grand finale to the day's work, the entire force of labourers, about 2,000 strong, formed up on the road and indulged in a peculiarly ferocious and extremely noisy dance. The Assistant District Commissioner, surveying the happily yelling crowd below him, was afflicted with a vague envy of a race which could so thoroughly dismiss from its mind all the cares and worries of an ordinary life. However, as he thankfully reflected, he could now go home, seat himself in a long chair in his tent, and do nothing until it became too dark to do it any more. He lit his pipe and strolled home. At the entrance to his camp he was met by his servant, who pressed a shotgun into his hand with the simple statement of "Sir, the meat has gone bad." With a hollow groan the Assistant District Commissioner staggered down the hill to endeavour to find some careless guinea-fowl which might serve for dinner.

THE DEPOT

GENERAL.

THE Depot has once more firmly settled down at Guildford and resumed its normal existence. Since November the number of recruits joining has been very small, and only two platoons have left to join the 2nd Battalion at Dover. There are, however, at the time of going to press, three complete platoons and one in the process of forming.

Training is in full swing, and Instructors are rejoicing at having a level "square" on which to work. Games are flourishing, particularly the organized variety, under the auspices of Lieut. H. E. Wilson.

We take this opportunity of wishing the best of luck to Lieut. J. L. S. Boyd, who has been posted to the 2nd Battalion. He was a prominent figure in all Depot teams, and will be a great loss from all points of view.

PLATOON COMPETITIONS.

The following are the winners of the Inter-Section and Individual Competitions of Peninsular and Tangier Platoons, who left to join the 2nd Battalion on 26/1/28 and 26/3/28:—

PENINSULAR PLATOON.

Inter-Section Winners.—No. 1. 6082957 Pte. O. Francis, 6780380 Pte. F. Pound, 6082963 Pte. A. Allison, 6082973 Pte. G. Waters, 6082977 Pte. T. Downey, 6082983 Pte. E. Sutton.

Individual Winners.—Drill: 6082970 Pte. F. Mynott. Shooting: 6082962 Pte. A. Iles. Physical Training: 6082963 Pte. A. Allison, 6082958 Pte. J. Fillingham. Athletics: 6082977 Pte. T. Downey.

TANGIER PLATOON.

Inter-Section Winners.—No. 3. 6082996 Pte. H. Martin, 6082985 Pte. W. Lewis, 6084003 Pte. W. Evans, 6082999 Pte. V. Dearman, 6138123 Pte. A. Andrews, 6138347 Pte. G. Childs, 6084008 Pte. E. Wilson.

Individual Winners.—Drill: 6082998 Pte. W. Hammond. Shooting: 6082989 Pte. A. George. Physical Training: 6082993 Pte. A. Derry, 6282463 Pte. W. Connel, 6082999 Pte. V. Dearmen. Athletics: 6084010 Pte. N. Povey.

ARRIVALS.

From 1st Battalion:

Capt. L. L. Welman, M.C. 29/12/27.
Cpl. J. Betts and Cpl. C. Hubbard. 25/1/28.
Sergt. A. Foster and Cpl. A. Merritt. 2/4/28.

From 2nd Battalion:

Lieut. H. E. Wilson. 1/2/28.

DEPARTURES.

To 2nd Battalion:

Lieut. F. J. Davis and Lieut. J. L. S. Boyd. 7/2/28.
L./Sergt. R. Wickham. 1/2/28.
Sergt. H. Parsons and L./Sergt. J. Welch. 2/4/28.

PROMOTIONS.

The following have been promoted Lance-Sergeant:—
6192131 Cpl. V. Holman.
6076703 Cpl. J. Berry.

EDUCATION.

The following have been awarded 1st Class Certificates:—
607643 Sergt. A. Reynolds, M.M.
6076703 Cpl. J. Berry.
Since November, four N.C.Os. and men have obtained 2nd Class Certificates and sixty-three 3rd Class.

DISCHARGES.

The following have been discharged from or through the Depot:—

Discharged to pension on termination of service:

6078062 Cpl. W. Dyer. 30/10/27.
6188464 C.Q.M.S. P. W. Cooper. 29/1/28.
11077 Sergt. E. G. Hillier. 28/2/28.
6076221 C.Q.M.S. C. W. Cromwell. 28/2/28.
6077585 Sergt. J. Cheeseman. 28/2/28.
6189779 L./Cpl. H. Foster. 28/2/28.
6076191 C.Q.M.S. A. Stedman. 25/3/28.
6077676 W.O. Cl. 2 S. P. Woollaston. 20/4/28.

Discharged on completion of 12 years' service:

6077406 L./Cpl. A. W. Platt. 27/1/28.
6076633 Pte. W. Smith. 27/1/28.
6076617 Cpl. H. Cooper. 27/1/28.
6076510 Cpl. H. W. Hitchener. 28/2/28.
6076507 Cpl. G. J. Willoughby. 28/2/28.

Transfer to Army Reserve:

6077694 Pte. E. J. Gillison. 8/12/27.
6078476 Pte. C. Woodards. 18/1/28.
6076733 Pte. G. Bryant. 27/1/28.
6078586 Pte. S. Platt. 28/2/28.
6078513 Pte. R. Tillyer. 28/2/28.
6076745 Pte. C. H. Diss. 28/2/28.
6076750 Pte. F. W. Moss. 29/2/28.
6076751 L./Cpl. C. F. Rootes. 29/2/28.

ATTACHMENTS.

The following have been attached for training, and have undergone courses under the instruction of Lieut. G. V. Palmer and Sergt. A. E. Reynolds, M.M.:—

9/1/28 to 20/1/28. 2/Lieut. G. R. Renwick, Charterhouse School O.T.C.
19/3/28 to 31/3/28. 2/Lieut. R. D. Simpson, 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

VISIT.

The 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's) were accommodated at the Depot for training at Easter. We are always glad to see them.

CHRISTMAS TREE.

The annual Christmas tree was held on December 19th, 1927. The Commanding Officer, Major F. W. H. Denton, took the part of Father Christmas, and this year appeared from a large plum pudding, cut open by "Bonnie, the clown" (Lieut. J. L. S. Boyd), who was his usual sprightly self. The entertainment consisted of a Punch and Judy show. The arrangements were made by Lieut. J. L. S. Boyd, Pte. McKay and Mr. Horn.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

We heartily congratulate Lieut. G. V. Palmer on obtaining his English "cap." He has been playing first-class football since 1919, and was reserve for Wales in 1924 and for England in 1927. He has been under the eye of the selectors on more than one occasion, but has never been selected previously, owing, so rumour has it, to a mistaken belief of a glass eye, a belief which he completely shattered in the matches against Ireland, Scotland and France this year.

BILLIARDS.

Sergt. McTravers won the first round of the Army Championships, and accordingly went to Woolwich on April 3rd to represent the Depot in the second round, where he lost to Lieut. A. A. Walker, of the Royal Artillery.

FOOTBALL.

Matches played 24, won 16, lost 5, drawn 3, goals for 105, goals against 68.

Although defeated by 5 goals to nil by the 1st Battalion the Royal Sussex Regiment in the first round of the Army Cup, the football team has been stronger this season than for some time past. Owing to the uncertainty of the date of the return from Dover it was impossible to enter for any leagues, and a series of friendly matches was arranged. Sergt. Watson was elected captain, and it is mainly due to him that the team spirit has been so well maintained and the season been such a successful one. Pte. Jervis has generally occupied the position of centre-forward, and has been the most consistent scorer. A word of thanks must be given to Sergt. Ashby, who has been "running" the football, and who, without the enjoyment of playing, has had the not always pleasant task of selecting the team and looking after its welfare generally.

HOCKEY.

Matches played 13, won 5, lost 5, drawn 3, goals for 67, goals against 39.

Chiefly owing to bad weather a large number of matches had to be scratched. In the first round of the Army Cup the Depot was defeated by the Training Battalion, Royal Engineers, by 5 goals to 3. This was rather a surprise, as the team was considered to be a strong one, having the services of Lieut. F. J. Davis in the forward line, and of Capt. T. O. M. Buchan, M.C., at half. R.S.M. Tedder has been invaluable in organization, and has shared with Capt. A. C. W. Upton the task of securing goals.

After two and a half years' effort we have at last obtained a grant from the Eastern Command Sports Board, for levelling the present football ground and making provision for separate football and hockey pitches. We have also received from the Officers Commanding 1st and 2nd Battalions, very generous contributions towards the upkeep of the Depot grounds, for which we are indeed very sincerely grateful. We feel that the improved facilities for sport at the Depot must lead to an all-round beneficial effect on both battalions.

The next thing we want is a squash racquet court.

FENCING.

Fencing has been taking place weekly, and matches have been fought against The Masks F.C., the Bordon and Longmoor F.C., the Royal Military College, Camberley, and the Royal Engineers, Chatham. Recruits are badly wanted, as several of the old stagers are leaving, including C.S.M.I. Skipper, A.P.T.S., who has done yeoman service as an Instructor.

BOXING.

The following represented the Depot in the Eastern Command Inter-Unit Championships for Recruits of under twenty-four weeks' service:—

Bantam-weight.—Pte. Hammond.

Feather-weight.—Pte. Hill.

Light-weight.—Ptes. Sinnamon and Huxley.

Intermediate-weight.—Pte. Childs.

Welter-weight.—Pte. Arnold.

The team, who had been trained by C.S.M.I. Skipper, L./Sergt. Berry and L./Cpl. Bugden, acquitted themselves well, but were beaten by better men. Pte. Sinnamon secured a "knock-out" in his first fight, but was beaten in the final.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Since the issue of the last Journal things in general have become more settled, and we have resumed our normal aspect. We have received visits from old friends on a large scale, and many enjoyable evenings have been spent in their company. Series of games have been played in our Mess with the 5th Battalion and the Woodbridge Hill Club. Dances have been held frequently, and have been successful and well attended, thanks being due to the Entertainment Committee. The Annual Gheluvelt and New Year Balls were exceptionally successful, more than three hundred attending on each occasion. We are looking forward to refreshing our

memories with the Borough Police Force and the Worplesdon A.O.B. by having our usual cricket matches, which were not played last year owing to the Depot being at Dover. Billiard and snooker tournaments among the members have been held, with some surprising results. We congratulate Sergt. McTravers on his success in the first round of the Thurston's Challenge Shield.

We also congratulate Sergt. Reynolds and L./Sergt. Berry on obtaining the much-required 1st Class Certificate of Education.

Since November, L./Sergts. Holman and Berry have joined the Mess, on promotion, and Sergt. Foster from the 2nd Battalion, to all of whom we extend a hearty welcome. Our thoughts go with L./Sergt. Wickham, who has left us to attend a Vocational Training Course at Hounslow. We hope he will make a successful debut into civilian life on completion.

We wish good luck to Sergt. Parsons and L./Sergt. Welch, who have left to join the 2nd Battalion.

The Mess itself is looking very well now, the walls having been renovated and papered. The addition of more easy chairs and a wireless set has indeed increased the comfort.

CORPORALS' ROOM.

We extend a hearty welcome to Cpls. Betts, Hubbard and Merrett, who have joined for duty from the 2nd Battalion, and our thoughts go with Cpls. Holman and Berry, who have left us to join the ranks of the Sergeants; and with L./Cpl. Hall, to the 2nd Battalion.

A very enjoyable dance took place in the Gymnasium on March 2nd. As a novelty and to allow for the distribution of refreshments, a concert was held during the interval, which was much appreciated and applauded. We hope to hold another in the near future.

By the addition of easy chairs and other furniture, the comfort of our room has been greatly increased.

FENCING.

The Eastern Command Bronze Medal Tournament took place at Woolwich on Tuesday, April 3rd. The following were the results:—

INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS.

Foil.—1st, Lieut. F. J. Davis; 2nd, 2/Lieut. K. J. Wilson.

Epée.—1st, 2/Lieut. K. J. Wilson.

Sabre.—1st, Lieut. F. J. Davis; 2nd, 2/Lieut. K. J. Wilson; 3rd, Lieut. L. C. East.

L./Sergt. McNeff in the Foil, Cpl. Ridge in the Sabre, and L./Cpl. Thwaites in the *Epée* of the Individual Other Ranks all got through into the final pools, but did not secure a place.

The following is the result of the Eastern Command Eliminating Competition of the Army Inter-Unit Championships:—

13th/18th Hussars, Foil 4, *Epée* 4, Sabre 2, points 10, 1st place; The Queen's Royal Regiment, Foil 2, *Epée* 2½; Sabre 4, points 8½; 2nd place; The Queen's Bays, Foil 3, *Epée* 1, Sabre 3, points 7, 3rd place; Royal Engineers, Foil 1, *Epée* 2½, Sabre 1, points 4½, 4th place.

RECRUITING.

REORGANIZATION OF ZONES.

The West Surrey Zone has been merged into South-Eastern Zone—headquarters at Tonbridge. The Depot at Guildford remains a reception station, O.C. Depot being the local station Recruiting Officer.

Capt. Godfrey took up his new appointment as Chief Recruiting Officer, Shires Zone, on April 10th, his headquarters being at Bedford.

The system on the change over remains practically unaltered as far as it relates to the recruiting personnel in the county.

The town of Croydon is now worked from a recruiting point of view by the Chief Recruiting Officer, London Central Depot, Whitehall.

The Station Recruiting Officers at Depots are only to deal with potential recruits after they actually enter the barrack gates, and are responsible for the routine of procedure in much the same manner as previously.

Our best wishes go with Captain Godfrey.

CHARTERHOUSE CONTINGENT OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

CONGRATULATIONS to the eighty successful candidates in the Certificate "A" examination. This is the highest number up to date, and, with forty more candidates at the March examination, we should be well over the hundred for the year.

The main feature about the training this quarter has been the weather. Fine, dry Tuesdays have turned up with almost monotonous regularity, and the platoons have got much better value out of the training than is usual at this time of the year.

A Tactical Exercise was carried out with the Eton College O.T.C. on Wednesday, March 29th, on Milford Common. A rearguard action was fought, Eton advancing from the neighbourhood of the Half Moon Inn astride of the Portsmouth Road, against a position held south of Rodborough Hill. The attack upon the first position held by "B1" and "C" Companies provided a number of good situations, and the withdrawal was well carried out. After a pause, other Eton companies moved forward against a second position on Rodborough Hill itself. Here the situation developed rather too quickly and became somewhat confused and unreal. The real trouble was that, owing to the ground available, the two positions had to be too close together, and the second attack had not enough space for deployment and preliminary movement before coming under close fire of the defence. However, the scheme worked very well as a whole, and a beautifully fine day with dry ground made conditions very pleasant. The signallers were kept busy the whole time, and communications throughout the battalion were very satisfactory.

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

EXTRACTS FROM SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1927.

Membership continues to increase. Figures for 1926 and 1927 are as follows:

| | | | Officers and Hon. Members. | | Other Ranks Serving. | | Other Ranks Non-Serving. |
|------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1926 | ... | ... | 316 | ... | 1,550 | ... | 2,500 |
| 1927 | ... | ... | 314 | ... | 1,560 | ... | 2,750 |

All ranks who have served, also those connected with or interested in the old Regiment, not yet enrolled as members are earnestly invited to apply for membership.

Life Membership is still on the increase. Figures now stand at 304 serving and 273 non-serving against 336 and 175 respectively at the close of 1926.

Assistance Given.—During the year over £280 was expended in grants to 178 cases, £308 in loans to 24 applicants, and £62 in subscriptions to other societies. Over 500 applications by post were investigated and 70 personal calls were dealt with.

Employment.—Twenty-seven men were assisted in securing employment. Members, employers and employed are urged to help the Committee by sending particulars to Secretary of any vacancies known, or likely to occur. Men of most trades, etc., are invariably available.

Gifts of Clothing.—Thanks to donors of a number of serviceable and very useful consignments, the Committee have been able to make up and dispatch 20 useful parcels in cases where clothing was the outstanding need. The Committee again appeal that cast-off clothing, boots, etc., may be dispatched to the Association, particularly before the winter months.

Appeals for Legacies.—Incalculable good can be afforded the Association by benefactors remembering it in their wills, and the Committee feel that it has never occurred to many interested in the old Regiment to help the Association and those for whom it was instituted, by means of this form of assistance which perpetuates the donor's association with the Regiment, and his or her help to its old soldiers.

Garden Party (All Ranks).—Arranged to take place on June 25th, 1927, but had to be cancelled owing to the move of the Depot Establishment to Dover consequent upon departure of 1st Battalion for service in China.

The Annual Garden Party (All Ranks) for past and present members of the Regiment (all battalions), their wives and families, will be held at Guildford, on Depot lawns, 4 to 7.30 p.m., on Saturday, June 30th, 1928.

Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion will be in attendance, and the Regimental Museum will be open.

Admission free. Refreshments at cheap rates will be available.

Will those intending to be present please communicate with the Secretary, Stoughton Barracks, Guildford, without delay.

Annual Dinner (All Ranks).—The nineteenth, at the Drill Hall, Guildford, was an enjoyable gathering of old hands. The company numbered 250. Very few serving members were present, both 1st and 2nd Battalions being overseas.

The Twentieth Annual Dinner (All Ranks) takes place in London, at Harrods, on Saturday, June 9th, 1928, at 7 for 7.30 p.m.

All who have served with any battalion of The Queen's are eligible for membership of both Association and Dinner Club. Five shillings a year covers.

Conclusion.—The Committee, on behalf of all ranks, past and present, express their gratitude to those who have shown a kindly interest in the Regiment by supporting the Association by subscriptions and thus becoming Honorary Members.

The Association continues to gain ground. Many members have, apart from financial and employment questions, found the Association useful to them in many other respects, pensions, security, etc., matters.

The help given by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society in investigating and reporting upon cases referred to them has again proved very valuable.

The Committee trusts that the improved conditions will be more noticeable during 1928, also that the steady increase in membership may be maintained.

All communications to be addressed to SECRETARY, THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT O.C.A., STOUGHTON BARRACKS, GUILDFORD.

Obituary

| NO. | RANK AND NAME. | BATTALION. | SERVICE. | DATE OF DEATH. |
|---------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | Capt. J. B. Hayes, M.C. | 1st, 2nd, and 5th ... | 1913-1921 | 20/12/27 |
| | Capt. T. P. Toovey, M.C. | 11th ... | 1916-1919 | 31/8/27 |
| 8494 | Pte. F. Ray ... | 1st ... | 1905-1919 | 9/11/27 |
| 240613 | Sergt. Kentish ... | 5th ... | 1914-1919 | —/11/27 |
| 6076434 | Pte. W. Kent ... | 1st ... | 1914-1921 | 15/1/28 |
| 3490 | Clr.-Sergt. A. Wibrow ... | 1st and 2nd 8th and Depot | 1881-1902 1914-1918 | 7/4/28 |

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editor: Lieut.-Col. G. N. Dyer, D.S.O.

Assistant Editors:

| | |
|--|---|
| 1st Bn.—Capt. B. C. Haggard. | 22nd London Regt.—Capt. T. O. M. Buchan, M.C. |
| 2nd Bn.—Major A. N. S. Roberts, O.B.E. | 24th London Regt.—Capt. D. G. Adams. |
| 4th Bn.—Lieut.-Col. B. L. Evans, T.D. | Depot.—Lieut. L. C. East. |
| 5th Bn.—Major C. R. Wigan, M.C. | |

Hon Treasurer:

Lieut.-Col. G. N. Dyer.

Offices:

Corner House, Worplesdon, Guildford.

The following are suggestions which may be of help to Battalion Assistant Editors and contributors in sending in material:—

1. Assistant Editors should frame their material on the following lines:—

- (a) A general survey of things in which the whole Battalion has taken part, *i.e.*, Battalion General News.
- (b) Training, Musketry, etc., of the Battalion.
- (c) Battalion Games and Sports. In this connection it is suggested that short reports of important Battalion matches should be given, mentioning names of goal-scorers, good scores or good bowling performances at cricket, together with the names of teams in each match. Concerts, dances, etc., should be included under this sub-head.
- (d) Sergeants' Mess News.
- (e) Corporals' Mess News.
- (f) Company and Platoon Games and Sports.

2. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and should, if possible, be type-written, but this is not essential.

3. Photographs should be marked on the back with the title, and, in the case of groups, names should invariably be given. In this connection, readers are invited to send all photographs likely to be of interest.

* * *

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Other Ranks: 4s. per annum. Single copies, 2s. each.

* * *

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THE EDITOR,

THE JOURNAL OF THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT,

CORNER HOUSE,

WORPLESDON,

GUILDFORD.

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WORPLESDON,

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THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

(Officers)

WILL TAKE PLACE AT

THE EDWARD VII ROOMS, HOTEL VICTORIA
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE

At 8 o'clock p.m., on Monday, June 18th, 1928

NOTICE OF DINING TO BE SENT TO:—
BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. GLASGOW, SHEDFIELD GRANGE, BOTLEY, HANTS.

Officer: "Any Complaints?"



The Queen's Royal Regiment, Old Comrades Association

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All those who have at any time served in any Unit which wears or has worn the badge of The Queen's Royal Regiment are eligible for membership.

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| | O.C.A. | Dinner Club |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------------|
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| W.O. Class II. | 5/0 | 3/0 |
| Sergeants | 3/0 | 3/0 |
| Corporals | 2/6 | 3/0 |
| L./Corporals and Privates ... | 2/0 | 3/0 |

(B) NON-SERVING MEMBERS.

| | O.C.A. | Dinner Club |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|
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| Other Ranks | 2/0 | 3/0 |

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The Queen's Royal Regt. Old Comrades Association, Stoughton Barracks, Guildford

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